October 25, 1939

Dear Mrs. Morse:

Please do not think that the long time I have neglected your letter means that it did not interest me. It did very much indeed and would have had an answer long ago but that I have been out of the running for a good many weeks, obliged to put aside everything that was not imperative, with the result that my correspondence has piled up alarmingly.

I was greatly interested in what you wrote about Titusville, my father and the life there. Of course I remember your family very well, particularly your father and mother.

I am so glad to have what you say about father and his Sunday School class. I have had several letters from former members of that class, all paying such interesting tributes to him. That class was the apple of his eye. Mother was always jealous of his Sunday School girls, I think, but she never failed as I remember to see that they had some kind of refreshments when he brought them to the house. It is all very sweet to think of that old time.

And now about the business part of your letter - what to do with your old papers and books. I could not tell you, I am afraid. The sale, anywhere except to dealers, and you say you have consulted several, depends entirely upon finding the person who wants particular items, somebody that wanted the April 15th, 1865 copy of The New York Herald, or an article on the Blast Furnaces in Pittsburgh in 1885. It is like hunting for a needle in a haystack. The most direct way, of course, is advertising in the publisher's weekly, but I am afraid that would cost you more than you would get for the pieces you have.

The Crawford County material might find a resting place either in the library of the Drake Museum in Titusville or in the library of Allegheny College, Meadville, Pa. Both are interested in the

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kind of material you have, but neither of them as I understand have any funds for purchasing. They are repositories for gifts so far. But there would be no harm in your writing to the Drake Museum and asking them if they would care to purchase.

I wish I could give you some more helpful suggestions. I am afraid it will be difficult to sell your pieces, not because they do not have value to the one who wants them, but the difficulty in finding that one.

Regretting particularly that I delayed so long in answering your letter, believe me

Very sincerely yours

Mrs. Henry A. Morse
857 East 19th Street
Brooklyn, New York

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