

January 29, 1935

Dear Dr. Pritchett:

I hesitate to pursue you but there is no one besides yourself to whom I can frankly present Mrs. Kennan's case. I feel sure that you feel as I do about her and I am at my wit's end to know what should be done. Unhappily I can do very little, almost nothing, myself. As I told you when I last saw you I hope to be at liberty to go soon to Medina. Just at the moment I am held here not only by a piece of work which is pressing me, but by serious illness in my family. Here is what I get from her - a letter which came a week ago when I was out of town.

"I must write you that I've nothing to carry me through February. It seems to me there must be some Associations that would help. Selling the house is impossible yet. I can't leave it with things in it and an auction here would be impossible for any valuable things. You know George's father was a telegrapher early, then George through the war. Carnegie always hailed him as 'telegraph comrade.'"

Is it chimerical to think that possibly Mrs. Carnegie might be touched by this reference? You will know I am sure. You will know if there are Pension Foundations from which she could expect a reply. I know nothing of the kind.

Now that Mrs. Rumsey is gone is there anyone in the Harriman connection that would lend a sympathetic ear?

She tells me of various efforts that she has made to dispose of the pieces - various art objects - and always without any success. To know what she really has, to get an appraisement, is the first thing I suppose, but that in itself takes money unless possibly someone would be willing to go for the sake of finding out. I could take this up with Mr. Kent of the Metropolitan Museum if you thought it advisable.

If you have any suggestions, dear
Dr. Pritchett, do pass them on.

I hope you are feeling well in the
sunshine. Please remember me with all good wishes
to Mrs. Pritchett.

Faithfully yours

Dr. Henry S. Pritchett
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