

Lynchburg, Virginia,
May 28, 1867

Dear Folks,

I have been listening to newsmen's explanation of the present world turmoil. I think I can get a much better idea from the Word of God than I can from the news that comes over the radio.

I got up this morning with my aethritis bothering me quite a bit but I determined to move on in spite of difficulties. I went down and got my breakfast from Margaret. I did ask her for some oat meal. Thought that it would set a little better than anything else. She is wonderfully good to me and I do not want to bother her any more than I can help. I met Gordon Ingham, my English friend at the Rivermont Pres. Ch. where he let his little VW and we drove on to Coolwell. Congregation there was decidedly off. Mrs. Henson, my organist was sick and unable to get there. Had a little girl about ten years old play the piano for us. We left there about 10:30 and headed for Gordon's church on Timber Lake Road, way out toward Pisgah. The service had started but we were in time to hear a splendid sermon by my brother Thomas. We left there and went back to Lybg. General Hospital where we got a very good lunch which, much to my disgust, Gordon, my English friend paid for. Then we got Miss Draper who is also quite crippled up with arthritis and took her to Rivermont Presbyterian Church to a meeting of the Child Evangelis Committee of which I am Chairman. Gordon picked up his car and took Miss Draper home. I have had some supper and am now going on to Margaret's. I will perhaps go to Church at Rivermont. I had better stop and get going.

It is now Tuesday and I think I will write a little more on this letter. I had a flare up of this arthritis yesterday in my right foot. I was out doing a little visiting and I found it almost impossible to walk. I finally hobbled into Margaret's and she put my foot in water as hot as I could bear it. It had Epsom Salts in it. That relieved me greatly and I could hobble around a little. I came on out to my house and put it in some more hot water. I had gotten me a package of Epsom Salts. My foot felt very much relieved by that time. I went on to bed and slept better than I had for several nights. It is pretty easy this morning and I can hobble around very well.

Margaret and her family are certainly lovely to me. If it were not for them I would pretty soon be going into a nursing home. We want to get to work on that room down there and then I can operate better when I do not have to move so often. The first thing I am going to have to do is to build a tool house in which to keep lawn mowers and bicycles and a great lot of other things. We are going to have to agree on where these things are to be. The more I stay in that home the more do I admire it. It is a place of regular prayer for the family both morning and night. The children are lovely to me. Laurie was really distressed last night when she saw how I was suffering with my foot. I tried to get Dr. Mundy and see if I could get some relief from him. I will keep this letter open and let you know what Dr. Mundy says. I go back to him on Thursday. What I want is to bear my affliction as patiently as possible. I am quite sure the Lord has more witnessing for me to do, else He would not leave me here. Graham, Brack the V showed me the letter he had from you. He found out how to work that last trick you sent him this morning. He was elated. The kindness and thoughtfulness of my children and grand children makes me want much more to be that way. I am certainly most thankful for all of my families. God greatly blessed Mother and me. Now I will see if there is any mail. Later, of course there was not. I had forgotten this is Memorial Day. While I was dressing from my nap I turned on the news, Russia is moving her war ships into the Mediterranean. The crisis in regard to Israel deepens. What will happen? I remember that the Lord said through Zechariah, "Whoso toucheth thee toucheth the apple of mine eye." It certainly looks like the closing events of this age are beginning. What a terrible time it will be for those who do not know the Lord. The Bible teaches that half of the people in the world will be killed. A few years ago we would have regarded that as a statement that was impossible of fulfillment except that we believed the Book. Now we see that it is not a wild statement.

Wednesday May 31, 1967

Dearest folks,

Annie is here today so I am being better looked after. When I take her back I am going by one of the hospitals. I keep being walled on to do this and want to respond if I can. I am afraid that I forget some very important events. I failed to mention my brother William's birthday last week. I must check on myself and do better. Acouple is coming by to talk about getting married in a few days. I did not want to try to marry anyone else but will do my best with this one. If I have to go to Coolwell it may entail driving at night which I will not do. I think I can get some one to drive me.