

RETURN IN FIVE DAYS TO

C. W. CROSBY & SONS

WELL CONTRACTORS

P. O. BOX 765

WHEATON, ILL. U.S.A.

Zion



*Jesse Crosby
Battle,
Cuba*

Oriente Prov.

Zion, Ill.
 March 30, 1934

Jesse Crosby,
 Bartle, Cuba.

Dear Brother:

When I wrote you three days ago, I expected to get this letter off to you at once, so that it would reach you before you would get the other one answered; so this one would really constitute both an answer to yours of January 5th, and also a sort of second chapter to mine of the 27th.

In the first place I am more sorry than I can tell you about for the delay that has come into our family correspondence all along the ~~the~~ line during the last three months. I cannot understand why Walter should have kept the family letter there for three months. Seems as if he could at least have passed it on if he could not find time nor inclination to write even a few words. However there may have been some reason that we have not understood yet. Lewis went back to Deland yesterday PM. He seems to be making fairly good there, and since there is not much doing here, I am very glad to have him stick to it. Poor boy has had some of the bitter lessons of the errors of over self confidence to learn; but he seems to be coming thru that painful process better than some others that I know; and I can only thank God that it is as well with him as it is. I am sure that he could have learned it better here with his father than elsewhere, but he came to the place where he was sure that father was more wrong than right on most every question; and he has had take a lot of bumping to get straightened out.

There is no particular change in the general family affairs here to write about so will get about the direct answer to your letter. In the first place I want to thank you for your expression of confidence in me; and much more so in our Great God. I did not know before to what extent it been developed in you. I do know that it existed to a large degree, years ago, in my younger brothers and sisters unless perhaps in Walter. His general attitude toward me in all those early years was, ~~in~~ to sneer, belittle and tantalize. When I went to Cuba, I found to my surprise that he had not outgrown it with the intervening years, nor overcome it thru grace or general knowledge. But do not think that I am writing this in any bitterness of recollection. He had a hard struggle for his very life, in a frail and sick body, while I was strong and robust up till I was about eighteen; when my own health failed; until the Lord healed me on Xmas Eve, 1897. Yet at the time he and Maggie were married he planned to come right to Chicago, and had written me to help him with some preparations there; but suddenly the Cuban matter came up, and he went there instead. Jesse, I simply cannot but have a feeling of horror every time that I think about any of the Cuban affairs from start to finish. I am sure that you will remember how much Mother disliked the whole affair; but that she went in the spirit of faithfulness to her husband. I feel sure that it ~~was~~ Maggie's unduing in a very particular sense; and that every one of us have been hampered and hindered-- and it seems to me I could well say cursed by this trick of Satan in steering Father into it. I am not thinking not feeling bitterly toward him; but only God knows how my very heart has bled many times over his rejection of the sweeter things of the deeper life of Grace.

Since you do not have a copy of your letter to me, it is doubly hard for me to find the expression that I am seeking--in fact even if you had a copy before to refer to; it would still be impossible for me to put into cold type some matters of deeper truths of the coming Kingdom, that have been shown to me since my release from business cares. In fact I have literally had to be "born again" concerning certain very vital matters relating to God's supply of our material needs. I am not so sure that I am all the way out of the shell yet in this matter; for I certainly was not last summer when I allowed myself to be taken in on that oil well stuff--not that the thing was wrong in itself--but was out of place for me; just as the Cuban deal was.

There is one part of your letter that I think that I should quote, and try to answer; tho I know that I can never put in type some of the things that I should most gladly impart to you, if we were talking face to face.

Quotation:- "By way of clearing up as between ourselves, there is something that I have ~~to~~ write to you of for many years. Such religious light as head of our family has had, has been in your hands. Personally I have realized, acknowledged, and appreciated that; and the religious information ~~and~~ from you has been of the greatest help. When, however, you did not care to, or could not take up the financial ~~head~~ of the family affairs, and some one else had to do it, it seemed necessarily that it should be me. It was in this spirit that I came here to Cuba and that I stayed. I have never wanted to be here, and shall be glad when I can get away. The responsibility ~~however~~, for heads of properly cared for families (I think) does not cease with the death of father and mother, but is carried on thru at least one generation by either the oldest son, or the one best fitted for it."

End of quotation.

Now Jesse, I am sure that you are more right in this statement of theory than you have known, for it has its tap root deeply imbedded in the Mosaic Law. I marvel that you have hit it as closely as you have. Based on that basic theory, I most earnestly appreciate your confidence in me in the spiritual things; and in your faithful and sacrificial endeavor to carry out your assumed part of the material things. But all this time there has been a worm eating at the very core our family affairs. DR. Dowie saw this when I was talking with at the time I got my healing; and told me then that because of certain errors in our family affairs, I would have to keep mostly clear of my own people until there was a change in some things. Oh, how greatly I erred when I allowed Teresa to tease me into disobeying that Prophet's Voice. That worm was father's unreasonable and unrighteous hatred for Dr Dowie, and everything connected with it; and out of that hatred came this whole Cuban muddle. When Walter was about to come to Chicago to be with me, he switched it to Cuba; and later all the rest of the family affairs; and seemingly against the desires of mother and all the rest of the family. And because of this same thing the confidence of my brothers and sisters was for a long mostly destroyed ~~in~~ me. And still, notwithstanding all this every one of the whole family, except Walter and and Floyd have made their home *here* for more or less time.

Ever since I can remember, father had one idol in his life that was far more to him than the Living God; and that was climate. Later that spirit of climatic idol worship became much aggravated by an unaccountable hatred of the on-coming Restoration and everything pertaining to it; and then at the last he spent several years in a climate more drastic than that from which he started, and finally died there. And in the meantime the very community from which he emigrated, became one of the richest on earth; and the land which he sold there has contributed a large share to it; while we his children have had to go thru all this mess of wandering, and poverty, separation and death. Remember I am writing this in a spirit of bitterness or of hatred toward our departed Father; who as a father and citizen had all the good qualities that one could desire. But he was certainly wrong in judgement in these things; and he has gone on, and we have, cleanse ourselves from these errors, and disentangle ourselves from the long line of terrible consequences as best and as fast as we can. I am, as the elder brother, speaking analytically rather than critically; in order to do my part fully to the rest of you, in helping you to see the more distant setting than your younger years and experience enables you to discern.

Now we have all but you thrown down this idolatros thing; and you are left there alone struggling to carry it along. I must confess that I did not understand until this last letter the real spirit in which you were carrying it on. Having seen for a long time that it was on the whole an idolatros thing, I really supposed that you were carrying it on in an idolatros spirit; which I now see that you are not. You have carried a noble and lofty and scriptural ideal thru an unscriptural and unwarranted setting; and into a place where God cannot bless materially; tho you yourself will be blessed in spirit because you have proceeded in the right spirit; and trusted Him to lead you thru to some sort of exit.

Because of the delay in the family letter I have not yet seen the letter that you mention as having written to Walter to include in the family letter. I had so much hoped to have that in hand before writing this; but you will see that I am still somewhat in the dark as to the matters you mention as having put into the family letter. But it is perfectly evident now, with what I have in hand that you ~~and~~ stand in very different attitude before the Lord as to the Cuban affair; and have had to meet an very different order of His judgement. The difference is this--you went into the Cuban error not discerning that it was error, in the spirit of sacrificial duty; while I went there because of my poor wife's pleading to turn away from the sterner duties and requirements here; and in direct opposition to what the Prophet had told me some fourteen years before. You have sinned in darkness of ignorance, not knowing really what the will of the Lord was while have sinned in the light of a fuller and richer knowledge; and consequently have had to reap a much more drastic punishment; as per the sharp words of the Master recorded in Lukel2:47+48. which I trust you will closely study in this connection.

But now we have come to the end of the matter--the harvest time, of which He spoke when here on earth "Let both grow together until the harvest; and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them; but gather the wheat into My barn" Matt. 13:24-30.--please study; and read on thru the next parable to the 3rd verse; noting particularly the 4th verse "And they (the angels) shall gather out of His kingdom

all things that offend" This Cuban delusion has been a great family "offense" to our God and will have to be "gathered out" before He can be pleased with us, and take hold of our affairs, to really deliver us. I have no doubt but what the angelic ministry that have been so conscious of during the recent months is a working of the very thing referred to in this verse. They have been there with you checking up on your affairs, seperating the tares from the wheat, in both your individual life, and in connection with the whole family life. Let them have full sway with you; and be sure you do, ~~not~~ allow yourself to be grieved if they should gather out some things as tares that you had always supposed was wheat.

I have spoken of a different judgement for each of us. Until now I have supposed in rather a vague way that your judgement and mine in ^{and} the Cuban matter would be quite similar--that in the same way that I had to drop everything and literally run away, so you also in the end would have to do the same. But now I see that our individual errors are of a different order, and therefore the judgements will also be different; nevertheless the Cuban "tare" will have to be pulled up and burned out of ~~lives~~. ^{call our} completely.

Therefore I feel sure that God has decreed for you an orderly get-away; as He did for all the rest of the family except myself, who after all was the greatest sinner. I believe that He will assist you in an orderly se~~lling~~ling out to some purchaser that He will provide for you. But you must be very careful, and not be stiff and unreasonable with whoever He sends. Those angelic messengers will arrange everything for you--you have only to stand by and carry out the human part of ~~of~~ signing the papers, etc. While you are in the act of doing that Satan will no doubt be on the lookout to trick you into something else. Be intently on your guard, and in earnest prayer.

In order that you may have a free hand to pass title; we here all want to quit claim all our interest, both legally and morally in the property; and that was the net import of my letter you on the 27th. We are praying that it may be quickly done, so that you can get early ^{away} in the summer, and have as much time as possible to get acclimated ~~before~~ before cold weather comes again.

Now let me know just what will be required of us in the way of legal release--if anything. Morally we have fully released you from a burden and bondage that you have willingly submitted yourself to, thinking that it was right. May God bless you with a clear understanding of these things; and set you free quickly. To this end we shall most earnestly pray, ^{and work}

Love and prayers,

Clarence W. Crosby