The Ebening Star. WASHINGTON, D. C.

n. R. Graham En

Star Sin, I did not have the apportunity to have as much tack as I would have liked to have on the day of the sale so take this accasion to write you on one or two matters which need immediate alleutions do I undevotand it you are willing to sent my side of the Spring Valley forme of course it will searcely the possible to arrange the details of the terms by como-Soudence Still I would be glad than you outtine your idea as to the general terms upon which you doould wish to reach & whether for a Cash sent or on the Shareo o Frank Coleman the Coloris man who accupies the house has more and and it is now emptyo I do not know whether this fact wice walidate My insurance or note I have written & the visurance Company on the subject a anything for my own protection I woonerlike to han the house occupies as soon as possible a Junderstood from Some one that you had a man you intended to hing

Jan. 3, 1904

Letter written to W.R. Graham from D.J. Mercie, who owned a farm W.R. wanted to rent for farming.

Jan 3, 1904

W.R. Graham, Esq

## Dear Sir,

I did not have the opportunity to have as much tack as I would have liked to have on the day of the sale so take this occasion to unite you on one or two matters which need immediate attention. As I understand it you are willing to rent my side of the Spring Valley farm. Of course it will scarcely be possible to arrange the details of the terms by correspondence. Still I would be glad to have you outline your idea as to the general terms upon which you would wish to rent and whether for a cash rent or on the shares.

Frank Coleman the colored man who occupied the house has moved out and it is now empty. I do not know whether this fact will invalidate my insurance or not. I have written to the insurance company on the subject. Anyhow for my own protection I would like to have the house occupied as soon as possible. I understood from some one that you had a man you intended to bring with you whom you would put in my house.

with you whom you would put in my house of this is the case, and it is geasible, I would Suggest that he come along as soon as possive. If you have not made such an anaugement, I would Suggest a man who worked for my bother on the farm at Maniceton Station as one who would I think from a Dalistaday hand provided you and he could aque on terms a He is a white man the is marries and has one Childo the is a girst closs hand, strong, coiling and Capable when he has some one about to look after him o the got a little plack towards the last as all the nest did awas nearly all hand will do under similar Cercumstances of He thows how loove should be done and is not one you have to be eternally Showing and Explaining to What to do a do I say are that is necessary to make him a throngaly efficient hand is for the bass man to be around on the Same place with him a to name is Ralph Thompson and his adduss fime The in case you should can & Composed with him a the is fort loose now and in Case you wanted him could mon

If this is the case, and it is feasible, I would suggest that he come along as soon as possible. If you have not made such an arrangement, I would suggest a man who worked for my brother on the farm at Hamilton Station as one who would I think prove a satisfactory hand provided you and he could agree on terms. He is a white man, is married and has one child. He is a first class hand, strong, willing and capable when he has some one about to look after him. He got a little slack towards the last as all the rest did as nearly all hands will do under similar circumstances. He knows how to work should be done and is not one you have to be eternally showing and explaining to what to do. As I say all that is necessary to make him a throughly efficient hand is for the boss man to be around on the same place with him. His name is Ralph Thompson and his address (?) Va in case you should care to correspond with him. He is foot loose now in case you wanted him could move into the house at once.

The Evening Star. WASHINGTON, D. C.

into the house at once a my Brother poid him \$10 a month and gave him Sufficient meal flour, bacon to to boars him self and family, and in this Connection I frequently hear my brother day he was quile conomical and did not try & impose on him in this waped o

Suppose of course you know my place is for Sale a livas in hopes you could see your way clear to tuy it along inthe my Brother's farm Dedjoining o I have two a three prospection purchasers one of whom I think means busines a the is looking mey for a Country home and does not would to farm I think a so in case I see to him, I judge he would h glad to han you farm the place though of Course he loomes want the house and the im-Medial - Surroun Digo o There is about 500 brlivin us get and I do not know whether we wice hable to make a trade o bevouch glad to See gon get the place as I know it would Suit for on this Connection I will make

My brother paid him \$10 a month and gave him sufficient meal, flour, bacon to (?) himself and family, and in this connection I frequently heard my brother say he was quite economical and did not try to impose on him in this respect.

I suppose of course you know my place is for sale. I was in hope you could see your way clear to buy it along with my brother's farm adjoining. I have two or three prospective purchasers one of who I think means business. He is looking only for a country home and does not want to farm I think. So in case I sell to him I judge he would be glad to have you farm the place though of course he would want the house and the immediate surroundings. There is about \$500 between us yet and I do not know whether we will be able to make a trade. I would be glad to see you get the place as I know it would suit you. In this connection I will make you a special offer to be good until Feb 1.

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you a special offer to be good with Hab to I need some money to make needed improvements as the depot form and in view of that fach will take # 9500 for the place if the sale can In consummates within the time specified of would only take 2500 lash to Swing the deal and the balance could remain at 45 to Suit your convinience I have always held the place alt/10,000 which is not quile 470 an acce, very cheaps I thuik for that grade of Loudown land o Indeed I think you will find the land itself on my side of the place rather better in guality and Smoother than an the side where I'm bought o There is not much fruich it is true and the Sunoundring as the devilling the not as attraction as a goon side but the devilling itsues is a letter me than yours though adden a der hunders dollars spent on the interior of the devilling toould make it a my attraction home indeedo het me hear from for when convenit. Very Succerely yours the D. J. Mercien

I need some money to make needed improvements as the depot farm and in view of that fact will take \$9500 for the place if the sale can be consummated within that time specified. It would only take \$2500 cash to swing the deal and the balance could remain as to such your convenience. I have always held the place at \$10,000 which is not quite \$70 an acre, very cheap I think for that grade of Loudoun land. Indeed I think you will find the land itself on my side of the place rather better in quality and smoother than on the side where you bought. There is not much (?) it is true and the surroundings as the dwelling are not as attractive as on your side but the dwelling itself is a better one than yours though older. A few hundred dollars spent on the interior of the dwelling and the surroundings would make it a very attractive home indeed. Let me hear from you when convenient.

Very Sincerely, Yours D.J. Mercie