

To: Alice Moore Dunbar
Dayton, Ohio

From: Stanford W. King
New Springs, Missouri

[Feb. 22, 1906]

1 - 22 - 1906

Mrs Paul Laurence Dunbar
Dayton Ohio
Dear Madame

In behavre of the
Dunbar Club of this City
We offer our condolences
in the bereavment of your
beloved husband & and one of
the most distinguished
poets of America on the 20th Jan

I also enclosed a copy
of My farewell to his memory

Stanford W. King Excelsior
(Pres. Dunbar Club)
Spring Mo

Excelsior Spring
Mo



J. L. NICHOLS & COMPANY, INC.

CAPITAL \$ 60,000 FULLY PAID

ESTABLISHED 1886.
INCORPORATED 1896.

E. E. MILLER, GENERAL MANAGER.



STANDARD SUBSCRIPTION BOOKS,
BIBLES ETC.

To: Alice Moore Dunbar
Dayton, Ohio

From: E. E. Miller

PHONE NAPERVILLE 322

Naperville, Ill.

Naperville, Ill. 2/22/06.

Mrs. Paul Laurence Dunbar,

Dayton, O.

Dear Madam;

You are probably aware that we are the publishers of several high grade books for the negro race, among them being "The Story of My Life and Work" by Booker T. Washington, "20th Century Negro Literature" by Dr. Culp, to which you personally contributed a chapter, also "Progress of a Race". We would like to inquire whether there is any movement on foot to write the biography of your late husband, Mr. Paul Laurence Dunbar. We have thought that perhaps such a book would sell quite extensively on subscription. Any information you may give us on this subject will be appreciated.

Awaiting a prompt response, we are,

Yours very truly,

J. L. Nichols & Co.

E. E. Miller
Per.....
Gen. Mgr.

BSM-M.

[E. E. MILLER]

J. I. Nichols & Co.
New York, N. Y.

2/22/06.

Mrs. Paul Laurence Dunbar,
Dayton, O.

Dear Madam:

You are probably aware that we are the publishers of several high-grade books for the negro race, one of them being "The Story of My Life and Work" by Dr. J. T. Robinson, 1905. We have contributed a chapter, and "Thoughts of a Negro" by W. E. B. DuBois. We are to indicate whether there is any movement on foot to write the biography of your late husband, Mr. Paul Laurence Dunbar. We have thought that perhaps such a book would sell quite extensively on subscription. Any information you may give us on this subject will be appreciated.

Awaiting a prompt response, we are,

Yours very truly,

J. I. Nichols & Co.

For.....
Genl. Mr.

7-11

[1]

[Feb. 23, 1906]

To: Alice Moore Dunbar
From: D. J. Jordan
Atlanta, Georgia

Morris Brown College,

D. J. Jordan, Vice Pres.

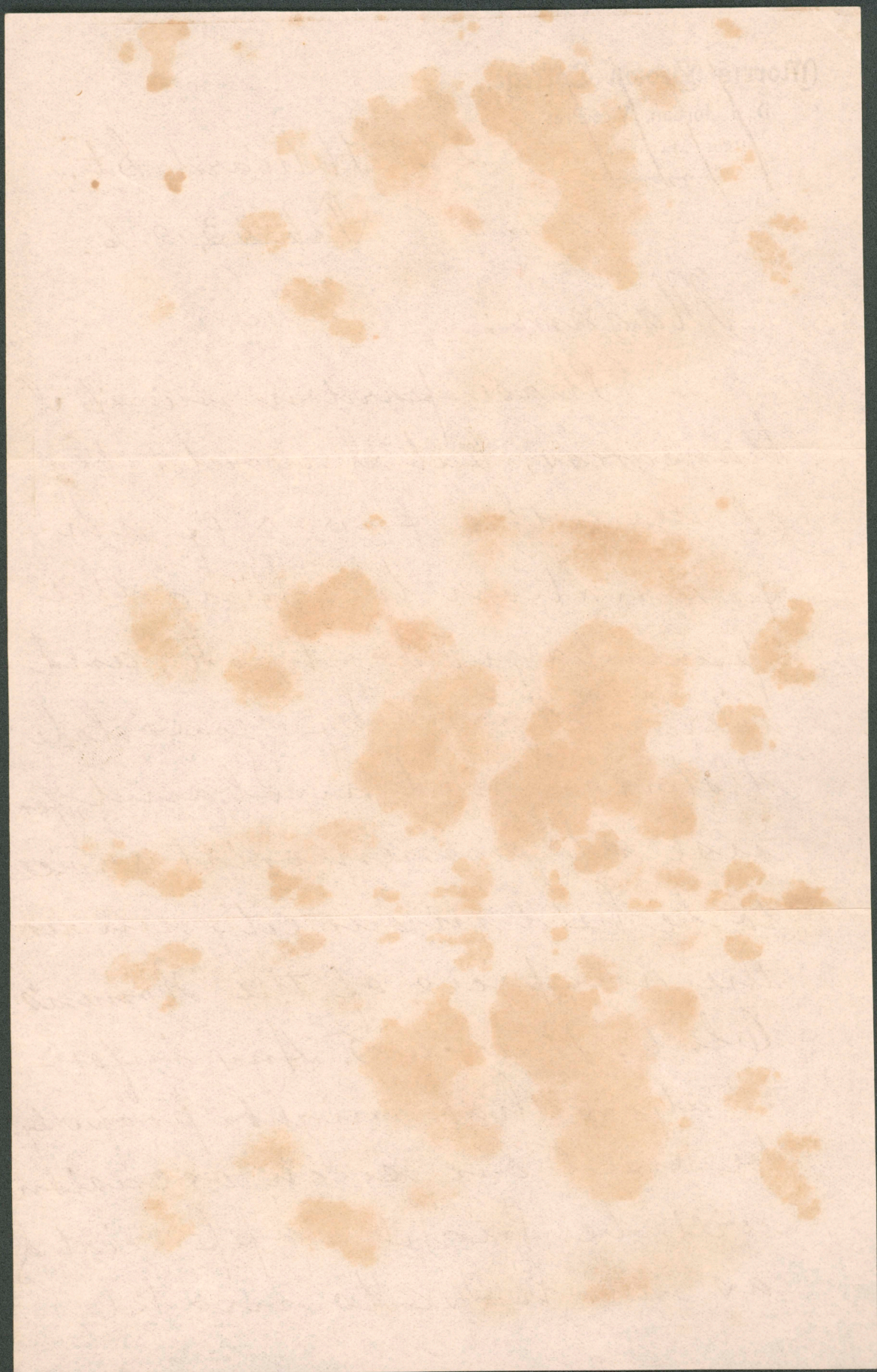
Prof. MATHEMATICS,
~~Atlanta, Ga.~~

268 Hilliard St.,

Atlanta, Ga., Feb. 23, 1906.

Madam:

Please pardon me if I transgress, but I would beg of you the favor of information touching the parentage, boyhood, and literary career of your late distinguished husband, for use at a memorial service to be held in our city under the auspices of the Women's Club, March 5. Any information that might properly be used on such occasion will be highly appreciated, as we hope to make



[2]
[2-23-00]
Morris Brown College,

D. J. Jordan, Vice Pres.

PROF. MATHEMATICS,
2

Atlanta, Ga., _____ 190__

the meeting worthy of
the high achievements of
him whom we all loved
and delight to honor.

With assurances of
our sympathy and best
wishes, I am

Most respectfully,
D. J. Jordan.

Mrs. Paul L. Dunbar,
Dayton, Ohio.

Wm. Gordon College

D. J. Gordon, V. Pres.

1890

To: Alice M. Dunker
Dayton, Ohio

(1)

[Feb. 23, 1906]

From: H. W. Scott
St. Joseph, Missouri

1407 S. 5th St.

St. Joseph Mo Feb 23 06

Mrs Paul Lawrence Dunker
Dayton O

Dear Sister I failed to see
Expt this as a letter
from a stranger

But ever have my heart
susceptible in regard to
the last of your husband

Now Mrs Dunker

as I wish to hold a
services to him in
my church as the great
part of the Negro Race will
you save me by telling
me what Publishing house
publish his songs I will
thank you in advance

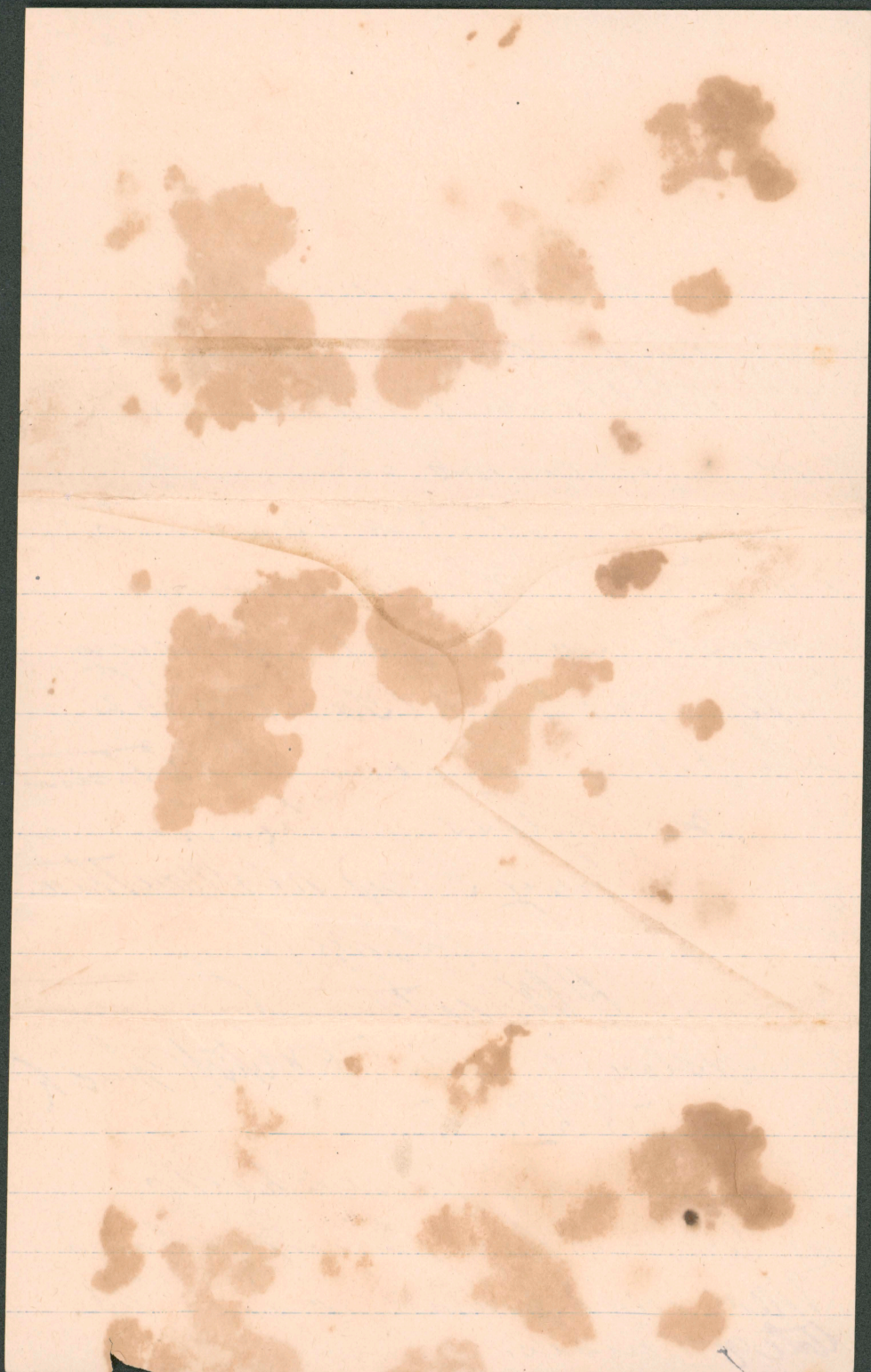
Are telling me where
 I may get this song as
 we will need them in
 the services

I do not care as to
 the cost of the song
 just so I get the song
 We wish a Bant 3 or 4
 So please answer by return
 and Bless you for
 Every word that comes
 if my pray

A. W. Scott
 Pastor of First Baptist Church
 1407 S. 5th St.

St. Joseph Mo.

I wish to say your husband
 met me 2 years ago in the
 State of Kansas.



(4)

I wish you would send me
some selections or any new
book he has out and I'll be
very glad to receive them and
pay you for them.

"I have seen his books, -
"Folks in Dixie", "Lyrics of Lowly Life"
and "When Malindy Stings".

Mother sends regards and
a God's Speed to you the
rest of your life.

Very Sincerely.

I hope to hear from you
as soon as you can get around
to write.

Loveingly

Miss Nettie Artis
and Mother Mrs. Artis.
952 Burke St. Appleton
Wis.

To: Mrs. Paul L. Dunbar (1)
Dayton, Ohio
From: Miss Nettie Artis
Mrs. Artis

Feb. 26 - '06

Appleton Wis.
952 Burke St.

Mrs. P. L. Dunbar.

Dear friend.

No doubt you
will be surprised to hear
from a perfect stranger.

But mother and I are
so much in sympathy
with you I thought I
would drop you a few
lines.

I saw Miss Nettie Artis
a colored Dramatic
Reader, Appleton Wis.
is my home and while
studying about two years
ago at an Expression School
in Oshkosh. known as
the "Laura Lee School of
Expression".

I studied Mr. Dunbar's work

1-28-28

particularly made a speciality of the dialect study.

"Through studying his poems I've almost felt I should have known Mr. Bubar if I ever had the opportunity of meeting him.

I thoroughly enjoy his works. My teacher too is very much interested in his works she reads from his works a great deal.

When I give recitals in various places I give an entire program of his work and it always takes with my audiences.

Then too I've read some of your literary work and have become interested.

So you see we feel we know

you personally and you have our deepest sympathy in loss of your husband to you and the wide community.

But Trust our dear Father who does all things well and is all ways ready to help us in time of trouble.

I read a cutting from The Folks in Dixie, (The Family Friend) and (Two Little Boots) "The Party" and numerous other selections of his works.

Mrs. Bubar had your husband written anything previous his death that was in anyway partly dramatic such as a part of the Family Friend is?

I'd like to get some of his latest selections. And when you get composed

To: Mrs. Paul Laurence Dunbar
Dayton, Ohio
From: Arthur Heitmuller
Washington, D.C.

[February 26, 1906]

HEITMULLER ART CO.

DEALERS IN

Paintings, Prints, Autographs and Literary Property

1307 14TH STREET, N. W.

TELEPHONE NORTH 2457

Washington, D. C., February 26, 1906

Mrs. Paul Laurence Dunbar
Dayton, Ohio

Madame:

Have you any Letters or Manuscripts
of old Books ^{or Articles} written by Mr. Dunbar
you wish to dispose of?
If so will you kindly send them
lot to me with your price on them,
& I will sell them for you.

Yours very truly

Arthur Heitmuller
HEITMULLER ART CO.



To: Mrs. [Paul L.] Dunbar
Dayton, Ohio
From: Harrison S. Morris
Philadelphia

[Feb. 26, 1906]

(1)
Chas. Lane Jr.
Milder. Feb 26. 06.

My Dear Mrs. Dunbar =
How much I am moved
by your letter. I had no
notion of the pathos of the
conditions and I want to
say just a word of comfort
— tho' your own emotions
must bring you more of
that than I can convey.
The thing that always
comes to me in my days
of trial is that if in me

3 your years with that fine
spirit. Abide in these and
you will find them melior
but a lasting and increas-
-ingly sweet possession. To
have the name of that gen-
-erous poet is an honour,
& to have him his comrade
is an enduring privilege.
If I can ever do you any
service in my power I
hope you will call on me
and I remain

Yours faithfully
Harrison L. Morris

(2)
large enough to see the just-
-er scope of things we should
find even what pains us to
be good. I am sure that
Nature dislikes to give pain.
It wants to be joyous and
kind and sweet; but then
must be vain as well as
sorrowful; true as well as
laughter, else the ways of the
Power that controls us wd.
not be fulfilled. You have,
too, a possession you can
claim and which cannot be
taken from you = the memory

power for good" across the path of
men," we may never fully know. Why
he was taken so early, the Lord only know,
but we can fully trust His wisdom,
can we not? I think I've seen in some
notice of your husband's death that his
mother is still living. If so, please tell
her of my great sympathy for her,
and gladness, too, that so lovely a gift-
was given to her to keep so many years,
and may she find comfort & find three
words.

Redeemed from death and grief and pain,
We soon shall find our friends again,

Within the arms of God."

To: Mrs. [Paul L.] Dunbar (1)
Dayton, Ohio
From: Mary Ives Sykes
Lyons, NY

Lyons, N.Y.
Feb. 27th '96.

Mrs. Dunbar,

My dear Friend:

Many times the
only way we can convey
to an afflicted one the
sympathy we feel is in
words. So now in the hour
of your great loss, in the
death of your dear husband,
although a stranger to you,
permit me to express my

(2)
most sincere sympathy. We know that
the dear Lord understands all about
these providences, and can we not be
comforted in knowing He does not
willingly afflict nor grieve His
children. We are told that He wept
at the grave of His friend how sweet
such an assurance, for just so surely
He now sympathises with those who
mourn. Then again to cheer us, come
thoughts of the blessed reunion with our
loved ones, awaiting us on the "other side"
no tears there, nor sorrow, but joy in
His presence forever more. As some
one has said:

"Now brief Death's darkness!
But one gattering step
Into the night,
And the Master's door
Stands wide in joyful welcome!"

How highly you must prize the beau-
tiful poems of your gifted husband—
How wonderful the talent the good
Lord committed to his care and
how nobly he used it, and his noble
thoughts so beautifully expressed what a

The tribute to her ^(4.) in the poem,
"When Malindy sings," is so full
of love and pathos the tears
come to my eyes whenever I
read it. I have been given the
privilege of caring for my
mother, even down to old age
and she taught me to sing -
her sweet voice I can still
hear, altho' she has been gone
many years, singing, I believe,
the "Songs of the Returned"
on the "other shore."

I did not think to write
so long a letter, and I'm fear-
ful I have taxed your pa-
tience in so doing. Just a little
more, and I'll close.
Whenever I see anything from

the pen of your ⁽⁵⁾ husband I always want
to copy or save it. I feel as tho' I'd lost
something good and uplifting if I don't
preserve it. For many years I've taken so
much pleasure in so preserving the choice
things. I read them over and over, almost
enjoying those who could write such beau-
tiful things. This I found yesterday
in one of our papers -

To Paul Lawrence Dunbar,

"Sweet singer of the burdened race,
The world will miss thy tuneful lyre;
Thou helped to give the negro place,
And lift him up to something higher."

And now we can leave him

"For the Resurrection Day:

Factor, in Thy gracious keeping
Leave we now Thy servant sleeping."

Again, with most sincere sym-
pathy, I am

Truly Yours,

Mary Jane Sykes.

To: Mrs. Alice Ruth Moore Dunbar
Wilmington, Del.
From: Robert E. Jones
New Orleans

[Feb. 28, 1906] [1]

SOUTHWESTERN
CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE
429 CARONDELET STREET
NEW ORLEANS
ROBERT E. JONES, EDITOR

February twenty-eighth,
Nineteen hundred-six.

Mrs. Alice Ruth Moore Dunbar,
1020 French Street,
Wilmington, Delaware.

Dear Mrs. Dunbar:-

I am invited to speak before the Bethel Literary and Historical Association, of Washington City, my engagement being March 21st. I would like to speak on "Paul Laurence Dunbar and His Productions", or a subject to that effect. I know you can be of great help to me in preparing this address. I am writing you in the hope that you will assist me in making a frank, interesting and worthy presentation of Mr. Dunbar's genius. I judge that there are some romantic things about his life that should not be kept from the public. I mean, that evidently a brief and interesting story might be told of his early career and of his first impulse to write. And then again, I would like to know what literature did he most study? Did he have a favorite author? Was he a student of any special line of literature, history, philosophy, fiction, poetry, or any of the standard lines of thought? What were his religious ideals? Will



[2]

SOUTHWESTERN
CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE
429 CARONDELET STREET
NEW ORLEANS
ROBERT E. JONES, EDITOR

A. R. M. D. #2

you be kind enough, if you can, to give me the inspiration of some of his poems and books? For instance I have heard it said that "When Malindy Sings" was written in honor of his mother, and that he got his inspiration from her singing. Is this true? Can you give me the inspiration of "Sport of The Gods", "Uncalled", "The Fanatics", "The Strength of Gideon", and such other information as you may be able to furnish? You get an idea of just what I would like to have. In presenting this subject I would like to do so in such manner as to receive the appreciation of my audience, and I cannot do so unless I have such information as I have asked of you. I know I have asked a great deal and am willing to pay you for the same and will consider it a great favor if you will furnish me with the facts desired. I agree, if you wish, to use these facts on one occasion only and that being in the address at the time that I have mentioned, and if it is your desire they will not be published in any form.

Valena joins me in the warmest love to you and best wishes. Our two daughters, Grace and Mary, are well. You need not be surprised if you have a letter from Valena re-inforcing this request. I would like a card from you stating whether it will be possible for me to have this information at least by the middle of March. Of course if you cannot furnish it then it may be necessary for me to change my subject altogether.

Yours truly,

Robert E. Jones

ПРЕДСТАВИТЕЛЬСТВО
ОБЩЕСТВА ИСКУССТВ
ИСКУССТВЕННЫЕ
ИСКУССТВА
ИСКУССТВА

Искусство