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National Life Association.

ASSETS - ONE MILLION DOLLARS.
SAFETY FIRST - CLAIMS PROMPTLY PAID.
INSURANCE AT COST.

JOSEPH STEADMAN
GENERAL AGENT

Des Moines, Iowa.

KEARNEY, NEBRASKA

Jan 23 1918

My Dear Son

This Letter will reach you about the Time that Margaret and Her Mother get their as they are leaving for Douglas this afternoon I think you are doing the Right thing in getting married Early in Life thou had you put it up to me I would have advised that you wait until you were in better shape Financially but I know that when young People make up their Minds to get married it is Foolishness on the part of any of the Older Heads to try and interfere to change their Plans

You and Margaret are taking the all important step every thing depends on yourselves Your Lives will be Happy together or miserable just as you want or Deserve

You may be as Poor as the Devil and still be happy in each other or You may have all the Money you can use and be the most Miserable wretches on Earth

The secret of happiness is Perfect Confidence Perfect Love and Perfect Fidelity without those three essentials there can only be Tragedy they are Chart Compass and Helm that will Steer Your Partner Ship safely thru all Dangerous Shoals and and beyond the Breakery Roar

I Congratulate You on gaining for your wife one of the sweetest Little Girls that it has ever been my good Fortune to know I Pray that God will bless you in Multiplied Happiness

Now My Son A word about Yourself The Name you bear has been an Honorable one since the Seventeenth Century at one time the Name stood for much wealth the greatest offence that could ever be charged up against any Angus Steadman was that He would Split His Last Dollar with Friend or Foe in Distress it is My wish that the Name will be Perpetuated and that some time there will be one of that Name to Retrieve the Fortune Financially that originally belonged to Men of that Name but never by an Act of Dishonesty I would rather Loose My last Dollar than to Gain Dollars that were not rightfully Mine in the Sight of God My Conscience tells me what is right My Rule in Life is to use the other Fellows as I want Him to Use Me

Wishing You My Children Gods Richest Blessings

DAD

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Des Moines, Iowa,

KEARNEY, NEBRASKA

Feb 10 1918

My Dear Son

On the Day that Margaret left Kearney I wrote congratulating you on gaining for your wife the Nicest Little girl that I have ever met by this time you will know that Dad was right as he often is

Mrs Dick just Phoned us that she had A Letter from Margaret today expressing the belief that she will soon be Home with us it may be that she will not feel that Kearney is Home any more but there will be at least Two Homes in Kearney here she will always be welcomed with Love while her coming can only be looked forward to with mixed feelings of pleasure and Heart felt anxiety because Her coming can only mean your moving to other Fields

But we must not hold thoughts of fear rather we must remember that you are A Perfect Man made in the Image and Likeness of God that God whose Heaven is within your soul is Omnipresent and that He is able to keep that which he has given (your Life Your Being)

The heaviest Cross you must bear is the Enforced and perhaps long absence from your wife but there will be true joy in the Knowledge that in that little Body there is Beating A Big warm and Loyal Heart whose every Pulsation will be for you and measuring off the time when you will return to Her

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Des Moines, Iowa,

KEARNEY, NEBRASKA

Ed^m other and Myself take this thought "with you" wherever you are that we are continually "with you" wishing for your greatest good and always anxious for your Comfort

I had thought of "writing" sooner but concluded that A Letter from me would in no way contribute to your Happiness I told Mrs Dick on her return that I believed you were sufficient unto your selves but with the ever possibility of your being moved in my Mind I have taken this time to Bid you God Speed and to thank God that I have A Son so well Quallified Mentally and Physically and who so "willingly" answered the Call of His Country

You may give your Little "wife" an extra Hug and Kiss for Dad

I "will" be more than glad to get A Letter from you any time that you can find time to "write" if it is only Two Line it will be appreciated and the longer the beter

Your Loving Father

Joseph Steadman

Kearney State Normal School

GEORGE S. DICK, PRESIDENT

Kearney, Nebraska

PUBLIC SCHOOL MUSIC

Mrs. Grace E. Steadman
Margaret L. Dick

Dearest Son:

I have just returned from church and found that your father had written to you, and so thought I could answer your last letter which I wrote to both you and Margaret a few days ago (Ahem!)

Well sonny, it just breaks my heart when I think about your going to France, but I am no better than any other mother and so I shall bid you go with your mother's prayers and blessing. I can only pray and know that you will come back to us all safe. No night or morning but you are in my thoughts and I always pray for your safety and happiness.

While we will be glad to see Margaret, still it will be combined with sadness for it means your going away.

I am so sorry that I have not been able to get more socks to you, but perhaps Mrs. Dick has written to you telling of Grace's illness. She has been very ill for over a week now and will have to stay in bed for some time to come. I think she took cold at the Thanksgiving foot ball game and her heart became bad again. It seems that the blood leaked into one of her lungs and caused congestion. She is having to stay flat on her back for at least another week. I have been going down there every day and night for the past ten days. The Dr. says she will, after this, have to live a very passive life if she is to have any length of years at all. Whether we can do this or not I do not know. I should very much like to take them over to Kenwood with me, for it is hard to have your mind in three places. Do not think they will consider it however. It is a great problem, especially

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since there is Jane to consider.

I have another sock almost finished and will try to get the other one finished this week so that I can send it to you before you go, if it be possible. Be sure and tell me where to send them when you go. I have yarn for three more pairs. You will notice that some of them are not as heavy as others. That is because of the yarn. Some of it is so poor it hardly seems worth while knitting. I shall keep pegging away and in time hope to keep you supplied. I am glad you liked the sweater. I liked it myself. It was way ahead of anything I have seen so far.

Now my dear boy, I know you are busy and that your time is short with Margaret, but try to find time to write to me. It will help me out a lot.

May God bless my boy and his dear little wife.

Your loving mother,

Grace E. Steadman

The ring as \$8.75.