

February 21, 1951

Mrs. Don A. Freeman
Treetops
R.R. # 6
Brainerd, Minnesota

Dear Grayce:

Tomorrow marks the date of two important birthdays: that of George Washington, and of yours. I am sorry that I can not be with you, but I certainly shall think of you. I think so often of our childhood days in western Kansas when at first you were an infant in arms, and then through your early childhood and your further development into the fine and attractive woman that you are. We certainly made a little go a long way out in western Kansas. In the north window of our dining room there is a little blue glass inkwell in the form of a chair that was given to me as a birthday present during some of the early years in Hodgeman County.

I feel as if our printing department was as slow as molasses in the wintertime in getting my genealogy out. The only rush about it is whether we finally get it printed while I am living or whether someone else will have to look after it in later years.

I am in apparent good health but of course do not have the stamina that I used to have. I really think that for many years I was more vigorous and able to do considerably more than the ordinary individual of my age. As you know, our great-great-grandfather Cook, who was twice captured by the Indians and who saw service in both the French and Indian and Revolutionary Wars, lived to be 102 years old; on our chart there is another person whose name I do not recall who is accredited with attaining the same great age. If I were to have my choice I do not believe I would choose to attain so great an age. I never have been waited on very much and I shall regret the time when I can no longer look after things as may be necessary.

Next December, which is now a good many months away, will mark the 60th year of our arrival in Lawrence. It seems