

Private & Confidential

Rome, Italy
May 15th 1924

Dear Arthur,

Your letter and enclosure reached me after many delays. I must thank you for the first authentic news regarding my mother, and also for the enclosure. It was the first-hand news of "mutter" I had received, and I appreciated very much the detailed information you gave me.

However, I regret to say, that the rest of your letter rather upset me. Given bad health and financial and other worries, and no one can tell what sort of a "kink" one will develop, and no doubt I read it ^{wrongly}. To me, - it seemed as if I was in the same boat as a predecessor, who asked for bread and was given a stone. If I ever knew that you still owed me money I had forgotten it. What I asked for, - or intended to ask for, - was help and advice in riding off this rather unexpected difficulty, and in getting a job. To me, - foolishly, no doubt, - your letter read - "Well, I do owe you some money, - here it is! and good-bye!"

During the War I think you know I was your strongest and most loyal supporter, - through fair weather and foul. - (I have no use for fair-weather friends) - & left no stone unturned to further your efforts and interests. I put everything I had into it, - i.e. whatever brains I have, my health & all the energy that a rotten physical condition would permit. All I got