

July 12, 1940.

My dear Mr. Cowles:-

For nearly a week I have been trying to get a letter off to you, but I have been going strong on the prints and I don't seem to accomplish anything else.

Under separate cover I am mailing you four proofs, that is the type set for four pages. I am sending one finished print mounted so that you can see the text beneath the print. If you like this design, I shall proceed with thirty or forty pages and send the proofs for your O.K.

I enclose with this letter a sample of the binding sent me by the binder. He has illustrated this very clearly so that you can visualize just what his idea is.

The entire job has so increased in size that I am very doubtful about getting it all into one volume and having any room left for future use. As it stands now there will be 100 pages which will make a very thick book. Aunt Fanny's have 65 pages. She is going to add a third volume and she is adding some new things to her collection. May I suggest putting all the Cowles-Hutchinson-Early Cheeny prints in one volume which would leave space to add a few at some future time should things be found to add to this first volume, then put all of your generation and your children's pictures in a second volume which would leave room for future additions. Blank pages could be added to this so that the paper would all be alike.

The quotation on the cost of the bindings would be
Cloth binding with title stamped in gold on the
front cover and back

\$12.50 ea.

Domestic leather with some gold tooling

\$25.00 ea.

You are familiar with the beautiful craftsmanship of this man as he bound Aunt Fanny's books. These however were bound in French Morocco with a lot of tooling a decoration and were somewhat more expensive.

By Monday I will have the copy ready of the Genealogies and the John Cowles Memorial to send you. Also I am sending two prints of Edwin Weed Cowles. One of these has been waxed which greatly brightens up the print. There are a number of these which would be greatly improved by this treatment. However, I would prefer to have your chemist use benzol on the wax. I saw in the paper that benzol is used for this purpose. Benzol is very small and only enough is used to make it possible to spread on the wax in a very thin layer. It evaporates immediately and then the print is polished. It seems to me that there is nothing harmful and as a matter of fact the wax is a protection to the print as no moisture of any kind can reach the print itself.

detail shows up in the waxed print.

The printing is really progressing now, and by the end of next week I will reach the half way mark. with the second half going faster than the first. I have divided the whole into sections, and copy of which will follow with the other copy. I have not yet returned the originals as I have found in one case that a negative that I thought would be all right, I was able to improve by making a new one, so that I think it best to wait until I compare the copies with the originals before I return them. However as I finish each section I can return the ones in that section.

You may expect another instalment of this letter within two days. I am anxious to get this much off to you as well as the package with the pages in it so that I may go ahead with more type setting.

If you decide upon the bindings and will give me an idea of the color you prefer, I will send you some samples of either the cloth or the leather. Perhaps you might want to make the bindings different colors.

Hoping that this finds you well, I am

Very sincerely yours,