

19 April 1965

Stu,

I'm just sitting here watching people go by after the day's work and I feel like I control all I survey perched up here on my second floor bay window. Outside it's very windy and a change in the weather is due. I can tell. Oh! There is that same hunchback old man that walks by here every day. He gets off the same bus at the same hour and he always stops in front of our house to light his pipe. There is no variation in his schedule. I tried to sketch him but alas he's gone.  Anyway I'm sitting here listening to the recording I made of Couelli's Op 6 no 4 concerto. The group was here last night, about 15 of them and we had an excellent rehearsal. We're preparing for a big concert on the 30th of this month and I think this time we'll be ready for it. On that performance is going to be the premier of my master work - the Sonata in C minor for two violins. Last night the whole group requested that Ed and I play it. And we played it very well including a new slow movement that I just finished. I was wondering how that would sound and I was quite amazed and even moved by my own music. This slow movement has all sorts of dissonances and suspensions. It is extremely simple. The group was extremely pleased - I could tell. They gave us an ovation that was sincere and so this morning I started and the 2nd movement a fast fugue and I felt the ideas pour out of my brain in profusion (that's rare) (anyway it's the last movement of this sonata) and then I can say that I will have completed my first work - a monumental achievement for me - a work that took me 6 months to write and lasts only about 6 ~~to~~ minutes. But Stu it sounds good, and it will give pleasure to those who play it and those who listen to it.

I went home Tuesday to pay my income tax and earn some more money both of which I did. I also had a lot of fun and surprises.

I saw Tom and he was very glad to see me. We went out to Knight's gun store and saw his latest gun - a beauty and of course Tom has to get the idea of me going out to Joe Williamson to pick up my money. Well we did and when I walked in Tom motioned me over to the counter and he handed me my gun. It's about 7th completed his done the carving on the stock and put in the patch box and inlays. Stu d. can't begin to tell you what a beautiful gun that ~~it~~^{is}. It's the most beautiful one I've ever seen and Stu the balance is immaculate. It's the most easily handled flintlock I've ever shouldered. The wait has been well well worth it. You're going to flip when you see it. I can hardly wait to get it which will be when I go home in about 3 weeks. It's the finest craftsmanship I've ever seen. The stock is the prettiest grain I've ever seen. In fact when I talk about this gun I can only speak in superlatives. Tom was so impressed and jealous that he tried to hide his feelings. ~~He~~ He even suggested that he might like Joe Williamson to make him one.

(a week later)

I just finished my sonata and it was orchestrated by my negro friend. Last night (Casta) our orchestra played it and it sounded great. It is scheduled for performance on May 1st at a concert at Temple University. I'm quite proud of myself.

I just got a letter from Jim and he sounds fine. I'm going to visit him sometime after May 1st and will probably drop on down to see you on my way home. I will write you later when I have more definite plans.

Scott

P.S. Our future at home looks much brighter than I thought.

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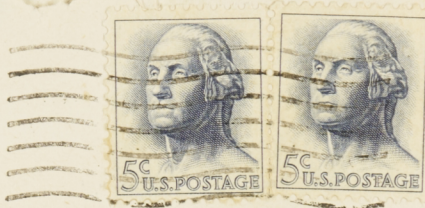
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faith mother, root Crop
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Complex culture is person
to acceptance to new innovation
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Quartz Crystals used to Cure
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