

W/8/2/09

Flouring date Fred Feb. 1, 1909

Professor Chas. F. Bennis

Alfred

Dear Friend;

Your letter via Illinois  
then via Alfred again came a day  
or so ago.

Owing to the cold wave and then  
a record one, our clay is becoming  
weathered and is pressing better. So  
the matter will rest for the present  
as they need kiln sheds etc and all  
are yet to build.

I will send you a good sample, a  
barrel, of clay, for your own use and  
experimental pleasure, and should you  
have any new ideas through working  
it, the firm here should pay you for  
your work for I will send this clay on  
my own book.

I wish to thank you for your  
good word in my behalf at Nashville.  
My Father is in charge there now  
and I leave for there to work with  
him about the 15<sup>th</sup> of February.



There, I am to have a wider field than here, and I am told will have access to the laboratories of Vanderbilt University.

I saw your letter in answer to "Inquirer" in the "Clay Worker".

Permit me to say that you hit the nail squarely on the head and had "Inquirer" been as frank as you in regarding his name to his letter I think his product would bear out his name ideas and we would know how to catalogue him as a clay worker without seeing his goods.

I have been up against that sort a while but myself and am here but having learned that I am gaining a reputation and I was offered more money to stay here. Every day I am told how little school does for a clay worker but every day I am asked for advice and the advice is followed.

A case in point is one here, where the superintendent maintains that a clear fire will remove sulphur while.



a smoky one of sodium sulphate.

Yet the last kiln was fired indeed  
on a reducing fire (the best fire) and  
the ware is better, but not free from  
sulphate because this action should  
continue longer. After I am gone he  
will fire as I told him and bolster  
his reputation thereby.

Hence I think your letter over  
your name is a good one.

Yours very truly  
Paul C. Lee