

Nashville Tenn. May 31, 1909

Professor Chas. F. Binns

Alfred N. Y.

Dear Friend;

The last time I wrote you I was in Bloomingdale Ind. Father came here about Dec. 1st, the Harley Pottery Co representing that they desired a trial of his ability before deciding on employing him. After he was here a few days they ordered a clay washing (?) outfit (they had previously used raw clay) and they engaged him to set this machinery and start it off. During this work Harley asked Father if you would recommend me which you did. The Bloomingdale plant was in a quarrel between its superintendent and general manager and since has closed down pending a readjustment of affairs generally. You are aware that I was merely the mold maker at Bloomingdale. On account of my Father being here I came here to burn (?) the kilns and make molds and some things in glazes also.

All this time up to 6 weeks ago my (?) and contracted with him to consider our work in glazes paid for if we could be assured of a year's work. I was to have \$90 per month which is what I receive as a mold maker, and Father as general superintendent was to have the same sum. You will understand that I was to burn kiln and do glaze work and make molds.

Directly after Father got the family here, Harley began to find fault and as their customers complimented the ware highly the men all (?) (?) output was the only decent goods they ever produced, we concluded that it was a contemplated cut in salary. We never did secure that contract.

Finally Harley proposed to retain me and let out Father. He demanded the glaze formulae which we of course retained pending the delivery of our contract and to complicate matters a representative of the American Clay Machinery Co. asked Father to leave here and apply the glaze in (?) the brick business, which I am proud.

Mother and Aunt were at home. Harley has a bad name in business and as he kept asking Father to move here we felt he wanted our services. One day he asked me to contract for a year. Father then asked him to include him in a similar contract and as Harley wanted Father to stop in St. Louis on some business for him on his way north, Father demanded that our contract be settled, drawn up etc. then he move here at once. Harley drew up a rough draft and then asked that he be allowed to have the same typewritten and he assured us that on Father's return the entire business would be concluded and he could safely move here. He assured Father his services were satisfactory.

In the course of my work, helping the Bloomingdale superintendent on his glaze work, I had developed a very white and opaque Bristol glaze, so white in fact that it is a perfect enamel being opaque enough to cover red clay entirely.

Harley had boasted to Father that he never paid for a glaze. We told him to say Father refused because then he felt himself in honor (?) bound to stay as he had agreed. Harley then hired a couple of

men employed there, one a cousin of his, to watch Father weigh out the glaze but Father suspected the trick and defeated it. Finally Harley discharged both of us charging incompetence and this not 3 days after asking me to stay with him longer than the year.

You will wonder why we don't have a lawyer and I will say that we would but we are whipped for want of friends.

Now I am going to ask you for aid in starting again. I told you all this to show how my luck always breaks against me. If you can point out a location for me I would surely be grateful.

One more thing to show my ill luck. L. C. Morley is superintendent at Bloomingdale. He was here with Harley for 4 months, but only to gain experience as he did not expect to stay when he came, and he left here on good terms. But he told me no one could please Harley and he was able to hold my place open at Bloomingdale, and in fact I was to be assistant superintendent there. Then just as this came up he lost out also at least temporarily tho it seems he may be reinstated if an agreement can be had.

Anyhow it beats the band how everything I touch goes wrong. Stoneware business is terribly dull now also.

I trust you are in good health and also your family to whom I send regards.

Turnbull is city health chemist in Liverpool.

Yours very truly,

Paul E. Cox

2209 Cedar St.

Will you kindly communicate in duplicate with me % L. C. Morley Bloomingdale Ind.?