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France August 27 1918

General  
Poore

My dear Mr. Huston:

I scarcely remember what I wrote you the day following Henry's death, in words all so upset and stunned, and now at this later day I cannot realize that he will not return.

I felt that you would not want him left where he fell, as seems to be the custom here, and had him taken to Paris and notified Capt. Meigs who came to Paris and took charge of Henry's affairs there.

Capt. Meigs has no doubt

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plane but I later learned that he had not nor had he been up since he left that day.

I knew you did not appear of his flying and I was careful that he dismissed any idea of it: he had removed his wing decoration from his coat and was appointed Information Officer of the Brigade in which work he was much interested.

His duties while in the field consisted

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advised you of all the circumstances.

→ As I wrote you Henry had become very dear to me and his straightforward manly character endeared him to all with whom he came in contact and his passing was a great shock to us.

When I received the report of his death we were at supper and expecting his arrival at any minute as he was always on time and my first thought <sup>was</sup> that he had gone up in a

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principally in receiving  
information from all  
sources regarding the  
enemy, sifting it  
of nonessentials and  
reporting the results to  
Division and Corps  
Headquarters. and further  
seeing that all the  
information services in  
Regade, Division and Corps  
Co-ordinate. I visited the  
spot where he fell and  
it would seem as if one  
bolt from the sky reached  
out and touched him, so  
isolated was it from the

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beyond

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front, although the other <sup>being</sup>  
road beyond was being  
- shelled. They had halted  
the car in a thick piece  
of woods and several  
officers were near to  
the exploding shell stream  
line. His duties as my aide  
kept him close to me and  
our relation became very  
near - We talked of  
everything and learned  
so much of what we  
would each do after the  
war and had returned to  
America. He talked so  
much of you all and  
of his sister and was

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Capt. Meigs has no doubt written you that Henry's bag was shipped to you through Morgan Hayes & Co. - his trunk was left with American Express Co. Paris (St. F. E. Wood of Post Baggage Bureau - Paris) all the stuff stored Christmas there when we came up in the line; his bedding roll is still at Hdqrs. but we will send it either to Capt. Meigs or to Paris as soon as we hear from Capt. Meigs regarding it.

I wish that there was something I could do to lessen the sorrow and distress of you and your family in these dark hours but I realize there is nothing.

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so amused at the letters I would get from my children, and which I read to him as if they were from his own sisters, until he gradually but surely came to be, as I have said, a son indeed.

Your family has, with just the loss of your nephew and now your son, been sorely visited by this great conflict and the horror of it all; how useless it all seems and then the resultant misery and sorrow that follows.

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Went you convey to Mrs. Houston  
and the members of your firm  
some indication of the  
sympathy my heart holds  
for you all and may God  
grant you that peace which  
only He can give at  
such a time.

Sincerely Yours

W. G. Rice

Mr. Saml. F. Houston  
Philadelphia.