

L. E. SMITH, VICE PRESIDENT
JOSEPH BUTTON, VICE PRESIDENT

R. F. BURKE, PRESIDENT

R. L. BURKE, CASHIER
S. L. FERGUSON, GEN. COUNSEL

The Bank of Appomattox

CAPITAL \$40,000
SURPLUS & PROFITS \$33,000
TOTAL RESOURCES NEARLY HALF MILLION

Appomattox, Virginia

January 4th, 1926.

Governor E. Lee Trinkle,
Executive Mansion,
Richmond, Va.

Dear Governor Trinkle:

Three years ago you wrote me in answer to a request of mine that if I would be patient you would, when the Manassas project was launched, and nearly completed, start a movement in Virginia with the idea of appealing to the assemblies of the State of Virginia other states, and the U. S. Government, for the rebuilding of the McLean House at Old Appomattox Court House and for the review of the historic spots in the county of Appomattox, for the purpose of ascertaining what was the wisest procedure for a shrine and National park.

I believe that now you have the Manassas project moving and you will keep your promise to me. At times I have thought that it would be well to start the movement in Washington but then thinking again, I have concluded that it should start right in Virginia and I know of no better source than the Governor.

When the state Senate and House were last in session, I had expected to ask Senator Ferguson and Representative Horsley to introduce a bill but at that time I had been trying to purchase the McLean House grounds and some lots around it before going very far with plans, and I found out there was an option on it which lasted until Jan. 1, 1925, I wrote again and found that the option has been extended to 1926. Then about that time my dear father was having a trying campaign and later he was very ill, all of which delayed me in in this undertaking.

Since you were the first person I wrote about it, I wanted to ask you to start this for us before your term expires. How about mentioning this in your message to the Assembly?

I would suggest that you just appoint a Committee or Commission whose duties will be to confer with others and draft a bill to be introduced in the Assembly to confer with National officials as to National procedure and the amount of appropriation to be asked for. Also to ascertain the amount of money it will take to purchase the McLean property and enough land near it for a National Park.

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#2.

If you have to ask the Assembly to appoint the Committee please do so as soon as they convene and if not, please appoint one at your earliest convenience.

Once I thought perhaps the best way was for you to appoint a Committee and then write the Governors of the states, asking them to pledge their co-operation and leave it to the Committee, as to procedure.

For years, different people have spoken of improving the Surrender Grounds and I have thought my head nearly off about it. I am a little afraid that it will be bungled, if not launched in a big way and I know that you can do it. Of course, Lee surrendered at Appomattox, Mr. Sweeney, the man who made the first banjo, lived here, and we are told by someone that the first partly perfected airplane was made in the county. Thomas Bocock who was speaker of the Confederate Congress lived here, too.

We can ask the State of Virginia, U. S. Government, and the other states, the U. D. C., S. C. V., and northern organizations to help us but first of all I want a commission of Virginians to begin the work and stand by until it is completed.

Please grant this request at once. I think I have been very patient, don't you, when my brain has been full of this for several years?

With warmest personal regards for you and your nice family, I am

Cordially yours,

Eula May Burke

Box 43 Appomattox, Va.

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