

Consulate of the United States of America

Bordeaux, February 26, 1900.

Mademoiselle Henriette G. Oldmixon,

Mademoiselle:

If, as I understand, you desire your marriage in France not only legal but of such character that your future relations will be controlled by the laws of the State of New York, or such other American State as you may select as your place of residence, I should advise that the following instruments be attached to the dossier, be properly attested and filed and also noted in the entry of marriage in the records of the Etat Civil:

1--Proof should be made that you are both American citizens.

This can only be done by passport which each of you should have and an attested copy of each should be attached to the dossier. Then and then only you have a right to require this entry to be made in the records and the copy of the marriage certificate, --"citizens of the United States of America." This entry alone permits me to certify that fact and enables the marriage to be proved in any part of the United States without witnesses or transcript of the French record.

2--There should also be filed an ante-nuptial contract to this effect, in brief, to wit:

"The parties, &c, being citizens of the United States of America, resident in the State of New York, being about to contract a marriage, &c, &c, in consideration of advantages &c, &c, --do hereby mutually covenant &c, &c, that the conditions and relations of said parties &c, &c, shall be controlled and regulated &c, &c, not by the marital laws of France, but by the laws governing the rights and relations of married persons in said State, etc."

If you are to have an ante-nuptial contract, this should be properly elaborated and embraced in it. If you do not have an explicit marriage contract covering other things, I will prepare this for execution and the same can be signed and filed with papers with a copy for each. If Mr. Peabody stops a day in Bordeaux, I can arrange that with him.

If you have a passport, please send it to me for examination. If you have not, I will send you at once an application to be filled out and sent to the Ambassador at Paris so there may be no delay.

Your uncle M^e de la Fargue-Tauzia, called on yesterday to con-

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fer upon the subject as to what must be done. I learned from him that your mother was expected to come over with Mr Peabody and advised him as I do you very urgently that they stop in Bordeaux for one day to consult with me on this matter.

I hardly see how all the formalities can be complied with and have the marriage take place on April 5th.

I am, Mademoiselle,

Very truly yours,

Abbie W. Young

2nd April at Bordeaux.