a H.H. Herges
In Morgan, Herges & Co.
1913-1926
History of Morgan, Harjes + Cie.

John H. Harjes, who retired in 1909 from banking firm of Morgan, Harjes + Co., died Feb. 21, 1914 at age of 85. Born in Bremen, he came to the United States in 1849 and went to Philadelphia. He formed a firm of Harjes Bros, dealing in foreign exchange business. At the instance of A. J. Drexel, he established the Paris branch of Drexel + Co., in 1868, known as Drexel, Harjes + Co. Its name was changed in Dec. 1894 to Morgan, Harjes + Co., when the name of the New York house was changed from Drexel, Morgan + Co., to J. P. Morgan + Co. In 1909, he was succeeded by his son, Herman H. Harjes.

Commercial + Financial Chronicle, Feb. 21, 1914, p.569
My dear Mr. Strong,

Your letter of the 16th inst. reached me to-day on the eve of my departure on holidays, and I regret that owing to the pressure of urgent business I am unable to go into the various questions you raise at the length I should like.

I also fear that for the present it would be impossible for me to follow up your suggestion of writing you regular letters for the purpose of keeping you in touch with matters on this side, as I am going away now for about three weeks, and then for a couple of months or so to America, where I hope to have the pleasure of seeing you.

In the meantime, however, I would say that the general pessimistic feeling which has prevailed here since practically the beginning of the year and the universal pessimistic forecast of financial circles had the effect of very strong precautions being taken, the consequences of which are now being felt in a clearer atmosphere and a more cheerful feeling.

It is of course very difficult to foresee what may actually happen in the Autumn as there is no doubt that the prospective demands for funds by the belligerents in the Near East have by no means abated, and that furthermore
this country will have to come out with a big loan before the end of the year, in addition to which there are its commitments towards Russia, not to speak of the pressing necessity of providing further funds for Mexico. It looks however as if satisfactory preparations had been made, and that the demands will be met without any serious disturbance, or any dangerous tightening of the money market.

Furthermore, it is impossible to formulate any useful opinion as to the gold that may be still required for Paris, which to a very great extent depends upon how the situation develops in the Near East, and the export demands which may have to be met here. The last important shipment of gold from your side to Paris would apparently appear to have been due to the Near Eastern embrolio, and more particularly perhaps to the accumulation of the precious metal by the Reichsbank. As regards Germany it may be mentioned that in many quarters astonishment has been expressed at the efficient manner in which that country, in spite of the practical closing of the French and English markets, has been able to regularize her situation, and notwithstanding the difficult position in which she still apparently finds herself, it would seem as if arrangements had been made to obtain all the needful assistance from Holland, Belgium and Switzerland. I am glad to see that conditions seem to be improving on your side and hope that the resolution of the
present difficult situation may prove the adequacy of the preparations which have been made to meet it.

Looking forward to the pleasure of being able to discuss these matters personally with you, I remain, with kind regards,

Yours very truly,

Benjamin Strong Jr. Esq.,
Bankers Trust Co.,
16 Wall Street,
New York.
Paris, 14th Jan'y. 1915.

L/R.

My dear Strong,

Confirming my letter of the 6th inst. I now enclose you three specimens of a Fr.0.50, a Fr.1.-- and a Frs.2.- note issued by the Chamber of Commerce of Bordeaux. Many of the Chambers of Commerce of the principal towns of France (but not Paris) have issued similar notes against the deposit of notes of the Bank of France,

Yours sincerely,

Benjamin Strong Jr. Esq.,
62 Cedar St.,
New York.
January 26th, 1915.

My dear Harjes:

As I was about to write you about those Chamber of Commerce issues, your note of the 14th reached me, enclosing three specimens each of the Fr. 0.50, Fr. 1.--- and Frs. 2.--- issued by the Chamber of Commerce of Bordeaux. This is exactly what I wanted, and I am exceedingly grateful to you for your thoughtfulness.

Please do not hesitate to keep me on your regular correspondence list. Some day, I may be able to do something worth while for you over here.

Once more, let me express my gratitude, in which all the family join me, for your many kindnesses to Arch. He may not say so to you, but he has written us that he has a very high regard for all the Harjes family.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

H. K. Harjes, Esq.,
31 Boulevard Haussmann,
Paris, France.

BSJr/VCM
New York, March 9, 1915
(dated 8th)

COPY of telegram received from Morgan, Harjes & Co., Paris.

746. Your 466. Paper offered for discount at Bank must bear three signatures, of which at least two domestic. (stop)

In normal times Bank makes no difference between financial and commercial paper or between foreign or domestic drawer, even discounts occasionally paper accepted outside France and domiciled France. (stop)

During money stringency or other abnormal circumstances, whether local or foreign, Bank generally reduces and sometimes entirely ceases discount purely financial paper but accepts commercial paper, namely, drawings made in payment of merchandises.
ACCEPTANCES.

BANK OF FRANCE.

Paper offered for discount at Bank must bear three signatures, of which at least two domestic. (stop)

In normal times Bank makes no difference between financial and commercial paper or between foreign or domestic drawer, even discounts occasionally paper accepted outside France and domiciled France. (stop)

During money strigency or other abnormal circumstances, whether local or foreign, Bank generally reduces and sometimes entirely ceases discount purely financial paper but accepts commercial paper, namely drawings, made in payment of merchandises.
TRANSLATION.

Paper called speculation or finance is that which is created with respect to speculations in credit and which does not rest upon a real commercial transaction.

Such paper would not be admitted by the bank.

This would not be at all the same as credit paper created as the result of a bona fide industrial or commercial transaction. It would be impossible to establish the rule that such paper should be rejected as a matter of principle without causing great damage to commerce or industry.
Le papier dit de circulation ou de finance est celui qui est créé en vue de spéculations de crédit et qui ne repose pas sur une opération réelle de commerce.

Il ne doit pas être admis par la Banque.

Il n’en serait pas de même d’un papier de crédit créé comme conséquence d’une opération réelle et sérieuse industrielle ou commerciale. On ne saurait établir que ce papier doit être repoussé en principe sans causer un dommage au commerce ou à l'industrie.
June 1st, 1915.

My dear Harjis:

I am most grateful to you for your kind letter of May 18th, giving me such a satisfactory account of my brother's doings. Am taking the liberty of sending it to my Mother who, you can imagine, is intensely interested.

About expenses - please let that be considered a little contribution by the writer towards the good work that you and your associates have been doing. I have been sympathetic all along with Arch's work and while his trip to Servia caused some anxiety in the family, nevertheless, I have felt that it is part of the work to be done, somebody must undertake it and that he is admirably situated and almost perfectly equipped by temperament and training to do just what he is undertaking. Of course, I was disappointed to have him leave his association with you which gave me some feeling of assurance, and besides that my own fondness for Paris, France and French people, made it a peculiarly agreeable relationship.

Please accept my very kindest regards and thanks of the family for your interest in Arch and his work.

Sincerely yours,

H. H. Harjes, Esq.,
31 Boulevard Haussmann,
Paris, France.

BS Jr/VCM
My dear Strong,

Enclosed herewith I send you copy of a letter received a couple of days ago from Dr. Richard Strong at Salonika as I am sure you will be glad to get news concerning your brother's good work.

Yours sincerely,

Benjamin Strong Jr. Esq.,

New York.
July 14th,
1915.

My dear Harjes:

Thank you very much for your thoughtfulness in sending me a copy of Dr. Strong's letter about my brother's work. Apparently, they have made such progress that the entire organization will not stay beyond July, as Arch cabled that he will likely return the last of this month. You will doubtless see him in Paris on his way home.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

H. H. Harjes, Esq.,
31 Boulevard Haussmann,
Paris, France.

ES Jr/TCM
January 13th, 1916.

My dear Harjes:

I finally reserved accommodations on the "Rotterdam", sailing February 1st and hope to see you in Paris about the middle of the month.

I have just written to the Ritz Hotel, asking them to reserve rooms for me and Mr. John F. Harris, who happens to be going over at the same time I am, and wonder whether, in case the hotels are crowded in Paris as they seem to be in London, you could not ask one of your young men to telephone or stop at the hotel to ensure that they expect us and will take care of us on our arrival.

I hope the worst of your labors are over. Possibly, I can persuade you to take a day off when I am in Paris and run out somewhere into the country and forget the worries of business and war times.

Won't you present my kindest regards to Mrs. Harjes and accept the same for yourself from

Yours faithfully,

Herman Harjes, Esq.
51 Haussmann Boulevard,
Paris, France.
January 18th, 1916.

My dear Matjes:

We have a rather pathetic case of war distress in our family and I am writing to ask if you cannot find it possible to give us a little help prior to the time I reach Paris. One of Mrs. Strong's maids, by name Clemence Claire, comes from Alsace-Lorraine and she has not heard from her family since June or July, 1914. Her father, Louis Claire, kept a little cafe called Cafe Poussardin in the town of Senones, Vosges, which I believe is about two hours from Nancy. The German advance swept right over this place and I understand is now right at, or behind, the German lines. Her father is a man of 48 and may have been drafted in the army service, although she is not sure of that. She has a mother and a brother aged 10 living. I have tried through other sources to get some information about them, but so far without success. Is there any means of locating them through government channels in Paris?

Anything you can do will be a very great help and if the inquiry is successful, it will be a great relief to this girl who really is distracted for want of news of her mother.

Sincerely yours,

Herman Harjes, Esq.,
31 Haussmann Boulevard,
Paris, France.
My dear Strong,

Thanks for your letter of January 13th. I have seen the Ritz people and have duly reserved an apartment for you.

I am glad that we are going to have an opportunity of seeing you here shortly and am looking forward with pleasure to our meeting.

Hoping that you will have a good trip,
believe me,

Yours sincerely,

Benj. Strong Jr. Esq.,
Ritz Hotel,
Piccadilly,
London.
London, February 13th, 1916

My dear Harjes:

Here we are at last after an uneventful but most enjoyable trip across on the "Rotterdam". We were held up for examination of passports, etc., at Falmouth to a degree that was most impressive, and possibly under different conditions would have been exceedingly annoying. Frankly, although my trip is one of business, I am in a frame of mind to submit to almost any degree of annoyance realizing now as never before how necessary it is that every interest must be laid aside which might interfere with the successful prosecution of this war. You may be surprised at my making this trip which has some of the elements of a holiday in it. As a matter of fact, London and Paris have meant so much to me in the past that I welcomed the necessity for coming over on business, and the opportunity to make a first hand observation of what is going on.

The principal object of my visit is to make preliminary plans for the banking arrangements of the Federal Reserve System in London, Paris and Holland. It is most difficult to determine, until I get back home, just how far we can go or would be willing to go prior to the conclusion of the war but I think we are all agreed that the first steps towards working up our foreign arrangements should be undertaken now rather than later on, hence my trip.

I am looking forward with keen interest to having a visit with you and hope that you will be able to devote a little time to giving me some good advice in Paris, and that it may prove the excuse for you to take a little rest from your arduous labours which I know you must need.

Jack came over on the boat with me and I must say he is looking exceedingly well, is in excellent spirits, and stands the strain of their very busy organization with apparent ease.

I have letters to Mr. Ribot, to the Governor and Deputy Governors of the Bank of France. In fact, those are all of the letters that I am taking with me to Paris, and these were furnished me by Mr. Homberg with whom I have had opportunity to form a most pleasant acquaintance. I hope to have the opportunity for a visit with you before presenting them.

There are two personal matters upon which I want your advice. My oldest boy who is now at Princeton and is nineteen years of age has conceived the idea that he and one or two of his friends would like to spend their vacation this summer in France either driving an ambulance or in some form of the service. I won't explain details now but Ben's letter, enclosed, gives some information upon the subject. We can talk this over together when I see you.
The other matter is in regard to a Miss Devereux—a young lady who crossed with us on the "Rotterdam." She is quite a friend of Ambassador Page's daughter and is now stopping at the Embassy with the Pages. She has spent the better part of a year in France nursing and doing some relief work in England. She went home quite recently to attend her sister's marriage and is now returning without any billet, and quite anxious to get to work. She is a young girl, speaks French excellently, tough as a hickory stick, and full of enthusiasm. It would be hard to find better material for serious hard work. Although only twenty-two or three years old she has tramped over most of France and knows not only the language but the dialects of Brittany and some of the provinces. Although she has not asked me to attempt to do anything for her, I learn through a friend that she would welcome any assistance I could lend in getting her a billet in France. She is not a trained nurse but has had much more experience than those who have simply the Red Cross training. This matter we can also talk over when I see you.

I must not conclude this letter without thanking you for arranging about our accommodations. Our party consists of Mr. John F. Harris and myself. Mr. Harris has his valet with him and my secretary accompanies me.

Please pardon this extended warning of the inflictions you are about to suffer.

Very sincerely yours,

H. H. Harjes, Esq.,
31, Boulevard Haussmann,
Paris, France.
call, and draw his attention to some of the facts regarding British finance. When a man writes today that the Bank of England is not a Government institution, he should explain what he means. When he says that it has avoided alliances, he should be sure of his facts. And when he says that war financing has not been done through the Bank of England, he betrays such stupid ignorance that he subjects the whole banking community to criticism. Almost every statement in the quoted part of the article is either itself inaccurate or so incomplete as to exhibit all the faults of inaccuracy, and if we could arrange to have a discreet but illuminating article published in the Journal in regard to this matter, it might be a good thing. I would be glad to write it if it could be published without my name appearing.

Very sincerely yours,

(R. H. TEMAN, Esq.,
Federal Reserve Bank, New York City.

THE BANK OF ENGLAND AND THE FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF NEW YORK

The January number of the Journal of the American Bankers' Association, which is the official organ of that association, contains some comments upon the recent appointment of the Bank of England as the financial agent of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York which affords startling evidence of the lack of understanding of current financial events in this country prevailing even in such august circles as the American Bankers' Association.

The following extract from the article is sufficient to show the trend of the writer's comments:

"The surprising feature is that the Bank of England is to be the agent. The Bank of England has been much given to aloofness. It is not a Government institution. It has persistently avoided all alliances. British war financing has not been done through the Bank of England. The managers of that staid old institution declined to be parties to the treasury obligations by which the war has been chiefly financed. The notes issued by the bank are still for gold, but it is no longer the dominant factor in the gold market. Its statements, which were formerly the index of British commercial activities, are now all but meaningless. * * * The proposed connection therefore is interesting in marking a departure for the Bank of England as for the New York Reserve bank. It can mean nothing except that the Bank of England has surrendered its position as the regulator of international finance and London is no longer the financial centre of the world. "It does not mean that New York has stepped into this position, but it must mean a decided enhancement of the power of New York and the prestige of the New York Reserve bank."

Poor Bank of England And yet we on this side have believed that the reputation of the Bank of England as the cornerstone of British finance never stood higher than at the present time.

To bankers in this country the extract which we have quoted would appear ludicrous were it not a serious matter that at the present juncture such misunderstandings should exist on the other side of the Atlantic.

* * * * * * * * *

EXHIBIT No. 2455

[Copy]

LONDON, February 13th, 1916.

MY DEAR HAWES: Here we are at last after an uneventful but most enjoyable trip across on the "Rotterdam." We were held up for examination of passports, etc., at Falmouth to a degree that was most impressive, and possibly under different conditions would have been exceedingly annoying. Frankly, although my trip is one of business, I am in a frame of mind to submit to almost any degree of annoyance, realizing now as never before how necessary it is that every interest must be laid aside which might interfere with the successful prosecution of this war. You may be surprised at my making this trip, which has some of the elements of a holiday in it. As a matter of fact,
London and Paris have meant so much to me in the past that I welcomed the necessity for coming over on business and the opportunity to make a first-hand observation of what is going on.

The principal object of my visit is to make preliminary plans for the banking arrangements of the Federal Reserve System in London, Paris, and Holland. It is most difficult to determine, until I get back home, just how far we can go or would be willing to go prior to the conclusion of the war, but I think we are all agreed that the first steps towards working up our foreign arrangements should be undertaken now rather than later on, hence my trip.

I am looking forward with keen interest to having a visit with you and hope that you will be able to devote a little time to giving me some good advice in Paris, and that it may prove the excuse for you to take a little rest from your arduous labours, which I know you must need.

Jack came over on the boat with me, and I must say he is looking exceedingly well, is in excellent spirits, and stands the strain of their very busy organization with apparent ease.

I have letters to Mr. Ribot, to the governor and deputy governors of the Bank of France. In fact, those are all of the letters that I am taking with me to Paris, and these were furnished me by Mr. Homberg, with whom I have had opportunity to form a most pleasant acquaintance. I hope to have the opportunity for a visit with you before presenting them.

Very sincerely yours,

H. H. Harjes, Esq.,
31 Boulevard Haussmann, Paris, France.
Dear Sir,

Mr. Harjes requests me to inform you that he has been unexpectedly called out to his Ambulance Section and has been obliged to leave this morning. He will not be back in all probability until Monday morning and therefore much to his regret he will not be able to have the pleasure of your company at dinner to-night.

Mr. Harjes hopes that you will accept his excuses and trust that this change of plan may not cause you any inconvenience.

Yours faithfully,

[Signature]

Benj. Strong Jr. Esq.,

Hotel Ritz,

E/V.
Dear Sir,

Mr. Harjes has just returned to the office and requests me to inform you that he will be very pleased to see you at 5 o'clock, as well as dine with you this evening.

In the meantime he would like you to reserve Thursday night, as he wishes you to dine with him and a few friends.

Yours very truly,

Benj. Strong Jr. Esq.,

Hotel Ritz,

E/V.
March 7th, 1916.

My dear Harjes:

Referring to our chat in regard to Miss Mary Crocker Devereux, I have just see her and learn that she is most anxious to undertake work as soon as possible in one of the French hospitals.

She is, as I told you, a friend of the Pages in London, and although it is a good many years ago, I used to know her family when I lived in Englewood. Her father is a mining engineer in New York City. She is a stupy young woman--speaks French well, and is apparently full of energy and enthusiasm. I cannot imagine a better type to take care of the wounded in one of the hospitals where the wounded soldiers are first received, if it is possible to place her there. She has had some training in one of the French hospitals and holds a Certificate of Merit or Credit such as now required. She is leaving for Paris on Thursday, and I am giving her a note of introduction to you.

I hope that you will realize I am anxious to avoid giving you trouble in this matter--in fact, am rather more interested in
seeing her placed because I feel that she will be an effective worker and will stick to it for such a period as required, the minimum being, as I understand it, six months. The members of her family live in Paris and she will stop with them. She expects no re- muneration for her work.

I have just had opportunity to read over a copy of your memorandum regarding commercial credits, and have taken the liberty of noting what appeared to me to be a few typographical errors, and I am enclosing a revised copy which I enclose and hope will be perfectly clear to you.

Once again let me thank you most warmly for your many courtesies to me while I was in Paris. My trip was well worth while and if, as I hope, it is productive of more intimate relationships, that certainly is ample reward for the time it has taken.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,
My dear Strong,

Many thanks for your letter of the 5th, from which I was very glad to learn of your safe arrival in London after as comfortable a trip as possible under the existing circumstances.

It was a very great pleasure indeed to see you here and I can only confirm what I told you, viz: that I am convinced that your visit to France and your various interviews with the Authorities and friends over here was a very great benefit and bound to bear the fruits which we desire.

I am sorry to say that the plan which you thought out for the extension of the opening of credits is unfortunately not workable in its entirety, but certain of its features can be worked out, I believe, and will help I hope in the direction you are aiming at.

Thanking you again for your own kind expression of appreciation of whatever slight service I have been to you, which service in any case was not half what I should have liked it to have been, and

Wishing you the very best of trips back, believe me,

Yours very sincerely,

Benj. Strong Jr. Esq.,
Hotel Ritz, London.
Dear Sir,

Mr. Harjes requests me to acknowledge receipt with thanks on his behalf of the advanced proof of the first annual report of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, for which he is very much obliged.

Yours faithfully,

Benj. Strong Jr. Esq.,

Ritz Hotel,

Piccadilly,

London. W.
Hotel Ritz, London  
March 28th, 1916.

My dear Harjes:

My visit abroad is rapidly drawing to a close for I am expecting to sail on the "Saint Paul" next Saturday, first spending one day in Liverpool.

Your partners over here have been most kind to me and I am leaving both Paris and London with a great feeling of satisfaction on account of the many courtesies and the generous hospitality everyone has shown me.

In going through some memoranda just before leaving I find that I have omitted, while in Paris, to obtain some data which I am most anxious to have other than that already assembled in regard to war legislation. I was told that there had been printed in France a complete set of all war emergency legislation since the outbreak of the war, and that it was kept up to date by issuing supplements just as is being done in London. Would it be possible for you to have one of your young men get a complete set of this for me and ship it to me in America, with a bill for the cost, and at the same time to arrange with the publisher to send me regularly future supplements as they are issued? I hope I am not still causing trouble.

With kindest regards, and every good wish, believe me,

Faithfully yours,
April 24th, 1916.

My dear Harjes:

Thank you very much for your kind note of April 6th and for the copies of the War Emergency Legislation, all of which have reached me and are most welcome additions to my library. Won't you let me know what these various demands on your purse entail?

There seem to be possibilities in the arrangement of commercial credits, no matter what particular form they may take. It will prove a great relief to the exchange market to have the business developed and the present moment seems to demonstrate the necessity for something being done. If nothing better can be done, the Bank of France may have to give up gold, for I believe that in an international sense, the credit of a nation will be measured by the public, in proportion as its exchanges are normal or sub-normal.

Thank you very much indeed for your courtesy to Miss Devereaux. She is a fine little girl and you need have no hesitation in permitting her to undertake the real work in the first aid hospitals. She is enough of a philosopher to stand the racket and I think without harm to herself. Besides that, she is as strong as a little Welsh pony.
April 24th, 1916.

Once more, accept many thanks for your many courtesies to me while I was in Paris. I enjoyed my visit there and profited by it very much. There is no telling when I may return, although I should suppose sooner than some of you may expect.

With warm regards, believe me,

Sincerely yours,

Herman Harjes, Esq.,
31, Boulevard Haussmann,
Paris, France.

BS Jr/VCM
L/R.

PARIS, 6th April, 1916.

My dear Strong,

Many thanks for your letter of the 7th March enclosing revised copy of the memorandum which you drew up here concerning commercial credits. As I wrote you in my letter of the 9th, I have reluctantly come to the conclusion that we cannot work out your scheme in its entirety, as our friends here would not adopt a broad enough view. We are doing our best however to develop the general commercial credit idea and hope to gradually expand it, if not to the extent you had in your mind, at least to an interesting degree.

The latest news I have received from Miss Devereux is that she has probably secured what she wanted and she has promised to come and see me at the end of the week if the matter is not definitely settled.

As requested in your letter of the 28th ult. I am sending you under separate cover a complete set of all the War emergency legislation issued since the outbreak of the War and have given instructions for this to be continued until further notice. — Herman H. Hargis
November 13th, 1916.

My dear Harjes:

One of my Denver friends, Mr. C. A. Johnson, has just made application for appointment as an ambulance driver for the American Ambulance Hospital in Paris, and if he secures the appointment, he will probably sail the middle of January expecting to spend about three months in Paris or wherever he might be assigned for duty.

I have given him a letter of recommendation to Bob Bacon and will take the liberty of giving him a note of introduction to you.

Mr. Johnson I judge is a man of about 45 years of age and is an old Bostonian although a resident here for a good many years. He is a man of considerable means and of the highest standing here both as a business man and socially. I am convinced that he is going abroad not in any spirit of adventure or out of idle curiosity, but with a sincere desire to perform some service of value in France. While he does not speak French, he is an experienced automobile driver, is acquainted with Paris and I am satisfied will prove a valuable acquisition to the organization. It may be that you could find some use for him while he is in Paris, at any rate, I would like very much to give him the pleasure of meeting you and will explain
To Mr. Marjes.

Nov. 13, 1916.

to him how very much you are engrossed in all your duties and responsibilities, so that the introduction may not prove any burden to you.

Would you mind on receipt of this letter sending me a cable addressed "Strong, 4100 Montview Boulevard, Denver, U. S. A." giving me in a few words any advice that you think he should have in connection with his plans? Will you also be good enough to charge the cost of the cable to my account and send me a statement?

You may be surprised to see that I am writing from Denver, but I have been banished out here for a year on account of my health and hope the reward will be a prompt return to New York.

My best wishes for success in your labors and kindest regards.

Very sincerely yours,

Herman H. Marjes, Esq.,
31, Boulevard Hausmann,
Paris, France.
COPY of telegram despatched to

L. C. D.

5/12/16

Strong

4100 Montview Boulevard

Denver

Colorado

Your letter thirteenth received will be glad
look after your friend Johnson and if he has
not already tied up with American Ambulance
Hospital will be glad to accept him as Ambulance
Driver for American Redcross Convoys at the front
provided he can sign on for six months otherwise
he could probably make himself useful with the
American Relief Clearing House stop Only advice can
give is to bring plenty of warm clothing

Harjes
My dear Strong,

I have to thank you for your letter of November 13th. and herein please find enclosed confirmation of my cable just sent to you.

We shall be very glad to welcome your friend Mr. C. A. Johnson and help him in attaining the object he has in view.

As you possibly know there are several American Convoys at the front which are doing the same work as the American Ambulance Hospital and which are quite distinct from it, being under the American Red Cross. Personally my leaning is very much towards these, and I should be very happy to avail of your friend's kind services, but he will have to sign a six months' engagement, as the Army does not accept a lesser time of service. He could however do work here in Paris with the American Hospital for a period of three months. If that kind of work is not sympathetic to him, I feel pretty sure that he could find something useful to do in the way of investigating at the American Relief Clearing House.

I greatly regret to hear recently that your temporary absence in Colorado was due to ill-health. I trust that you have by now already felt the benefit of that wonderful climate and that you are very much better and that your complete
cure is only a question of a very short time.

Your absence from the Federal Reserve Board has made itself felt very much and unfortunately. All your friends over here believe that if you had been present the last extraordinary statement which the Board issued and which has shaken the foundations both here and in England of confidence in American friendship, would never have taken place.

With kindest regards and best wishes, believe me

Yours sincerely

Benjamin Strong Esq.
4100 Montview Boulevard
Denver
Colorado
December 6th, 1916.

Copy of cable to Benjamin Strong from Herman H.
Harjes, of Morgan, Harjes & Company, 31 Boulevard Haussmann,
Paris.

"Your letter received. Will be glad to look after your friend Johnson and if he has not already tied up with American Ambulance Hospital will be glad to accept him as ambulance driver for American Red Cross convoys at the front, provided he can sign or (?) for six months. Otherwise, he could probably make himself useful with the American Relief Clearing House. Only advice can give is to bring plenty warm clothes." (signed) Harjes
December 7th, 1916.

My dear Harjes:

It was very kind of you to cable me so fully in regard to Mr. Johnson's plans and I am replying to-day as per enclosed confirmation.

While Mr. Johnson expects to be in Paris only three months this trip, there is every likelihood that after reaching Paris, he will arrange matters so that he can return next Fall if services of that character are still needed, and stay for at least six months more. The details of his plans he will discuss with you on arrival.

I am exceedingly grateful to you for your courtesy in offering to help him and if he is able to be of any real service to you in your multitude of war duties, he will certainly be very glad to do so.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

Herman H. Harjes, Esq.,
31, Boulevard Hausmann,
Paris, France.
My dear Harjes:

The enclosed copy of letter of introduction which I am just giving to Mr. Charles A. Johnson explains itself. I have hesitated to do anything to add to your burdens, but as both Mr. Johnson and his sister are proceeding to Paris to undertake some serious work, I felt the circumstances justified my doing so.

I beg to remain,

Faithfully yours,

Herman H. Harjes, Esq.,
Morgan, Harjes & Co.,
31 Boulevard Haussmann,
Paris, France.

BS/CC
Enc.
Denver, Colorado,
January 2, 1917.

Dear Mr. Harjes:

This note will be presented to you by Mr. Charles A. Johnson who is going to Paris with his sister, Mrs. Clifford Brigham, both of whom are expecting to undertake some work in connection with war relief.

I have already acquainted you by letter and cable with Mr. Johnson's plans and need add nothing further except to commend him and his sister to your unfailing courtesy.

With warmest regards and wishing you and Mrs. Harjes a Happy New Year, I am,

Faithfully yours,

Herman H. Harjes, Esq.,
31 Boulevard Haussmann,
Paris, France.
Denver, Colorado,
January 4, 1917.

My dear Harjes:

Your very welcome letter of December 5th has just reached me and I am deeply appreciative of your thoughtfulness in connection with Mr. Johnson and his plans. He cannot stay abroad more than three months on this trip but may return later in the year for a longer service, when I have urged him, if possible, to associate himself with some of your work. All of this he will explain to you personally when he arrives about the first of February.

I am glad to report continued improvement in my health and, further, that there is some prospect of my getting to Paris some time this summer. This enforced exile out here has been a costly affair in many ways - it kept me away from the scene of action at a time when I should have been on hand and no one regrets it so much as I do. However, it will be much better for me to leave any further remarks on this subject to the time when I can see you and talk matters over personally.

With warmest regards and best wishes for the New Year and again many thanks, I am,

Faithfully yours,

Herman H. Harjes, Esq.
Morgan, Harjes & Co.,
31 Boulevard Haussmann,
Paris, France.
My dear Strong,

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 2nd inst. enclosing copy of letter of introduction which you have given to Mr. Charles A. Johnson and his sister who are proceeding to Paris to undertake relief work. I shall be delighted to see Mr. Johnson as I have previously written you and will do all I can to help him in accomplishing the object he has in view.

With kindest regards, believe me,

Yours very sincerely,

Benjamin Strong Esq.,

4100 Montview Boulevard,

Denver, Colo.
January 21, 1918.

Dear Sir:

This note will be presented to you by my friend, Mr. John T. Pratt, who is just leaving this country to accept a position of importance in the American Red Cross, Field Service, in France.

I hope that Mr. Pratt's duties will permit him opportunity to present this letter to you, as he is a very warm friend of mine and I am sure you will be glad to know him.

Anything that you can do to facilitate his work or his trip will be greatly appreciated by me.

Faithfully yours,

Mr. Herman H. Harjes,  
Messrs. Morgan, Harjes & Company,  
Paris, France.

BS/HAB
RITZ HOTEL, PARIS, FRANCE.

August 16th, 1919

Messrs. Morgan Harjes & Co.,
Place Vendome,
Paris, France.

Dear Sirs:

I am leaving tonight for Constantinople and pending telegraphic instructions to the contrary, will ask you to hold all mail and telegrams you receive for me in my absence.

Yours very truly,
Hotel Ritz, Paris.

August 17, 1919.

Gentlemen:

Since writing you yesterday in regard to retaining mail and telegrams, I find it will be necessary for me to ask you to open all telegrams and cables received during my absence and repeat them to Mr. Fred L. Kent, for the present care of the American Embassy, 4 Grosvenor Gardens, London, England. The cost of repeating messages I will defray on my return from Constantinople, and in case of change of address Mr. Kent will telegraph you further directions.

Thanking you, I am,

Very truly yours,

Messrs. Morgan, Harjes & Company,
Place Vendome, Paris.
Dear Sir,

Enclosed we beg to hand you original telegram addressed to you by the Governor of the Bank of England, which has reached us in a cover from the Banque Nationale de Belgique, Bruxelles, which cover was addressed to us.

Yours faithfully,

J. P. Morgan & Co.

Benjamin Strong Esq.,
Hôtel Ritz,
E/V.
Hotel Ritz, Paris,

August 30, 1919.

Gentlemen:

In view of my departure from Paris Monday evening, I shall be obliged if you will repeat telegrams received up to and including Tuesday to me care the Nederlandsche Bank, Amsterdam, and mail originals, together with all mail, to me care Morgan, Grenfell & Company, 22 Old Broad street, London.

Thanking you in anticipation, I remain,

Very truly yours,

Messrs. Morgan, Harjes & Company,
Place Vendome,
Paris.
Hotel Ritz, Paris,

September 1, 1919.

Messrs. Morgan, Harjes & Company,

Place Vendome, Paris.

Gentlemen:

With this I am enclosing receipt of the Bureau des Postes et Telegraphes, Rue des Capucines, for fcs. 175.10, being the amount paid in advance by me for the repetition of a badly garbled cablegram from the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. Although repetition was requested on Saturday the 23d ultimo, no answer has yet been received. The telegraph office has today informed me that the amount paid would be refunded at the expiration of twelve days from the date of request for repetition, if no answer has in the meantime been received. I am leaving Paris tomorrow morning and would appreciate it very much if you would be good enough to attend to this for me and notify me of the result, care Morgan, Grenfell & Company, 22 Old Broad street, London.

Thanking you in anticipation, I remain,

Very truly yours,
May 15th, 1926.

14, PLACE VENDÔME
PARIS

Dear Ben,

Welcome to Paris! Hope you have had a halfway comfortable & not too tiring trip.

When you are rested let me know when we can get together.

If you are doing
nothing better, it
would give me
great pleasure if
you - Winston-
could lunch with
us on Monday
at my house No 49
Rue de la Faisanderie
at 1 o'clock just

entree now.
Hence & send
You free &looking forward & seeing
You believe in James ever

[Signature]
Dear Sir,

We beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 1st instant, and have accordingly sent round to the Post Office regarding the cable. We are informed that advice has been again asked for from the Central P.O., and that they will advise us of the result later. We will write you again on receipt of further news.

Yours faithfully,

J. P. Morgan Harrjes & Co.

Benj. Strong Esq.,
c/o Messrs. Morgan, Grenfell & Co.
London, E.C.
Dear Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 1st instant and our acknowledgment of the 6th, we have taken this matter up with the Post Office, and we have to-day received a reply to your request.

We enclose herewith the repeated cable which appears to be the same as the original. We also return you the original cable and the receipt given you by the P.O.

If we can help you any further in the matter, we shall be pleased to hear from you.

Yours faithfully,

Benj. Strong Esq.,

Messrs. Morgan, Grenfell & Co.

London, E.C.
Hotel Chatham,  
Paris, May 17, 1926.

My dear Herman:

This note will be presented to you by Mr. Robert B. Warren, concerning whose visit to Paris I spoke to you today.

Anything you can do to facilitate the object of his visit will be very much appreciated by me.

Sincerely,

Colonel H. H. Harjes,  
c/o Morgan, Harjes & Co.,  
14, Place Vendome,  
PARIS.

BS:18
20th. May, 1926.

Dear Ben,

Herein please find copies of your two cables of to-day. I hope you have had a good trip and that we may see you back here soon.

Yours ever,

[Signature]

P.S. Enclosed cables Nos 84.257 and 84.259.

Benjamin Strong, Esq.,

Grand Hotel,

Rome.
Grand Hotel,
Rome, May 12, 1926.

My dear Farm:

I have made such generous use of your cable facilities that I am sure I must owe you a good deal of money. Won't you let me know what it is, so that I can send you a check or reimburse you in New York, as you prefer?

You know how grateful I am for your help, which is always so willingly given.

Sincerely yours,

Mr. W. Dean Joy,
Morgan, Morgan & Company,
12, Place Vendôme,
PARIS.
Hotel du Cap d'Antibes,
Antibes, June 26, 1926.

Dear Dean:

Thank you for yours of the 24th, which just reaches me.

I hope it will be all right for me to have the bill for the cables paid through the office in New York. I will ask them to remit francs, as it would give me quite a little bother and bookkeeping to make the payment here.

Governor Norman and I are tremendously interested in the Cabinet changes and have been discussing the prospects every day. If anything develops which you think would have a bearing on our attitude at the Bank, I hope you will let me know promptly.

(Confidentially)

It is not unlikely that you will see Mr. Mellon in Paris in the course of a few weeks now, as I believe he is sailing the latter part of this month.

Give my best to Herman and Jack, and the same to yourself.

Sincerely yours,

Mr. N. Dean Jay,
o/o Morgan, Harjes & Company,
14, Place Vendome,
PARIS.
Hotel du Cap d'Antibes, 
Antibes, July 5, 1926.

Dear Dean:

This is merely to acknowledge receipt of yours of the 3rd, 
enclosing copy of cable No. 63.780 in reply to my No. 21. 
Many thanks indeed.

Sincerely yours,

Mr. N. Dean Jay, 
c/o Morgan, Harjes & Company, 
14, Place Vendome, 
PARIS.

ESM
Hotel du Cap d'Antibes,
Antibes, July 10, 1926.

Dear Dean:

We were expecting Gilbert here almost any day and are just advised by wire that they have been detained in Paris, because Mrs. Gilbert is suddenly threatened with appendicitis. We are not sure whether they are at the Crillon Hotel as usual or not, but the Governor and I want to send her some flowers with our sympathy, so I am taking the liberty of telegraphing to your house asking if you could get some and send them to wherever they are - probably the Crillon. And please be sure and let me know what they cost.

Sorry to bother you, but you seem to be my guide and friend in Paris, and this is one of the penalties.

Best regards and many thanks.

Sincerely yours,

Mr. N. Dean Jay,
c/o Morgan, Harjes & Company,
14, Place Vendome,
PARIS.
Dear Sir,

We beg to hand you herewith a letter to your address which the Embassy of the United States here has received from the American Consul at Nice.

In sending us this letter, Mr. Sheldon Whitehouse, Chargé d'Affaires, adds that it be forwarded to you by sure means as said letter is important.

Yours very truly,

Benjamin Strong Esq.,
Hotel Royal,
Evian.
Royal Hotel, Evian, August 21, 1926.

Gentlemen:

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your favor of the 19th inst. and of the letter which you enclosed, received through the Embassy from the American Consul at Nice.

With many thanks for your attention in this matter, I beg to remain

Yours very truly,

Messrs. Morgan, Harjes & Company,
14, Place Vendome,
PARIS.

DS: M
Sept. 11th

14. PLACE VENDÔME
PARIS

Dear Aurora,

I was glad to receive your letter and will see that Pierre Jay receives the letter you enclosed.

I was glad that the Belgian business seems to be on the right track.

Yours sincerely

[Signature]
I decided to see you leave here, and I enjoyed seeing you every day and getting your interesting views on banking and life in general. If there is even anything I can do for you, just command me. Yours ever,
July 4th. 1928.

Dear Governor,

The enclosed cable arrived this morning and I know of no other way to discreetly ascertain your views except to ask you direct what you think about it, so that we may advise T.W. Lamont. Will you therefore let me know your wishes in the matter.

I hope you had an enjoyable trip over to Evian and that you are comfortably installed there. Please let us know if there is anything we can do for you.

Affectionately yours,

Governor Benjamin Strong,  
Royal Hotel,  
Evian-les-Bains,  
( Hte-Savoie ).
COPY of Telegram received from MORGAN & Cie., J.P. Morgan & Co.,

Wednesday

64.786 -

Dennstein.

We are informed through official sources here that it would please President of the Council to confer upon Governor Strong decoration Grand Officier of the Legion of Honor (stop). He wants however to be certain that Governor Strong would welcome this decoration and at this time (stop). If Governor Strong would deem postponement more appropriate he would like to know that too (stop). Kindly ascertain very discreetly and cable us.

T.W. Lamont.
PERSONAL

Royal Hotel,
Evian-les-Bains, July 6, 1928.

Dear Dean:

Your letter of July 4th, with the copy of Tom’s cable, reached me last night and I know you will realize how great a satisfaction it is to feel that my friends in France entertain the sentiments which prompt them to make this suggestion. To give you exactly the way I feel about it, so that you can cable Tom quite a little description:—

You and I both know that there are quite a number of folks on our side who maneuver and scheme in order to get publicity and decorations and degrees and all sorts of things, and I think you also know that it is not my way. On the other hand, nothing would please me more than to be able to accept the decoration, and I hope to be able to do so in a way that will enable me to escape the possibility of any such interpretation being given.

The facts are these. Everyone at home, and now I believe a number of people over here, realize that for some years past I have been engaged in efforts to aid not only France but other countries in these monetary reorganizations. If I accepted this immediately after French stabilization, it might be capable of interpretation that I had been in some way paid or rewarded for what little I had personally been able to do. On the other hand, it is indeed a great honor and one that I would greatly cherish. It is the sort of thing which would be useful, living in France as much as I am and probably shall be doing, but the reason
which would make this a most acceptable thing is the fact that one does leave a souvenir for one’s sons in connection with anything accomplished, such as this would represent, that is a real tangible thing to them.

I think I can sum up my feeling about this by saying that:

1. I am most anxious to do nothing which would in any way chill or dampen the enthusiasm and friendship of my good friends over here;

2. It would be a mistake for me to accept this decoration at the moment;

3. I should not do it anyway without having a word with one or two of my associates in New York;

4. If, after returning home, with opportunity to talk to one or two of my friends, the time seemed appropriate, I would then like to be able to say to Tom that there was no objection. This might not be until September, or even October.

Of course you know there are quite a few people at home who delight in opportunities to take a slap at us and at me personally, but if I have a little time, there is a way of dealing with this which will obviate every difficulty.

You realize the need for conveying all of this very cautiously to Tom, so that by no chance could anything be said or written which would in any way offend the President of the Council or any of my other friends over here who might have had a hand in the affair. The fact is, I would be delighted to accept the decoration at once if I felt free to do so, and not feeling free to do so, I would like to have a chance to defer a final answer for a couple of months, when I think all the difficulties may be
dealt with.

It was very good of you to write me as you did, and it was in every way the best method of dealing with the matter.

Of course, I cannot possibly suggest that this might be arranged without any publicity, without giving offence, and that is the last thing I want to do.

We are having fine clear weather here, but quite warm, which however I do not mind. The rest is doing me a world of good, and the first of next week I shall be fit for a stream of visitors.

Confidentially, I shall leave here the morning of the 23rd and arrive in Paris in the afternoon of the 24th, leaving there to sail on the "Olympic" on August 1st.

My best to you and to your partners, as well as to those in New York, and many thanks for your letter and Tom's cable.

Affectionately yours,

Mr. N. D. Jay,
c/o Morgan & Company,
14, Place Vendome,
PARIS.

RS:15
July 9th, 1928.

My dear Governor,

I have your letter of July 6th. in regard to the confidential cable which I forwarded to you in my letter of the 4th., and we have to-day cabled New York as per copy No.85.467 enclosed herewith.

I was not quite certain how far I should go in this cable in expressing your feelings as outlined in your letter, but decided that I had better be very discreet. However if you do not think I was expansive enough, please let me know and I will follow with another cable. In the meantime, I am writing T.W.Lamont outlining more fully, than was possible in the cable, your feelings about the matter and telling him about your plans for sailing.

I am delighted that you are feeling so fit and that the climate agrees with you. However do not overdo the visiting for there is nothing more tiring than seeing people constantly.

Affectionately yours,

Governor Benjamin Strong,
Royal Hotel,
Evian-les-Bains,
(Hte-Savoie).
COPY of Telegram despatched to:

MORGAN & Cie.
(Reg. Comice, Seine No 33362)

Paris, 2/7/25

Morgan, J.P. Morgan & Co.,

New York.

Derkstein for F.W. Lamont.

64.786 - Governor Strong says he feels greatly honored and would like to accept immediately if he felt free to do so (stop). However he believes it might prove to be unwise at this particular time (stop). He therefore considers it best to postpone until his return in Autumn and in the meantime hopes you will convey his appreciation to friends.
Cotton English Bond by Fox River 1926
Thursday

My dear Warren,

Vicomte Obeau, the Belgian Consul, has just telephoned that he telephoned Francoqui in Brussels, who said he would be very glad to see the Governor tomorrow at the Hotel Maurice at 4 p.m. I hope this will suit.

Sincerely yours,

Bernard S. Carter
Hotel Trianon Palace,
Versailles, July 31, 1926.

Dear Mr. Carter:

This is to let you know that I am leaving Paris tomorrow and to ask whether you would be good enough to instruct your Mail Department to re-forward my mail and telegrams, until further notice, care of Nederlandsche Bank, Amsterdam. I should greatly appreciate it if everything can be sent along promptly, as I shall not be in Holland very long. However, I will of course advise again as soon as I know where I will go from there.

With many thanks, believe me

Sincerely yours,

Mr. Bernard Carter,
c/o Morgan, Harjes & Company,
14, Place Vendome,
PARIS.

BS:M
My dear Mr. Strong,

Your letter of the 16th inst. reached me to-day on the eve of my departure on holidays, and I regret that owing to the pressure of urgent business I am unable to go into the various questions you raise at the length I should like.

I also fear that for the present it would be impossible for me to follow up your suggestion of writing you regular letters for the purpose of keeping you in touch with matters on this side, as I am going away now for about three weeks, and then for a couple of months or so to America, where I hope to have the pleasure of seeing you.

In the meantime, however, I would say that to the general pessimistic feeling which has prevailed here since practically the beginning of the year and the universal pessimistic forecast of financial circles had the effect of very strong precautions being taken, the consequences of which are now being felt in a clearer atmosphere and a more cheerful feeling.

It is of course very difficult to foresee what may actually happen in the Autumn as there is no doubt that the prospective demands for funds by the belligerents in the Near East have by no means abated, and that furthermore
(2)

this country will have to come out with a big loan before the end of the year, in addition to which there are its commitments towards Russia, not to speak of the pressing necessity of providing further funds for Mexico. It looks however as if satisfactory preparations had been made, and that the demands will be met without any serious disturbance, or any dangerous tightening of the money market.

Furthermore, it is impossible to formulate any useful opinion as to the gold that may be still required for Paris, which to a very great extent depends upon how the situation develops in the Near East, and the export demands which may have to be met here. The last important shipment of gold from your side to Paris would apparently appear to have been due to the Near Eastern embroglio, and more particularly perhaps to the accumulation of the precious metal by the Reichsbank. As regards Germany it may be mentioned that in many quarters astonishment has been expressed at the efficient manner in which that country, in spite of the practical closing of the French and English markets, has been able to regularize her situation, and notwithstanding the difficult position in which she still apparently finds herself, it would seem as if arrangements had been made to obtain all the needful assistance from Holland, Belgium and Switzerland. I am glad to see that conditions seem to be improving on your side and hope that the resolution of the
present difficult situation may prove the adequacy of the preparations which have been made to meet it.

Looking forward to the pleasure of being able to discuss these matters personally with you, I remain, with kind regards,

Yours very truly,

[Signature]

Benjamin Strong Jr., Esq.,
Bankers Trust Co.,
16 Wall Street,
New York.
My dear Strong,

Confirming my letter of the 6th inst. I now enclose you three specimens of a Fr. 0.50, a Fr. 1. -- and a Frs. 2. notes issued by the Chamber of Commerce of Bordeaux. Many of the Chambers of Commerce of the principal towns of France (but not Paris) have issued similar notes against the deposit of notes of the Bank of France,

Yours sincerely,

Benjamin Strong Jr. Esq.,
62 Cedar St.,
New York.
January 26th, 1915.

My dear Harjes:

As I was about to write you about those Chamber of Commerce issues, your note of the 14th reached me, enclosing three specimens each of the Fr. 0.50, Fr. 1.-- and Frs. 2.-- issued by the Chamber of Commerce of Bordeaux. This is exactly what I wanted, and I am exceedingly grateful to you for your thoughtfulness.

Please do not hesitate to keep me on your regular correspondence list. Some day, I may be able to do something worth while for you over here.

Once more, let me express my gratitude, in which all the family join me, for your many kindnesses to Arch. He may not say so to you, but he has written us that he has a very high regard for all the Harjes family.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

H. H. Harjes, Esq.
31 Boulevard Haussmann,
Paris, France.

BSJr/VCH
June 1st, 1916.

My dear Harjis:

I am most grateful to you for your kind letter of May 10th, giving me such a satisfactory account of my brother's doings. Am taking the liberty of sending it to my mother who, you can imagine, is intensely interested.

About expenses - please let that be considered a little contribution by the writer towards the good work that you and your associates have been doing. I have been sympathetic all along with Arch's work and while his trip to Servia caused some anxiety in the family, nevertheless, I have felt that it is part of the work to be done, somebody must undertake it and that he is admirably situated and almost perfectly equipped by temperament and training to do just what he is undertaking. Of course, I was disappointed to have him leave his association with you which gave me some feeling of assurance, and besides that my own fondness for Paris, France and French people, made it a peculiarly agreeable relationship.

Please accept my very kindest regards and thanks of the family for your interest in Arch and his work.

Sincerely yours,

H. H. Harjis, Esq.
31 Boulevard Beaumarchais,
Paris, France.

BS Jr/VM
My dear Strong,

Enclosed herewith I send you copy of a letter received a couple of days ago from Dr. Richard Strong at Salonika as I am sure you will be glad to get news concerning your brother's good work.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Benjamin Strong Jr. Jrq.

New York.
July 14th,
1915.

My dear Harjes:

Thank you very much for your thoughtfulness in sending me a copy of Dr. Strong's letter about my brother's work. Apparently, they have made such progress that the entire organization will not stay beyond July, as Arch cabled that he will likely return the last of this month. You will doubtless see him in Paris on his way home.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

H. H. Browne, Esq.
31 Boulevard Haussmann,
Paris, France.

ES Jr/7CM
January 13th, 1916.

My dear Harjes:

I finally reserved accommodations on the "Rotterdam", sailing February 1st and hope to see you in Paris about the middle of the month.

I have just written to the Ritz Hotel, asking them to reserve rooms for me and Mr. John F. Harris, who happens to be going over at the same time I am, and wonder whether, in case the hotels are crowded in Paris as they seem to be in London, you could not ask one of your young men to telephone or stop at the hotel to ensure that they expect us and will take care of us on our arrival.

I hope the worst of your labors are over. Possibly, I can persuade you to take a day off when I am in Paris and run out somewhere into the country and forget the worries of business and war times.

Won't you present my kindest regards to Mrs. Harjes and accept the same for yourself from

Yours faithfully,

Herman Harjes, Esq.,
51 Haussmann Boulevard,
Paris, France.
January 18th, 1916.

My dear Harjes:

We have a rather pathetic case of war distress in our family and I am writing to ask if you cannot find it possible to give us a little help prior to the time I reach Paris. One of Mrs. Strong's maids, by name Clemence Claire, comes from Alsace-Lorraine and she has not heard from her family since June or July, 1914. Her father, Louis Claire, kept a little cafe called Cafe Poussard in the town of Schance, Vosges, which I believe is about two hours from Nancy. The German advance swept right over this place and I understand is now right at, or behind, the German lines. Her father is a man of 48 and may have been drafted in the army service, although she is not sure of that. She has a mother and a brother aged 10 living. I have tried through other sources to get some information about them, but so far without success. Is there any means of locating them through government channels in Paris?

Anything you can do will be a very great help and if the inquiry is successful, it will be a great relief to this girl who really is distracted for want of news of her mother.

Sincerely yours,

Herman Harjes, Esq.,
31 Hausmann Boulevard,
Paris, France.

B3 Jr/VCM
My dear Strong,

Thanks for your letter of January 13th. I have seen the Ritz people and have duly reserved an apartment for you.

I am glad that we are going to have an opportunity of seeing you here shortly and am looking forward with pleasure to our meeting.

Hoping that you will have a good trip,

believe me,

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Benj. Strong Jr. Esq.,
Ritz Hotel,
Piccadilly,
London.

PARIS, 4th Feb., 1916.
Dear Sir,

Mr. Harjes requests me to inform you that he has been unexpectedly called out to his Ambulance Section and has been obliged to leave this morning. He will not be back in all probability until Monday morning and therefore much to his regret he will not be able to have the pleasure of your company at dinner to-night.

Mr. Harjes hopes that you will accept his excuses and trust that this change of plan may not cause you any inconvenience.

Yours faithfully,

[Signature]

Benj. Strong Jr. Esq.,
Hotel Ritz,
E/V.
Dear Sir,

Mr. Harjes has just returned to the office and requests me to inform you that he will be very pleased to see you at 5 o'clock, as well as dine with you this evening.

In the meantime he would like you to reserve Thursday night, as he wishes you to dine with him and a few friends.

Yours very truly,

[Signature]

Benj. Strong Jr. Esq.,

Hotel Ritz,

E/V.
Dear Sir,

Mr. Harjes requests me to acknowledge receipt with thanks on his behalf of the advanced proof of the first annual report of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, for which he is very much obliged.

Yours faithfully,

[Signature]

Benj. Strong Jr. Esq.,
Ritz Hotel,
Piccadilly,
London, W.
November 13th, 1916.

My dear Harjes:

One of my Denver friends, Mr. Carl Johnson, has just made application for appointment as an ambulance driver for the American Ambulance Hospital in Paris, and if he secures the appointment, he will probably sail the middle of January expecting to spend about three months in Paris or wherever he might be assigned for duty.

I have given him a letter of recommendation to Bob Bacon and will take the liberty of giving him a note of introduction to you.

Mr. Johnson is a man of about 45 years of age and is an old Bostonian although a resident here for a good many years. He is a man of considerable means and of the highest standing here both as a business man and socially. I am convinced that he is going abroad not in any spirit of adventure or out of idle curiosity, but with a sincere desire to perform some service of value in France. While he does not speak French, he is an experienced automobile driver, is acquainted with Paris and I am satisfied will prove a valuable acquisition to the organization. It may be that you could find some use for him while he is in Paris, at any rate, I would like very much to give him the pleasure of meeting you and will explain...
To Mr. Marjes. Nov. 13, 1916.

to him how very much you are engrossed in all your duties and responsibilities, so that the introduction may not prove any burden to you.

Would you mind on receipt of this letter sending me a cable addressed "Strong, 4100 Montview Boulevard, Denver, U. S. A." giving me in a few words any advice that you think he should have in connection with his plans? Will you also be good enough to charge the cost of the cable to my account and send me a statement?

You may be surprised to see that I am writing from Denver, but I have been banished out here for a year on account of my health and hope the record will be a prompt return to New York.

My best wishes for success in your labors and kindest regards.

Very sincerely yours,

Herman H. Marjes, Esq.,
31, Boulevard Haussmann,
Paris, France.

BS/VCM
COPY of telegram despatched to

L. C. D.

5/12/16

Strong
4100 Montview Boulevard
Denver
Colorado

Your letter thirteenth received will be glad
look after your friend Johnson and if he has
not already tied up with American Ambulance
Hospital will be glad to accept him as Ambulance
Driver for American Red Cross Convoys at the front
provided he can sign on for six months otherwise
he could probably make himself useful with the
American Relief Clearing House stop Only advice can
give is to bring plenty of warm clothing
Harjes
My dear Strong,

I have to thank you for your letter of November 13th. and herein please find enclosed confirmation of my cable just sent to you.

We shall be very glad to welcome your friend Mr. C. A. Johnson and help him in attaining the object he has in view.

As you possibly know there are several American Convoys at the front which are doing the same work as the American Ambulance Hospital and which are quite distinct from it, being under the American Red Cross. Personally my leaning is very much towards these, and I should be very happy to avail of your friend's kind services, but he will have to sign a six months' engagement, as the Army does not accept a lesser time of service. He could however do work here in Paris with the American Hospital for a period of three months. If that kind of work is not sympathetic to him, I feel pretty sure that he could find something useful to do in the way of investigating at the American Relief Clearing House.

I greatly regret to hear recently that your temporary absence in Colorado was due to ill-health. I trust that you have by now already felt the benefit of that wonderful climate and that you are very much better and that your complete
Your absence from the Federal Reserve Board has made itself felt very much and unfortunately. All your friends over here believe that if you had been present the last extraordinary statement which the Board issued and which has shaken the foundations both here and in England of confidence in American friendship, would never have taken place.

With kindest regards and best wishes, believe me 

Yours sincerely

Benjamin Strong Esq.
4100 Montview Boulevard
Denver
Colorado
December 6th, 1916.

Copy of cable to Benjamin Strong from Herman H. Harjes, of Morgan, Harjes & Company, 31 Boulevard Haussmann, Paris.

"Your letter received. Will be glad to look after your friend Johnson and if he has not already tied up with American Ambulance Hospital will be glad to accept him as ambulance driver for American Red Cross convoys at the front, provided he can sign (?) for six months. Otherwise, he could probably make himself useful with the American Relief Clearing House. Only advice can give is to bring plenty warm clothes."  (signed) Harjes.
December 7th, 1916.

My dear Harjes:

It was very kind of you to cable me so fully in regard to Mr. Johnson's plans and I am replying to-day as per enclosed confirmation.

While Mr. Johnson expects to be in Paris only three months this trip, there is every likelihood that after reaching Paris, he will arrange matters so that he can return next Fall if services of that character are still needed, and stay for at least six months more. The details of his plans he will discuss with you on arrival.

I am exceedingly grateful to you for your courtesy in offering to help him and if he is able to be of any real service to you in your multitude of war duties, he will certainly be very glad to do so.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

Herman H. Harjes, Esq.,
31, Boulevard Haussmann,
Paris, France.

BS/VCM
My dear Harjes:

The enclosed copy of letter of introduction which I am just giving to Mr. Charles A. Johnson explains itself. I have hesitated to do anything to add to your burdens, but as both Mr. Johnson and his sister are proceeding to Paris to undertake some serious work, I felt the circumstances justified my doing so.

I beg to remain,

Faithfully yours,

Denver, Colorado,
January 2, 1917.

Enc.
Denver, Colorado.
January 2, 1917.

Dear Mr. Harjes:

This note will be presented to you by Mr. Charles A. Johnson who is going to Paris with his sister, Mrs. Clifford Brigham, both of whom are expecting to undertake some work in connection with war relief.

I have already acquainted you by letter and cable with Mr. Johnson’s plans and need add nothing further except to commend him and his sister to your unfailing courtesy.

With earnest regards and wishing you and Mrs. Harjes a Happy New Year, I am,

Faithfully yours,

Harmon H. Harjes, Esq.
17 Boulevard Massena.
Paris, France.

B3/36
Denver, Colorado,
January 4, 1917.

My dear Harjes:

Your very welcome letter of December 5th has just reached me and I am deeply appreciative of your thoughtfulness in connection with Mr. Johnson and his plans. He cannot stay abroad more than three months on this trip but may return later in the year for a longer service, when I have urged him, if possible, to associate himself with some of your work. All of this he will explain to you personally when he arrives about the first of February.

I am glad to report continued improvement in my health and, further, that there is some prospect of my getting to Paris some time this summer. This enforced exile out here has been a costly affair in many ways — it kept me away from the scene of action at a time when I should have been on hand and no one regrets it so much as I do. However, it will be much better for me to leave any further remarks on this subject to the time when I can see you and talk matters over personally.

With warmest regards and best wishes for the New Year and again many thanks, I am,

Faithfully yours,

Herman H. Harjes, Esq.,
Morgan, Harjes & Co.,
31 Boulevard Haussmann,
Paris, France.
My dear Strong,

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 2nd inst. enclosing copy of letter of introduction which you have given to Mr. Charles A. Johnson and his sister who are proceeding to Paris to undertake relief work. I shall be delighted to see Mr. Johnson as I have previously written you and will do all I can to help him in accomplishing the object he has in view.

With kindest regards, believe me,

Yours very sincerely,

[Signature]

Benjamin Strong Esq.,

4100 Montview Boulevard,

Denver, Colo.
January 21, 1918.

Dear Sir:

This note will be presented to you by my friend, Mr. John T. Pratt, who is just leaving this country to accept a position of importance in the American Red Cross, Field Service, in France.

I hope that Mr. Pratt's duties will permit him opportunity to present this letter to you, as he is a very warm friend of mine and I am sure you will be glad to know him.

Anything that you can do to facilitate his work or his trip will be greatly appreciated by me.

Faithfully yours,

[Handwritten message at the bottom]

Mr. Herman H. Harjes,
Messrs. Morgan, Harjes & Company,
Paris, France.

BS 'HAB