

APR 18 '55
H.M.

Office of the
TOWN CLERK AND TREASURER
WEST RUPERT, VERMONT

Mar. 26

Dear Mrs. (Miss) Curtis -

I am sorry to have to inform you that I have no vital statistics records prior to 1850.

Compiling family records is, no doubt, interesting but did you ever stop to think that there might be something more satisfying?

Jesus said "Let the dead bury the dead."

That of course is physically impossible, so we must have meant something else. I believe it was this. Forget the dead as quickly as you can. You can not do them the least bit of good. Return by prayers. When a person dies their account is closed. To be received at some future time by their Redeemer. No one else. My theory of forgetting them quickly may sound disrespectful but it is not meant to be. Just plain common sense.

He also said (or continued) "Come thou and follow me", which means simply to bring as much comfort both physical and spiritual as you passably can to all people you come in contact with.

Forget the past. Look ahead. I don't know why I am telling this to you, but I have lived a long time on this old earth and found this to be the best way. Forgive me if it bothers you.

"Thanks for listening"
J. F. Beebe
West Rupert Vt