

WILLIAM GLEASON,

MANUFACTURER OF

Machinists' Tools,

10 BROWN'S RACE.

Rochester, N. Y., May 10th 1885

Dear Daughter

I have just returned from the sale of tools caused by the failure of the Miller Co of Canton O. I have come out pretty nearly even on that deal I don't think that I will lose more than one or two hundred dollars perhaps not so much as I bought three machines, and had them shipped to Rochester. My loss if any will depend some on the price that I get for them. Now for the heavy part I suppose I might as well tell you at once that Prentiss is busted and I am left to the tune of \$3500.00 when I wrote to you last time. I told you that I had been to New York and by taking machinery &c reduced it to \$2500. I counted a few days ahead. there was two notes due on the 16th of April which he assured me that he would pay and as it was then within a few days of the time and as he

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Rochester, N. Y., 188

Seemed so confident of paying them that I ^{had} come
 to figure the amt he owed me as being \$2500.00
 Some times it seems to Paralyze me and
 I feel as if it is only a dream but
 the stern reality is here present. You
 have not any conception of the feeling
 that it has produced. in me it is one that
 I feel as if I am ashamed to tell of it
 and have not said much about it. I will
 give you a pen picture in two columns
 the amt have been taken out of my
 working capital. since last April. One
 column is added to the business and is
 not a loss the other is shrinkage and
 is of course a loss

	Shrinkage on tools in ^{Boston}	250 00
Paid on Real Estate \$2000	Shrinkage on tool in ^{St Louis}	600 00
finishing Mr J. Plave 1000	Shrinkage on tool in	
Automatic gear cut 850	shop	300
Twists & Gracks for Plave 400	W Prentiss & Co	3500
sold Old Lath, and Rat	C R Tompkins	66
Went in place of Plave 200	"	4716
<u>\$3550</u>		

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Rochester, N. Y., 1888

the Colum \$35.50 of course is in the Shop
but the 4716 is a dead loss. the tools that
were in stock in St Louis & Boston and
against which I had drawn by receiving
Hall Clarke & Co Notes. were on hand and
were finally sold to them at 40 off the list
I had drawn against them at 20 off hence
the rebate. the tools in the Shop were the
two Lathes that were sold to the Boston
take 60 and left on my hands. they
were also sold at 40 off. as might be
supposed Sam Chase pressed for money
and home to be concocting schemes
all the time add to the above the
fact that prices are so low that there
is very little profit. On reading your
letter to Ellen & see that you feel it in
your bones. and that you have decided
to stay at home and help the coming
year. I am glad you feel that way. and as
you say the college will not stop your course

return in another year I think. I am going
 to keep Jim home also I will then feel that
 I have help and with the Plant of Sools that
 I have and three of us giving our
 undivided attention to the business. it
 wont be long untill every thing will be
 bright, a gain. Mr Ewin has let me
 have more money, and he is real
 friendly you know how mean it used
 to make us feel when he used to come
 round when business was good. we used
 to feel as if he wanted every person to know
 that he was backing us all well now
 he dont seem to have that feeling at
 all and he really is more decent in
 such matters than I have ever known
 him. I have discharged the men all but
 20. I make the Blacksmith work to the
 day in the Machine Shop. as Salouers
 I keep Isaac & Hugh Mc Parton One of them
 helps the Blacksmith to day and Mc Parton
 does the Drilling so that the Shop is being
 run very economical. the men know of my
 trouble and seem to feel it they are very quiet
 and work hard. let me know how much you

Mr Gleason
 Mr McParton
 Isaac
 Hugh
 Salouers

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Rochester, N. Y., 1883

I have just sold to the U.S. Government
an 84" gear Planer for the Ordnance
at Rock Island Ill. the Cid Commodity
is a West Point Graduate a Mechanical
Engineer. He was here all day Saturday
Will Clarke I Co has sold a 48" 16"
Planer. I am making a 36" lathe for
Morrison Becht & Pryor of this City and a
21" lathe for the Whittier Engine Co.

W. G.

I was not the only person Prentiss struck
he owed about \$66000. all together