

Nothing but duty  
 is taken of the rent  
 Mr. Merrill has  
 made the cheque payable  
 to you as I have  
 returned it asking  
 him to put "or order"  
 so that you can cash it  
 should it occur. I  
 searched to see if  
 you had not sent  
 from Boston  
 into your card  
 money as this  
 any more I did  
 cash it.

headache yesterday, and took  
 advantage of it to lie in bed all  
 day, thinking. Your letter came  
 in the morning. After reading  
 it, I set myself to face the situation  
 of giving up the house entirely  
 as I felt that was what it must  
 come to, sooner or later. I then  
 determined that I would  
 ask Mrs. Beards to come in  
 this morning, and give her  
 the first chance of the house,  
 as I know they are not settled  
 where they are. She has just you  
 after a couple of hours' talk.  
 She says they will be only too

dad to come, if we can hold  
on the house until Sept. 29<sup>th</sup>  
of next year, which is the earliest  
time they can be at liberty.  
Our lease is up next March,  
after which time we are free of  
the house without any further  
formality. I think the best  
thing would be, for me to clear  
out everything but your  
own things, then we leave  
in December, shut up the  
house and leave the keys  
with Mr Dawson. He care in  
possession until March 25<sup>th</sup>  
and your things will be all  
right until then. Next I  
propose is that then, you  
should come, and occupy

the house, you and I having  
the rent between us, until  
September, then Mr & Mrs  
Pears would enter upon it.  
If you like to come earlier,  
you can have it until  
March 25<sup>th</sup> free of rent,  
as we do not want to make  
a profit out of it. There are  
the roads which would be  
ready. Between now and  
next September, you would  
have time to decide what  
you would do, and in  
the summer I could come  
over for awhile, having  
expenses of board with you.  
Having Mr Pears in it

would very much soften  
the pang of separation, and  
we should still have it over  
the summer. Her people  
know it was only a temporary  
arrangement, it would  
not signify not having  
furniture all over &c. I  
should think Mrs. Beards  
would take the whole linen  
I shall have a talk with her  
again about matters, but  
this is how it stands now.  
She seemed so pleased at  
the thought of coming to A.  
Mr. Dawson is to take half the  
rewards and the rent will  
be about £657. Tell me  
what you think of this.  
Your affectionate  
E. T. Stephenson