

Dear Mother

I have your letter  
and have considered its  
contents, but fear I cannot  
at present do ~~little~~ <sup>much</sup> to  
~~take advantage of your~~  
plans, when besides I do  
not know any details of and  
I have always looked upon myself  
as my custodian of my little  
means for benefit of those who  
may survive. I have pushed safety  
rather than high interest having  
before me the example of so  
many old friends who by pursuing  
another course left their widows  
in poverty. Dry, Dunkin Lead  
and Oxyres are examples.

At present I could not  
withdraw investments more especially  
as all stocks here at present are  
owing to the unpopularity of the  
United States, ~~very low~~ <sup>very low</sup> & difficult to sell  
I have at the moment up \$800  
in the Savings Bank, but expect  
to sum up a little more at the  
end of the year perhaps \$200. Beyond  
this I have no expectations till

To K. A. B. M.  
Dec 10/00

April and in the meantime  
have to pay interest on \$6500 for  
lots in Wallace Place. ~~of some~~  
Pmly have my surplus of  
them before spring.  
The interest I cannot  
do at present they would be  
to advance of \$100 and that  
of course is very small still it  
can be at your leisure of course  
if however you will inform  
me what you propose I must  
be either when you come  
out here or by letter I shall  
think of them as far as  
as I can.

You perhaps seeing among  
that very early week I received  
splendid performances of all  
manner of schemes drawn  
out in great detail and  
figured out to show certain dis-  
counts of 10 to 30 per cent,  
I need scarcely say that they all  
go into the waste basket either  
because I know they are unworkable  
or because I know pretty almost  
them; but I shall not treat  
yours in that way if you will  
give me details.