

754-14th St. Oakland-
California-

Dear Elsie: -

I have heard privately & more to be mentioned - of your trials in practicing the profession - and of the beginning of your vacation - and hope both have developed better - There are lots of new houses that have been finished in Berkeley and especially near the Alveys, since you left - We drove all along through Berkeley this morning on the start to go to Wild Cat Canyon - which is entered by going up the road to the side of where the Aikens used to live in North B. & up along the Thomas' white fence over the summit - It is a hard job for a city horse - The canyon is probably very pretty in the spring - is two or three miles long and brings one out at about San Pablo - It is however too late for good driving - the dust hurts one's eyes -

yesterday we took in Mefistofele at the Tivoli with me - It was good enough for Tivoli work but the whole is not as pleasing music to me as is Faust -

The Alveys gave a small New Years day afternoon to their cousin - kindly asking me to "help" - so Mr S. S. Sanborn was duly sent - I was glad to be there as many of the people I had not seen for a year - Others for some time - Mrs Cora Harvey Nicholson - Annie - Minnie Bailey, the Walter Martin Jerks - etc. all inquired of you -

& especially the invariable - "when is she coming home?" - I even met little Gertrude Henderson, N.C. out on the S. F. City Hall steps - & she put the same - also Prof. Duke & Maggie Blow-Neil on the way home last night did likewise -

I think Mamma has if anything been better feeling this week. You know I believe there is little need of her feeling so poorly - that a little rest is what is needed - but you also know that she will not make anything easier for herself - There is no more to do than there had been right along - & I do not think she worries perhaps so much as she used to - but she wears herself out bringing home the fruit because she can't afford it - & the bread - & that box won't get too full - etc - & no one can do it but herself - However I am in hopes she is going to be much better this winter - I do not think you need worry about it - I was afraid I might have frightened by the last letter. It is much the old proposition that there is no fundamental reason why she should not make herself comfortable & be happy - I think she has much more reason to be so than Aunt -

With much love to you
as ever

Sept. 11, 1901 - Emma