

754 Fourteenth Street
Oakland - Cal.

Dear Aunt -

"The Harpers" will send you a book,
it may be sent in my name - but it really
is sent you by your brother Gardner (Sam) I
ordered it at his request and it was his choice.
but not obtainable on this Coast.

I'm in a worse than usual dilemma as to what to
send the two Thornton young ladies - for Christmas
I've got a purse and nice put a little money in
it for Allie, and a watch fob for Maud Jenn. the
usual flannel nightgown & knit skirt for Aunt
a neck ruff for Nina and will get a silk petticoat
for Corie - Mary has bought each a stick pin, and
a pretty pair of gold sleeve links for Allie, he's
real generous - There have been two "Examiner"
reporters here this week and the three Oakland
Papers have printed articles about you all
favorable or complimentary as they express it.
You are a much advantaged young person
Mr Miller the next door Carpenter has at last got
a tenant for his house who I have not seen
but hope will stay - because they brought a
cat - a dog - and a bird, besides a wagon
load of trunks and furniture, the house was
already full of furniture, the last tenant hated cats.

It really is fine weather - but very cold, yesterday
I had Miss Jones making me a black & white
shirt waist - I have finished my red vestline
and have it on - It's warm as flannel -
I'm at my wit's end to know what to get for
Emma - I wanted to get her a white waist - but
she says she don't like them - I met Clara
Safford in San Francisco - she enquired after you,
said she was well - looked thin and cold -
it is very cold - Met Miss Anita Whitney on the
street - she is looking better than ever - fresh
and happy - likes having charge of the Associated
Charities - I don't see how she can - Mrs Whitney
I saw in the paper has sold her Jefferson and
the Street lots - it did not mention the house -
that neighborhood has now done so - she
thinks they'd like to move -

My friend Mrs Sherman looks tired - but Mr Sherman
is holding his own and she says, she knows he is
better - Ethel and Mary Olney look extra well
this winter - I also saw young Mrs Olney and her
sister Ellen Olney, Jr - she is a large woman - looks
very serene and happy - lives on Adeline St -
I've not seen Mrs Brown since she was here -
I left some flowers for her at the Metropole - but
she was in San Francisco - so guess they were
dead - Mr Brown is delighted to get her back -

Saturday night
December 14th 1901

Dear Dad -

I fear you think I'm pretty mean
not to have sent you a letter this week - but I've
been so hurried the weathering cold and a lame
leg from rheumatism - have been to San Francisco
three days - and that trip does waste so much
time - I got for Aunt a silver edged Watch like
the one Pam gave me - Pa sent it to Aunt -
Dad very kindly got the top off tonight - so I hope
it will get there for Christmas - Mary got your Postal
Card - poor Delia! she could not read it - she did
not mention it - but she usually tries to make out
who letters are from and the amount of bills owed -
It really is very cold and I feel it -

Mary went to Mills Garrison's this afternoon to the
dedication of the new music Hall - he got there
when it was all over - then he went to San
Francisco and brought a present for Dad in a
large box - I don't know what it was or is -
Your Postal card he read, smiled and put it in
his inside coat pocket - I hope you won't write when
you are busy or tired - we can wait and I'd
much rather you took the time to sleep
so you are well and warm - I don't worry -
I wish you were living at the hotel - it would
be better for you seems to me, you must

be awfully lonely - I always think of your night -
Mr North bought Emma a pair of fur lapped gloves
today - in New York he bought her a small fur
collar - she wears it, the mornings are so cold -
The papers report it extra cold throughout the
country - and now earthquakes here today. I did
not notice it. - Annie Brewer sent Emma
a Picture Postal Card from Germany - Sam works very
hard on his Insurance business - but the end of the
year is not a good time - so his patience is tried.
Pa is well and very busy in Sam's and Arthur's
correspondence - Arthur keeps up his hopes, and
expects next year to make something - I
wish they may, for they have had lots
of disappointments - they keep Pa
busy and excited - I have no hopes of his
making anything out of that Shasta property
but he has - so that keeps him cheerful.
I send you my best wishes for everything
good and remain

Your Son,

Mar.

December 15, 1901