

Kansas City  
March 12<sup>th</sup> 1886.

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My dear Sis: I am afraid to write to wife  
lest it should hurt her to know the  
fact which you can tell her if you  
think advisable. All my good health  
is gone. The old pain in the back of the  
hands is come again and I am  
nearly useless. I am writing here for  
a couple of days but rest seems to  
do me no good — or rather I do  
not rest. I am going to hold on a  
little while longer to see if we can  
retrieve ourselves. If not then I am  
coming home to work the matter out.  
Do not be alarmed and do not let Ben-  
na worry any more than you can  
help but if I write ~~by~~ disjointedly and  
very queerly incoherently you may  
know that I am about as bad  
off mentally and nervously as  
I can be. I kept up well till a  
few days ago and now I have

you all to pieces. I seem to have  
no power to think or do and suf-  
fer so I can hardly rest a moment.  
I don't know what it all means  
overstrain I suppose but do not  
let Emma break down. Please  
Dor hold her up a week or two  
till the matter is over and decid-  
ed then we will face what there  
is to be faced together. Don't let her  
break or suffer if you can help it  
You know how weak she is and how  
she suffers for my mishaps - Oh  
why should I bring pain always to  
those I love. God bless you both  
- the sweetest dearest ones that  
ever loved an unfortunate.

Yours

Albin

I enclose Chase's telegram just received.  
If he keeps on stirring them up to work for  
the prizes it may be all right yet. If it is and  
we go on I must have some one with me. I dare not  
travel alone. You know why - brain and spine are  
too weak for me alone. Have wife ready to start at a  
moment's notice must wish if she can come if she can  
not you much. It is not safe for me to be alone.

If things turn so as to justify staying out we shall either go over the Range or back through Nebraska and the Northwest - I incline to think the latter though we shall probably go down to Santa Fe and Las Vegas - If we can get so as to average \$50. houses we will stay out until we whip the debt anyhow - Wife might come and stop at a few central points where I could join her now and then but I must have some one to guard me from myself or I shall be really insane pretty soon. The fear of this haunts me all the time and I can not get rid of it. So do not be surprised at a telegram demanding instant attention.

Yours,

Albin