

Coates House,

K. Coates, Proprietor.

Fifth and Broadway

Kansas City, Mo. March 20 1886 -

My dear, Beloved:

You cannot imagine how glad I was to get your letter of the 27th with this morning. I had been thinking of you as having such a terrible time that I could hardly repress a shudder on learning that you were well enough to be out.

Oh my dear home, how I wish I could see you and be with you. I am so tired, I can't well enough and sleep fairly well but I have no heart - no life - no strength.

Chas writes from Parsons confirmatory of the dispatch I sent to Willie last night saying he is almost willing to bet his life on a big house at that place. He has gone to the schools, made speeches to the scholars and has already seven selling tickets. If he succeeds in the few places we have this week and next, the problem is solved and we can go on with our work he going ahead and stirring up the sales. By being on the ground and saying out the work I think he can get us an audience anywhere and at any time. There is, as I have always told you, no more need

of his being with me than for Don to undertake my guardianship. I can get a man to take tickets and settle matters up in any town for two dollars and I can look over the settlement in fifteen minutes. It worries me beyond expression to have him around taking care of me. No one but a woman and no woman I ever saw but you or his could ever look after me without it being a perfect torture to me. He is kind and careful and wants to treat me just as he does his wife, with the very best of motives but it is simple folly to do so. I knew all this before we started out but you would not believe me and he was sure I had not business capacity enough to settle with an opera house manager. So I have said nothing and waited for him to be convinced. I guess he is convinced. If the show is at all decent I shall send for you. It is folly for me to try to keep in a healthy frame of mind unless you or his are

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writ me. There is no use in talking about it. It may be foolish and all that but if I should become insane it would be something more than folly and I have been so near insanity that there was not much chance of being left. I am better this morning but the old weakness is on me. I can do nothing - have had to rest half a dozen times since beginning this.

We had already two sets of papers to California - those that Platt sent, you remember; a set by the Atchison Topeka and Atlantic and Pacific, and now have those of Stanford's. I have tried for those of the Union Pacific but have not yet received them. Having those Chase can go ahead and make arrangements and we can come on after him. We shall not go to Denver except on an assurance. It will pay.

If things look fairly you may expect a summons any day. If you cannot stand it you must send for I must not break down.

Yours ever,

Albin