

San Jose, Cal.  
Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup> 96.

Dear Father,

Your letter and presents arrived safely and were gladly received. Fuchsia was so pleased with the hamperchief and pin and wanted to make use of them right away, and you could not have sent me anything that I would have prized any more than the family group and a picture of the "old home"

which I have always wanted  
to see since I have been  
old enough to remember, I  
had no trouble in picking  
out yourself, likewise  
all the others although  
I have never seen any of  
them for so many years.  
I was interested to hear  
something from the folks  
but wonder why Abbie  
did<sup>not</sup> make a longer visit  
after coming so far, maybe  
it made her feel too bad  
to see Grandma Walker  
in the condition she is  
it seems too very sad  
after living all these years  
and being the smart woman

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she was and raised her  
family so well and worked  
so hard to do so, to think  
her last days must be  
passed in such a mental  
state of unhappiness, but  
we all have something  
that is hard to bear, in  
the first place I am  
going to ask you if you  
can spare \$15 or \$20 as  
a loan to me for a short  
time and then I will  
tell you why I ask it  
I don't know but it is  
my duty to tell you more

of myself anyway, although I dislike to rehearse my troubles and besides make you unhappy thereby, what I refer mostly to is my marriage. as I have had a most unhappy and unfortunate one, and am living separate from my husband now and have been for most a year and do not intend to live with him again, I am not free but hope to be sometime in the near future, he never did his duty to his family, never provided for us or gave us any kind of a home

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I might go into details and tell you how my poor little babies died just from the want of good care and many other things that seemed so hard but it would do no good only harrow up our feelings, he has nothing now as he can never clear the mortgage on his place but at one time he was in a position to make us a good home but did not see it in that light.

so I have been wholly dependent before and since I left him on the folks for support and I feel so independent especially since I married and went away from home that it makes me feel badly to be thrown upon them again you must know how one would feel, I have wanted to get into some kind of work and intend to as soon as I can find a good place, but I need a few things right away for myself and baby some new shoes for instance for

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both of us and if you are in a position to make me a loan without taking it from the comforts of your own family I would be ever so glad and I will surely return it as soon as I possibly can, I realize it is close times now with everyone, it is with the folks I know, people can't pay their doctor bills and there is where our dependence for a living comes from

I never told you why it was that I did not come to visit with you while so near but it was for the lack of means to fix up so as to feel comfortable to visit in or pay my way to Albany and back. But I feel sensitive about saying anything to you about it then but it was for no other reason that I did not come, I looked well enough for camping out, anything will pass under that pretext but we had a pretty rough trip and hard work to manage

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to get through and get enough to eat and food for the horses I don't want you to send the money unless you feel able to spare it for although I would like it ever so well shall not feel hurt about it if you do not send it, but I will surely be in a position to pay it back to you before long for I mean to help myself, the folks do for me as well as they are able under the circumstances and

affectionately yours  
I hope to  
love from you quite soon.  
and have always given  
me a good home but  
you know how I feel  
that I would like to  
earn something for  
myself and it will  
amount to the same  
as doing so if you loan  
me the amount I  
mention and I pay it  
back. I hope you will  
not feel that I am  
asking too much of a  
favor. I hope all are  
well, was glad the little  
boys liked what I sent  
them, it was the best I  
could do although I had it  
in my heart to do more.

Your daughter Della.  
Love to all.