

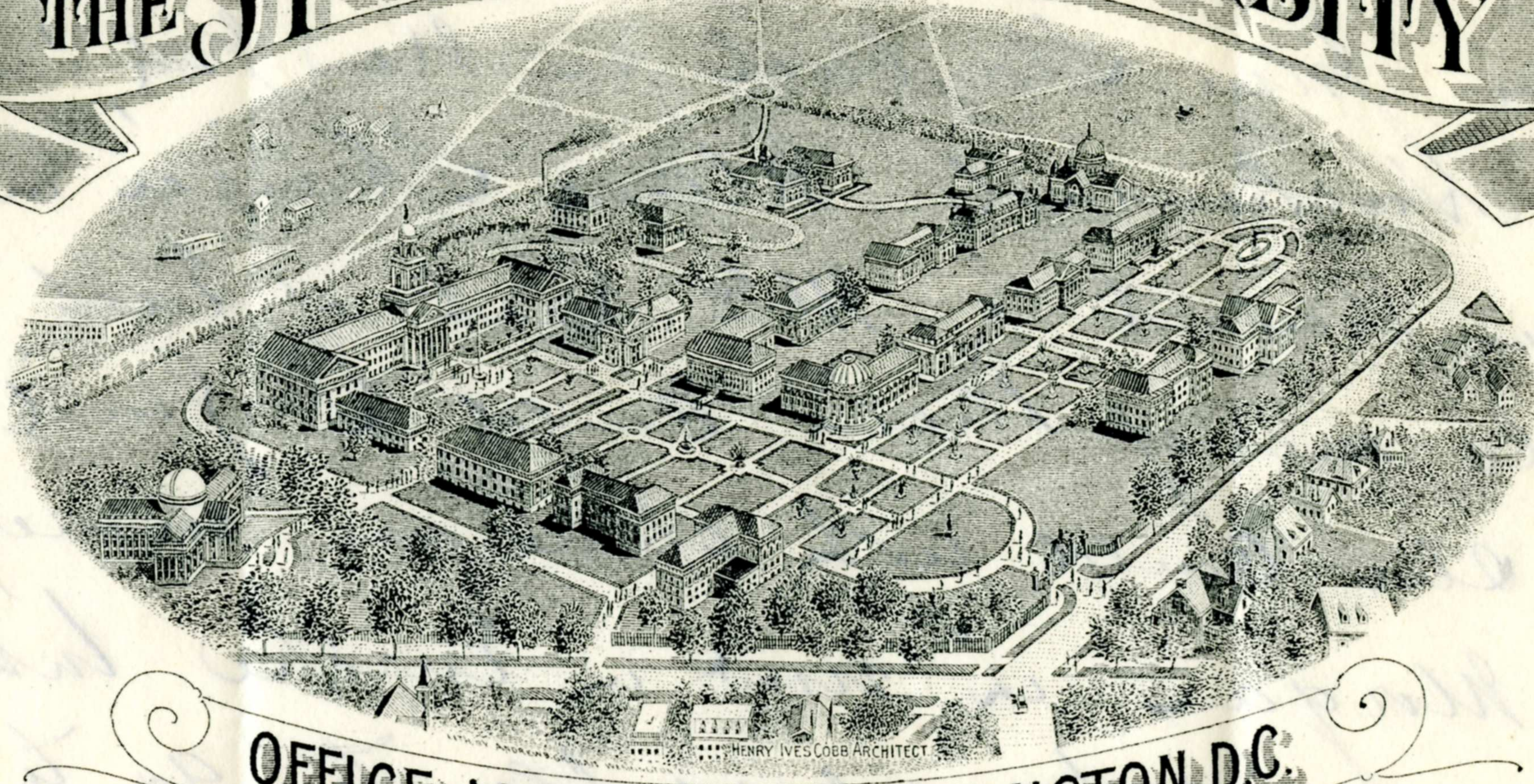
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Rev. W. L. Davidson D.D.

My dear Dr. Davidson

79 Broadway  
Ocean Grove N.J.  
June 29/04

I have just returned home after a quest for money & find your letter - I regret that I have not a goodly sum to send you to-day I might have had if only I could have reached the parties I went after but unfortunately they were nearly all away from home - I began last week by starting to see Gov. Crane & Gen. Crane & intending to go on to Boston for Dalton - I stopped in New York to see Cornelius Bliss - I found he had gone to Chicago to the Republican Convention & while there I learned that Gov. Crane had also gone so I postponed my journey until the end of the week as Saturday has been the best day to catch the Governor home & went after others - By the end of the week I saw in the paper that Gov. Crane Senator Lodge & others had concluded to take in St. Louis before returning home so of course I did not go there - My plan is to go to

Dalton on Saturday & then into New England -  
I went after Saul Childs Jos S McLean J. E. Andrus  
John H Brown John Slayback in New York, Senator  
Johnston in Hackensack Moses Springer in Englewood -  
Judge Fort in Newark & M<sup>rs</sup> Kent of East Orange and  
not a single one of them could I find home except  
the lady & she could not spare any money just now -  
Pierpont Morgan is now in Europe but if he was  
home it would not be advisable to go to New York  
as he named December as the time for me to see him.

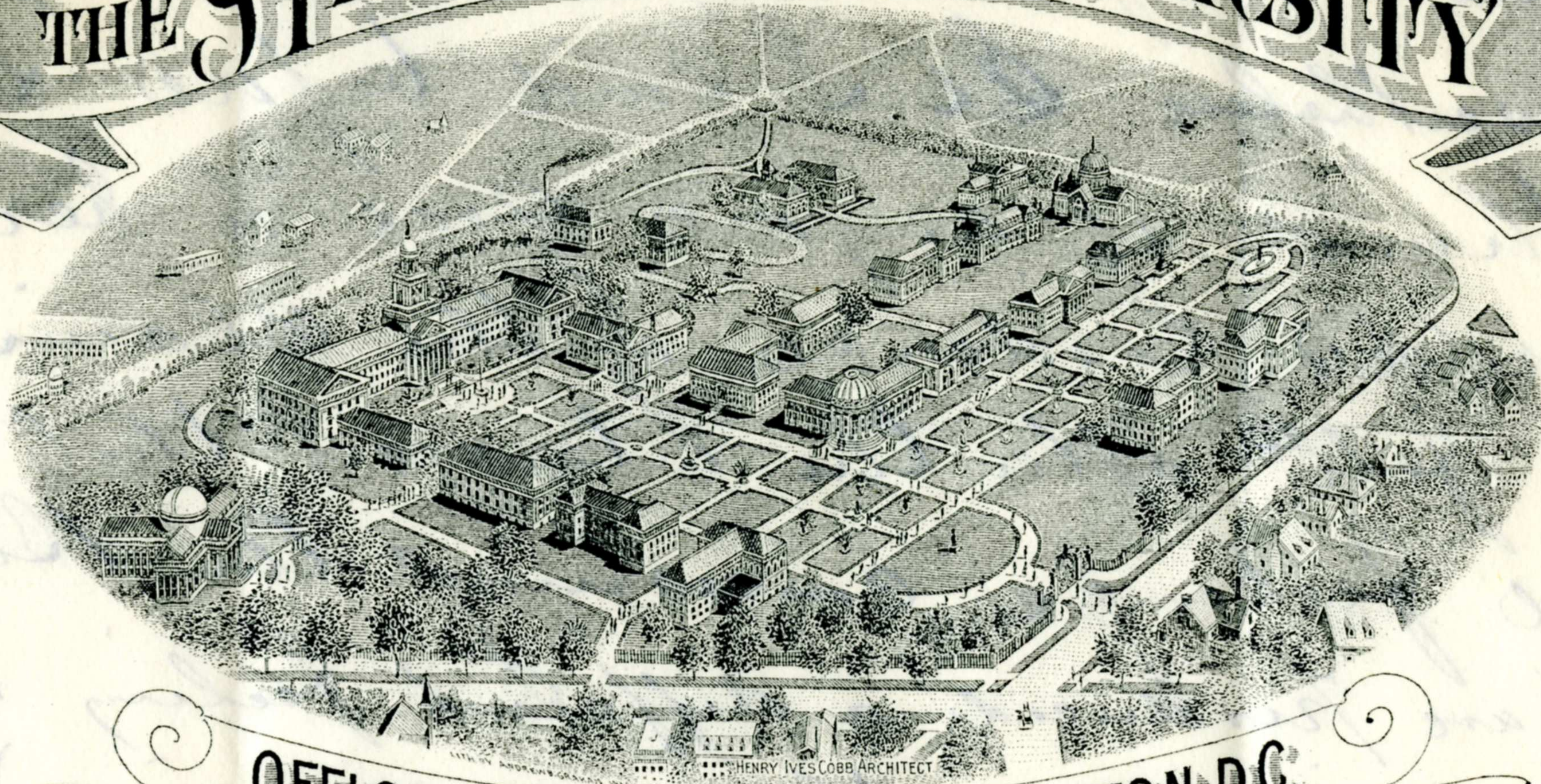
When I saw M<sup>rs</sup> Willey last she told me they  
would pay the balance of M<sup>rs</sup> Stickney's subscription  
when the estate was settled & that her brother had  
said it would be when the two years was up which  
will be in August, so I did not think it best to  
see her just yet for I am afraid she could not like  
it & it will not do to offend her because she has  
proved herself a good friend to us - I will endeavor to  
see her before 1<sup>st</sup> August  
M<sup>rs</sup> Leland Stanford would doubtless receive my letter  
last Saturday or Monday I hope to hear from her  
in a few days now - After I had about concluded  
my interview with her & had such an encouraging talk  
with her she told me about Bishop Hunt's letters  
to her concerning the \$10,000. She made the remark  
positive declarations that her husband had never  
subscribed it & unquestionably believes what she says,  
whatever may have been the actual facts in the case.  
She went on to tell me that the letters kept coming  
at a time when they were involved in a law suit  
over the estate & feared they were going to lose everything  
she said "I actually did not know but what we would  
be left penniless & while we were in all that trouble

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These letters Repl coming so I consulted with my lawyer & he advised me to pay no attention to them saying that from what he knew of Mrs. Stanford's affairs that he had incurred no such obligation. I think it was quite fortunate that I was not acquainted with the facts in the case because it lead to no controversy. I accepted her statement for what it was worth & confined my remarks to what we were attempting to do for humanity & that appealed to her. Now if you have a guarantee as you say, that may put an entirely different construction upon the case in her mind & if I was in her presence & in possession of such a guarantee so that we could talk it over I really believe she would pay the \$10,000 but as she expressed herself to me it would only incense her & do nothing but harm to correspond with her concerning it. She will have to be cautiously lead up to a recognition of the obligation <sup>while</sup> for she is a lady of fine character & principles, she is high strung and of much dignity and would probably be very

reluctant to acknowledge that she had, in any way  
repudiated an bona fide obligation on the part of her  
husband - Nevertheless as I said before she will do  
the right thing if anyone goes to her intreated  
with the proper evidence of the claim - My wife  
and I both felt after the interview that back of all  
her expressed feelings concerning the Bishop's letters  
(which might have produced a different feeling but in the  
inopportune time when they were received) there was a  
kindly feeling towards our enterprise and we thought  
we detected a disposition to contribute anew in her own  
behalf so as to avoid further controversy in an unpleasant  
matter which was involved in some obscurity, at the  
same time might be a just claim which in view of all  
the circumstances she was reluctant to acknowledge -

I await with much interest her answer to my  
letter & our future proceedings will depend upon it -  
Mr James Norton is dead & his widow who is so much  
interested in us is or will be in control of the estate  
I expect to see her as soon as convenient & advisable  
& will give further attention to the Swift case  
at the same time - Other cases in various directions  
are maturing & will receive all proper attention -  
I feel very confident of getting checks from the Craves  
if I can only catch them home on Saturday -  
After that I shall visit Springfield & Boston.  
Send all letters to home address as my whereabouts  
from day to day is very uncertain. I will write  
you again before the week is out  
Very truly Yours  
John A Gutteridge