

Leadville Dec. 21 ^{5th} 1899.

"Dear Anna"

Your letter in answer to my small remittance was duly received and I should have been more thoughtful and ^{have} sent you at least an acknowledgement regarding it. It gave me a great deal of pleasure to know that you were so well gratified and in fact I believe it worked so well that I will have to try it again before long - well I will try and keep you in fine money anyhow - and when ever you get broke why just draw me up - I should dearly have liked to have given you all real nice presents for Xmas but business is not as good as it was when we first launched out in it. That is the profits are not by far as good as then - the amount of business has improved - but even with that - the profits are cut down by competition to such a small scale - that I readily see the great difference. But we will all hope that it may improve - "You are a Dear Good Girl"

to your Mother and for that I Love you
the more - there is not much "Puffery" & soft
soap about me - I am continually thrown
into the Society and among a Class of
people no distinction as to the Gender for
they are all Males - that is somewhat rougher
than anything I had when at Home - I
don't care anything for any body or anyone
outside of Our Own Family Circle - but you
carry to my Heart a great deal of Love
Respect and Hope for your Future on account
of the Forebearance - Gentleness and Patience
you always hold for your Mother, the
faculty of taking things as they come and
always looking (or trying to at least, on the
Brightest side - thereby shedding a light
of ^{each} brilliancy as far as time to outshine
the dark spots if any there be - I wish I
could do more for you and in fact all of
you - I would dearly love to see you all
Happy and well supplied - the time ^{has}
not yet come - but no telling how soon it
may. I have written Mother to night -
And now good Night with a Brother's best
wishes and Hope - yet to see you happy ^{and}
contented - the "Pride of some one" But be
sure that, that some one be the right One
a whole life depends on that - with lots of love
Your Bro. J. L.



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