

New York 14th Feby 1880

Dear Sir

I have had your letter of 28th Nov. for some time in my possession covering a note to be handed to Mr Tibbells for \$200 at fifteen months. I now enclose to you, having erased your name first, the note in lieu of the new one having at same time paid to Mr Tibbells agent here \$200 - requisite to recover the enclosed -

At the time of opening my Brother in Law's letter containing his wishes as the disposer of some of his property, finding upon investigation that the sum left to your wife was not so large as expected, Mary proposed that we should add something to it, to which I at once consented - wishing therefore to keep the Legacy left to your wife as exclusively as possible for her own & her children's benefit I must beg that you will endeavour to carry out the same to your utmost, and in this instance to accept of the \$200 - for the discharge of the enclosed note as a gift in token of Mary's affection for your Emma to relieve her as much as possible from all difficulty. - For the present it is impossible to sell Insurance stock, nor should I feel authorized

to do so at all unless expressly requested to do so by Emma -
You will easily perceive the delicacy of my position, and my
difficulty in acting without orders from her, the legacy being left
to her before my brother in law understood any thing of her intention
to be married. One half of the money I have sent to you to be invested
in lands, the deed of course for these ought to be vested in her and her
the other half is most capitally placed here in a stock yielding from
10 @ 12 per cent per annum - I will either send the whole of this to her if she
wishes it or else keep it as it is and be accountable to her for the
Dividends as they fall due - I know of no better investment in the
city, that is as regards profit, than this stock and yet it will not
now sell for par -

I start tomorrow with Mary who takes Charity Platt
as her servant for Matanzas (Cuba) to spend the month of
March, returning by the way of Cumberland ^{Island} and so north by land -
I think the change of scene will be of benefit to her and divert
in some degree her mind from painful subjects - her spirits are
not as buoyant as they used to be - She sends her love to Emma
joining with her in the same I remain very Truly Yrs

John A. Knif Jr

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