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[Letterhead: IWSA]

Rochester, N.Y. December 29, 1904

Dearest Maud and Sister Annie,

While it may yet say 1904- I want to write – Maud’s good letter of Dec. 23 – mailed the 24th – is just here -- Five days in coming – that is pretty well in these days of blizzards – we had a warm spell for a few days after Christmas -- it rained hard so that the County cisterns were filled – People were beginning to get **scared** lest they would be in water famine – Well it has been a good Christmas time -- my ever coming present from [??] is a lovely diary book -- Misses Mary and Louise Donnelly -- have sent on a similar book for years – it is so much better than sending a Christmas card something useful – that makes me think - I sent Lucy E. some money – and asked her to get some pocket handkerchiefs – get them properly marked and send one to each of the members of our family – and how many do you imagine there were? ~~of Brother Daniel’s~~ -- Well I will begin with the oldest–

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| But 4 of the old [?] Annie Osborn Sister Mary Luther Sister Susan Mary |
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| Sister Guelma - 9 |
| Sister Hannah – 17 |
| Brother Daniel – 7 |
| Brother Merritt –11 |
| Sister Mary – 1 |
| Sister Susan – 1 |

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| When I have given to <u>30</u> Friends – beginning with Miss Shaw – Mrs. Catt -- you see how will be born Lucy has marked these or had them marked |
|--|

46 of us left

This was nothing individually – but a little reminder of my love for each one – there are so many others that I would love to have remembered – We did remember a few in the City – who needed things – sister Mary has had the disposal of the garments of Maria Anthony – and various other old but good things – so she has been kept busy.

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Mrs. Spofford -- Camden -- Maine, who lives alone with a totally deaf brother – her husband is dead – Mary & I sent a check of \$50 – she says - “What can I do to show you my love -- I need no memorial from the Anthony family [?] I remember your brother D.R. and his pretty wife. He fought a good fight and he will wear the crown”.—And do you remember going to Cousin Lucius Howe’s -- at Phelps -- you cannot have forgotten it -- well he is not living – just their two girls are left and one is an invalid – the other can earn but a very little – we sent them a \$25 -- and I tell you these things to show that we do some little things where they are needed -- but the world is full of suffering – I wish we could devise means to banish it -- but we can’t -- so we must try and content ourselves with trying to alleviate a little of it – I wonder how Emma Willard [?] gets along? – I hope she is better – and dear Bessie – it is too bad that she has to leave her beautiful home -- she wrote me a lovely letter – full of courage – she would go and hoped to return full of new life -- I do hope she will -- I reckon they all miss “Nana”.

There is a nice resolution of brother D.R. in the 14 Biennial Report of the Historical Society of Kansas -- written by D. W. Wilder -- I am going to call it to the attention of D.R. Jr. -- by the way he was elected member of the Board to fill out his father's term -- I hope he will send on his dollar and keep the place -- the society does a great work in saving the history of the **state**

Well take all the comfort you can -- I am so glad those awful dreams have gone away from your mother -- she'll get over the death, burial & sickness scenes and by and by be able to see and feel the good qualities of your [?] & happy father -- at least I hope she will -- with a happy New Year and lots of joy to you and your dear mother

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Oh yes, I wrote Mrs. Sperry [?] yesterday -- that I hoped Dr. Sperry & her sister -- would call on you -- yes I remember the Dr. Willets [?] -- I am glad she stands at the head of her profession --

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P. S. -- I have a good stenographer who can't come this holiday week -- so I have to give you this pen scratch -- But I would not wait another day to write & tell you three that I loved you still -- __.__. A and are so thankful to get Maud's splendid letter -- My birthday -- Feb. 15 -- is to be celebrated at Rev. & Mrs. Gannett -- they are going to have it just as they please -- I wish you were here to go with us -- Miss Shaw will be here -- Did you notice -- the Territorial Committee knocked out __ whole thing of women, idiots, criminals" the __ felt ashamed to say they abused us with the defective and delinquent mess." SBA