

Rocky Mt. Oct. 29th 1894

My Dear Sir: I think it will give you pleasure to help me out of a difficulty, if the exigencies of your personal & official business will allow you to give the matter your attention.

Somewhat to my surprise I have not, thus far been able to effect the loan which I require, to put me on my feet again. There seems to be a universal distrust, & notwithstanding the plethora of money, in the money centres, it is hard to get by those who need it.

With \$18000 I can cancel all mortgages on my land, & free myself from all other indebtedness. To secure the payment of this amt. I can give a first ^{mortgage} on my real estate, which I am satisfied you will regard as ample security for \$18000. Before the war I was offered

\$100,000 for Coal Spring, & even now, I think
it would be a good purchase at \$50,000.
Two fires - a hail storm & the frost of
1867 have damaged me - taking the int
into account, at least \$100,000. But for these
casualties I should have been ahead, &
with a very considerable balance to my
credit. You will understand that these
matters are mentioned to account for
my present & embarrassment.

Perhaps your son in Washington might
do something for me, & I hope you will
write to him, if you can't help me
yourself. I would willingly pay him
a liberal commission. A minor having
U. S. Bonds as a permanent investment
would I think do well to exchange them
for the security which I can offer.

Under existing circumstances I don't think I
ought to pay more than 60¢ per ct.
int. In one respect I think my mortgage
is better than a U. S. Bond. If there should
be a rupture of the government,

individual liabilities in need be respected

Hoping to hear from you at your
earliest convenience I am

Faithfully yours

J. W. Battle