

St. James Hotel Boston. March 1875.

My Dear Lesley,

I had scarcely time to thank you for your kind letter when there came a note from Gleason saying that the whole question of appointments at Baltimore is premature & that nothing definite will be done there before two years at the earliest. For this I cannot fault. I do not know as I told you the falling off in students, arrears and increasing debts of the Institute compels retrenchment, and in order to keep it within the income, my chair & some others, are to be suppressed. The result is that I am out of place, without home or shelter or position without the means of living for a twelve-month for myself & my sisters, unless some of my mining enterprises yield me somewhat. Almost down to despair I would gladly take any position where I could find work to do and a place for my books & my collections. I am looking active every direction through the year in vain, and am even applying for post at Ottawa in Canada.

as client to the Inland Revenue. If I cannot  
thus do anything else open it will stand between  
me & starvation, which else is inevitable for  
me & mine - It requires a "live hobby"

a courage which is not always at command.  
I do not write to trouble you with my complaints  
but feel as if I would like you to know my  
real position and prospects -

Yours always

J. Steery Hunt