My dear Louise:

I am very much obliged for your kind letter. The University fire was a great shock to me. It haunted me night and day at first. I felt as though a temple had been profaned. No loyal alumni can fail to feel a personal loss. As the alumni's ability equalled their inclinations, I feel sure the work of restoration would be but a matter of time and that the shortest necessary. The limitations of poverty in such crises are most sorely felt. What a pleasure it would be to be able to give a million straight down at once to restore and re-equip the buildings, in each order and style as the authorities might deem best! As it is, while my heart was full and my purse empty, I had to face back the winds that rushed forward for depression of my sympathies, sorrow and content myself with sending 0 thousand a weekly declaration of my willingness to do anything in the power of an impoverished alumni! I knew he would be delighted with telegrams & letters, so I was brief.

Philip we? a letter today from Benedict. He speaks of coming to Miss. on a hunt with some friends. Of course we will thank him if he comes this way. I am sorry you have no definite plans for Atlanta. We had hoped you would surely come and quit us a
few weeks. Cannot you still do this? It would give me great pleasure, although you would have a very quiet time. "Society" is unusually tame in Columbus this autumn, but we would enjoy you all the more for having you all to ourselves.

Our love to all. Write soon or send me papers with plans of restoration when published. I shall be deeply interested in it all.

I am glad you made your visit to take a holiday and delighted to hear of the improvement in her health. I have understood Fontaine will be delighted to spend his Xmas holiday at the University, or with the boys if they go to enjoy Greens. Can you pack him away without inconveniences? The E.H.S. has got students. ... Burdoin met Miss Bell in Atlanta, as he writes. Phil has gone tonight to all women, but he is very faithful to his "O. D. girl. Write whenever you can. Present me cordially to Dr. Martin. He must have his hands fuller than ever.

Very affectionately yours,

Alta Koch