Horatio P. Van Cleve and family papers.

Copyright Notice:

This material may be protected by copyright law (U.S. Code, Title 17). Researchers are liable for any infringement. For more information, visit www.mnhs.org/copyright.

Version 3
August 20, 2018

No 23. (No 22 was mislaid, Feb. 1st) Fort Winnebago Feb. 14th 1835

Dearest I feel almost too impatient for my turn to come for writing to you, that I generally find myself commencing a letter four or five days beforehand. You will not think less of my letters because they have several dates. — This month, you see, is now just half gone; and then your receiving this March will be half gone, and you will be thinking of "packing up" for your visit to New York. I begin to feel how that time is rolling by rapidly; & I hope soon, very soon, in a few months, weeks, days, to embrace my dear Charlotte. Last night I dreamed I saw both you and Malcolm. And now I must give you some account of today. This morning I gave my frock coat to a man, to turn it, & clean, (very dirty!!) and told him to be careful, not to remove three small pins that were in the cuffs. You understand. So much for the coat. I will remark by way of parenthesis, that I am busy "turning out my old clothes." — I called at Mr Daugherty's this morning and took dinner there; and did not go over to your house at 1 o'clock as usual, to get my chocolate. This evening I went there to beg some paper (for I have no paper cap) & to write a letter to Charlotte (as you know such a fashion) & then I got the paper, but found there but some ladies — the Mr & the Misses Lowe. At tattoo I went home with them and returned to your house for my cloak. After sitting a few moments talking with your father, — Philippine came in with a bowl of chocolate and some toast, and your ma says to me, Mr Van Cleve, there is your chocolate that you neglected to come for to day; you must sit down now & drink it. You see how I am treated. Now dearest I did not have imposed that little story on you, were it not that I wished to show you that I am not looked upon as a stranger at your fathers. I might give you many instances of their kindness towards me, and you shall hear all when I see you, for I know it will gratify you much; but this will suffice for the present.

By way of news I must tell you that a man was "drummed out" yesterday, and a man escaped from the guard house last night. Deserters have been so plenty (I may have mentioned this in my last); that a guard is posted for the purpose a few days since. The Paymaster, Maj Forsyth, was here a week ago. Mr Daugherty is leaving, or rather Maj Forsyth is leaving Daugherty. He is not at all particular whether the instrument is in tune or not; it is all the same to him, he can make just as much noise on one side, as on the other. He makes a science of it, and is studying particularly about semitones. — Mr Johnston commenced playing some time since but soon gave it up. It is reported that Captain Bradley is to marry again. You recollect he lost his wife a few months since. He was no doubt devotedly attached to her, or he would not think of having her place supplied so soon. — This is enough news for one evening. So good night to you, love. Your Van Cleve.

Oct 18th I write this morning to tell you that I received your letter yesterday evening & was very glad to hear from home, and finding you all well. I am very sorry to hear that Sister Ann has been employed in washing & ironing for my sake. It is a different place now to what it was when I left home. Tell Sister Ann to write to me & let me know how she is getting on. I think I shall be able to write to her next week. Give my love to Mrs Ellis & family & to my friends in Mr Ellis's house. Tell Mr Ellis I shall be very much obliged to him if he will write to me & let me know how my friends are. Give my love to Mr &

you have had a sleigh ride; if you had been here, you
sh^d have had many. But never mind, if it pleases our Heavenly father, we may yet have many rides, and walks, and talks together. My daily prayer to heaven is, that he will take care of my dear absent one, and keep her from all harm; and restore her to me in due season. And sh^d he see fit that we sh^d never meet again in this world, oh may he grant that we may meet in his Heavenly kingdom and spend our Eternity together there. I do not expect to hear from my [illegible] we must be satisfied to put our trust in God [illegible] what we have to say [illegible] good spirits [illegible] to Chicago [illegible] thank [illegible] father, who paid a [illegible] money [illegible]

CHICAGO
FORT

The mail carrier reports, that he saw the body of the poor man that was murdered out lying by the road side; the unfortunate Indian has been frozen to death. It was altogether owing to his imprudence, for the weather was very fine and not sufficiently cold to freeze a man travelling, if he took proper precautions. Freezing always appeared to me to be an awful death. [illegible] of the cold weather I forgot to tell you that 29° below was the lowest the mercury has been seen here this winter. Many of the men had their noses & feet frozen. Much love to my dear sister. Do you ever hear from Louisa? She has not written to me since she was in New Haven. Margaret is the only one of sisters (& brothers) who writes to me and her letters are few and very far between.

No. 12.

Fort Monroe, Sept 22nd 1864

My own dear Charlotte, This is one week earlier than my regular time for writing, but fearing that it will not be in your mother's power to write by that mail, and much as I hate to leave you all yet I think it will probably be several days hence before I shall be able to write. I have determined to write because I think that the mail I leave without carrying anything for you I do not think it a task, but on the contrary a pleasure to hear from you by every mail, it appears however unnecessary for me to write when you have nothing to do — so much for a prelude. The 2 or 3 minutes may yet be interrupted for I am going to eat dinner at your father's to day. Do not you wish to be there & hear your father say "Charlotte write for me" & you write? [illegible] is not the worst thing for you to do, you wish you were in your stead, just to make you laugh! The truth is I feel good humored (wonderful to relate!!) and hurried every to day, and cannot help taking your little Pet Charlotte dear to be lovingly thank her. Charlotte time is so long you will be missing at your father's table. Perhaps I may occasionally be there with you. Some mornings while Melville is absent I may occupy the seat he has to take on his night to follow. Pleasant it will be to have the side of the table (remember after the next) which your parents think on the other side! I think, dearest if they necessarily insist that you and Mamma will and I know you will make them happy. Charlotte dear! I shall be only get to fly to the woods occasionally for a little peace and quiet. I trust however that I will not be drawn to the settlers & the

Evening. I have finished my dinner & dark keep, I received a letter sometime with your father & mother; then packed some figures of a quilt for your mother. You must know to her and I am making it [illegible]

I told your mother that she and I should talk over the work & quilts the best that I [illegible] by all the [illegible] to mark. I presume the quilts that I spoke of in my last letter (Missed mailing) are not yet finished. It was decided that they [illegible] make [illegible] for Mrs [illegible] that [illegible] for Elizabeth. It is time now you should have that a Chamber & the Middles for that was promised during summer, for there appears to be no prospect of my home returning better acquainted with them than I am at present, and much as I have a great dislike to resulting that family, you know [illegible] of the old [illegible] I shall not to be overall [illegible] to [illegible] the young [illegible] are [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

that that she cannot
remember of the Concert in the Comic Almanac? If a man
you should wonder each
after to take high
office form, and
for my estimation for
she is more reduced under degree feel
rather [illegible] but she had to stay at home to supplement
to her [illegible], since
generally have; I have you to infer from that that her mother
[illegible] will come.
[illegible] the front door when you are the most de-
second to have [illegible] information [illegible] public
give an opinion. I mean, their acquirements. [illegible]
have guessed their education; and we must take [illegible]
tell, that the time they have spent at school had not been lost.
The elder [illegible] music, but the [illegible]
for us, and [illegible] does not pretend to know much about
it. She draws with [illegible] but I have not seen any speci-
mens of her acquirements in the graphic art. The younger ac-
cording to her own account has no taste for either music
or painting. The [illegible] talkative and slightly vain appears a
somewhat affected [illegible] in her manners. [illegible] another account
of these ladies you must wait till I see you next Summer.
[illegible] perhaps then you may not hear more than you do now
[illegible] it is not probable that I will see the more better acquainted
[illegible] than then now.
Mrs Norris returned from the Prairie that
evening [illegible] generally. [illegible] will be above letter published to
the honest [illegible] but the mosquitoes [illegible] the change of air of the
[illegible] and the [illegible]
[illegible] (in Mr [illegible] quarter). I predicate I will
[illegible] however [illegible] I call on my neighbors but
[illegible] Mrs O. Strangall has not been visible since
they left [illegible] little [illegible] I am gathered of hearing [illegible]
your friends (who [illegible] the [illegible]) talk of not having the
[illegible] of life, to [illegible] not go there more than once in two or three
weeks. Besides, there are no places to visit. — In speaking of
my visiting nothing has been said by [illegible] Gathers family for I have
not [illegible]
[illegible] visiting there as visitors [illegible] go there at least twice in a day and gen-
erally, when the weather [illegible] permits, your mother and I take a walk
Now much we do [illegible] that Charlotte [illegible] be dull in these [illegible]
sions! and not only [illegible] but always. But the [illegible]
[illegible] assured that [illegible] forgotten; and we never take a
walk without talking about you. Charlotte, you do not
know how very [illegible] you are to us. Please in mind, my own dear
[illegible] that when you [illegible] are not [illegible] your [illegible] my
[illegible] consolation. — Dear [illegible], I receive many kind tokens of regard
from your parents, [illegible] have made [illegible] impression upon them
[illegible] to prove the sincerity. [illegible] they have [illegible]
[illegible] your [illegible] and [illegible] them [illegible] to me, [illegible]
[illegible] leads to [illegible] them. [illegible] of Christ [illegible] effect to
[illegible] occasionally [illegible] about my [illegible] up [illegible] on the [illegible]

[illegible]

looks pretty like an axe. I must close
dear Mat, and may God bless you and keep you
Horatio.

P.S. The rebels have retreated and we are at nothing, and we
expect we have been waiting for some weeks past
and would certainly bring destruction upon Collins Corps
if it had attempted, about this recession of Lee's high. I hold
not to expect anything for some days
to come. We are anxious at the Corps to believe however
that we may trembling hope long enough to hear that we
may be from home. I have been waiting for some days for my
letter, before writing to them again. Write my love
to my dear Mat. Write me frequently. Give my
love to my dear Mat. Tell them we are well. I hope they will write
when I hope to see you. I hope they will write. Regards
by this mention. Write to me and to spend the winter in Mass
Haven? The people [illegible] give a short account of the Convention
[illegible] you pleased on that occasion?

12

[illegible] Mat [illegible]
[illegible] Mat [illegible]
[illegible] Mat [illegible]

[ca. 1835-1836? /-
found in packet of
letters from H. P.'s
sister (Louisa?)]

Dear Charlotte

It was with the greatest pleasure that I received a letter on Saturday from Mainstay, inasmuch as it was in your handwriting. And I had come to assume that procrastination should cause me a delay in hearing instead of infinitely more enjoyable than yours. Except you left here in August and with the exception of the note on receipt from Queenstown my first letter was received on the 27th of Feb. I should be ashamed to plead in extenuation my natural "green" if you did not remember that I am one who does life after all seem better if I would live a little when I found that the numerous epithets were remembered before I started in order that I might properly worship Jupiter regard. Then too many things were during recollection which may now conveniently confound work away all claim to prepence or equability. But I thought of the long letter I wrote you at New York, and the one which I dispatched to Mainstay as he came when you arrived, of which of course you could know nothing. I feared it might be unwelcome when I found I had forgotten but I determined to announce this immediately and stand to forget. Bringing in I acknowledge I have nothing, you assured, I am feeling, were be reminded when nothing may intervene. I must hear it as from my intimately I have read it near many times before.

When I received your letter I was so impressed on find

three weeks from sitting at school
first. It was the first time I had been to school for
three weeks owing to the dreadful weather influenza
and a variety of other reasons so you may imagine
my disappointment was great, and more that I
was well enough to go out most part in so fine a
day unable to meet a foe. But I have adopted
Patience as my motto and have certainly enjoyed
mine rather the less month therefore previous fifteen
years of my existence have improved greatly by the
exp.

You have seen the pictures of school girls
The girls are pretty much as they used to. Miss
Beck means to form a Sat. Class as a gone
new boarder the coming. Most of them I believe you
agreeable additions. Miss Elizabeth is better than
in the dancing but looks as thin as ever. Mrs. Op
thought seeing her old crony Miss Parnell the
first (only) person I last unfortunately she kept
up the time. I have finished Bugie and "Ola" Dans the
substituting in their place Lind & Sacred Harmony
The two ends in four weeks, of course the girls are
counting the days.

Mrs Opie a large fire last the other evening which we
learned the next morning was the Brussels Carriage
manufactory. I believe the insurance nearly covers
the loss. On the 12 of Feb they had a grand military
ball in the Pavilion at which Miss Barnetts shone
conspicuous in this new uniform rather too conspicuous
I fear dress & the back.

She gives us great joy at
is that Rachel's health continues settled. I hope
you will not fail if she does, to give us a correct state
ment of her health

Mr Gibb continues just as formerly do you not
He was quite interested in your music
in the morning. I have mentioned
Suppose it has been much interrupted by the illness
Sickness in your family. Mrs Gibb frequently
inquires about you. Hope
continue free from
also disagreeable climate.
in a few days
Miss Harp has been much by the illness and
death. Lately she plays upon it. She played
some sacred pieces. She was the first person
if she had ever composed. Miss
to tell him how much she loved him she
said she could not, but would
express it. It was very pretty.

And now dear Charlotte I must
hope. Wishing sincerely love to yourself and
ratio and the respects to your parents. And
with ever wish for your happiness and the needful
entreaty to take good care of your dearly loved
Sheridan, and the request that to forget your
affectionate Margaret. I remain your affectionate
Wishing up sentence which has
kept it too long

[illegible] mention my last letter as
as profitless as he did not get another from me is
I hurry — Much love to him —

My dear Charlotte

I have just a few moments this evening to scribble a few lines. You must not expect from me more than this last. I must write as I can and not as I would. I commenced a letter to you from Jane's notes ago, hoping to have finished it and sent it, but school commenced a day or two after and since then my time has been fully occupied. I work all the morning, music all the afternoon and study all the evening. Of course necessary interruptions, shall occasionally visits to be made as required with a little, necessary exercise to relieve my poor back & limbs of the often irksome seat. Let me see in the evening when I might steal a few moments for letter writing. This little letter will be, very advantageous to play upon the latter. I know the little rogue not to forget them. I am sure after this account of my duties you will not blame me if I neglect my letters. I have been and for a better. It is now more than two months since you left us, it seems more like six. Had I thought you would have enjoyed your visit, I would have asked a few days longer of your time. I am glad you enjoyed and I hope you have recovered the loss of Hannibal and Hector. I should have expected a letter before, and yet I expect I did get a letter but that

you should leave N. York without writing me a line. But as I have so often to be grieved myself for negligence in letter writing I am more charitable to my friend.

School this winter is very pleasant. Octavia has returned & Catharine Barker & Julia Comstock. Caroline returns no more. Her father has removed to N.Y. Like Noah's dove he seems to find no rest for the sole of his foot. We have half a dozen more new scholars & we are very pleasant & seem to be, I have good little or no acquaintance with them. Cornelia's neph. was as usual. Mr S. John is our instructor.

Sid. leaves on Monday for New Orleans. Eben has been here nice a week since you left. He brought me "the tea-nice" you remember the encumbrance don't you? Since I left Rhode I got less time to think or care about the tramp, tho. I now know as care but little about them, which idea however was substantially enunciated in the preceding clause. I am often interrogated about you by the girls by Mrs Smith, by your devotee James Johnson & Dr Jones, the latter on the fact that I've had the felicity of knowing your ladyship. Dr Jones asked me where would be your next birthday = Entirely mum?

Brother Amos visited N. Haven last Monday & left on Thursday morning. He sets sail for New Orleans on Monday next. I need not tell you how pleasant his visit was to us. — Brother John has now a little boy, of whom he is almost too proud to live. He sent us some of his hair by Austin.

Aunt did not return with you. I was paying very that she should change her mind after she had been decided to go. It is perfectly inaccountable to me. Poor Rash! how disappointed he must have been. I felt very, very sorry for him. "Tell" is his head & tell me always to see Charlotte for he was wife. Does he still wear the cotton batting. Don't let him have it off. [illegible] Still a dozen [illegible] said it would come in —

Oct 28. Mr Hagan (Sidney) has just called to see me & bid good bye, he leaves tomorrow morning for New Orleans. He stayed but a few moments. I had little to say to him. James Tucker gallanted me home the evening though being before dark, I begged him to spare himself the trouble. The girls are constantly inquiring about you when shall I tell them I have heard from you recently. Tell me all about you — journey and everything. You write have much more time to write to me than I write to you. To day is Wednesday. The day which during the past year I have so frequently expected with you & perhaps more exactly you with me. Oh dear, if you were only here now. I just feel ——— I had just written that word when Mr Ebenezer Johnson's presence appeared here. It seems he did not so fix to come with his mother. We talked about

an hour talking as fast as he could all the time and then said good evening. Do you remember the last Christmas holidays? It will seem a little how then next I wonder if I shall have a serenade this New Year. I suppose however you have no desire ~~not~~ to be transported back to New Orleans. You never perhaps care but little whether you ever see it again however much you might like to be some spite detestable Home is doubtless sweeter to you than ever it was that absence

Mrs Charlotte A. Clark
Care Barnum Hotel
Michigan
Chicago Illinois

OCT 30

10

from it has had made you appreciate its true worth.

I hope you will practise this winter as much as you expect to when I see you next. If it be the will of Providence that I ever shall, you will doubtless be quite a performer I too shall be better able to enjoy it with you. I think as far as that is concerned we could spend a much pleasanter Christmas than we did last. It would be delightful for me. But for your sake I could not wish it.

Lawrenceville March 6th 1836

Ever my dear Charlotte

I have had a few moments to spare, yet I am determined to commence a letter to you: when it will be finished I cannot tell, for my family cares seldom permit me to write long at one sitting. And how has my dearest friend been this long winter? this Wednesday morn methinks you must have fancied yourself once again in your loved home, if severity of weather could have effected the delusion. Why Lotty, in the whole course of my long life have I never experienced such unmitigated cold. Why really if my hearth had not been happened to be at the boiling point, I merely believe that it would have been just as the general congelation. I heard a traveller once say in jest, that it was so cold at St. Helena that the fire froze: now indeed I can assure you that our fire came pretty near it, for really although we had it in abundance, we could not keep warm. How fared it with you up the Avenue? I hope you managed to keep your hearts at least, above the freezing point; or if indeed it happened to get chilled a little, I trust this mild sunshine will thaw it; for I do not know what Rob would do, if he found you with an icy heart. But I guess if you stood the preceding winter at the Fort, that your soldier hearts, can brave the Boreal blasts — It seems a long, long time since I said a last adieu, to my Lotty, at Mrs. Upthorpe's; since I looked a long farewell to my sister Elect, as I retraced my steps, on the eve preceding my departure for home, to my sister's mansion. Little do I remember it,

I thought my dear girls felt, a little sorb-a-sorry to say good-bye to Sony, and she felt it quite a very bad to part from Lotty. Yet this is all that we must expect from a world like this; a vain, fleeting, transitory world, which gives to every smile, a tear; to every rose, a thorn; to every joy, a corresponding grief. We meet, but to dread the parting, we rejoice with fear lest some sorrow, should soon mingle in our cup; 'tis indeed most true, that "we borrow from delight the fleetest sorrow", that

"All that's sweet, must bitter prove
All we hold most dear, remove"

This is not mere sentiments my own dear Lotty. Oh! no, I have known too much grief, and seen too much sorrow to indulge in heartless sentiment; I have been so often chastened and taught not to speak from the heart, on this subject. And since the hour we parted, I have deeply felt, how unsubstantial is all earthly bliss; I have seen that it was a mere broken reed that cannot support, when groaning under the weight of affliction. It has no balm for a wounded spirit, for a heart mourning under the loss of ~~their~~ dearest friends, and were it not that "there is a balm in Gilead, and a great Physician there", we must indeed often sink under our sorrows. I thank you dearest for the consolation you offer in your letter received soon after the decease of my blessed and ~~the~~ blessed truths of our holy religion to which you directs my mind, are indeed effectual in drying the mourner's tears, and in making "his sorrows less"; and through the blessing of our Heavenly Father they have been the means of making me see the hand of a Friend in my afflictions, and of feeling that "the Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away". Your dry dear girls who have never known the bitterness of bereavement, cannot realize the desolation of the heart, when those upon whom you lean for support are taken from you forever. And God grant that you may never drink of this cup, as I have drank of it; may your dear parents long be continued to bless your growing years, and to brighten your pathway through a dark world. But I will not dwell on this painful subject longer; forgive that I have said so much on it, but you know "out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh".

I am glad to hear through Puck that school goes on so pleasantly, and that you both are hastening with unwearied steps "the hill of science". I hope you will not get tired and discouraged because it is so high you must not expect ever to reach the top, this is what no one ever made, yet you know dearest that the farther you ascend, the more you are to the summit; and you must not mind the stones that you sometimes find in your way, nor the thorns and briers that impede your progress. Hurry on without "Rash" nes! I am glad that the "stamp act" is taken off, your papers to Lawrence, and that the "embargo" is not so heavy as I fear'd for your brown St. visits. Drag Sap you made them a charming visit in your Christmas' vacation. Lotty, we all love you dearly, though you are a little Rash. When have you heard from my dear soldier boy? How many folio's have you received this winter? I guess his heart must have been a little skinned over with ice, for I have not heard often from him; I hope he will soon "break the ice", and let me have a word from him

Lordship. The French war will not I trust, interfere with his furlough. How are your dear parents & sisters? Has Doggy told you of my plans for the West? It seems determined that I am to go; and I have written to Rosh, to bring your Drama on by the way of Cincinnati, where I hope to see them. What say you about my joining you on your way home, and spending the winter with you in Winnebago? Oh! how I should love it, but it cannot be yet!

I should wish to have a note from you & Doggy when I write to Rosh, so that my heart may go, that side it is —

Lauenberg
Minden

Miss Charlotte O. Clarke
care of Dod. Upthorp
New Haven
Conn.

love to you about it. All are well with us: uncle B— has talked all winter of visiting N. Haven this month, but his engagements will prevent your getting a peep at him. I could have crammed this letter as full again, but I have so little, so very little time for letter-writing that I am glad to send even this scrawl. Give my love to my dear ones in Conn. & take a heart full for yourself from Lucy

Drawn [illegible] June 21st 1834.

My dearest Charlotte

I know you will excuse Horatio's sister for the liberty she takes in addressing one whom she has seen, but with whom she is well acquainted, and whom she must tender of loves. And indeed my dear girl, you cannot scold me, if you would do so, pray let me tell you what this good brother of mine said to me in the letter by your father; after speaking of your father and brother he writes, "you say you will write to Charlotte if I will permit you, I wish what could delight me more. It will be very gratifying to Charlotte. Do write to her soon after she gets to "Haven". Now you perceive that I have authority from the highest source; and if our dear boy does not feel (and indeed I do not believe he knows how) Charlotte kindly will not, cannot be displeased with me. But if after all, you still think I am a little saucy, you must think of the motive and not of the action, and try to forget my impertinence before I come to you; for indeed I could not be an hour the first glance of your sweet eyes on me [illegible] a frown; ah! no indeed dearest it must be a kind smile.

Friday June 29th. I had fully wrote to my dear Charlotte about a week since but numerous engagements prevented the possibility of my finishing this letter before; you will therefore appreciate my good intentions while you pity the poor girls whose avocations are so numerous that she must necessary take a fortnight to write a few lines. Alas! for "Friends." But it is not always thus; I can generally fill a sheet with nonsense about as soon as any one; but when sickness and company and family employments occupy your time entirely, the pleasures of epistolary correspondence must be renounced. But we will soon I trust have an correspondence, and interviews which will not need the assistance of pen, ink and paper; soon I hope to see you face to face and to enjoy with you all the delights and joys of an intimate friendship. I am very much grieved to hear of my Sister's severe indisposition, sorry indeed for the sufferer herself; and sorry too dearest for your sake for it would have been such a gratification to her to have seen much of you, and that you should have esteemed her house your Eastern home. Would that I had been in N. Haven to have received and welcomed you, and would that I could be there with you now; but soon I trust my wishes will be realized, for as soon as necessary arrangements can be made I shall bid my Jersey friends adieu to take up my abode with you all in N. Haven. I received a letter from Mr. Gibbs yesterday, stating that Sister continued quite ill, and my anxiety is so great for her that I have scarcely composure sufficient to sit still. I feel as though I must fly to her. Tell my Sister Maggy if you please that she may expect me in the course of a fortnight, and that I know not exactly how I will be escorted (for you know it is quite impossible for a lady to travel alone) yet I expect to see my brother Thomas in a day or two who will make my arrangements, of which I will apprise her next week. I hope dearest that you will become well acquainted with [illegible] Maggy; she is a kind affectionate girl, you must love one another as sisters. What has become with your father? I have been anxiously looking for him ever since I heard of your arrival, I fear I am to be disappointed in seeing him; does he return immediately to Fort Winnebago? — Cannot you write one next week Charlotte? I know you have your time very much occupied, but could you but write a few lines, and tell me that you do not think Horatio's sister intrusive; and inform me how you like N. Haven, and Mrs. Apthorpe, and her school, and give me some intelligence respecting your father, and Horatio if possible. I would be exceedingly gratified if I could write to Margaret next week, and she must write to me without fail.

In haste. from your truly attached Louisa.

12½

Miss Charlotte C. Clark
care Mrs. Apthorp's Seminary
New Haven
Connecticut

Dayton Oct.r 7th 1855

My dearest Charlotte

What will you say to me, when next I meet you, for my treatment of you all - so negligent, so false to my promises? promises made with the utmost sincerity my dear girls, but which I now feel, that I cannot defer fulfilling them until next spring. Our dear Horatio I fear feels a little hurt at Sowy, although he is very kind, and wishes me to act according to the dictates of my own judgment; yet I cannot but fear that he is not exactly pleased with my arrangements - Indeed my dear sis. it has been a very great disappointment to me, and I hardly know how to satisfy myself under it, yet my Eastern friends have all urged me so much to defer my visit until spring, and my western friends have so strenuously insisted upon my remaining the winter here, that I have at last yielded to their importunities, and have thought it best, in my delicate state of health, not to try so rigorous a climate. But indeed my precious Charlotte, you shall, if nothing prevents see me in the Spring, especially if you will send some one after me, and then when you are married to my darling brother, and when I can claim you as my own sweet sis, how happy will we all be - Now remember, and save me a snug little room in your quarters, for I shall certainly depend upon it, and am not to be cheated out of it, a second time I assure you. Horatio does not believe me serious now, since I have disappointed him, yet if I can find a gallant, I will certainly prove myself a lady of veracity. I feel particularly grieved, with regard to my present plans, that I shall not meet your dear mother, of whom I have heard much, very much in her praise, and with

whom I am extremely anxious to be personally acquainted. Remember me to her, with sincere affection, and thank her for me, for all her kind interest in me - Kiss dear Elly for me, and Mary & Martha also - Do let me hear from you at St. Louis; I will not promise, but do gratify your sincerely attached Louisa -

In great haste -

Miss Charlotte D. Clark

Cincinnati.

By Horatio.

S. B. Thos. Jefferson

Lake Erie June 23d 1835

My own loved one

This letter, dearest, I am writing to put in the Post Office at Buffalo to-morrow. Of course you will not expect a long letter, now a very interesting one from a steamboat at the wharf, amidst the bustle and noise of the incessant jarring of the engine, I endeavor to write at all events. We left Warrenville on the 25th of May and arrived safely at Chicago the 31st. On the 12th of June we took passage on the Steamboat Jefferson and went to Chicago, where we remained a few days, saw Mary Green's family, that is, the Major & Gwynne Sheam. The latter is a very fine young lady, but my dear acquaintance with her did not just tify my former opinion. I can say that much, my love, I have not seen any Charlotte since ~~they~~ my Charlotte left Warrenville. I have seen a goodly number of young ladies since we left Warrenville. Your mother (Oh that I dare call her our mother, as I hope to do before long) paid me a high compliment while we were at the Bay, but I cannot tell it to you now. Charlotte dear, I love be

at my own rather — It is time now to
tell you when you may expect to see us, if
it pleases God that we shall have a prosperous
journey. — To-morrow (Wednesday the 24th) we
expect to leave Buffalo. On the 29th we may
reach West Point, on the Hudson, New York.
We must stay to attend to some business for
your father, and get some clothing for our
selves, which will detain us for a few
days. So you may look for us on the
5th or 6th of July. We did
not that we should spend your
birth day with you, but it is now impossible; we
do not centre the winds, nor the steam
boats. God grant that we may meet
you in health. — After spending a few
days in New Haven, it is my intention to
go to Cincinnati on horse back from Jersey
for my health and to see my friends. I
think my health has improved since we left
Milwaukee. And I believe we have not had
a fit of the blues since we left Green Bay.
We saw Mrs Nelson in Chicago, and
she told your mother some things she heard
from Mrs. Sp[illegible] that pleased us not a
little. You shall hear all about it when
we see you. — I frequently find myself
thinking of my Charlotte, whether she has grown
taller or changed in her personal appearance,

But I always think & feel that to day
is and ever will be the time to do whatever
is to be done or not. — I feel decided
that I will not leave home for Philadelphia
see much of my friends, nor to the
any long talks with you before I return
from Cincinnati next September. —
Your mother ~~at~~ does not intend to
spend many days with you till after
your fall examination. — [illegible]
been waiting up for them to return
to Warsaw yet with you? So I think
it probable that [illegible] Covering
will accompany us. My sister [illegible]
[illegible] Spend a year or two with them.
Leave Buffalo (Monday 5 o'clock)
The boat will land us
[illegible] and we will proceed directly
for Albany. Farewell [illegible]
Charlotte.
Ever your [illegible]

BUFFALO
MAR 4
N.Y.

Miss [illegible] Clark
care of Mrs. Upthorp
Arcade House
[illegible]

Fort Leavenworth June 12th 18

Dear Major

All well and in high spirits. Expect to leave about 4 o'clock this afternoon in the F. B. Jefferson. Mrs Clark sends her kind regards to the little ones. — Beauregard is here, and intends to leave for St Louis via Winnebago, in about three days. — Mrs Clark spoke of talking to Mrs Cotta, I advised her not to do it, — I hope I did not do wrong or I acted as I have done towards my own mother. The Colonel has writ

ten and given you all the news at
the Court.

Much love to the little ones
and believe me to be your loving
much affection

C. J. P. Van Cleve

Please tell Collinsworth that I
got of Rees this morning the hundred
dollars in his name.

Dear Mary Christian

I hope you are well
and have not forgotten your Ruby. I
know you remember me. You may expect
next to see some letter girls, as I
hope about the tenth of next month.

Ma sends you much love
and hopes you are good girls.
Ellen often talks of you.
Pretty little Ella
she always was. You may
expect to see your Ma & me in
two or four months.

Your affectionate F.
C. J. P. Van Cleve

Mrs J. A. Black
Care of Winnebago

Flat Rock Oct. 16. 18[illegible]

My dear Mother

[illegible] left week taking [illegible]
for [illegible] the trouble
on her way here, [illegible]
could write [illegible]
permitted [illegible] Mr. [illegible]
Paid [illegible]
R [illegible]
might conclude [illegible]
letter that some part of the
on the. They are now on
their way and if so, I do guess
They [illegible] am in a con-
[illegible]
desirable [illegible] [illegible]
and [illegible] see them.

[illegible] never [illegible] that I have
[illegible] pale. but it is now over — I
[illegible] the work. I do [illegible] my [illegible]
[illegible] I have never enjoyed my health so
[illegible] excellent. I [illegible] that [illegible]
[illegible] of [illegible] letter. [illegible]
[illegible] I can write [illegible] immediately on
the receipt of my letter
I am much [illegible]
[illegible]

Brownstown
Lucas Co Ohio

Paid 1 R

Mrs C A Clark
Cincinnati
Ohio

Lancaster Aug. 1st 1855

I am very happy to-day and in very good spirits. How could I be otherwise, after having read over and over the sweet little letter of last eve. This morning brought my house one read after leaving me a kiss in the bargain. I shall give me in return my love. See it is "Christmas"! [illegible] Anna, my Charlotte dear of "woman's love" pleased and interested me deeply; truly while she spoke of her confidence in her absent one I felt almost jealous, by my side, and that I heard the sweet tones [illegible] confession to my ear and I felt [illegible] Charlotte dear think that we should [illegible] said thus by the grace of God [illegible] each other, in a few days, and [illegible]

I feared [illegible] seem to me I should be disappointed [illegible] to be, should this be accomplished. What you said of Mrs Reid was news to me. [illegible] head anything of it before. [illegible] anything of the kind and hence [illegible]. It gratified me to hear that Mrs Reid [illegible] any expression this fall. It relieves somewhat of the anxiety I have felt on account of my Charlotte's health for now you will not be obliged to study so much. I [illegible] I feel assured that you will [illegible] suffer [illegible] reading may aggravate it. [illegible] Gray concluded your letter by saying that you felt better than you have before since [illegible] Mr. H. May God grant it. [illegible] that this may be merely a [illegible] yet should it [illegible] that it would be my happiness. But why do I speak so much in this [illegible] perhaps I think of it [illegible] [illegible] return to [illegible] [illegible] I shall [illegible] [illegible] health [illegible] [illegible] Monday [illegible] Wednesday [illegible] the 5th. When we meet, as before, I hope to learn that your female [illegible] walk accompany [illegible] Louisa [illegible]

Oh, she has given me permission, she should always be
welcome here. — Give my [illegible] to Aunt Sarah
— When you see your sister Nell. Poem they are
[illegible] for Ellen by me. Tell Ellen that she must not
forget those verses she promised to write for me. If
she should to forget them, then I shall be very much
disappointed. And you, Ellen dear, must not
forget to copy those verses for me, of which you were
speaking at Green's farm. Do you hear from Mac
Clan frequently? Does he write in good spirits, or does
he feel the [illegible] of the society of dear friends (particularly
the one to whom allusion is here). Be [illegible] your dear Father
& Green [illegible] I am very anxious to see you all,
and [illegible] the news of your mother. Dear [illegible]

POSTAGE 5 CENTS

Ellen is thought of a great deal. I hope she will be [illegible]
and happy [illegible] the [illegible] of your [illegible] May the blessings of God
rest upon you all. [illegible] I expect
to leave here on the 5th [illegible] to the sea shore
for about three weeks. [illegible] 16th [illegible]
[illegible] Oct. or Nov. [illegible] next month. I shall have much to write
you soon. But I fear it will be useless. I shall
be obliged to go to Washington City and to stop at Chicago
please stop [illegible] on my return. Do recollect me
kindly [illegible] stopping to do so, [illegible] when we are in Oct.
Write to me at Dayton and direct to the care of H. S. Pickett
Esq. If you are able to write on Wednesday the 8th
the letter will reach me about the 22d. I hope you will
be able to tell me that your health is improving, that you
are much better. — I do not wish to be [illegible] tell the

The Rest of the Manuscript

[illegible] my stay
in that city, I was walking through
the streets [illegible] by the sight
of a great multitude of people. Inquiring the
cause I was told that a high-way robber was
about to be executed. I had no desire to
witness this act of justice but accidentally
learning his name imagine my surprise. It was
the name of Oliver —— the nephew of my
deceased partner. I walked through the
streets not knowing whether I were
until I reached my lodgings. I then gave
myself up to self reproach. How did I
upbraid myself for not seeking him out
when his uncle first died and giving
him property or at least a share of it.
I might even on the deathbed of his
uncle interceded for himself and his
sister and thus have saved a young
man from a life and eternal punish-
ment. He committed this act of wicked-
ness from necessity. Oh what would I
have given at that moment to have been
what I was when my poor master made me
what I am and have I restored that Oliver
and his sister were in possession of this ha-
ted property. While I was thus torturing
myself with the upbraidings of a guilty
conscience a letter was brought me from my

[illegible]
Chester
[illegible]
Oct 11th 1834
[illegible]

Mr. [illegible]
Merchant
Port of Annwell

[illegible] one of our children was dying with a fever and that the other one showed incipient symptoms of the same disease. I came from London and happily found a vessel just ready to set sail. I immediately embarked in her after being tossed about by the waves for a great length of time I at last arrived at this place. It was late in the evening when I arrived and dismounting from my horse I walked towards the house. One part of the house was unusually lighted and I noticed a great many persons running to and fro. I passed admittance and was shown into a room. In a few moments another door opened abruptly and I entered — I saw my wife in her coffin" — Here Adams ceased speaking for some time and I could perceive that a violent struggle was going on within him. At length he resumed his mournful story — "I was deep [illegible] in my coffin [illegible] Alexander had bound me to earth [illegible] looked back upon my past life I saw that too much of my time had been taken up with them and that I had thought too little of my Creator. I tried to alter my life and I might yet have been happy had not the image of the wronged Oline always been present before me. I endeavoured to ease my conscience of at least part of its terrible load by finding out his sister, but in vain I searched in every part of the world where I thought it possible she could be but I was unsuccessful. I returned home unhappier if possible than before. Since that time I have lingered thus for in all the agony that a mortal can suffer. I would now hail death as my dearest friend and will rejoice when he comes to set me free and unite me again with my beloved ones above." — Mr. O ceased speaking for a few moments and then said. "My dear children I this morning received the intelligence of my friend's death but dearest wish is now granted. May this story prove a good lesson to you. You here see how one single act ~~[illegible]~~ the dictates of conscience may embitter a whole life. None but a mother generous would have allowed this to keep so heavily on her conscience. [illegible] distributed at least part of his property among his partner's relatives he would have saved himself so many bitter years of misery and woe and would have lived happily and peacefully in the possession of even half his fortune. —

Charlotte Wisconsin
N. Haven
Conn.

On the duty of Submission

Submission is the duty ~~of all~~ of persons of all ages and in all situations. Childhood, youth, manhood, old age all feel this duty in some degree. In our earliest childhood when we first begin to use our powers of reasoning we often practise or feel that we ought to practise this duty towards our parents and this feeling grows stronger and stronger as we become older. Not that it is always confined to our own friends but when we arrive at manhood and consider our behaviour towards our fellow men we ~~feel~~ acknowledge this duty towards the rulers of our nation so as we rise higher and higher until perhaps at last we find ourselves at the highest summit of human power, still we feel it (not always acknowledged) (are necessary to submit to our Maker.)

It is a law of Nature that some thing must be given for every thing acquired. The Spartans thought submission so necessary a duty that they required an obedience to singular laws which had no utility in themselves but were merely instituted in order to form the habit of submission and we see from the instance of the nation above alluded to how necessary it is to form this habit. Where this duty is not required nor practised families are made miserable and whole nations are enslaved in turn. Take for example our own country which but a year or

Oct. 13th 1834.

New Haven

Conn.

two years came well nigh being involved in a civil war for the want of submission. Nor is ours the only nation which could be given as an example to prove that submission is an important habit to be formed. Many have suffered and some still more deeply than ours from the want of this habit. It is necessary to form the habit early because it is to be practiced through life and it is very difficult to make any change in habits. In this will of obedience we should be [illegible]

Charlotte Wisconsin Clark
Rev. Haven
Conn.

On Diversions

Diversions are only intended to rest or invigorate us after labour and make us fit for new exertions. This is plainly shewn by the significations of the words ~~is~~ amusement relaxation etc. Into a fault also which some people seem to have that amusement should be the chief business of life — that it is the sole object of their business in this world. As soon as a person devotes his whole time to diversion it ceases to be so — [illegible] the happiest effects which might result from it are destroyed. Take for example a child who has never done anything but divert himself during his life he never finds that pleasure in or derives that satisfaction from amusement which is experienced by a child educated differently. In fact as he has always made it his business he does not know how to know its object and his ignorance on this head may be very easily accounted for. Its first intention is turned into a very different use and it is ~~not used as~~ no longer something to rest him from labour but as the very labour itself from which he requires something to rest him. Another example of a somewhat different nature. Suppose a person ~~who~~ to be possessed of a fortune so large as to obviate the necessity of his having any regular business. His time is spent in diversions and at length so frequently are they used that they become as ~~[illegible]~~ it was hard to have gone his business. His having indulged himself so long in mere amusement has unfitted them for the necessi

ing duties of life and in this manner the salutary ~~influence~~ effect it would have had upon him if properly used is lost. he is [illegible] it and becomes a prey to that disease of the mind called ennui. In order to be happy he must [illegible] as the poor must be employed for neither the mind nor the body would be in a good state of health otherwise and surely as soon as ~~the~~ work is lost the capacity to enjoy it is also lost. [illegible] for your own interest if no other good were to be the result that we partake of all diversions moderately. And this is not all, we must not remain idle but must have something to occupy our time and this being the case we shall go to our labour with industry and interest and to our diversions with pleasure.

7

Charlotte Cairconsin Clark
New Haven
Conn.

Composition

July 23d 1834

N. Haven

(Conn)

Chap. 6

Variation

Damon and Pythias were two intimate friends. The former being condemned to death by Dyonisius the tyrant of Syracuse, begged permission to visit his family, in order to bid farewell to his friends and to settle his affairs before his death. Dyonisius was a man of very confined ideas, and did not suppose that there was enough honesty in human nature, to enable a man to keep his word in such a case as this. It was refused, but Pythias immediately offered himself as a pledge for his friend, promising that if he did not return he would take his place. With this the tyrant was satisfied, and accordingly Damon took leave of his friend, promising to return at the appointed time. Every one was in expectation of what would be the event, and every one blamed Pythias for acting so rashly. But he seemed very cheerful and unconcerned. When Dyonisius heard this, his curiosity was excited and he visited his prisoner. He commenced by saying to him that he thought it very rash, in him to endanger his life in such a manner, for said he "he will never return and your life will be the forfeit." Pythias grew indignant at the mere suspicion of his friend's integrity and rising up he said "you do not know my friend if you suppose he could

be guilty of such baseness. Grant O! gods that he may be prevented from returning suffer me not to die a thousand deaths in the death of my friend. Willingly will I sacrifice this wretched life to save that of one so dear to his country, his beloved wife and his precious little innocents. Dionysius was struck with the noble of disinterestedness for he had hitherto disposed that self was the only motive to all human actions and he returned to his palace with his heart highly touched with this very remarkable instance of friendship.

The day of execution arrived and Damon had not returned. Pythias was led forth to be executed. Dionysius was seated in a chariot drawn by six milk white horses. Pythias stepped gaily on the scaffold and when he had looked a while on the arrangements which had been made for his execution he turned towards the crowd and cried out in a firm voice "The gods be praised the winds are propitious, Damon my friend could not work miracles, he is now safe from harm and I rejoice that I am to die in his stead. Executioner do your office."

The multitude was struck with astonishment at these words. In a few moments a noise was heard in the crowd and in another moment Pythias was in the arms of his Damon. The former exhausted, pale, and motionless could only exclaim in broken sentences "Cruel hasten fatal impatience". Dionysius no longer able to contain himself descended from his chariot ascended the scaffold and pronounced the words "Damon saying never was friendship put to so severe a test; live ye happy pair and make me worthy of your friendship."

Charlotte Buscombe
W. Town
Conn.

To

Lt. A. P. Van Cleve

Present

Tuesday 27 1864.

I promised yesterday, dear Natalie to leave a few words of consolation for you, and although I have time to write but a very little, feel confident that that little will be acceptable as coming from

Your Charlotte.

When you left I could not refrain from shedding a few tears, but ask Ma if I was not a very good girl. I was pleased to find that Lt. Johnston rode out with you, fearing that you might be taken with a fit of the blues if left to yourself. Spent last evening in writing a journal according to my promise.

You will find on the Piano, some of my music as well as all of yours. and I shall expect you to use all

that you want without asking any questions. You will find your flute rolled up on the piano, which I did to keep the dust out, supposing that you would not use it for as much as a week. The books which you took from the library are also on the piano, and you can take them home as soon as you wish. I have one or two requests to make of you and then I have done. First, you are to keep up your spirits, as well for your sake as mine. Second you must come to see me very often to see Ma; and third you are to lose the present, in anticipation of the future. These, I shall expect you to grant me, and I shall inquire into your conduct when I see you again, so behave well.

Remember that we shall see each other very soon, and also that our Heavenly Father can watch over and protect us as well when we are separated, as at other times.

To Him then let us look in all our sorrows, and that He may defend us from all dangers until we meet again, is the earnest prayer of your own

Charlotte.

Keep up your spirits dearest.

C.