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Collection: Stephen R. Riggs and Family Papers.

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Beloit, Wisconsin

Monday Oct. 21. 1892.

My Dear Daughter Martha,

Cousin Ella Cooley
is here. She came in yesterday morning when
we were at breakfast. At New York Pres.
Chapin stepped out of the car to get a
newspaper, and he was left. His family and
Ella came on to Newark where they got
off and waited for him. This threw them
back a whole twelve hours, and they only
reached Chicago to come up on the nine o'clock
train Saturday night. They went to a hotel
and staid until morning.

My plan is to take Ella up to Madison
or to Milton Junction and place her on the
train where she will go to Saint Paul
without change. I hope she will reach
the Agency safely Friday night.

I wrote Mr. Morris last week after
we returned from Chicago. Your box sent
from there I hope will reach Morris in due

Time. Our boxes that I took over to the Agency do not come yet. I have been somewhat apprehensive that Mr. Turkey left them in the warehouse - or that by some means they have not been sent from Louis. I have written to Mr. Wolff about them.

We have no carpets down yet, but otherwise, we are getting things fixed a little comfortable. Last week we had an Irish woman to clean house - and she charged \$1.25 for the day. The house has not been abundantly - but a good many panes of glass in the windows are broken. The trees in the yard have grown so that they seem too thick. I shall cut down some of them. The apple trees also have so covered the ground that there is not much chance left for a garden. The fruit that grew this year was all taken by Mr. Foster except about a peck or one tree. But apples are abundant in the country and worth from 50 cents

to a dollar a bushel. Cranberries are high - 15 cts a quart. The other day I bought 18 bushels of potatoes at 52 cents a bushel. They are very fair potatoes but not quite equal to yours.

Mrs. Bushnell and the girls have just returned from the east a few days ago. She called in at Mrs. Carr's Saturday night. She is quite well and sends regards to you.

I do hope that Ella Cooley will be a help and a comfort to you this winter. Her brother Edmund and wife and two children have gone west to join Thomas. Ella says that Mrs. Edmund Cooley expects to stop in Sioux City and spend the winter. If so she will find it expensive, as his \$40 a month will not keep her and the children. I am a little bit afraid that they may not be the kind of persons Thomas needs. Still I shall hope they will do well.

How does the baby Alfred do?
Well I hope. And Harry I suppose
is delighted with the little wago - to
haul his brother in. By the way -
did the baby carriage get up all right?

I sent by Ella a little parcel of
marriage certificates to Daniel Remick.
Also Beecher's Lectures to Mr. La Grange,
which when read he is to send over to
you.

Very kind regards to all friends.
May God bless you all.

Yours lovingly

L. R. Riggs.

P.S. I tried this afternoon to find a
syringe - but failed. They had one at
Grogan's but I went and consulted Dr. John-
son, who told me it would be of little or
no service to you. So I thought it would
be quite as well for Dr. Hawes to send to St.
Paul. By the way, I heard such a terrible
story of a woman's dying a drunkard from her
pursuptions, made by a physician, that I wanted to
say, "Don't drink that beer".

Beloit, Wisconsin
Nov. 11. 1872.

My Dear Daughter Martha

I am going
to write to my six absent children
to night on a business matter. Having
written to Alfred and Isabelle, you
come next. You are desired to
write immediately to "Mr. E. May-
nard, Shelburne Falls, Mass," and
tell him where and how to send
to you \$58.56, the sum due you
from the estate of your uncle Joseph
Longley. I would ask him to send
it in a Lft. on a New York Bank.

This ends the first chapter of this
letter. Your affectionate father.

L. R. Riggs.

Tuesday morn Nov. 12.

After I had written the
six letters last night I found I was
too weary to fill them up. Last Saturday

Robbie and I commenced putting down
a plank side walk along our lots.
It is something of a job and requires
a good deal of sawing. This we have
on hands and can't finish it before
tomorrow. Mr. Duckwell offered to
give the boys the laying of his part.
But Eli does not care about working.
Robbie thinks it is more of a job
than he cares about undertaking. The
materials for my part will cost me about
\$26. Yesterday I bought two Dls.
of Apples at \$3.50 each. We have
up to this time used three or four
dollars worth of apples. The perfect
green apple sauce to dried fruit, and
it is more economical. Eli and Sammy
are such hearty eaters and we all drink
coffee and tea except Cornille (Robbie
does not drink tea) that I find this
far our board is costing us over
\$2.25 a week. Perhaps it will not
cost so much now after we have got

well started. Yesterday a good
deal of consternation appeared in
the countenances of men on the street
owing to the great fire in Boston. It
is said to be one third as destructive
as the Chicago fire a year ago. There are
men and women here who are peculiarly
interested in it.

The weather continues fine. This
afternoon there is to be Ministers meet-
ing at Mr. Highys.

A letter has come from Kalgan
to Paddy's Run purporting to be sent
by Stephen Riggs Williams to his cousin
Mark. It is quite cute. I have asked
Cornille to copy it for Harry and
Graddie etc. Perhaps she will get it
done to night.

In some of my letters I think
I mentioned that the Dakota Paper is
delayed by a misunderstanding in New
York. They sent only the Picture plates.

1892

Night - Some of the stops in the organ were out of fix. To day a man came to fix it as changed the modest sum of \$1.50 for an hours work.

They should have sent the whole two pages - English ready and all. If the first No. gets to go by Christmas it will do pretty well.

I hope Daniel has taken hold of his Pastoral work again. I shall be sorry if he gives way to Dakota custom so far as to neglect his duties for any length of time.

Much love to you all, from
Your aff. father,
S. R. Riggs.

P.S. again. Wednesday morn. It has been snowing this mornig, and is yet raining and so dark in our living room that I can hardly see to write. As Cornelius did not get Stephen Williams' letters copied last night, I have just done it hurriedly this mornig. Perhaps you will send it to Fieddie Riggs.

Beloit, Wisconsin,
Nov. 16. 1892

S. R. Riggs.

My Dear Daughter Martha,

Saturday night

has come. We have just been reading
yours of last Saturday night, with a number
from Dakota friends. As I sent one
off to you only yesterday I commence
this for the purpose of jotting down
some things, rather than with the in-
tention of sending it immediately.

In regard to the stove for the
Boarding Hall, my plan would have
been to have bought one and not to
have received one from the Agency.
As it is now I would keep it through
the winter and be very careful to take
it back when spring comes. I should
not want to put Mr. Adams in a
place of difficulty.

Your matters of business I will

5423 We are all quite well. The shouts little to have you, but we
work at Thanksgiving. Ad ever your father,

attend to early next week.

They show St. Paul 4ft
so much here that I may find it
best not to use the one you enclosed.
If I do not use it I will return
it or destroy it and wait for the
amount until the first of the year.
The thought comes to me however that
it will be more current in Chicago
than here.

I hope your Chicago things
will get along all right soon. My last
to you was in reference to your share
of your uncle J's estate. I have been
obliged to take out letters of Guardian-
ship for Robbie and Corliss to be able
to receive this share. To day
I succeeded in making arrangements
to have Eli Abraham take lessons on
the Piano at \$12 a term of 24
^{lessons}
~~days~~. He plays some times by ear
but he's now being taught regularly.

We shall be looking for Thomas
here in a week or two, with his
Morden youth.

Monday noon Nov. 18. It really seems
as if winter had set in, in good earnest.
The water was frozen this morning
in our kitchen, and in the cistern pump.

I have this forenoon mailed a
letter to Mr. Ward in regard to
Scribner and the Sunday Magazine.
When my other letter reached him he
was very busy, I suppose, preparing
for the meeting of the Board. He said
in a note to me that he would in-
form me of the price of the magazines
at some future time. Quite likely
he had forgotten the whole thing.

I trust it will be now made right.

Also I wrote this morning to Dr.
Patton of the Advance and asked him
to send the Paper and book and machine
to Mr. Morris. The machine will

perhaps only go to Morris by
Express. Mr. Morris can have the
Stages driver take it over unless
there should be some other way of
sending for it. As you have
been using postage stamps for me
I inclose some to reimburse you.

Tuesday morn. Nov 19. Yesterday
afternoon we had a very pleasant
call from Mrs. Carr. Mr. Carr
is still at work in Chicago.

We have already had quite a little
experience with cats. The mill was
very bad. So they invited in a cat.
She was a good mouser, and killed
and ate. In a couple of days she
became sick lying by the stove.
In another day she died. Yesterday
Dotty Bushnell brought in a half
grown white and black kitten. This
morn'g she caught a mouse in the
pantry. I hope she won't die too.

all here most
Adverse your father,
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place
S. R. Riggs.

5423
Morning after Thanksgiving - Cold - fire in coal stove out - hard
to kindle. Annie thinks if she had not given thanks for her
dinner yesterday she would not be thankful for it. She was
very sick last night & thought it all up - thinks she won't
eat a well.

Deloit, Wisconsin.
Monday night Nov. 25, 1872
Martha,
This evening I
have received from New York a
supply of your mother's beautiful
pictures, and have put up one for you
when the next letter goes. This after-
noon Annie and I went down and called
on Mr. and Mrs. Clary. We had a nice
talk. Mr. Clary told about his father
living until he was over ninety years
old, and forgetting almost every thing.
Some one asked him if he could
repeat the Lord's Prayer. He said,
"No, I cannot repeat it, but I can
swim in it." To day we commenced
to try two meals a day. When I told
Sammy and Eli that we would not have
dinner until two o'clock, they looked
as though they thought they would starve
to death in about two minutes.

It does not work well for Cornille.

But for the rest of us I think it will do quite well. Robbie may demur as he sits up later than the other boys.

Tuesday night Nov. 26. It is after nine o'clock, and the wind is rising outside. But I am waiting for Cornille to come home from a party at Mr. Wrights. The Bushnell girls are gone too. I wanted Cornille to be sure and come home by nine o'clock. But she never had much independence nor much idea of time. It is better to sit up until she comes than to go to bed and lie awake, as I should be sure to do. Then I hear voices. Cornille has come at a half past nine.

Wednesday morn. 27. It is cold this morning and we were rather late. It was quite as much as we could do to have breakfast and let Robbie go to prayers at half past seven. I have the alarm set at half past

five, but it is generally nearly six when Sammy and I get up. I have to call him sometimes more than once. For a while I went back to bed and let him make both fires, but he came pretty near spoiling the coal stove by shaking it. So that now I attend to that and let him make the fire in the kitchen.

We have had a cruel experience in cats - one second one died last night. They have both seemed to take Lung fever. I think it was from lying about the stove too much. We shall hardly dare try another.

Sannie thanks you very much for the Whatnot. She says it is full and looks very well.

Thursday Nov. 28 - 2 1/2 o'clock.

Our Thanksgiving dinner is just over. No one but ourselves here. Sannie

S. R. Riggs Nov. 1872

and Cornille staid at home - the rest of us went to Church over the river. In the 2^d Cong. Ch. all the churches of the place united, except the Episcopal. Mr. Higley preached on Obedience to God's Law the guaranty of National Prosperity. We have kindled a fire in our parlor for the first time. We have looked a little for Thomas to be here by to day, but he cometh not yet.

Evening. We are having winter here - only a little snow however. Yesterday they report the thermomets at -3° . To day is not quite so cold. You probably have a considerable amount of snow and colder weather than we have. This evening Robbie got his or Henry's Croquet Board and he and Cornille played until they got out of humor. Then Annie played with Cornille and put her to rights again. For evening we have had popped corn balls and cookies and apples passed around.

Morning after Thanksgiving - Cold - fire in coal stove out - hard
 to kindle. Annie thinks if she had not given thanks for her
 dinner yesterday she would not be thankful
 for it. She was very sick last
 night & threw it all up -
 thinks she won't want any thing
 to eat well.
 I have received from Mrs York a
 supply of your mother's beautiful
 pictures, & have put up one for you
 when the next letter goes. This after-
 noon Annie & I went down & called
 on Mr. & Mrs. Clary. We had a nice
 talk. Mr. Clary told about his father's
 living until he was over ninety years
 old, & forgetting almost every thing.
 Some one asked him if he could
 forget the Lord's Prayer. He said,
 "No, I cannot forget it, but I can
 say it in it." So they were commu-
 nion to try two weeks a day. When I told
 Henry & Eli that we could not have
 dinner until two o'clock, they looked
 as though they thought they would stand
 to wait in about two minutes.

Detroit, Wisconsin.
 Monday night Nov. 25, 1892

5423 Saturday morn Dec 14. All well. I had not come. I will write again the first of the week.
aff. yours
S. N. Briggs

Beloit, Wisconsin.

Dec. 9. 1872.

My Dear Daughter Martha,

The mail from the Simonton Agency has come in this evening. It came before tea - But we had supper and worship, and since that we have read over your letters - also one from Mr. Adams, one from J. D. Kimball and one from Daniel, and one from David Tamahingahote. And now I will write a little to thee. First - I want to say that you need not send the book you spoke of. We have as much here as we shall read at present. You can read it this winter; and we can read it next summer if we live perhaps. - Second - Did I leave my Hebrew Bible? I supposed I had put it up, but did not find it. I have borrowed Mr. Nashnell's for the winter. Third - you say nothing of the boy from Chicago. Was it mine? I hope not.

Dr. Field has made me quite ashamed. I was quite willing to have paid a smaller bill. Now shall I let it go on to you or have the direction changed? That is - will you value the reading enough to pay the postage then and uncit it to us? I will await your answer to this.

The letter from Providence I suppose you mean I shall answer, do you not? At first I thought I would send it back to you to write to her. But I can take time to do it. I will say to her "Don't take every old thing any body gives you".

Mr. J. B. Minvill has just written to me to accommodate him with a check for \$30 to be sent to a man he is owing at Denver Falls.

I have no means to do this now - but I have written to him that I would ask Mr. Morris to do it, if it is possible. So if Mr. Morris has that

amount in Bank in St. Paul I shall be glad to have Mr. Minvill accommodated. If not, he must wait until January.

Mr. Minvill writes that he has got, since I left, five Dakota Birds but does not know the price - as he does not describe them so that I know what they were. Also he says he has had five Glyn books of the chequered binding. These I let the pastor have at five for a dollar - that is the cloth - the Roan should be at least 30 cts each.

Tuesday Dec. 10. I have put up - addressed to Mr. Morris - 21 Certificates of Marriage - blanks - They are 10 each for Solomon Tunkonsaigie & Louis Magawabingwan. I do not know exactly what they cost, but I have concluded to furnish them to the Pastor at 10 for \$1. or ten cents each.

Cornielle sends her picture to you.
I think it is pretty good. She
tried several times before she was
satisfied.

Tuesday eve. By this time I
expected to be able to answer your ques-
tion, Where is Henry? - for we have
been looking for Thomas all day -
but he did not come. In a letter that
Eli received from the Ponties we learn
that T. was there the middle of last
week - that he came down with his
Mendon youths as far as Yankton, where
the youths left him, and he had gone
back to Alfred's. They were to start
again on Friday. What further adventure
they have I will wait and chronicle.

Dec. 13. Friday morning. Thomas has
not come yet, and we hear nothing from
him. Yesterday we confidently expected
him. It is a bright pleasant morning.
The College term is coming to a close. They
have already commenced examinations.

5423

Saturday morn

Dec 14.

All well. Thomas

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I will write again

S. H. Rigg

Beloit, Wisconsin.

Wednesday Dec. 18. 1872

My Dear Daughter Martha,

I am here alone this afternoon. Cornille is at school. Annie has gone to the Ladies Missionary meeting at Mrs. Durben's, and Robbie and the boys are off down town. The College Term has closed. This morning Hob went to hear the standing read. He is 7.12. He says it is pretty good - that there are ten in the Parkman class below him, and six or seven above him. I told him I thought he would go up to 8., but he says there are only a few in the whole college that are above eight. Cornille's term ends tomorrow - no, Friday.

Your letters came Monday evening.

I have sent a very plain frank letter to cousin Ella. I hope she will take it kindly, as it was meant.

I think you should not be afraid to tell him what you would like to have him do. Give him the advantage of your advice and counsel. I do most sincerely hope that his stay there will be a good help to you and to him also. In regard to his board - that shall be made all right, if I have money enough to do it.

Cornille has sent to Harry an Artist's proof of one of his drawings, for a Christmas or New Year present. And Annie went down town yesterday and bought a nut for thee, which is here inclosed. We were all rejoiced to hear that your Chicago boy had arrived safely at last. I said that the scissors would be too high priced for you. They were too high for me. But our time was limited, or we could have done better in several things.

On Saturday last Mr. Pratt wrote that Thomas had taken dinner and

tea with him the day before and started for Bangor at 8 o'clock in the evening. I do not know what Alfred draws for Fred Hatch. My impression is that he asked only for help in the school. When Thomas comes, if I do not forget it, I will inquire about your mother's picture. I have just had a

letter from your uncle Joseph Riggs. He writes that Joseph Edmund was married to Miss Annie Fuller in October. And that Jo Dunlaph had returned from Europe with his purse 15 or 18 hundred lighter.

Wednesday night. This evening a letter came from Henry to Robbie - He is still at Fort Sully. That is about all the intelligence it brings us. There may be some excuse for his telling so little, as he supposed Thomas had been here.

Thursday Dec. 19. As Annie has just written you so long a

letter I need add no more -
only to say that I trust, you will
have a very pleasant time as the
old year goes out and the New Year
comes in.

Love to all friends,

Your aff. father,

S. R. Riggs.

Beloit, Wisconsin

Dec. 24. 1872

My Dear Daughter Martha,

This is a decidedly cold morning. Our ink is all frozen, and I fear will not be very good. The boy who brings us milk was in a little while ago, and reported the thermometer - 38° - the coldest it has been for eight years. I think he meant - 28° . Our cellar has frozen badly - potatoes like little rocks. I hope yours have not frozen so badly. We have only \$5. or \$6 worth of potatoes in the cellar. We have also a barrel of apples, which I have not yet examined. Just here Sammy returned from down town, where he had gone for yeast, and brought a letter from Thomas. It is dated Bangor

Maine on the 19th inst. He and
Aine are to be married the day
after Christmas. They will not be
here until the third week in January.

He says they did not expect to be
married now, but have concluded to
do so. That is funny.

Thomas says Henry stays at
Fort Lully until he returns.

Last evening a letter came from
Isabella. As a part is to you, which
I inclose, I need not send you the
other part. The only special addition-
al news is that Mr. Williams found
a scorpion under his pillow. He killed
it and sent it to his mother.

You will be glad to know that
there is a good prospect for your get-
ting the "Lapi Baye" soon. The proof
came up here Saturday evening and I
sent it back yesterday. I think
it will be started to you before New
Year.

I ordered 100 copies sent to
Mr. Morris. He will have the
whole country to supply except
the Kenville Settlement and the Agen-
cy. I think every body ought
to like it, and take it, and pay for it.

Mr. Williams has stated the cost
for the year at over \$600. I shall
greatly miss my gun if it does
not go to \$800.

Here we are the day before Christ-
mas. Some days ago Robbie spoke of
wanting to give Cornille a sled. He
wanted me to make it. But considering
that we had no place to work and no
tools to work with, I advised buying
one. So yesterday he and I went down
town and bought a sled for \$2.25.
of which I pay \$1. I should not
have encouraged such an investment
only that it was Robbie's proposition,
and I liked to have his brotherly feel-
ing grow.

The new Chapel or Lecture room
of the Cong. Church is to be opened
for the first time on next Sabbath
evening. Then a Sociable is to be
held on Tuesday evening. Then the
Sabbath School is to have a Supper,
on Wednesday (New Years). To this last
I was constrained to pay a dollar.

I believe our folks are intending
to have chicken pie for to morrow, in-
stead of Turkey.

Wednesday - Christmas - half
past one o'clock - waiting for the
chicken pie to get cooked. The cold
has much abated. Prof. Emmons said
his thermometer measured -31° - the
coldest he ever knew it in Beloit.

We are all quite well - and hope
you are also. Very kind regards to
cousin Ella and you all.

Aff. your father,
S. R. Riggs.

Beloit, Wis.
Saturday night
January 17. 1874.

My Dear Daughter Martha

It is eight o'clock Saturday night, but I feel like commencing a letter to thee. Mrs. Carr has been in for a little visit and has just left. She inquired what words we had from you all. She has not been very well this winter - took a cold and has not gone out much.

Mrs. Wheeler has also been a good deal unwell - I don't know but I wrote you that before. She has now gone up to Fond du Lac to a sister's. To day

I was making up the numbers - a set or two - of the Tappan Page for 1873. I do not find any of the April number.

We have all the rest. Could you send me by mail two or three copies of the April Tappan Page? I shall be quite obliged. I think that number failed

5429 If you have Martha Walker helping you - shall you not get time to write something for the 4th page of the Tappan Page?

to come from Chicago and I had to send
to John P. W. for a few copies. I am
looking for the proof of the February No.
up in a few days. This first Con.

Chamb. is now fairly committed to the
Free Seat system. They will get it
into operation in a week or so. Every
one seems to be glad in the prospect.

January 23. The Feb. Sap. page comes
up Monday (proof) and I sent it back
on Tuesday. So I think it will reach
you about the first of the month. We
have had a good large snow storm - yester-
day and last night - but it is bright and
beautiful this morning. I have been out
shoveling snow for roads, and got real tired.

We have just had a letter from Isabella
and Mr. Williams - date Oct. 30 - All well.

We have determined to send you a
little box. Your framed pictures go in.
The Chorus - the music book you wanted.

Some Candies and Raisins for Harry
and the rest - and a pair of socks for
Mr. Morris - also some good yeast cakes.
That is the amount of my contributions.
The other folks are getting some little
things. I think I shall send it by
express. The other day Robbie and
Bernille received each from Henry
a five. And Rob. had his bank
filled up by an oversawing from Mr.
Williams.

Evening. This afternoon Annie and I
were down town. She bought some stuff for
Harry - pants and waistcoats - some stockings
I believe - some soap - and the girls have
put in some collars. Also Annie puts in
a calico dress pattern for her sister Martha.
I had put in a large brown coat a good
deal worn that came from Mrs. Smith near
Hartford. But I have been obliged to take
it out and put in some old vests and a thin

and changed them for jets. And in
the afternoon I went down and bought
the blouse I had looked at - price \$6.
If it were a little heavier it would
be more suitable for this spring weather.
But it is very much like the one
I had last summer and which I have
worn all winter in the house. I have
placed the studs inside of the coat
and rolled it up. It weighs only
about 17 or 18 ounces I suppose and
I presume it will go by mail cheaper
than by express, and perhaps equally as
safely.

Before I forget it, I want to
ask you to write an article on your
boys, for the Tapi page. Put in some
photographs and make it crisp and
spicy.

I have received a letter from Mr.
P. W. Pond giving an account of his
baffled love, which I think you will
be interested in reading. It is a real
Romance. When you have read, send it back

5423
Annie is very
tender please be
on guardy. Mr. Shale here to give
busy three days preparing for the
Minister's meeting which
will be about 30.

My Dear Day

of the 25-1st Feb
morning Annie

We went to a
the clothing
but I did not
almost too e
except such

I can get a
I have been w
possibly not g
for \$6. I pres

wants be more
to come are \$
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I did not b
I would consid
But I am v
better send w

She will
write you
about she has
a little linen
Love to you
all from
J.P.R.R.

Beloit, Wisconsin.

March 24. 1874.

My Dear Daughter Martha,

I remember it

is five years ago to day since we buried your mother. Oh, if we could only get a telegram from her! But we must wait.

We have been interesting ourselves much in endeavoring to find a suitable person to send to your assistance. So far however without any success.

Annie has written twice to Miss Dunham of Cleveland Ohio. Yesterday she received a second letter, saying that she would be glad to go, but the home circumstances prevent. Here in Beloit we have looked all around and inquired of the ladies. There don't seem to be any suitable one that is available. I think a good teacher can be obtained. But even for that it may be necessary

to wait until July. But one, who can both teach and take charge of the household duties you speak of, is not easily found. Then there is another difficulty in the way of some - the expense of getting there. Last week I wrote down to Miss Anna P. Sill at Rockford Seminary. I have not heard from her yet; and will not send away this letter until I hear.

Annie and I have just been discussing her sister Dorothy Baker. If her health was reliable she would be a capital hand. She is an experienced teacher - and has probably now just about closed - or is closing her four months school. And then she would know how to take hold of darning and mending capitably. But there are very probably reasons why she would decline.

March 25. A couple of hours after I wrote the above we received a letter from Grenville which said that Dorothy

Baker is to be married in a month. So she is not available. To day it is cloudy and raining a little - and looks as though it might be storming somewhere. The girls school term closes this week, and Robbins ends next Wednesday.

Evening. This afternoon I received a letter from Isabelle. It was written the last of December. She sends two photographs of Paphos - one for Anna and one for Mrs. Dushnell. She wants to know if you take the "Illustrated Christian ^{Weekly} at Rock". If not she wishes me to send you it at her expense. Do you take it? Mr. Morris' letter came a week ago to day. I will arrange things according to his programme, and write him after I write to Mr. Ward, which will be in a few days.

I am very forgetful. Have I written to you since the ministers meeting here? I cannot tell. I wrote you on the 6th

of this month when I sent the sack-
age - blouse and studs. I hope you
have received them. At Ministers
meeting, two weeks ago last night, we
had 24 to tea. But we had a plenty
of provisions and a good deal left. The
only accident was missing off two legs
of Mrs. Bushnell's silver tea pot. Annie
felt very badly about it. It could not
be repaired here.

Saturday morn March 28. I have just written
to Mr. Morris. Annie paid \$4. for the studs.
I have paid her and charged it in his account.
You can arrange it with him.

As no letter has come from Miss Rice
I will not keep this, but write you again
when I hear from her. It occurs to me
to ask what shall we do if no one can
be found? Would Ella Woolley be
Hobson's choice? When she received
your letter they said she cried. But
now I think she would much prefer
to stay here to the end of the school year.

2d sheet:-

That she says will obtain for her the \$100 coming from her uncle J. G. Longley's will. It was to be paid her after she had spent two years at school.

The winter term of the High School closed yesterday. The girls both read. Not being very well I did not go over. They said the room was crowded with visitors. Robbie's term closes next Sunday.

Last night a mass Temperance meeting was held in Mr. Bachnell's church. The house was pretty well crowded. Mr. Breckenridge a Baptist minister from Joliet, Illinois made a speech of an hour and a half. They had band music. Breckenridge is a preacher who became a drunkard through the doctor's prescriptions, and is now reformed and preaching again. He is a little vain and egotistical. I could not tell such a story of shame - I should want every body to forget it.

I will send you again a bundle
of current slips. Try - try - try again.
Put them close together & protect them
from the drying winds. - that is put them
about 6 inches apart, so that each can
root separately. I am half sick
this morning - a bad cold - sore throat
etc. etc.

Otherwise we are all well I be-
lieve. May God bless you all.

Your aff. father,
S. R. Riggs.

Beloit, Wisconsin,
April 17. 1874.

My Dear Daughter, Martha

I inclose to you a letter
that I have received from Miss Skear.
What a funny name! She is said
to be a very good young woman -
and perfectly reliable - is a member of
the Presbyterian church. I have
written to her that I will advance to
her the money she needs for travelling
expenses. If she is to start from
where she is now (Geneseo Ill.) I have
said, that she had better come this
way, and start on the first Monday in
May. In that case I will go with her
as far as St Paul and see her started
from there. I hope she will be
as nearly what you want as it is
practicable to obtain. It is by no
means easy to find a professed
teacher who would suit you in other

aspects. But she may work in even in the teaching department. You will have to keep your place at the organ.

About buildings, I should say very decidedly that you can't, under any conditions, agree to keep the school there another winter, without additions. It was taken there simply for the emergency. I think we should all prefer not to have it kept there. But if there is no other place possible, then some temporary building must be put up.

But I do not care about writing to Mr. Adams about it. I prefer to wait and talk the matter over with him.

It is very dry and cold here yet.

The lilacs are beginning to bud a little but spring comes on very tardily. We are obliged to wait on your snow banks.

The Bensons have left Detroit this week. They have moved to Crawfordville

Indiana - which is central for Mr. B's bible work - as he is Bible agent for the State. Day before yesterday I went over to help the people, and got quite tuckered out.

We are all pretty well.

Love to you all, from your

Father,

P. R. Riggs.

Beloit, Wisconsin
April 28. 1874.

My Dear Daughter Martha

A letter has come to you from Isabella, which I inclose. And while I think of it, let me say that I have written to Dr. Wilson of New York to send the money which he has promised in aid of the Mayanar Church in eastern Upts to Mr. Morris. He wrote me that they should have the money as soon as they needed it. I have asked him to send a part of it as early as the middle of June; so that as soon as they are ready to haul from Morris, they may not be delayed for want of the money. So Mr. Morris may apprise them that the aid will be there as soon as they are ready for it.

The English page of the Sapi Page is in receipt of a plenty of contributions. Yesterday 2 articles come from Dr. William Low and one from Mr. Pond (S. W.) The latter is Poetry and would nearly fill two columns.

For review, I sent the Doctor's articles
to John to work in as soon as he can.
Your article, I wrote you, I will arrange
to have in the July paper. Isabelle
sends me a couple of scraps or very
short pieces.

Yesterday I received
a letter from your uncle Poage. In the
latter part of January he met with a sad
accident - slipped on ice and broke his
left hip bone. He was laid up for a long
time - and is now only able to go about
a little on crutches, with one leg shorter than
the other. He regrets most of all that
he had to give up preaching. Your aunt
Jane's health is very poor. Isabelle has
a daughter two months old - named Anne
Jane.

Yesterday I had a man
ploughing our garden. Before we got things
it had commenced to snow. This morning
a beautiful white mantle covered the earth.
But it is all gone now.

Yours lovingly,
L. R. Riggs.

Beloit, Wisconsin.

May 2. 1874.

My Dear Daughter Martha,

Your very
sombre letter came yesterday. I was in
a great strait to know whether I ought
to try to stop Miss Pikes or not.
I received a letter from Mr. Warner
saying that he thought Miss P. did
not understand my plan as they did -
as she had written to Anne that she
would be there on Tuesday next. Whereas
my plan was that she would start from
there for St Paul that morning. But if
she does not start until Wednesday
morning, she will reach Morris on Thurs-
day, as your place on this day week all
the same. After thinking it all over
I concluded it was not best to try
to stop her. Very possibly my letter,
which I sent to Mr. Warner to day,
will not reach you until Tuesday.

So I said only that you expressed
a doubt whether she would find it
as remuneration as you at first had
reason to suppose it would be. It is
quite likely that she has been to some
expense already in order to go. Then
I think, from Anna's account of her,
she will be willing to take hold of
whatever work offers. So I hope
it will come out all right in some
way.

Do not indulge in hard feelings
towards Mr. and Mrs. Adams. Look
on the sunny side of things as much
as possible. Mr. Adams has had
a very trying time there from the first.
The wonder to me is that he holds
out so well. I should have broken
down under it long ago.

For two or three days past I have
been suffering from Neuralgia. But
I feel better to day. This morning

I called Robbie up pretty early and
we set out a lot of strawberry plants.
About $\frac{2}{3}$ of those he set out
last year are winter killed. We planted
some potatoes the other day. But it
keeps very cold still. The last of
April was the only warm day we have
had.

May 4. Monday morning has come.
So I will close this letter and send it
off. I am getting ready to start to mor-
row. Did you know Charley Benson?
Yesterday it was announced that he got
hurt by the car - had his leg amputated
and died. That is all we heard by telegram.
He lived down in Kansas somewhere.

Last night at the Monthly Concert
I told our people about the Indians
as usual. My Bible Class yesterday
expressed a great deal of regret that
I was to leave them. I told them
that I had very much enjoyed the

Winter's Bible Studies.

Good be you all.

Your aff. father,

L. R. Riggs.

Lake Lake Minnesota

August 29. 1874.

My Dear Daughter Martha,

I hope by this time your eyes will enable you to read a short letter. According to appointment Mr. Ed. P. Wheeler met us in St Paul Sunday morning of this week. We came right along that day to Brainerd. There we staid over Wednesday. We found a stage had been put on the road between here and Brainerd, a distance of seventy miles. Thursday morning we started & reached here last night. The road is decidedly bad & all the way through heavy forests - pine - pine - pine. Oh if you had the pine trees that are blown down near the road they would build houses for all the Indians on the Sisseton agency. I got tired of seeing nothing but pines. No plants on the way. But we found some blue berries which were very nice. Of course the time of blue berries was past. But they were still hanging on the bushes - little low bushes.

We had a wet day yesterday, but our covered buck kept us pretty dry. Here we find friends who are to day fixing up a team to take us on to Red Lake on Monday.

This is a very large lake, but the agency is on a little bay. Mr. Wheeler has just been over to the trading post, which is on the Lake margin.

Most of the Indians are away gathering wild rice. The school is having vacation. Mr. Howe the teacher for the past year is a Methodist preacher. But they are going to leave in a month or so.

The mail goes out to Minnerald from here on Monday. So I simply write a note to say that ~~that~~ the Lord has helped us beyond our expectations. And the way seems quite open for our going on comfortably to Red Lake.

Wheeler is going to take hold of this work. He talks Opibwa easily, so far as I can judge.

Love to you all from your aff. father
S. R. Riggs.

Beloit, Wisconsin,
Oct. 5. 1874.

My Dear Daughter Martha

This is Monday
morning and it is raining quite lively. The
things you sent for to Cornille, she procured,
and I put them up in a paper color box
and took it to the post office. The postage
was only 2 cts. Do you know that book
postage is only half what it used to be?

Isabella has instructed me to send \$2
to each of her nephews and nieces. Of course
the late ones don't come into the count.

I will inclose \$2 for Harry. Tuesday
noon of last week I reached home. I
wrote immediately to Mr. Ward to send
Mr. Morris his salary for the 2 quarters com-
mencing with this month \$187.50 and \$100
for Good Will School. I arranged to
pay all the Native postons for this quarter
except the \$13- in Mr. Morris' hands for
Mr. J. D. Plenville.

I shall be glad to know how the
church building gets along from time to
time. Did Mr. Betts' letter reach my
reply of thanks - I want the \$100?

Mr. and Mrs. Adams both promised
me that Miss Shea should have a place
in the Boarding School for the winter.
- that is Mr. A. said he had no doubt
but she would be needed there. Before
he left home he said he did not know
but Mr. Smith might have some female
friends that he would want put in.
That was the reason why he had not
spoken positively about giving her
employment. I hope every thing will
go - pleasantly. You all know Mr.
and Mrs. Adams well enough not to worry
about this. Look on the good side.
That is better for our eyes than the
bad side.

Thursday last I went down to
Chicago and spent the night at Mr. Hutchinson's.

The next day I ran around the
city on my book business and got
awful tired. At six in the evening
I went to the depot and waited until
10 for a train. They will commence
the book very soon. 2000 copies
will cost about \$600 printed in
one color only. If they print in colors
as they say, it will cost \$150 more.

I have written to Mr. Adams for his
judgment in the matter. The October
Lepi Oage was to be printed off on
Saturday.

There are no apples
on our trees this year. But the crop
is said to be good in Ohio and Michigan.
We raised nothing in our garden but
some sweet potatoes which we have not
dug yet. I hope your Irish potatoes have
turned out well.

I met Mr.
Horter - Nina's father - in Chicago. They have
all come to spend the winter.

We are looking for Anne to come

and visit us.

You asked about our being transferred to the A. M. A. I hear that the National Council at New Haven have voted it. That is all. It takes more than one to make a bargain. It looks as though they meant to push it however. The A. M. A. will have to come up a good deal in the Indian work before we are ~~actually~~ willing to be transferred. I will try and attend the meeting of the A. M. A. at Clinton. The Green Bay agency I have got to visit - but I think I will put it off until November.

You have heard of Alfred's new baby? Robert was quite improved in vigor by his vacation on the Missouri.

We are all well.

Aff. your father,

S. H. Riggs.

Beloit, Wisconsin

Oct. 22. 1874

Wyllis & Martha

Your letters of the
the 19th have just come. They have
made rather a quick trip. We are
all real sorry for your home-loss.

You must be out of a team now. We
are also sorry that the eyes don't get
well.

It seems quite strange
that Mr. Ruwili (J. B.) should not
have understood that I have been
paying him only \$40 a quarter since
last January. Perhaps Mr. Morris
did not understand him. I meant
to have reduced him to \$30 a quarter
from January next. But under the cir-
cumstances that exist now I will con-
tinue the \$40. Do not say any thing
to them about it. I will have the
money sent to Mr. Morris for the
first quarter of the year. ~~But~~ my

advice to him is not to advance to any of them, if he can possibly help it.

I will attend to getting the missing Scribners, and they will be ready for binding when yours come down.

Evening. I am very glad to hear such a good report of the Mayanum Church. It seems to be along quite as far as I expected.

You will find inclosed a postal which I sent down to Mr. Hitchman. He has returned it with the prices of Teaspoons. They are about the same by the doz. that they sell a half dozen for here in Detroit.

I will look at tools - boys tools - when I go down town, and report.

Samie and I went up to Madison to the Convention of Wisconsin and spent four days coming home Monday.

We are having a nice visit from Anna and Marjorie. She is enjoying it well, and we are very glad to have them here. The Nov.

Lapi I have corrected and returned to Chicago. They ought to have it up to you by the first of the month this time.

I have had a few pages of proof of "Mayanum Lohakung". I sent down money to pay for your Advance for another year. But I am not informed whether it was received. If you find the receipt on the paper changed let me know.

This is prayer meeting night and the time has come to go. Good night.

Friday morning. J. P. W. writes me that they have another boy.

We have just had a pump put in over well. The water gave out - so I had a drive point put down and there is plenty of water now.

The pumps cost me \$40 - which is about \$10 less than they have been charging. Fred. Wheeler put it in. Fred's wife is very sick. She has typhoid and inflammatory rheumatism. Did Anne write you that Mr. Warren was elected clerk of court?

Mr. Adams has written me something about the investigation there. Did Dr. Hawes & the rest of the employees tell their story of grievances?

The other day I received a letter from Rev. Abner Barnard, who used to be a missionary among the Ojibwas. He gives a very sad account of his life. He now lives in Benzonia, Michigan.

Love to you all from
your father,

P. H. Riggs.

Beloit, Wisconsin

Nov. 9. 1874.

My Dear Daughter Martha,

The lamps are lighted. Margie is playing about here and there sometimes shaking my table. Anna is making us quite a good visit. She intends to go up to Janesville in a couple of days to visit Mr. Warmis folks. The weather here keeps delightful. Some days ago I inquired about boys' tools. None are kept here. But possibly I may find a small hammer - I will see if I can.

I have supplied the missing number of Scribner. A note from Gen. Howard says that the money I sent for the renewal of your Advance was received. It will cost you \$2.25 - as I will send him 20 cts for the postage. The Maud Scribner cost 35 cts.

The other day I received a letter from Dr. Hawes telling me of his dismission. I wrote him a letter of condolence. I am sorry that you will be without a physician.

I suppose about this time - or very soon -
you will be relieved of your boys, and
you will be enabled to adjust yourselves
to the old state of things. Will you
lay in some apples this fall? They are
quite low priced here - \$3 a barrel to day -
and the Michigan apples are very good.

I have bought three barrels - but I bought
them when they were \$3.50 a barrel.

How did Mr. Morris' potatoes turn out?
And have you heard any thing certainly
about the killing of the horns? It was
a very mean and wicked thing.

Nov. 11. Last night a letter came from Mr. Adams saying that the new order had obliged him to dispense with the services of a good share of the employees including all the teachers except those at the Boarding School. We talked over the matter at table and concluded to invite Miss Skee to come here and spend three months or so with us, if she would like it. We could only pay about \$10 a month. But the work will not be hard, for the most of the time certainly. If Miss Skee is still there you will please speak to her about it. If she has other and better plans let her follow them. Should she conclude to accept of this offer she can come right here without any further correspondence - at St. Paul she will come right along on the West Wisconsin road - same depot she comes in at - starting an hour or so

after she arrives at St. Paul - and
reaching her the next day at noon.
So if she leaves the Agency on Tuesday
she will reach here Thursday noon
without expense of a night in St. Paul.

Also I have been thinking
whether it may not be better for
us to employ Albert Lragine to
teach a Dakota School either at
Long Hollow or Mayatan for three
months - or perhaps four at \$25 per
month. Perhaps Mr. Adams could fur-
nish the ration - if not the people might
be willing to board him or contribute
thru'ts. I shall be satisfied ~~with~~ to
have Mr. Morris make some arrangement
of this kind. Perhaps he has some school
money or funds that could be so applied.
This is only to meet the exigency of No.
schools. If Mr. Adams can keep him
under government - all right. I write this
in some haste to send down by Cornille.
Anna is here yet - all well
aff. your father
P. H. Riggs.

Beloit, Wisconsin

Dec. 2, 1874.

My Dear Daughter Martha

We had a little waif of a baby come in to the family a little after midnight this morning. It is a very little mite of a girlie, but it cried splendidly. Anne says I will have to count it among the grandchildren. But I said, I am not as old as Abraham was when Isaac was born. The mother is doing well this morning. And the little one is quiet. Marjorie thought it was a funny baby.

Anne had arranged to go home this morning. And there does not appear to be sufficient room for her to change her plan. We have a Mrs. Clark with us.

We had Dr. Carey. Mrs. Colt
was over a part of the night.
Mrs. Burdwell has just come in
to hear how things are.

I feel somewhat worn up, and
so will not write a long letter
this morning.

Your affectionate father,
J. R. Riggs.

Beloit, Wisconsin

Dec. 7. 1874.

My Dear Daughter Martha,

This evening
letters came from Isabella. She sent
four photographs of the North China mis-
sion which I am to have mounted. One
is to go to you. Her letter to you I en-
close. Saturday I brought up your Scribners.
Also I bought three thimbles and had them
marked as you indicated. They cost 65-cts
each. The Scribners cost \$1.25 - a volume.

We will get the other things and send up
all together in a day or two. I inquired
about gun pans. There are two kinds here
the round and oblong. They are 75-cts -
a dozen.

We have been talking -
Annie and I - about the warm times they
are probably having at the Agency now.

I am sorry for both Mr. Adams and Mr.
Howes. But the latter has now the inside
track, and Mr. A. had better do as I advise

him - resign - and terminate the difficulty
as soon as possible.

We are getting along quite
comfortably. But I guess the little one
will have to live on cow's milk. Bornick
and I get the breakfast now. Mrs. Clark
seems to be a careful nurse but rather a
boisterous woman. Her voice is not soft
and low.

Beloit, Wisconsin

Dec. 24. 1874.

My Dear Daughter Martha,

Your letter of the 12th has come in this morn. I have received a letter from Mr. Adams since he received my last. He had not sent in his resignation yet. I wrote him again urging him to do it. When I say to him, You will surely be superseded, he does not seem to believe me.

The singing book you spoke of Cornelia found, and I have put it up ready to be mailed - Also a little over book that Cornille sends to Harry. The Testament I will attach to after Christmas. The stamps I will put in this letter if I do not forget it.

I find I forget now very frequently. After I go down town and forget a part of what I go for. I can only do one thing at a time. We are very glad to hear that ~~Daniel~~ Neville is probably in his new home before this time.

2
Last week I spent in Chicago.

The English Drafts was going on so slowly that I became disgusted - and so went down to hurry it up. When I reached there they took hold of it with a will. Two young men worked like beavers and gave me sixty pages to read in four days. I read the last page on Friday afternoon and ran for the cars.

I read also while there the January Sepia Days. One night I went out to Glencoe and spent at Mrs. Howard's. Mr. and Mrs. Foster are there. They had just received letters from "Lou" and Alice. "Lou" is persuading Mr. Foster to go into the cattle raising with Henry. But it is now time for the Weekly prayer meeting; and we have no bell. The bell is cracked and makes a sound like an old pot.

After meeting. There was a thin attendance - so many persons busy about their Christmas arrangements. Cornille went down town on some errand with one

of the Bucknell girls I suppose.

You will naturally want to know how the little stranger gets along. She seems to be doing well for one so wee; except that she has somewhat taken cold within a few days past, and so has not been very well. They have to feed her with a bottle entirely. Mrs. Clark the nurse is still here and is to leave after Christmas. They have been in the parlor and parlor bedroom ever since before it was born. Today Annie moved out, back into our little bedroom. It will be more convenient here when we are by ourselves. Yesterday was the last day of Cornillie's school term, and so she will be at home ten days. It seemed to us that we ought now to get along without help. Indeed the money is about all used up for this year, and so we are rather obliged to shut down. Robert ought to write to you about his Junior Exp. but I suppose will not. It came off Tuesday night. Rob. did pretty well - but was not quite

natural. It was his first public speech. The greater part of the
class had had some experience of that kind before. I did not
hear Abner Blairdell's speech. Cornille says it was perfectly
splendid. In scholarship Robbins stood about third in
the class. He and Ned Hill had Philosophical orations. Frank
Gibbs had a distinguished. Abner Blairdell and Mr. Thorne took
the Greek and Latin appointments.

Beloit, Wisconsin
January 15. 1875

My Dear Daughter Martha,

Your letter of
the 7th & 9th has just come. We are all
very sorry that the parcel containing thin-
bles & vail, I believe, is lost. There
are so many dishonest people still in
the world! It is hardly probable that
you will see it. The Testament I sent
afterwards. I hope it will reach you.
Since that I have mailed two pairs of
socks that we thought would about
fit Harry. They came in the Box. Yes,
it came with nine dollars freight
on it. Still it had valuable things
in it. I inclose receipt for Christian
Weekly. In all it cost me \$2.10.
So there is from that 40 cts remaining
to your credit. My last letter was to
Mr. Morris about financial matters.
We are quite sorry to hear of his

affliction and of your additional hard work in consequence. I hope he may be getting well by this time. — Yes I would supplement the rations of the boys — not however adding more than is necessary. I have no doubt I could get an order from Com. Smith for full rations for the boys, as Alfred did. But as the winter is so far spent it seems hardly worth while to try it now. By the time it could be obtained your boys would be leaving at any rate.

I have still a feeling that Mr. Morris may find work in another line — after he gets through with this boys school.

I wish you would, when you get time, write something for the Iapi Page — a string of Pearls — if not a longer article.

The Feb. Iapi will contain an article from Mr. Adams about the dedication of the Ascension Church. It came too late to get in as I supposed. But two

days afterwards I received a letter from John P. Williamson, saying that he was sick, and could not furnish his quote. He wanted me to send in 2 columns more — one in English. Poole's article was fortunately on hand.

The plates for Alfred's Geography are about finished. And I may say the same of my English-Debate. But how soon either of them will get into printed books it is not easy to prophesy.

Here we have had a long cold spell, which still holds on. The week of prayer was very cold. The meetings were generally small in Detroit. Cornille has frozen his ears a couple of times going to school.

We manage to keep pretty comfortable at home. The little one grows some — and appears pretty well.

I have this evening received a letter from your uncle G. G. Poage. He tells of the death of Mrs. Hunter's father —

now he alone remains of the family.
Sister Jane has better health than
she had a year or two ago. It just
occurs to me to inquire, who is Elliot
Riggs, mentioned in one of your former
letters? I have been asked
by the Editor of the Christian Weekly
to write on the Indian Question for
that paper. I have about concluded
to do it. But it may be some weeks
before I accomplish it - for the writing
I now have gives me a pain between
my shoulders & sometimes in my
head also. So I am obliged to make
haste slowly.

We all send a great deal of love.

Yours aff. father,
P. R. Riggs.

P.S. I will have the Pickin Pictures
framed & ready to send up by a boy -
when Mr. Morris orders his boots etc.

Beloit, Wisconsin

Sept. 29. 1875

My Dear Daughter Martha

Your letter of the 20th inst. came last evening a few hours after I reached home. I wrote you from Islandias by Daniel Sewell.

Monday morning we left - but did not get an early start. The night found us at the crossing of the Big Sioux three miles out of Sioux Falls. We started before sun rise the next day and made over fifty miles. At night we camped about 8 miles from Yankton, from which we ran in by Searap. J. and I took the cars for Sioux City where we separated he taking the road through Cedar Rapids and I the one by Cedar Falls. I reached Mr. Warrin's at 3 A.M., in time to get some sleep. I was not very well all the time of my journey, and indeed am

will yet, though I think I am somewhat lifted up from what I was. I found Anna and Marjorie and Mr. W. well, and left them Saturday evening and went down and spent the Sabbath and Monday at Lipton. Cousin Charley Longley and wife were not at home until Monday. I found a pleasant reception at Mr. Daniels by aunt Julia and all.

Yesterday morning I started early and went home in the afternoon. I find all well. Ella Cooley is here expecting to go down with me to Chicago next week, and to go from there to Dwight with her uncle M. M. Longley.

I find here a letter from Mr. Ward in regard to the organ which is purchased and sent. You had better not mention to the Renvilles the price of the instrument. It may not be a better one than yours but at that price (\$225) they might suppose it is, and so feel badly.

Mr. Adams has written me to obtain for Mrs. Adams a certificate of church membership and dismission. I have written one which I inclose. You will have Mr. Renville sign it - and date it - and send it to Mrs. Adams.

Miss Curtis has written to say that she will be here in Deloit during the Convention which commences tomorrow. I will not send off this letter immediately. Perhaps in a couple of days I shall be able to tell you something about her.

We have nice sweet potatoes but no Irish - on the whole I like the Irish, as Marjorie calls them, the best. There is quite a lot of apples on our trees but they are somewhat wormy.

Thomas writes from Boston on Saturday last. He expected to go to Bangor by the night train.

Oct. 1. Friday morn. Last evening
Mr. & Mrs. Walker the old African
missionaries came to spend three days
of the Convention with us. Also Mrs
Adèle Mira Curtis. She stops with
us. She came because she wants to
know about things at Good Will.
I have talked over matters generally with
her. I think you will find her a good
woman. She has been married. Her hus-
band died several years ago. She is 27
years old. She is part French & part
German, & talks both languages, she
says. But she is no singer. She is a
dress maker. So perhaps she will be
able to make herself generally useful.
I have told her she will be expected to pay
about \$3 a week for board. She expects
now to start out on Wednesday week - the
13th & reach Good Will - the
15th. So you can make your arrangements
accordingly. I don't think it will matter
much whether you are at home or not when
she arrives. I would not wait for that.

Beloit, Wisconsin -
March 4. 1875.

My Dear Daughter Martha,

Yours of 27th
February has just come. This is quite
a quick trip for this time of year.
Yesterday I received a letter from Tho-
mas written the day after Christmas.

I will as soon as possible attend to
getting the little things you mention
so far as I can, and send the box on.
The box stands in the parlor with the
books in it.

I was just about writing to Mr.
Morris about those English Lakota
books. They are all to be shipped
this week. The government 2000
all go up to Mr. Adams. So Mr.
Whitson will have as many as he needs.

I have ordered sent to Mr. Morris
140 in colors and about 100 in black.
Those with colored pictures will be

worth 40 cts apiece - thou in black
30 cts each. The difference in the
cost is not ten cents, but that is
about the best way to sell them.

I have also asked them at the
Bible House to send to Mr. Morris
70 copies of "Joshua Judges & Ruth".
They will be done up chiefly as calculators
for giving away. The freight on both
~~the~~ boxes or packages Mr. Morris
will pay from any money he may have
on hand for books sold. If he has
none on hand he can charge the freight
to his school for the present.

Daniel Neville should pay half the
freight on the box that I sent you.
There will be 35 cts expense on it here.

Dr. Hawes may rest quietly about
the agency matter. It will be all worked
out pretty soon. Mr. Adams writes
me as if he would like to go into
some work among the Dakotas. Perhaps

Fort Peck is the place for them.
I had not thought of that before.

We are all moderately well. Cornelia
has a bad cold. Robbie also is com-
plaining of a cold. I have a pain in
my left shoulder - made by writing so
much. An Annie is not quite well to day.
The baby grows finely. The weight was
the other day when she was three months -
ten pounds. We have not yet settled
on a name for her. Clara has perhaps
been mentioned. We have talked more of
Edna. Good night.

Saturday noon. Cornelia & I have
both been down town this forenoon.
I bought some of the things & Cornelia
bought some - she paid higher for the
calico than you write. She said she could
not get it for less unless she took snaps.

Picture frame \$1. Gumpans 75-c - Tacks
20 - 2 Glasses 14. Calico \$1. Paid in clothes
80 cts. Cornelia 25 Cents 40. $\frac{1}{4}$ Rem
Note paper 50 cts.

Some time since I have had it
in mind to help you bear the loss
of that package lost winter - or rather
to replace a part of it. So to-day I
got a thimble and mounted N. E. H.

I thought it was more a charity to give
to Mrs. Hunter than to the young ladies.

Also I replace Harris's box. There is
no clock bell to be had in this market. So
I did not find any better over book than
the one we sent before. But there is one
of Henry's here which - the tops over - seem
to be short. For a book to paste pictures
in I see nothing better than Indian Con-
Report of last year. Will that do?

I think I have altogether over-
looked your request to inquire about
an Atlas. Perhaps I will think to
do it sometime. The box is quite
full now. The paper come in a half
ream - so I send you half. I feel
some solicitude about the glass war
- but I shall pack as well as I can.
aff. your father,
P. K. Riggs.

5428 otherwise we are all pretty well. Cornill's school commences again
to day.
Love to you
all, from
your aff.
father
P. R. R.

Beloit, Wisconsin
April 6. 1875.

My Dear Daughter Martha,

Yours of
March 25 came the other day. And
now to day comes one from Isabelle,
which is mainly for you. So I inclose
it.

What you said about paper
I could not understand. Or did I
report to you wrongly? I think I
only sent you $\frac{1}{4}$ of a ream of note
paper. But I bought $\frac{1}{2}$ ream.
The best paper comes in quart's reams.
But such as I buy & use generally,
most frequently, I find in half ream
bundles. I hope Mr. & Mrs. Adams
will not do much harm to any
one by telling them how I feel about
this leaving. I have been their
friend & will not break friendships
with them now - though I am really
surprised that I have kept them ap-

parent good will through all this.

I hope Mr. Hamilton will soon make his appearance there, if he has not done so already. If Secy. Whipple had asked him to call on me on his way up I should have been glad to see him. But for obvious reasons I want not invite him to stop.

The Gen. Assembly is to meet in Cleveland, Ohio on the third Thursday of May. I suppose I shall be expected to attend it. Annie talks some of going with me, if I go, but it is not yet decided. I shall not, in the count of attending the Gen. Assembly, be able to reach Good Will before the 10th of June. On several accounts I want to come up there as soon as I can.

As the nice spring days comes on I don't feel much like work of any kind. A pain in my breast comes on with or without writing sometimes, which unfits me for any thing.

Beloit, Wisconsin
April 19. 1875-

My Dear Daughter Martha

Your letter of
the 1st & 8th of this month came to-
day. I see it was mailed at the Pimston
Agency on the 13th. Your talk of
leaving threw me into quite a tumult.
I don't see how I can do without you
up there. If it was a year later when
Robbie may be through college, and Cor-
mille so old as that she can go to
some young ladies Seminary for a year
or so - then perhaps we could go up and
occupy. But it seems as if we must
calculate to stay another winter here
at any rate. Then I fear that for
yourselves it would be a bad move
to go to Florida. You might go down
there and be sick. You might go and
spend all year here and come back
poorer than a church mouse.

That is no uncommon experience.

But you will not go immediately and so I will expect to talk over the matter with you (L. W.)

If it were not for going to the General Assembly, I should calculate to go up in about ten days or so. On some accounts, however, I should rather not be there until the new agent comes in.

I hope to hear of his arrival soon.

In regard to the Lapi Page I do not know that any new list has been made out. But I will call attention to the matter when the proof of the May paper comes up, which will be in a few days.

In our joint editing of the paper, under the old arrangement, things did not move along quite smoothly, and so

I have given up all the Lapi part to J. P. W. and he has given the whole of the English page to me. We will try it awhile on that basis.

I will write to have a copy of Lapi Page sent to Mrs. Morris for Chicago. I will myself send some papers to Mr. Armer as you suggest.

I do not think any thing will be done immediately about buying an organ for the American Ch. I wrote to Mr. Reville to know what this plan was. As I wish to know before going up what to do with the money that the Sabbath School here will raise for them.

But I have not heard from him yet.

About the new agent I think the Indians are mistaken in thinking he was in command at Lavenport. There was a one armed man there, but his name was certainly not Hamilton.

We have an abundance of Shubarb roots, and I will fix up some to morrow to send you. You might have help we have and there would be a great plenty left.

Cousin Ned Leovy is not in N.Y.
They went off last fall to the east-
I spent leading the money in part
to take them on east. I understood they
went to Vermont and came back to New
Jersey, and found no friends who could
take them in. So they went into New
York city. Ned was working in a fork
house - had to go to work with only
half a breakfast - and in a state of general
want. Ella told me this some weeks
ago. She was here this afternoon and told
me that George and Alless had sent
Ned \$50 since they had heard of his
distress.

The Christian Weekly paid me XX
for my articles.

Beloit, Wisconsin

Oct. 19. 1875.

My Dear Daughter Martha

This is a beautiful

day. I have been packing a Box - not
large - a little larger than a Soap Box.
I got the Box before Cornille brought
her picture home that she has had from
for you. The Picture is too large for
the Box. Besides Cornille rather wants
to keep it on exhibition ? awhile.
So I concluded to send this box along.
First I put in a basket of apples.
You will value them because they are
grown here. I hope they will not all
rot before they reach you. Then I
put in a pair of Rob's pants, which
you can probably make over for Harry.
Next I put in a lot of Rob's pop corn
for Harry and all of you. Rob has four
or five bushels of pop corn. But it

I. R. Riggs.
Your aff. father
I much love to you all -

did not all mature before the frost.

Thomes gave me a cartidge the like of which he said Mr. Morris wanted him to get one or two boxes. To day I bought one box (half a hundred) 60 cents. That you will find as also by it the gold pen in a little box.

Then I put in a couple of prs. of small socks, as a dress, which Annie thinks you can cut down and tuck up easier than she could do the other thing. Well, some other little things make up the whole. May they reach you safely.

Wednesday morn Oct. 20. This morning I have been packing what was left of the Coopertown Box to go on to Alfred. After so many crowds have been picking at it, about half remains. I cut down the box and then had to fill up with apples and pop-corn - the present staples.

Your box I have just waited up, finding room on top for a few more apples and some more pop-corn. I will not get them shipped until to morrow.

Annie has probably with you about Mrs. Fisk's sudden death. The children are to be kept together. Hattie Fisk has to leave her place as teacher in the public school to take care of the home.

From a letter that I have lately received from Mr. Adams I judge that Mr. Mortimer Swift has been to see him.

Thursday 21. October. This is quite warm weather. The day is beautiful. Probably you are having prairie fires about three times. This forenoon I was down town and shipped the Box, a receipt of which I inclose.

Robbie has ^{met} with good fortune
in a small way. Mrs. Blairdell
hands me, this morning, \$25 for him, from
a friend of hers in Connecticut. This
friend had a son whom he was edu-
cating, who took sick and died. The
father appropriates year by year what
the son would have expended if he was
living, as that amount (or a part of
it) he sends to Mrs. Blairdell to
be used when she thinks it will do
the most good. A year ago Rob.
received \$20 from the same source.

Mrs. Benson is to be here this af-
ternoon. They are living in Con-
fordsville Ind. but she is now in Detroit
visiting. Thomas and I had frequent
talks about what Henry had better
do. It seems as though he might
now make some arrangements with
Mr. Morris that would be of advantage
to both. I will write about it again.

your aff. father J. N. Briggs.
Much love to you all -

Beloit, Wisconsin
Nov. 2, 1875

My Dear Daughter Martha,

Your letter

of Friday last has just come. We are glad to hear so much about the things at Good Will etc. I hope Harry will not have his hearing impaired by his ear ache. I have an idea that an application of warm cloths will be of service. Harry's figs will not get in that box, which I hope may now be at Morris. But perhaps I will send another before the winter is over. The picture which Cornelia has had framed for you is to go up sometime. I got cord for it the other day and hung it in the parlor. It looks very well indeed. As a picture it is inferior to her Madonna. But the execution is quite as good or better.

I found she had not yet paid
for the framing. So this evening I
gave her the money to do so \$2.50.

I am glad to hear that Mrs. Curtis
is entering into her work with so
much enthusiasm. She will have a
chance to know something about it
while this good weather lasts. No,
she did not say that you had gone
no further than Morris. But I inferred
that much. But could not understand
why. I have offered Thomas the
use of \$100 which belongs to Robbie
and Cornille - and Annie has offered
him another \$100.

I suppose Mr. Warner has probably
written to you of this good fortune
in the birth of a boy, and he has probably
sent you a letter that came to me from
Mr. Williams saying that Isabella
has another girl. I sent it to Anne

and asked her to send it up to
you. I have received one since, of two
weeks later date (Aug. 21), saying that
Isabella had taken cold and had a
little run of fever. But she was recover-
ing from it. I shall be
glad if they can make the Board's
School run in some way. The Smiths
do not seem to be going to leave so
soon as they talked of.

I had not calculated on paying
Solomon any thing on this Quarter -
indeed I did not know that he would
be at home so soon. But as you
write he has lost his hay, perhaps
I ought to do for him what I can.
I have only a little balance on hand
- say \$15 about. I wish Mr. Morris
would give me his judgment about it.

Mrs David Guy Cloud writes that
they have their house plastered and now

They are trying to raise money for the bell. I will ask Mr. Morris to let me know how much was drawn from the Bell fund for the plastering - how much remains of it. When they raise it up to \$45 again I will send for the bill for them.

Wednesday morn Nov. 3 This is a dark, cloudy, rainy morning. Last night there was a Sociable in the parlors of the church. I went and spent an hour. When I left a little after nine the crowd had apparently just arrived. But they all broke up at ten, as Mr. Burdwell had announced.

The plan that Thomas and I talked over as best for Henry, was that he should get a place if possible adjoining the one Mr. Morris has taken. Let Mr.

Morris build on his as early next
 spring as is convenient and put H.
 in charge for a year. This would
 give Henry a better chance to start.
 In the mean time he could take his
 and Thomas' cattle, and such as
 Mr. Morris don't want to keep at
 Good Will. I think Minnesota
 is a much more reliable cattle
 country than the Missouri or the
 Jim River. I have not writt
 to Henry in regard to the plan - for
 I thought it would probably be best
 to have Thomas talk it over with
 him. But if it strikes you and
 Mr. Morris well, I think Mr. Morris
 had better write to Henry - making
 such proposition in regard to build-
 ings as seems good.

Our little Edna is creeping around
every where. She has a great desire to
be in the kitchen. Sometime ago
you proposed to buy the Baby jumper
Mrs. LaGrange left and send it to us.
We are much obliged for the offer.
When I first saw yours I thought we
would have one. But since looking
around here at home and considering
the time of year and all the circum-
stances, I think it would not be ad-
visable. The difficulty is we have no
place for it in the winter when it
could be used. And by the time summer
comes Edna will not need it.

Love to all

Your aff. father,

P. R. Riggs

Beloit, Wisconsin
Dec. 17. 1875.

My Dear Daughter Martha,

Your letter came yesterday. You will be glad to know that Isabella is getting better. I inclose a letter from Mr. Williams. Eight days after Isabella wrote herself with a pencil, which I have sent to Ann, to be sent on to you. Mary Porter had arrived and it had done Isabella a world of good. Emily too was getting along well. I do not know that Mr. Morris need send Mr. Com. Smith's letter to me. It was for him I wrote. I feared that as Smith was about that time going out of office, there might be no reply.

I received a letter yesterday from Mr. Adams. He says he met Mr. Hamilton, who has gone on to Wash-

ington, for his health. The place is too hard for him he says, and he thinks of not keeping it longer than spring. So Mr. A. reports him to say. Mr. Hamilton will not be there to receive my last letter I wrote him.

There is now quite a good prospect that the Women's Board will take up Mrs. Neville. I have renewed the application, and I think it will succeed - though possibly not.

In the Dakota Geography - last part of the book - Geography of Bible Lands - 3^d page at the bottom, there is a typographical error "iyahade" for "iyahde", which Alfred wants Mr. Morris to correct in all the copies which go out of his hands. I think it must have been with "iyatahde" and the h got out of place after the proof was read. But iyahde is best.

Alfred feels chagrined about it. The easiest way will be to draw pen or pencil through the "ta".

Henry had come down to Alfred and brought three Piton boys to A's school. A. did not say what H. was going to do. I presume Thomas is expecting the use of your money. I sent \$2.00 to his banker in Yankton.

Don't think that that is mine. \$1.00 is Annie's and \$1.00 is for Rob and Cornelle, which I had invested in North Pacific scrip. I located the scrip and Annie took the land. So I get the money again for them.

I am glad Mr. Morris is going to try the singing school. I am glad too that you have a weekly prayer meeting. Don't let it die out.

I paid a dollar for a bottle of patent medicine for my "pains

and aches" - and I think it is helping me already. But I have a lot of writing on hands. Mr. Treat wants me to write an article for the Herald on the occupation of Northold. I suppose Mr. Hall and Miss Calhoun will be appointed, but they may not be sent up before May. They are making a special appeal for Northold in the January Herald (for money) Mr. Treat says. And he wants my article to follow in the February Herald.

I will remember a Calendar for you. Liza Goodell supplies me, but his had not come on the other day.

Saturday night. I don't know that I have told you that I have bought a cow. We have had her since the first of Nov. She gives about three quarts of milk a day. One we let Mr. Nashmills folks have and the two do us very well. Edna is beginning to try to walk alone.
Your aff. father J. A. R.

Beloit, Wisconsin,
May 27. 1876.

My Dear Daughter Martha,

Your letter
of the 22^d came yesterday. It is now
Saturday night. The Church Bells are
ringing for Choir meetings. Robert
has gone up the river. Cornille is in
the parlor writing. Edna and her mother
have gone to a neighbor's to call.

Yesterday Robert read an Essay on
a subject assigned. The whole class
wrote. Tom was selected to compete
for a prize of \$50. Robert was one of
the four. Charley Merrill took the prize.
I think it was well. Horne and Riggs
took the honors of the class. It would
have been unfair for either of them to
have obtained this prize also.

4429 We have been gathering some of the
things you sent for. The books I have
sent for to Holmes. He replied to me
that Life of Stoddard was O. P. I think

he referred to David Stoddard.
It is to send the College Atlas which
he says is a good one - \$3.00.

I have gotten a box and will put
in your picture. I can get you a Croquet
Set for \$1.50 and send it in the
box. I think I will do it, though
I can't hear from you beforehand.

We have had quite a time about
the Mat. Annie bought it and left
it to be trimmed. Nat Cornuelle
was quite sure you did not want it
trimmed. So Edna's mother went
down again and brought it home.
They say you can send on for such
trimming as you want and have it sent
by mail.

Since I wrote you I have read
the last advance proof - to the end
of Malachi. But I have quite a
lot of plate proof which I am now
checking - from Ezekiel to Nahum, in-
clusive.

May 27, 1876

You must not encourage jealousy. It is not a pleasant feeling. Besides you may be wrong. I do not know of any letter that has been quoted more than yours about the outbreak. It is referred to in Bartlett's Sketches. You might I think do more in the way of writing than you have yet attempted. But don't expect always to succeed in commanding attention. Let me give you a little personal history for which it may appear that you are somewhat related to me.

In the early part of last winter I had assigned to me by the Ministers Association of Detroit a subject to work up - "The Names of Christ in the Gospels". When I presented it, some who heard it were pleased to say, "We would like to see that in print." And so just before I went out to Alfred's I wrote out the first half. While I was at Pontiac I wrote out the second part. Alfred read them. Well, when I came home I sent to the Advance the first part. That

was the last of February. I waited three weeks. It did not come out in the paper, and I heard nothing from it. I sat down and wrote to Howard to know if it had been received. He said "Yes"—and they were very glad to get it. They would publish it as soon as they could reach it. And he added "Send on the second part." I did so and then waited three or four weeks longer—looking for it in every week's paper. I saw other men's articles getting a place right along. So I wrote again. The reply was "We are glad to get the articles and they will come out as soon as we can reach them." Well I waited again three or four weeks. It seemed strange. There was an article by C. L. Hall sent after he reached Barthold. It was not new and publishable any more than mine. But it got in immediately and mine was kept back. I began to be very jealous, and to feel very badly. I wrote again to Howard saying that if they could not use my articles, they had better return them.

May 27, 1876

This reply was the first one will appear in the Advance of the 25th of May. And so it did, just three months after I sent it down. And to day there comes up six dollars for it. But I did worry a good deal about it.

Yesterday a second letter came from Mr. Matthews, after he went back to the Agency. He is in quite a hurry as Mr. Hamilton succeeded.

Sapi Oage for June has come. — will see it is pretty much — Sully paper — that is the English part.

I have gathered up some materials on the Migrations of the Dakotas, which I will work up perhaps for Mr. Newton's Geological Report.

Good night to you all.

Aff. your father

P. R. Riggs



Beloit, Wisconsin

Saturday forenoon Jan. 12.
[1877?]

I have just been down town and returned. I mailed your shoes and hope they will reach you without delay. They cost \$1.50 and postage 18 = \$1.68. I find I am still weak. The walk made me perspire very freely. For two days I have been taking Plover's Balm and miniwakan, which seems to be giving me strength. My free time is in the afternoon and evening. After midnight I have retired well usually. But I have been unable to attend the night meetings.

Harry is writing to you. We try to persuade him to tell you some thoughts and experiences, but he says he does not have to.

The weather is beautiful again.

I hope you all keep well.

If they start any Dakota Schools Mr. Morris will furnish them all the books they need.

I wish you would express to Mr. and Mrs. Newton my regards that they think it

necessary or but to leave the school. I
hope they would continue for some time.

Love to all friends,

Your aff. father,

P. L. Riggs.

Saturday afternoon. After lunch today Robert
proposed to Harry to go down town and select
a pair of boots for Harry. They bought a pair
of Stogas at \$2.75.

Beloit, Wisconsin
Saturday forenoon Jan. 12. [1877?]

I have just been down town and returned. I mailed your shoes and hope they will reach you without delay. They cost \$1.50 and postage 18 = \$1.68. I find I am still weak. The walk made me perspire very freely. For two days I have been taking Peruvian Bark and Mine wakan, which seems to be giving me strength. My fever time is in the afternoon and evening. After midnight I have rested well usually. But I have been unable to attend the night-meetings. Harry is writing to you. We try to persuade him to tell you some thoughts and experiences, but he says he does not have to.

The weather is beautiful again.

I hope you all keep well. If they start any Dakota schools Mr. Morris will furnish them all the books they need.

I wish you would express to Mr. and Mrs. Newton my regrets that they think it necessary or best to leave the school. I hoped they would continue for some time.

Your aff. father,

S. R. Riggs.

[P. S.] Saturday afternoon. After lunch to day Robert proposed to Harry to go down town and select a pair of boots for Harry. They bought a pair of Stogas [?] at \$2.75.

Beloit, Wisconsin
January 29. 1877.

My Dear Daughter Martha

To day I went down to the Paper Mill and inquired about their agent for the Paper Board at Minneapolis. The clerk was very gentlemanly and answered my inquiries. They have an Agency in Minneapolis and he gave me the name of the firm written on a slip of paper. I put it in my vest pocket but it is gone. I can find it nowhere. And I do not remember it. He said it was a Hardware store, but it was not any that I know. Moreover he said that they had only sent up three the common building board - not what they call their Rooin finishing Board. So that they probably have not what you want. I asked him about the price -

He said that here they were selling it
by the 1000 pounds or over at $3\frac{1}{4}$
cents. He thought that by one or two
hundred pounds it would be worth $3\frac{1}{2}$.

He said that what they thought now
the best way of putting it on was -
1 To cut the strips the desired length
and sprinkle them with water and let them
lie over night. Then lap them a little
- say a half an inch - nail them on and
over the seams nail a board strips -
then paint. In that case they keep
perfectly level and don't draw off.

I am sorry that I have lost the
name of the Minneapolis firm. But you
probably had better send him for it at
any rate. A yard is about $1\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.
You will have to buy by the Rolls.
But they vary from 50 to 80 lbs. that
is they weigh from 50 to 80 pounds.

Some six weeks ago I took it into my head that the ribs were off this gun that I got from Mr. Morris. So I sent it down to the makers thinking to have it fixed. I had given it up for lost. But to day it came back with a charge of 50. It is not a whit changed for the better. Indeed I can't see that they have done any thing to it. But I suppose they must have done something, to be able to make a charge. The difficulty is that it suddenly blows down, when I am not wanting it to do so.

This is the third day since it turned warmer. The water is still dropping from the house (7 o'clock in the evening.) I saw one man to day ~~throwing~~ throwing up snow on his house to get water in his cistern. It seemed to me a bad way. We have melted the snow.

The measles are round about us. A week ago on Saturday Edna was playing with a little boy who broke out with measles the next day. We suppose she must be having them now as she is very cross and somewhat feverish today.

Yesterday was so mild and pleasant that we took her to church.

Ten days ago I sent you a registered letter, and I think I have written you since that but am not quite sure.

Saturday I sent back the Proof of the Feb. Tappi Bay.

If Mr. Morris has a knowledge of one or two good spots of N. Road Land near his place I wish he would send me the descriptions and I will write to St Paul to see how they are held. Annie has two or three hundred dollars that she would like to put somewhere. She might be able to get 80, or perhaps 120.

Tuesday morning Jan 30. The thaw seems to be going on. This morning it is misting a little. Perhaps it will turn into a good rain. I bought two barrels of apples in the fall. One is used up and the other one I opened the other day and found about a quarter of them rotten. We have still a few of our own raising but they are quite small.

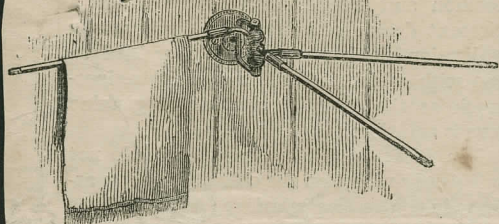
I think I must have written you that the Sabbath School gave me \$14.46 which I have placed to the account of your organ. See what you can do. Possibly something more may come to me.

Mr. Stevens you remember, who used to be in the Dakota mission. He is now lying quite sick. Probably he will not get up again. Now an old lady near by us - a Mrs. Strickland. She latter has pneumonia. Mr. Stevens is dropsy of the heart.

Edna's measles don't appear yet.

Love to you all from

Your aff. father,
D. R. Riggs.



TOWEL-RACK FOR BEDROOMS.

Tuesday, April 17. 1877.

Yesterday I spent part of the afternoon in making purchases for Robert - a pair of kip boots, 2 prs. of drawers and $\frac{1}{2}$ doz prs socks - all of which I sent him by mail. I have previously sent him a pr. of boots which proved too small - also a pair of pants, slippers, rubbers etc. etc.

Then I made inquiries about your wants. 1 The Hook case cannot be obtained here to advantage. There is no manufactory of such things. It will be best to get that in Minneapolis. If you wish I will make the effort there. 2 I looked at knife trays at the 99 ct. Store. There are many looking open trays for knives and covered ones for spoons. The last are the smaller. They are metal of some kind. 99 cts. 3 The florists' basket I did not find - but will inquire at other places. 4 There are an abundance of small towel racks. The cheapest one is 50 and is like the one in your sample

It has three arms about a foot long
which fold back - and may be secured
onto a wash stand or table or window.
I should think it was the kind you want.
I saw other patterns but they take more
room and cost three times as much.
The trays also I suppose would suit you.
Common picture frames are reasonable in
price. I got two last winter 10 X 12
inches with glass for 60 cts each.

I think Miss Speer should have
had some fault. She succeeded well the other
time she was up, and no doubt would again.
Sometime since I wrote to Alfred, asking
him to have a place for her in the fall.
But he has not answered me.

We are having quite a warm time
in Deloit on the Liquor License question.
Mr. Bucknell has preached two sermons in
favor of License, much to the chagrin of
 $\frac{3}{4}$ of his people. Last Sabbath afternoon
he preached before the Ladies Temperance Associa-
tion against License. I had more hard-

Beloit, Wisconsin.

May 11. 1877.

My Dear Daughter Martha,

There is something strange about it. I was very sure that I sent the inclosed letter from Isabelle to you to start it around. But here it is come from Mr. William's sister in Ohio. She says "I think my brother must have made a mistake in sending it to us." There were some letters of Stephen's to his cousin that I sent down. Did you receive one just like this? If so Isabelle made a copy.

Anne's "Dakota Babies" came last evening. I had given it up, and sent down the budget yesterday morning. But I will try and get it in, as the Picture of the Babies goes into the June paper. Perhaps it may crowd over your little article.

I had forgotten what became of that package of your mother's letters. It would seem quite natural that Anne should take them. And if so, she has them still undoubtedly.

4487

I have been making your purchases gradually. I bought a packing trunk for \$2, and so will take the up with me. The price of the trunk will not be much more than the freight on a box would have been. The weather is beautiful. We are getting our garden planted.

I am glad Miss Skee is going up. I will help bear the extra expense.

We had the Ministers meeting with us on Tuesday and Wednesday. We were all very tired, but we are getting rested now.

Saturday morn May 12. Edna has, I suppose, the whooping cough. She has coughed some for a week or more. Now she coughs much. As the whooping cough is in town, she most likely has it. I have about finished your purchases. The rubber cloth was expensive - \$1 a yard. I hesitated about buying it but did. There are quite good baby carriages here very low - \$4. Of course there are others at \$10 and \$15.

Yesterday afternoon Annie and I looked at dolls - but did not buy. The rubber dolls were much looking things. Perhaps I can do better in Chicago or St Paul.

A letter has just come from Isabelle -
dated March 1. She is busy doctoring.
They are all well. I will send it to
Anna.

Anna's Dakota Nebis
was long in coming. But now I think
of it, I have written that before.

I hope your head aches will pass
away. I presume you need rest.

I have a letter from New Jersey from
a church asking to know the "moral
standing" of Rev. Mortimer Smith. He
is preaching for them.

Some days ago I received a letter from
Mr. Hart sending \$5, to be expended for
James Lynd.

With the exception of Edna we are
all pretty well.

Aff. your father,
L. R. Riggs.

Harry read & destroy

DAKOTA MISSION.

A. B. C. F. M.

T. L. RIGGS,
Missionary.

Fort Sully, D. T. August 29. 1887

My Dear Daughter Martha,

Your letter of the 16th and 17th has just come. Thomas started up with our mail last evening after supper, and met Mr. Crocker bringing down mail. So he was back by ten o'clock. I am glad to hear that you are getting along somewhat. I still think you need a chance to recuperate - a good long time it will take. You had better take the time and be at a little extra expense now, than to have it all on without giving yourself a chance to come up. If you can't get off to spend a couple of months this fall, you had better go and spend the winter. Mr. Morris I think will be wise enough to make a profitable winter's work without you.

I think I wrote you that James Lynch had

electd to go home this fall - and I do not now
intend to take any one else on this fall. Charley
Eastman may be there, but he will not board
with us after the term commences. So that
Harry will be then cut off from other Indian
boys. Miss Riggs thinks with me that
you need a real, thorough reformation.

Yes - I can pay any amount for Isabelle
you wish. I have myself \$10 to her credit, and
can add to it as much as is desired.

Thomas will send over the interest due you
for one year.

Gen. C. H. Howard

and wife and three children and nurse are here. We
came on the Steamer "Black Hills" - left Yankee
Tuesday evening of last week and reached here Saturday
about 5 o'clock P.M. Thomas and Miss and
Theodore met us at Pierre, but the boat
brought us up, and I managed to get his trunks
up in time to meet us at the river.

Sabbath the 19th I was at Lanthier. Hon. J. C.
Barstow of Providence was there also.

I went back to Yankton to take the boat, instead of coming up to Yankton Agency. When we reach the latter place, the boat stopped five minutes and I ran up and saluted Mrs. Williamson and her six children - though I only said one. John P. was not at home.

Thomas is working hard on his chapel - now putting on the shingles. I worked an hour on the roof this morning. He will have it ready for the meeting if nothing serious prevents. Mine seems very well. They have a large family now, and a larger one in prospect, when the folks come. She does not cook for the hired men. The man who cooks for them helps her some. Yesterday she had an Indian woman to wash and today she has one ironing. Mrs. Howard's girl, Sophie, does a good deal of the work. So they mean to carry on the whole some way.

Cornille writes me that she has a place
in the Deloit School on the other side of
the river - at \$32 a month. It is not the
one she expected, I judge. Robert has gone
to Deloit. I met him in Yankton Monday
night of last week, and saw him start on the
train Sunday morning. I spent one night
at Henry's. He has a nice five acre grove
(planted) on it. The trees are five or six years
old. The house is very poor. He milks 17 cows
and has 26 calves. If he had his place paid
for he has a good prospect for living. But
he can't build until he owns the land.
I hardly see how he will be able to work
through. He is putting up 120 tons of hay.

Mrs. Rennie writes me to know whether her
salary will be continued next year. I cannot
answer the question until our meeting, and besides
it would not reach her much before we will
get over, if the Lord prospers us.

Aff. your father,
J. R. Riggs.

Saturday evening Nov. 2.

[1877]

Beloit, Wisconsin.

My Dear Daughter Martha,

Your letter

written a week ago to night came yesterday.

Her letters from Adam Wakarusa and his father. I will write to them in a few days. I am really very sorry that they have suffered such losses by fire. It will be hard to make up the losses. Still it is not so bad as if they had not a hold on the store house for provisions and clothing. I am glad that Mr. Morris' hay and stables were not swept away also.

I think Cornille must have made rather too strong an impression upon you about her sitting up to study. She may have staid up one night until ten o'clock but I was not aware of it. I insist upon her stopping her arithmetic and going to bed at half past eight.

She has not always done it. But we all go to bed about nine, except Robbie. It is now eight o'clock. The boys, Eli and Sammy, have just gone to bed. Cornille went over for a little while to Mr. Bucknall's, and is just coming home. I do not know whether she will be able to go on with the class she left or not. And I should not care whether she did or not, only that I think she ought not to stay longer than this year in the Grammar School.

But I am fully in sympathy with what you say about pursuing her health above every thing else. I am real sorry that you have lost your friend money. Is it not possible that Mr. D. may be able to pay a part of it? In regard to winter apples it should be put down in the almanac that you cant buy winter apples before the first of November.

I have seen no barrels of Kupie's apples here in Detroit until yesterday. I am glad you have the chimneys done. There is but one copy of the New York Photograph of your mother in my possession. But I have this evening written to know if I can get some more. In case I succeed I will send you one.

Your letters have now the mark of Lissiton Agency on them. You should change the inside also.

Our Parlor looks very much now as it used to do. The carpet and the stove are different: the book-case and the Melodicon and the picture above and your Whatnot are all just where they were when your mother was here. This room also is much as it used to be. The carpet in this room, which we put down today, is not so good as was in it before.

the one in the ~~bed room~~ Parlor and
Parlor bed room is better.

On Wednesday of this week
Annie and I went to Racine to the
meeting of the Am. M. S. Association.

We returned Friday noon. She saw sev-
eral persons there whom she knew in
the Freedmen's work in the South.

Do you remember Bartlett who
went up to Hazelwood with Alfred?
He made one of his funny speeches,
in which he told about his visit there -
caricaturing things a good deal. The meet-
ing was thought to be a good one, though
the attendance was not such as the
Am. Board ~~draws~~^{draws} out. They want to
get the Dakota mission transferred to
them. Gen. Charles Howard told me
that his brother Gen. C. O. Howard is
to be Secy. of the Interior in case Grant
is re-elected. And Grant's reelection
is pretty certain. The story will be
told next Tuesday.

Monday morn; Nov. 4.



We have just had breakfast and worship over. It is a dark morning. Possibly we shall have snow. Last night at the Monthly Concert, I gave by invitation, a condensed history of the Dakota mission.

You will understand that I have not had your Scribner's board yet. They did not come until after we had been to Chicago. Send on the one you have. I may have a chance to send them down by Thomas. If not I will find some other opportunity.

Before your letter came I had heard of the death of Daniel's wife. It will be quite a blow on him. She was one of the best of the Dakota women. I presume, as you say, he will not go on with his house up there at present.

Enclound you will find the last letter from Isabelle which I have received. When you read send to Anna, and ask her to send to Alfred.

For a week past Detroit
College has been in a state of
rebellion. It is about publishing
the Register. The Faculty threatened
to ~~drive~~ expel several students. Where-
upon all the members ^(except three) of the College
Classes signed a pledge that they would
have in such an event. Robbie was
a good deal worked up about it.
The offense was committed by the
Archaeon Union. He was not a mem-
ber of either Society. So it was only by
signing that paper that he became
implicated. On Friday I believe that
paper was withdrawn and cancelled. So
he is free and feels better. The matter
is now in a fair way of settlement.

We are all quite well. Much
love to you all from us all.

Your affectionate father
J. R. Riggs.

Saturday morning - Jan. 26. 1878

Before I called
you answered. Yesterday your letter came
with the article for the Word Carrier. Thanks.
It is in good time. Harry is writing
to you this morning, but just now he is
turning around on his chair - he can't find
any thing to write. I say to him, "Write
about the cys you had the other morning
when you put on your mud pants, because they
were so large". No he says he won't write
that. "Then write about your getting 3 in
spelling 20 words from the Geography". No
he won't write that. Nobody could spell all
those hard words. He spelled 6 words out of
the 20.

Mr. Russell is down
from Madison, where he is spending the winter,
reporting the proceedings of the Legislature. So
of course Cornille did not go to bed last
night until the clock struck eleven.

Have I written to you that Martha
Baker was married on Thursday of last week,

to Mr. Starr? Well, they came to Columbus and spent the Sabbath, on their way to Iowa. On Monday a telegram came to them, saying that Mrs. Baker, the mother, was dead. She had been poorly for some time, but walked out into the parlor on the day of the marriage. Quite unexpectedly she passed away on Monday. Martha and Mr. Starr went back, and will stay a week.

The other day Robert received a letter from Thomas, by mail. You will readily understand that it must have been from a kakusee cipher. But, when bailed, it was very nice.

We have a little snow here but not as much as Harry wants - not enough to make much sliding.

We are all pretty well this Saturday morn.

Aff. your father,

P. L. Riggs.

Beloit, Wisconsin

Feb. 2. 1878.

My Dear Daughter Martha,

I think you should have received some letters before you wrote your Postal to Harry this week that you don't seem to have received. The Family letter should have been there last week I think. Yes, I have been pretty well again for ten days or more. My Bourbon Whiskey and Peruvian bark did me a good turn. I only took a tea spoonful at a time - at first twice a day, and lately only once a day.

I undertook at the beginning of winter to translate Egge and Ahnisch. I shall finish my first copy in two or three days of next week. I suppose from what Dr. Williams wrote me some time ago, that he has the two books of the Chronicles well in hand. So that, God willing, the work of translating the Bible will be soon completed.

Yesterday's mail brought me Dr. W's criticisms on Job and Esther, which was lost. He got it back from the Dead Letter Office. He says he neglected to put on "Return to T. P. Williams". But the letter could not have been backed properly otherwise. I am quite sure it could not have gone to the Dead Letter Office from this place. But I am now so glad that they have come back. I was very unwilling to ask the Doctor to do the work over again.

Yesterday Alfred wrote that he had \$367 in Mark Parmis Bank in Yankton when it failed. \$300 of it had just come on from Doctor. Thomas had \$700 on the way, but it did not reach there in time to be lost. They say the Bank will pay 50 cts on the dollar - Alfred says. Who will fail in three times one does not know.

Mrs. Dinwille writes me that Mrs. Ainslie has undertaken to apply to the Woman's Board

of the Presbyterian Board to get a salary for her. I hardly think she will succeed. If she should it will mix things somewhat.

Saturday eve. The Memorias you sent have come to day. The old one you found proved to be the missing one, but it came too late to save the 19 cents. Harry and I have just been talking the matter over about the binding. He is strong for having both years bound together, to save expense. In that case we will not send for the covers. I will take them down to the Binding next week and inquire about the expense etc. Harry is now making the January Mummy. I don't think he told you about his having to speak in school yesterday. This is the second time he has orated. I can see that he is improving his memory. It was not nearly so difficult for him to commit this second as the first. Robert drilled him some.

Monday morning. Feb. 4.

It is very pleasant winter weather. The little snow we had is disappearing. It seems the snow storms have been to the east of us.

Last night we had a very full monthly concert and the meeting was prolonged. At the close Mr. Ducknell read a letter from Mr. De Forest of Japan, that was very interesting.

This morning I have written, at the request of Mr. Ducknell, to have 30 copies of the Herald sent into families, where it is not taken, hoping that they might be induced to subscribe.

They have all gone off to school.

Love to you all,

Your aff. father,

L. R. Riggs.

Beloit, Wisconsin
Friday eve Feb. 8. 1878.

My Dear Daughter Martha,

Your good long letter of the 4th came to day. Some things I want to jot down before they pass from me. The young folks - Harry & Robert and Cornille - all ^{are} ~~all~~ playing snakes or authors. This afternoon I was in Harry's school a little while. Mr. Crocker says he is doing very well. The other day I took Harry's "Nursies" to be bound. I gave in to Harry, and told them to bind all in one volume at \$1.50. What you wrote the last time about Col. Hooper's Sabbath breaking rested upon me, and yesterday I wrote to Lucy Stuby. If Stuby gives him an overhauling in addition to John Sewell's he will think an Indian Agents place is not an easy one. Annie & I talked some about taking Care Sewell in another year, if we should live that long. We both think favorably of it provided the circumstances do not change

so as to make it inconvenient. The board-
ing I shall not mind - I can stand that.
And I doubt not I can get the young ladies
here, or somewhere, interested in furnishing her
with the clothes she will need, in good part
at least. The expense of her travelling here
and back I could hardly meet myself. Perhaps
that can be arranged for in some way. So we
will keep the matter in our thoughts.

I suppose you have heard of Mr. G. W.
Pond's departure. When I was with him in St.
Paul, during Synod, we talked of the probability
of Dr. Williamson's and P. W. Pond's going, but
hardly thought that the first would be one of us.

Is it is - "at an hour ye think not". This
morning I set down and wrote, as Alfred requested,
about a column in Dakota. I want to prepare
as good an article as I can on Mr. Pond's life
for the English page of April. I could not
do it for March as I wanted to hear from Mrs.
Pond or Mary Frances. The question you raise
in regard to Annie Williamson I cannot an-
swer. I do not remember her being with us.

This evening - Friday - I have received a letter from Dr. Clark in regard to the Chapter I sent him of "Mary and I". He says that he and Dr. Alden and Dr. Worcester have all read it. Dr. Worcester and he think much of it. But Dr. Alden thinks it will be too long. Dr. Clark offers to see what he can do about getting a publisher. Then in a P.S. he adds, "As things go now, I think if the volume should be condensed considerably - say one half - it would find a wider sale". That would take terrible pruning!

Saturday night Feb. 9. I think perhaps you will find freight to be paid on that Box. It could hardly have been carried free. And it is not likely that it met with a friend that paid it. But of course if there is no claim made it must be right somehow.

This afternoon a letter has come from Isabella - dated Dec. 7th. She was doing her

own work - making bread and pies etc.
and eating them. So that she must have
been in a good deal better health than
a month previous.

To day while Harry was writing, Robert
and Cornille were sitting by the stove. Harry asked
how to spell "finished". One answered in this
manner and the other in that, conjuring up all
impossible ways, and kept the thing up so
long, that Harry got terribly disturbed, and thought
they were making fun of him. He had a good
cry, and finally did not get his letter to you
done. But he is at it again to night.

For twenty-four hours we have been having
a storm. The snow has not accumulated much,
but it still comes. It bids fair now to give
us some winter.

On the whole I am
glad that Mr. Sewille had such an opportunity
to talk with Agent Hooper about the Sabbath.
The old man will respect him the more for it.

Friday afternoon
Beloit Wisconsin
March 1. 1878.

My Dear Daughter Martha,

I have two postals
from Marjorie Warner asking me to send
her my books. The last says she wants
a copy of English Dakota Reader. And
Anna add Send a Dakota Geography.

As I have no new copies of either book
here, I will ask you to send them by mail.

I will inclose postage stamps. Send direct
to Anna. Send a colored picture E. D.

Reader. Harry has just come

home from school in great glee because
in the seating he is nxt to the back
seat. And the back seat is the place of honor.

It seems from the discussion that took
place at the supper table that the seating is
not on the basis of scholarship but of deportment.

You will be glad to know that he stands well
in deportment. His spelling pulls him down
mightily. Why cant a boy spell as well as a girl?

 I think we are not prepared to say what we can do next summer about occupying for Mr. Morris. I shall be willing myself to do any thing I can. It hardly seems likely that Edna and her mother can leave here before July at the end of the school year. But when the time comes nearer we can tell better. Since her mother's death, Annie has, I think, had more of a desire to go and see her father next summer.

This week I have written quite a lengthy article on Mr. Pond, which I shall put in the April paper. Mary Francis writes me that at the time of Mr. Pond's death there were 49 of the family left besides her mother. That is a wonderful family.

To day's daily paper brings the news of the passage of the Silver Bill over the Veto of the President. I am really glad of it. But Robert thinks it is very dishonest to make the silver dollar a legal tender.

Saturday morning March 2.

Joseph Tipton

maga has written to me to know how much wall paper will cost to paper this church. It is a curious freak in them to want to paper the church. I was not aware they had any plastering except overhead. So, as I know so little about the case, I have written to him to come down and talk the matter over with you. Mr. Morris will be able to give him information and advice.

We have had a case of scarlet fever (so the doctor said) across the way, at Mrs. Colts. Mrs. Colts daughter Mrs. Yates has come on from Cleveland with her little boy, about Harry's age. The boy was taken sick on the way. He is now up and out some. I think it is not certain that it was a case of scarlet fever. No one yet has taken it from him. We kept our child away. And Harry thought it was a great trial. Yesterday morning he amused us very much

by asserting that Charley Yates' sickness
was a greater disappointment to him and
George Ross than it was to Charley himself.
They wanted to play with him so much.

We have a rainy morning.

Before your last letter came I had
sent down the Sepi Page list for this year
for Pimton Agency. I would not like to
ask them to change. But Alfred will
overhaul the whole Mail List probably
in April. So I will make a note of Mr.
Smith's wish and endeavor to have the
change made then. In the mean time Mr.
Smith will send to his friend until the
change is made.

Harry's letter this time is to go with
Committee's letter. Love to all.

Aff. your father,

J. R. Riggs.

Beloit, Wisconsin.

Friday night March 14, 1878.

My Dear Daughter Martha,

The Temperance Campaign is to be inaugurated to night and Edna's mother and I were calculating to go down, but it has commenced to rain. It does not seem exactly necessary for old folks to walk $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile - over the bridge - on a wet night to attend a Temperance meeting. A Red Ribbon man is to commence rolling the ball. I suggested to Harry that he jot down this evening what he will write to you to-morrow, but he says to-morrow can take care of itself. Thus as we have received no letter yet from you this week, he does not know whether he ought to write to you. I say to him he had better write two, one for you and one for himself. Annie has succeeded in selling one pair of moroccos - the 1,25 pair - but for the other she does not yet find a purchaser.

On Tuesday of this week the Beloit Minister

5423

meeting was held. You was at one at Pres.
Chapin's. This time it was over the river
at Mr. Highby's. There was a very large gath-
ering - about 40 at the tables in the evening.
After nine o'clock my name was read in the
Programme to open the discussion on the Bible
doctrine of Hell. When I was through this dis-
cussion was arrested, as it was time decent people
should go home. I was very tired and excited
that night, and could not sleep until almost
morning. Wednesday morning we had another turn
at ^{it}, when Edna went over with her mother.
Cornille staid with Edna Tuesday night. It
happened that the Peak Family of Bell Singers
were at the Opera House that night. Cornille
had received two tickets to that, which she passed
over to Robert and Harry. I want Harry to tell
you something of what he saw and heard.

Alfred writes me that the first proof sheets
of the new Dakota Hymn Book have come on.
He says it will look very well. There is now
some prospect of the book being completed.

Monday night, March 18.

On Saturday I went up to Clinton and preached for Mr. Benson yesterday. In the evening they went to hear about the Wakes, and so I had a hard day of it. Then they set up and talked until 11 o'clock last night. Therefore I don't feel very cute to night.

Annie has gone down to a Temperance meeting. There is a Red Ribbon movement going on here. I have told that before. Well it is a good thing and will bear telling twice. Harry and Edna are looking at Cornville drawing on the other table. To day brought a letter from Anna, telling about various things.

As I have kept this letter longer than usual, I fear you will not receive it this week.

Good be you all.

Aff. yours father,
P. R. Rigg.

March 16. We are having an icy rain.
 The trees are on'sika - with bowed heads
 and broken branches. And I feel this morn-
 ing a good deal rheumatic. On Sunday
 of this week occurred the Ministers' Meeting.
 It was at Prof. Emerson's. But few came
 from out of town. And the preparation exercises
 were rather meagre. Some union meetings
 yet go on, but they are mostly on the other
 side of the river this week & last.

The next Lapsi Oaze is to be a St Bartholomew's
 number. But the English part will not be
 quite what I hoped to have made it.

Robert has about got through with
 the preparation of his Prize Debate. And I am
 glad of it. He has been talking Rail Roads
 for the last month, & nothing else.

I suppose that Henry did not fall in
 with Thomas' plan about his lot. After
 I had sent Thomas \$200 - belonging to Rob.
 & Cornelia & Annie - he wrote to me that
 he did not know as he should use it - for
 Henry wanted to dispose of the whole.

I have had the same complaint to make
 of the boys that you make. It would be

an advantage to them and to others is
they would be more communicative.

Leornilla staid at home yesterday
and to day on account of the weather.

All send love.

Aff. your father,

P. H. Riggs.

Beloit, Wisconsin

March 23, 1878.

My Dear Daughter Martha,

So the years

go around and I have reached the three
score and six. Not many more years
surely will be my earthly life. Well.

Your letters of the 7th and 14th both
came together several days ago. And yester-
day Mr. Morris' letter of the 16th came.

Harry is going to write to day. But
just now he is working - piling up the wood.
He thought it would be a fine job of piling
five cords of wood, and getting \$1.25 for it.
But it has been real hard work for him
to keep at it. Play - play - play. Three
or four boys around playing - that has
been more than he could resist. And so the
piling has dragged. To day I want him
to finish it up as the yard wants to be
cleared. The spring seems to come right
along notwithstanding prophecies to the contrary.

Yesterday I had carpenters at work putting on new shingles on our wing part. That will cost me about \$15. They are talking of having a bay window put into our south bed room. It is a small room you know, and now Edna's mother has it half filled up with plants. We talked some of putting it out on the porch or rather inclosing the whole of the porch with glass windows. But we concluded that would spoil the looks of the front.

Wednesday evening we were invited to tea at Mrs. Wheeler's to meet Mr. Wright of Leech Lake. He is on his way to Oshkosh to visit his family. Paul an Ojibwa young man is with him. Mr. Wright goes back in about five weeks. I believe he is government teacher at Leech Lake.

Thursday night I went down to the Red Ribbon Temperance meeting in the Presbyterian church. It was the evening for prayer meeting and so the house filled up slowly. Mr. McCollister occupied fifteen minutes in scolding about it;

which was in very bad taste. But the meeting closed up pretty well - 70 or 80 taking the Red and White Ribbons. Last night I expected to go to the meeting in the Opera house. But instead I attended a caucus of a lot of men - not exactly temperance - but who are now willing to go against License.

Mr. Bucknell was there and got the pegs knocked from under him. Licensing grog shops was declared to be a fraud and a mischief - making the selling and drinking respectable. They think we can carry the council against License. I hope we shall.

When we broke up Mr. Bucknell and I went to the Opera House, but not even good standing room was left for us, and so we came home.

Saturday night. Harry and I both tried to finish piling our wood today, but we got tired and he went off to finish, bringing home a few little ones.

The \$40 which I received from Indianapolis
for the Brown Earth church I have their
consent to use in chairs. I shall get 5 or
6 dozen. I have to day received a letter
from the Manufacturers. They will be shipped
to Mr. Morris at Hancock. I will reserve
money to pay the freight. So that Mr. Morris
can safely pay that and look to me for it.

Monday morn. Beloit Mass. 25-

We have had a little cool spell, but it is a beautiful morning.

I think I will be ready to go up to Linton pretty early in May. I have to finish Mechanisms - revised copy. And I want to put the garden here in the way of growing. Edna's mother has set her heart on going to see her father this summer sometime. This she feels drawn to do since her mother's death. So that she will not probably go out to Linton. But I don't know certainly yet. Do you want Harry to stay here in school until the close of the school year, the last of June - or to come home with me? He is under the impression that he is to stay until the end of the school. And it is not but to disturb that feeling unless you decide to have him go up with me.

I don't know yet what conditions Henry's mother has assumed. Thomas was to have paid the first note which matured

in January or February, as I suppose.

Probably as Henry was away then it was not done at the time, but I have not heard about it. I believe I wrote you that the plan was in lifting the other two notes of \$500 each, a new mortgage would be taken for that \$1,000. That would secure the amount. Whatever the shrinkage is the form should be good for \$1,000.

Yesterday afternoon I spoke in the Opera house on the Temperance - or rather the License question. Last night I went to the Overflow meeting in the Methodist church. The house was well filled. The Opera house they say was crowded. The Red Ribbon wave is sweeping on. Nearly 1000 have taken it in Detroit. No other movement was swept over the city as this is doing. But Mr. Burdwell holds out against it. I asked him last night to put it on. "I don't belong to the aristocracy," was his reply.

Yours truly P. H. Pigeon.

Deloit, Wisconsin

Lat. co - April 27. 1878.

My Dear Daughter Martha

Owing to several
naughty teeth I have been able to do
but little to day. But I bundled up
and went down with Harry this afternoon
and bought him a Hat. Also we purchased
an Express wagon for Theodore - \$1.00.
The hat was \$1.00 also. Your letter
came yesterday. I have written down
to Chicago to know if they can make
some Cabinet size Photographs. When I
had it taken he said he had it arranged
to enlarge - but I did not then order any.

Cornille has been attending to your Hat
to day also. I don't really know what
clothes Harry needs. I looked at some
to day, but did not see any that suited
my notion. Perhaps his grandmother
will go down with him next week.

Edna is delighted with Theodore's little

and has been hauling it all around
this evening. She thinks it is mighty
nice.

I imagine your hands are very full
of work. I hardly see how you get along.
I have paid John D. Newville \$1/2 on this
Quarter. So that it is not necessary ~~that~~
you should pay him any thing, unless, as I
said, he should be wanting it.

To day I sent five Chapters of "Mary
and I" to the Secretary of the Presbyterian
Board of Publication. In a note I received
from Walker yesterday, he did not give
much encouragement about this undertaking
to publish it, but said they would like
to examine it — and may be.

It rains here much as it does with you.
I got some potatoes planted last week. But
this week I have been waiting — the ground
is too wet. It has been a misfortune, for
there has been no work for Mary to do.

Monday morning April 29.



This is a beautiful morning. It appears somewhat as though we should have pleasant weather now.

I went to plant garden this week.

My teeth quieted down and then a headache came on yesterday which kept up all night pretty much. I seem to take cold so easily.

Cornille is about starting to school and I want to send this by him to the Post office. Robert had a letter from Thomas on Saturday. I judge his plan of borrowing from Mr. Foster did not get carried out, since he wants \$2.00 from Robert to lift the note for Henry.

The Polonous are beautiful.

Aff. your father,
P. R. Riggs.

Beloit, Wis.
May 1. 1878.



My Dear Daughter Martha,

Your letter

of 23rd of April did not reach here
until yesterday. One from Isabelle
of Feb. 18th came also. Your article
on Nannie I like much, and have put
it in for the June Paper - which pushes
on the other two papers of yours. I did
not tell you they were within an ace
of going into the May Paper. They were
put up to go and would have been sent
off to morrow - when Robert came in
with his article. Some months ago he
had promised to write but did not get
it done. When he handed it in, I
thought I would put in a part of it,
and one of yours, but on reading it, I
did not see how. So the thing came
about. But yours will not injure by
waiting.

 I sent by Cornille to the S.O. this
morning some writing paper which
Rob. contributed. It is cut like this,
and you may not like it. This is not
a good place to buy paper on good terms,
and so I have left the getting of some
for myself until I reach St Paul. I
will get your 1/2 Rem at the same time.

I fear I shall not come across any
thing like your clothes dryer. I have not
seen any thing of the kind.

For Harry's pants your letter came
six hours too late. In the morning he and
his grandmother had gone down town
and got his measure taken for the cutting.

That was 25, and she spent 16 cts for some
trimmings. They are now in a woman's
hands. Since I wrote to you about
it we talked the matter over and concluded
it was best to have them made. The making
will not be over 60 cents. They bought
a summer coat for \$1.75 - I had purchased
a hat for \$1.00. I will attend to the shoes -
though he is ambitious to get when he can go bare foot.

Uncle Henry
&
Aunt Lucy
(Wedding)

Beloit, Wisconsin
Sep. 30. 1878.

My Dear Mr. Morris,

I have just written to
Mr. Ward for our next Quarter's ratios.
I have asked him to send you \$187.50
Quarter's salary - \$50 on School fund, and
\$21.90 to pay balances to Pastors - viz:

David Guy Cloud \$4.75 3.60

Joseph Sigopamaga \$3.00 paid 2.85

John D. Renville 14.15 paid

David was owing for a Hymn book. I have
deducted it. Louis is paid up. Daniel
and Isaac are transferred for the time and
otherwise provided for. So that my balance
on hand from this fund will nearly cover
what I have advanced to Daniel L. on the
last payment for the House.

The \$25- check I left with you will
pay Mrs. Renville. Mr. Renville reported
by letter to me \$10.85 missionary money.

He ought by this time to be able to pay some on the Tappi Oage. I am afraid we shall come out behind on that this year more than hitherto.

I read the proof on Saturday and sent it down. I could not change Martha's article without making too much work for the printer. It is not bad as it is.

I sent a letter to you by some one at Yankton Agency, telling about the appointment of Isaac Renville to go to Cheyenne and John Eastman to go up to Devil's Lake for a couple of months by the Native Mission Committee. John Eastman will want some books which you will be so kind as to furnish him.

Last week we rushed things. Monday we came down to Santee. Tuesday at 10 o'clock the marriage came off in the chapel. Henry came up Monday and reached the Ferry just ahead of us. After the marriage we had collection at Alfred's. (He had gone to St. Louis)

Then Mr. Ward and Mrs. Howard and Mrs. Dodge and Mr. Joseph Dodge and Miss Balkous and I came down in our team. Henry and Lucy followed in Thomas buggy. We reached Yankton before sundown. But they were detained at the river and went by the ferry, reaching Mr. Ward's about 8 o'clock.

We had all eaten. They ate and then about 9 of the clock they started out to the farm. It was Lucy's determination. Mrs. Dodge said, "I would do just as Lucy does" and so the rest of us quitted down. They had not gone 10 minutes when a storm commenced which must have wet them well.

But they were young and it was this wedding night. They wanted something romantic. Thomas staid at Santee to take Alfred's place for a day.

Wednesday morning Cora Renville and I took the cars at Yankton and Thursday at 3 of the clock we were here at home.

Lora has gone into school this morning.
She takes the place in the Sixth Grade
where Harry commenced here a year ago.
Mrs. Crocker inquired about Harry.

Mrs. Martha Baker Starr is here
sick. She came from Tipton Iowa on the
same train we were on. Friday she was
taken sick - Saturday morning before light
I went for the Doctor - she had a miscarriage
of five months. But she is doing well.

On Saturday a friend of Annie's - a Mrs. Kausay
from Clinton Iowa, came with her daughter of
11 years. So we have a house full. I don't
know whether Edna and her mother will go
with me to Milwaukee or not. That was
the intention. But —

I have received a letter from Agent
Hooper and written to Dr. Sturby as he de-
sired me to do.

Love to all, from

Yours aff.

P. R. Riggs

Beloit, Wisconsin
Nov. 2. 1878.

My Dear Daughter Martha,

Yours of 29th

Autobus came yesterday. I am glad you had so good a chance to get a good supply of Apples. I have just purchased two barrels at \$2.50 each, - one of Baldwins and one of Sick-no-further. From our trees here I put in the cellar over three barrels. But quite a good many of them are rotting badly already. And they were all quite small. It is quite a chore to pare and core a half a bushel of them. Apples are quite cheap this year. They say in Ohio they are less than 25-cts a bushel.

I have not sent the box to you yet. At the time I made the unsuccessful effort to find a boy that would hold Harry's sled, I thought I would try again soon. But it has been put off. I did not know but you would

went to send to me for some thing and
so have not hurried. By the way you ^{should} have
rec'd the shoes we sent before you wrote
last, but you did not speak of it.

A few days ago I had a letter from
Lucy. She said they were expecting to start
for Sally this week and perhaps stay over
to-morrow - Sabbath - at Alfred. Last Sab-
bath Thomas spent at Gloucester, and expected
to be in Yankton on his way up, by Tuesday
night last. Louise Irvine was with him
going to Peoria Bottom. Miss Webb also
came with him from Mass. going to Alfred.

I concluded to commence writing to Isabella
again, and so sent off one this week. I have
not written her since July perhaps. I suppose
they are not coming this season. We have
had some quite cold weather of late. But it
is such a wonderful God-send to the lands
of the Yellow Stone, that we rejoice in it.

Lately I have consented to take a class
of young folks in Sabbath School - a half

a dozen College Seniors and ten or a dozen
young women. To-morrow Prof. Emerson
takes it for me, as I am to go to Rockton
Rockton and give a missionary discourse.

I think I shall like this class - they seem
to be quite alive. Some days ago

I had a letter from cousin Harriet Daniels.
She had been away a good part of the
summer - east - at Brown's and Charley's
and elsewhere. Martha Robinson and Genevieve
are somewhere in Virginia, where G. is teaching
music. Eliza Jane has been in Kansas
but was expected back at Portsmouth.

The other day I looked over your Scrib-
ners - all here of last year, and of this year
to July - then looking August, Sept., October.

Monday morn Nov. 4. I don't feel
worth much this very nice morning. Perhaps
I worked a little too hard yesterday. They
got more out of me at Rockton than I
bargained for.

Some time ago Joseph Lijobsavage wrote me that his wheat had all been burnt up. In consequence of this, I wish Mr. Morris to hand him for me \$5 - five dollars. I will write to him about it.

The fires have been very destructive this year it seems. Henry's establishment came away being burnt up. And Alfred's Bazille creek church got scotched pretty well.

I must send this to the office by Cornville this morning, so that you will get it by the Friday's mail.

All pretty well. Love to all.

Aff. your father,

P. H. Riggs

Beloit, Wisconsin
Nov. 15. 1878.

My Dear Daughter Martha,

Your two last letters of the 8th & 12th have both come - the latter to-day - also the newspapers. We shall see how they can be disposed of. I have commenced writing to Isabelle again at Kalgan. I suppose it will be all right to divert there until the middle of February. Dr. Porter says he thinks they will come down early in the spring - in April - and will not wait for the Annual meeting, which is in May. I think we shall soon hear something of their plans.

Dr. Porter and Mary and their mother are all here this week. On Tuesday of this week the Ministerial Association of Beloit met at President Chapin's, where it was a year ago when you were here. It was an uncommonly large gathering. We had with us Rev. Bondell and wife of Emerald Grove, over night.

The Box we sent off eight days ago. All the purchases we made are in it. If it goes well, it ought to reach you before Thanksgiving.

Fred Hatch is not married that I know of. Louisa Irvine has gone up as a worker. Miss Collins was to go back, and I presume has gone - though I have heard nothing from any of them since the time they reached Yankton.

My impression is that Dr. Pierson's Church (Presbyterian) in Detroit, will support Louisa.

You must learn not to be greatly distressed by the sighs and groans around you. Gather the roses and let the thorns be. To-day I finished writing an article on "Two Old Men" - whose combined ages I find to be 144 - and since writing it, I feel as much as Moses.

Saturday morn. Nov. 16. This is a dark, rainy morning. A letter which I received from C. L. Hall in regard to Agent Alden's bad doings I have just now inclosed to Dr. Strick. Mr. Hall is much exercised in the matter and wants an investigation made.

I judge that Agent Hooper is not to be removed at present. This I conclude because I hear nothing further about it.

If they have not yet sent on any clothing for James Garvie, I would be glad if Mr. Morris would see that they don't send too small pants. He must have grown a good deal since he came here. The pair of pants he had, he claims, he has not been able to wear for some time. He was ordered to the old pair I gave him, until ten days ago I bought him new ones.

When you see any of the Brown Earth people tell them they must hurry up the completion of the church building. They can't get the other \$100 from New York until the house is finished. Daniel Newville says he will refund the \$25 he owes as soon as Thomas can pay it to him.

That will go to Mr. Morris again - by the first of January, if not before. He may feel quite safe in furnishing that again to them.

1878

Harry's letter I will send to Jimmy or give it to him - to day perhaps. The quarterly comes around here Saturday afternoon.

Monday morn - Nov. 18.

The day is cloudy and dark. The winter is coming on I suppose. But we have had a good deal of very nice fall weather here. Mr. Russell was down from Madison and came here Sabbath evening (yesterday) I do not like visiting Sabbath evening, but as he is not now living here I do not speak against it.

Yesterday afternoon Edna's mother and I went down to Lempereau meeting. They have some good singing there. Mr. Eaton sang "The Palace of the King" very finely.

Cornille is about starting to school. So I send this off to make sure of your receiving it Friday. All well.

Love to all from

Your Aff. father,
P. H. Rigg.

Beloit, Wisconsin
Nov. 29. 1878.

My Dear Daughter Martha,

Yours of the 22nd came the other day. I bought a paper of 12 of Locks. Cornille took out a few and the rest I have mailed to you this morning. You must have all your hands full these days, with 20 boys to care for.

The other day there came by mail a pencil sketch of the Good Will mission house and school house. I said when Martha writes we will know who sent it and who made it - but you did not tell us. Some say, "Why Mary must have improved in drawing wonderfully". Edna says, "Perhaps Mary Theodore made it." I imagine the mother must have had something to do with it.

Well, Mrs. Ainslie's gossiping, busy letter has found a place in the steady Missionary Herald! What next?

Some weeks ago Anna wrote me that they were quite disappointed in my not stopping to see them as I came home from the Missouri - that she had thought they would have their child baptized if I came. So I wrote her I would come out and baptize the children if they said so. They invited me out Thanksgiving - but I could not go because the proof of Dr. Sapi Oage was to be read. Now that is done, and I have not very much work on hands to keep me at home, I have written that I will go out next week and be there about Friday Dec. 6th. The proof of Dr. Williamson's Second Chronicles is coming to me, every three days or so; but what comes while I am away can be sent on to Dr. W.

To send those picture frames by mail I think would be running more risk than is wise. The postage would be considerable and the glass would likely get broken.

I will act your pleasure as you may indicate it.

Yesterday we had a very pleasant day for Thanksgiving. Turkey was down to 10 c a pound in the market, and so I bought a turkey. We had meant to do with a chicken. But when Turkey came down to chicken, they all voted for Turkey. Mr. Dushnell preached a sermon an hour long - but pretty good. Six parsons sat on the platform, a very good looking set of men they were. After our dinner I went down town and mailed some letters. The business places generally were shut up. Every body, almost, seemed to be at home eating Thanksgiving dinner.

It is really wonderful how this good weather holds on. We hear there was snow up north the first of this week - there was a very little fall here. But it is bright and pleasant again.

The schools - town - closed for Thanksgiving and have no school to day - Friday. Cornille has gone down town. Nora has something of a cough that we have been trying to have

her get rid of. Otherwise she seems to be
 quite well. She has just made a calico
 dress for herself, with some help. The College
 goes on again to day. Charlie got one of
 his eyes hurt on Monday and went down to
 Loure to keep Thanksgiving with one of the
 boys. Jimmy Garvie is looking well.

We are all as well as usual.

Love to all from your aff. father,

P. L. Riggs.

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10

Beloit, Wisconsin.
January 1. 1879.

My Dear Daughter Martha,

A Happy New Year
to you all. This is a beautiful morning,
but quite cold. I should like to look
in upon you all. We are all pretty well
except Cora Renville. I think I have
not told you about Cora. We are afraid
she is going in Consumption. She has
had a cough for a couple of months per-
haps. We have been doctoring her some.
Last Saturday she went down with Edna's
mother to see the Doctor. He examined
her and pronounced her lungs in a bad
condition. He recommended the use of Cod-
Liver-Oil as the only thing that can do
her any good. That is expensive you know.
But I bought \$2 as a trial. Cora fell
out of school a few days before the tem-
pest. Her appetite is poor and she eats
sparingly. She does some light work yet.
We should be very glad, if, in these circum-

stands she was with her friends - if indeed she had a home. But it is winter, and of course a removal is not to be thought of.

We shall do the best we can for her. It is possible she may live until warmer weather.

I have written to her father a couple of times about her.

This morning Robert tells me that Thomas has arranged with him to pay to me the \$25, Daniel Smvick owes the Brown Earth church. So if Mr. Morris will credit that amount to the church and charge it to me I will make it all right. If I had known it two days ago, I would have arranged for it now. I want the Brown Earth church people to finish off this house - as they can't get the other \$100 from the church Executive Board until the house is finished. I have so written to them.

Our folks are going to make a fire in the parlor and receive any who may call to day. Love to all, Aff. S. R. Riggs.

Beloit, Wisconsin.
January 3. 1879.

My Dear Daughter Martha,

Your of
last Sunday has just come. I fear that
you might be shut up and out by snow.
The weather here now is very-very cold.
We try to keep warm. I am glad your
things arrived safely. Yesterday and today
I have been looking for the January Scrip-
tore - but this afternoon I received a tele-
gram from Howard saying that my English
page proof failed to reach them. I sent
it down last Monday morning. So they
have been waiting all this time. I regret
the delay, but cannot help it. The mails
are somewhat uncertain. A worse thing
than that happened to us. Some two months
ago Henry and Alfred and Mr. Ward of Yankton
sent papers to me in reference to Henry's
appointment. I obtained a paper also from
President Chapin. I sent them all on
together. But the whole was lost somewhere.

Dr. Clark has written to us and blamed us. And Alfred has written to him impatiently, and now ~~at~~ we have sent on all the papers again.

The case of Louise and the oxen, I think I had better not meddle with. Since I have been unable to keep Mr. H. in his place, he might not care to receive advice or suggestion from me.

The letters which I inclose are the last ones that came from Isabella. I meant to have sent them sooner. Cornille had an invitation to go to Vinton on a salary of \$40 a month. But as the time there is a month shorter than here, she found she would only make two dollars by going, and so declined.

I sent a letter off to you on Tuesday.

It is to be hoped you are all keeping from freezing this weather.

Aff. yours,
S. R. Riggs.

Beloit, Wis.

Feb. 11. 1879.

My Dear Daughter Martha,

I should have

sent off a letter to you yesterday but did not. Cora Rinville died on Saturday at 2 o'clock in the morning. I wrote to her father and some others that day. The burial came on Sabbath afternoon. We all felt somewhat under up by last week. Cora did not like to have other women wait upon her. She said, Those women come and stare at me. So with two exceptions we watched with her. I took my time in the morning from two or three or four o'clock, as the case required. We did not think she would have gone so soon. Dr. Johnson had seen her on Thursday and thought she might live a week. Friday night at seven o'clock I gave her some soup which she could only take from a spoon. She talked more than usual. I want to see

a Dakota man, she said. Shall I send
for James Garvie or Charley Eastman? I said.
No, I don't know them, she replied. I
presume she meant her father. I said - perhaps
your father will come yet. Cornille walks
with her. I was up a little after one. But
C. said she would not go to bed until
after two. Cora was restless and said
"Oh dear" very frequently. Before two Cornille
helped her to turn over. Very soon after
that she stopped breathing. Dr. Johnson
said the heart fell over on the lungs and
the breath stopped. She has gone from
us. We buried her in one corner of our lot
where your mother lies. The house was filled
at the service. I made a statement in regard
to the Kniville family. Saturday a letter
came from Daniel. If he should start
to come on after hearing of his rapid decline
he will only come to the Gaultier Agency.
As there he will hear that Cora is gone.

The house seems lonesome without her.
This morning I wrote a little notice of
her, and otherwise completed my English
copy for the Mail paper, which I mailed
this afternoon. And now here come some
items from Alfred.

Yesterday a letter came from Isabella.
The main portion is for Alfred in which
she proposes to go up there - the whole family -
and keep home in his young Mrs. Hells, for a
month or six weeks next summer. Before
that however Mr. Williams will take some
of the older children and visit his mother,
while Isabella is seeing some of her friends.
If they should come in season I might take
her up to Simonton for a little visit. How
would that suit you? or would sometime
later in the season do better? I think
they plan to have the family together in Ohio
during the winter.

Isabella's letter to me I will send up.
You can put it in the Family Letter.

I will also send you Henrietta's anticipated Thanksgiving Dinner that is to be eaten next November.

We have had a real snow storm here to day. Cornille came home a little while ago in Mr. Miller's carriage. He takes the run in the morning, and then in a peculiar storm goes for the ice in the evening.

Some days since I went to put up your Scribners for binding, and found Oct. 1878 missing. The August and Sep. came not long since. I suppose you have not sent October yet.

Love to all, from your

Aff. father,

P. L. Diggs.

Beloit, Wis.

March 26. 1879.

My Dear Daughter Martha,

On Monday I sent up a little bunch of Candy as you requested. I hope it will reach you in time. Yesterday I wrote to the Church men at Fort Atkinson, and will report to you when I hear from them. The Brown Earth people want a real bell metal Bell - a Menely & Kimbrey Bell. They have one at Glendora - with two clasps - weighs 400 lbs and has "Praise the Lord" on it. So they want to use the whole of the \$100 which is coming to them from Church Extension.

I have written to know how they will furnish one. I don't want them to use all the \$100 and then have to borrow to pay for freight. I received a letter from Daniel Ingvill yesterday.

Thomas I suppose is in Chicago now. Mr. Day wrote me on Saturday that Mr. Adams.

Horace had arrived there and Thomas and Theodore had stopped to spend the Sabbath in Detroit. So we are looking for them up here any day.

This morning it was raining and Cornille put on his waterproof and found in the pocket an unopened letter from Isabelle which she had forgotten entirely. It was written Dec. 16th and must have come three weeks or more ago. We have since received news up to January 7th. Mrs. Williams - the mother - sent me up a letter of Mark's, in which he told how and where to send letters to them, viz; from March 1st to May 1st send to Kobe, Japan, care of Mrs. John S. Gulick. From May 1st to July 1st send to San Francisco. Alfred has received a letter from Isabelle saying they expect to be in San Francisco July first, or about that time.

The College term has closed this morning. Last night was "Junior Y". Edna wanted to go very much. So I took her under my

wing, and set in a back seat, and came home when it was about half through. She was delighted to read of M N I O L

Y Y X X Z on the great windows of the Church. Do you remember that? They had a picnic on the Station and the music was by a Choir from Rockford. Edna was carried away with the singing - especially our solo. She never heard any thing so beautiful - it was lovely. And then the Lady's hands and arms were so white! they were all just as white as kid gloves!! The clapping too was new to her. It was all so nice. When will "Junior Y" come again?

Has your new Agent come on? What is his name? I have forgotten how Dr. Strickly wrote it.

Cornille does not come home until about 7 o'clock this night. They are preparing for some kind of an Exhibition for day after tomorrow. They will have

only one week vacation. We are
expecting any day to hear when Dr. Porter
and Bessie Chapin are to be married. Mary
Porter is up here now. She starts to China
in about a month, I understand. We thought
the wedding might be tomorrow. But I
presume it will not be before next week.

Our coal is now about out, and
I shall move in the parlor wood stove in
a day or two. We hope there wont be any
very cold weather now. Last night we
had quite a good ^{rain}, and our Cistern has water
in it again. It has been dry all winter
pretty much. Last fall I had it plastered
but it did not hold. I have had the
men at it again this spring. Now I
hope it will be of some use to us.

We are all reasonably well.

I hope you are as well.

Love to all.

your aff. father,

P. L. Riggs.



Beloit, Wisconsin,
April 3. 1899.

My Dear Daughter Martha,

Your letter of the
27th March came on the 1st of April. Yesterday we had a great snow storm. It snowed all day, some of the time furiously. It accumulated to 6 or 8 inches. Thomas and Theodore started for Chicago by the noon train. The little boy had a hard cold when he came and was not entirely recovered. But our little Edna was rather the worst. On Friday Edna and I walked over to visit Cornell's school in the closing exercises. It rained a little and we were somewhat wet, and both took cold. This affected her throat especially. Sometimes she has had a high fever. Monday night she was rather pretty much all night. Tuesday night she slept pretty well. Yesterday morning she seemed a good deal improved. But the fever came on in the afternoon and kept up until now.

Love to you all from your affectionate father
D. R. R.

midnight, when she fell asleep. This morning she is up and seems a good deal better again. But her cough is still troublesome. We have had Dr. Cary to visit her. Yesterday evening about the time I did not like her appearance and so went down to call the doctor. I did not find him at his home and went on to his office and to the post office. But did not find him. I started back intending to leave word at his home and have him come up. But I remembered a certain king of Israel, who, in his sickness, sought unto the physicians and not unto the Lord - and so I came by the doctor's.

I hope by good nursing Edna will get along. Her cough probably has some connection with her former whooping cough.

Well - yesterday it was snowing terribly - more than Robert and Edna's mother and I went to the Reception at Mrs. Chapin's. Dr. Porter and Miss Davis were married at half past eleven and Reception commenced at half past twelve. There was quite a crowd notwithstanding the weather.

Cornville has a woman sewing for her in the house and so did not go to the Sunday school. At half past two they started for Chicago and the East - that is the young married folks.

As you may suppose it was quite a grand affair. Dr. Porter's father and mother and Mary and all the other members of the family were here. Mrs. Hall of St. Paul and Mrs. Fass of Chicago and others were here. The gold and silver - the books and other presents were various and costly and were displayed in a room upstairs. I looked in but did not examine them.

Immediately on the receipt of your letter I forwarded your letter to New York, putting into it a P.O. order for \$3. That cost only as much as a registered letter, and it was more convenient for me to get, as I had no small notes on hand. The 3 doz buttons I purchased - Cornville being in the store and making the selection - cost with postage 47 cts. These I will mail today. I paid for the arithmetic. The other book Rob. had on hand.

I am glad to hear that your new Agent has arrived. A new broom will sweep clean perhaps. But there are always disadvantages in having a new man. Sometimes will be required to "bring him to undusted things."

Yesterday's mail brought from Paddy's two letters from Mr. Williams written to his mother. The last one is dated Jan. 28. In 12 weeks from that time they were to start. They will stop at Peking for the Mission meeting. Then will visit Mr. Gulick in Kobe Japan. We are to send letters to them at San Francisco, "Care of E. P. Flint & Co."

You will perhaps be surprised to learn that Thomas has been to Cornille with the proposition to go out and keep house for him a year. And Cornille has pretty much acceded. She will travel one month in the next June and go in the middle of May - that is, if she goes. It is perhaps not quite fully settled. I have not myself felt quite sure that it is the wisest thing to do. But Thomas is quite sure it is the best thing to do.

Love to you all from your affectionate father D. P. R.

Beloit, Wisconsin.

April 11. 1879.

My Dear Daughter Martha,

When you know
whether any thing worth while can be done
in the way of Birds wings etc. you will
let Mrs. Aptis know. I have written to
her and told her that I have referred her
letters to you. Yesterday Mr. Morris'
letter came together with the document
from the Synodary on Dances. I have trans-
lated it and sent on to Commissioner Hagt.
Mr. Will Glover sends me a letter
with a good deal of news about Agency
matters. He is particularly hard on Mr.
Paguis.

I am sorry to hear from Mr. Morris
that you are all suffering with epizootic yet.
Write us it has been very prevalent. Sometimes
we have been alarmed about Edna. Ten days
ago we employed Dr. Cary - homopathic -

But his medicines seem to produce so little
effort that we got discouraged, and went
to doctoring with rhubarb etc. After three
or four days the fever which came on every
afternoon was stopped. But she yet has
a troublesome cough, especially at night, and
a sore throat. For some days past she has
seemed pretty "peert" as they say in the dog
time, but gets tired before night. She comes
to me now and wants to be held.

Saturday morning - April 12. This is a
beauty of a morning. We all slept better
last night than for some nights past. But
Edna has had a fit of coughing this morning.

Yesterday I bought a pint bottle of Winter's fluid
said to be better than Arnold's in that it is
not so pale when first applied. I will send
it up a box when I come. We have
on hand some articles of clothing since last
winter designed to go up to Good Will. So
that I will pack a box. If you want

any special purchases made let me know.

Just now I am getting ready the material
for the May Wood Carriage. Edna wants
me to tell Mary Theodora that she has
a little wagon like the one we took up
last summer. This has "U. S. Mail" on it.

Miss Mary Porter met the young ladies
of Beloit or rather of this church yesterday
afternoon in the church parlour. Cornille
came home early and attended the meeting.
She reports it as very interesting. It was
conventional. A Miss Clapp was present who
is to go to Kalgar - going out next fall
with Dr. Porter and wife.

I have just put up a little bundle
of roots - currants and black raspberries, which
I hope will reach you safely and in good time.
I should set them out in the rows of trees in
the field. Perhaps the currants had better be
outside of the rows - more in the sun.

I have had James Garvie working for
me considerable. I agreed to pay him 10 cts an hour.

But he is so much of a boy yet and has to
be looked after so much, that I give him
more than his work is worth. He is spading
now for peas. I have planted nothing yet. Some
folks have planted not only peas but early potatoes.

Beloit, Wisconsin.
April 22. 1879.

My Dear Daughter Martha,

I am much obliged

for the article you sent down. As I want to make out the copy for the June paper quite early in May, I had been wondering where I should get the material. Yours will give me quite a start. Your Scribners have just come from the binders. I want to pack a box to send up to you by the 5th or 6th of May. We have some clothing that come in the winter. So if you wish me to buy any thing send down your order. I think I will get you a carpet. Tell me how many yards. Do you prefer a rag carpet? It can be bought now, cheaper than it can be made. I am of opinion that I ought to carpet that sitting room for the wear I put on it. At any rate let me do it.

Last evening we had the whole Bush-
nell family to tea - father and mother and George

and Lila and Mary and Dortha. They went home at ten o'clock.

I am just now working in our strawberry beds. If they do well there will be a large yield of strawberries. I wish Isabella could be here by the middle of June to enjoy them. But they will be all gone before the 10th of July.

Yesterday a letter came from Halgan which I send you. I am advised that the churn is shipped to you. So I hope you will have milk to churn.

Edna is pretty well again. So are we all. I hope you and all the family are well again. Love to all.

Your aff. father,
P. R. Higgs.

Beloit, Wisconsin.

May 5. 1879.

My Dear Daughter Martha,

Your letter of
29th April came on Saturday. You will have
to put a good deal to my forgetfulness. I sup-
posed I had told you more than once that I
planned to start up pretty early, thinking it
will be only fatherly to come down and meet Isa-
bella when they come early in July. My inten-
tion is to start next Monday - possibly not until
Tuesday - and stop a day with Dr. Williams,
reaching Gary on Thursday perhaps, where Daniel
Linnells has promised to meet me. I shall
expect to spend the Sabbath and a day or two
more at Brown Earth. I will try and not
forget the gluepot.

There is abundance of time to make your
purchases and pack the Box this week. I ought
to have heard whether you want it sent to
Hermann or Morris. In default of knowing
I will send to Hermann.

I had been looking at Carpets intending to bring one up. I could get a very fair piece of Ingrain for 50 cts. a yard. But your Postcard stopped me. Well. After that I was planning to get a packing trunk and take with me. But your croaking etc. will make that plan bad. So I will pack a Box and send as freight.

Cornille stopped off her school at the last of the week and this week she is getting ready to start up to Sully. She will start a day or two after I do, and make a little stop at Anna's. Henry and Lucy came down to Lantier last week - by boat I suppose - as we received Postals from Thomas and Miss Collins within an hour and mail at Yankton on Thursday.

I am making the plate proofs of Esther and Job now. I hope to receive the whole and finish this week. Our garden too I will plant pretty much, leaving sweet potatoes for Robert to set out.

One of our neighbors John Wilcox of Roberts class in College died on Saturday and is to be buried this afternoon. It was a case of consumption. His father took him to Florida but it did no good. They were glad to reach home a few weeks ago.

We are all well. May the good Lord be merciful to you in any tribulation and give you deliverance.

My Sabbath School Class of young ladies chiefly, wanted to get Prof. Blaisdell to be their teacher when I leave, but Mrs. W. forbids it. She is afraid for the doctor's health.

Aff. you father,
P. R. Liggs



Beloit, Wisconsin.

May 10. 1879.

My Dear Daughter Martha,

This is afternoon.

I finished packing "the Box" before dinner, and I have this moment sent it down to the depot - directed to Mr. Morris Hermann, Minn. What with books and odd irons and crockery, it is quite heavy. I hope it will go all right. At the last I put in a lot of pin plant, which is now in a good state.

The flat irons cost more than you spoke of: \$2 was the lowest they said they could be sold for here now. The other things may be about what you expected. The picture frames I had to get made. I had it done as economically as possible. The packing was somewhat difficult. Mary's hat or bonnet I did not get in, but have put it in Cora's trunk with her bonnets. I will try and not forget it.

Monday morn May 12.



I am very busy
this morn'g getting ready to start. I
rose at five and planted some black beans
before breakfast. The garden is almost
entirely planted. And now as we had a
good rain yesterday morn'g, it is in
good condition.

I am disappointed in not being
from you again before I start.

I hope and pray that you will get
along well.

I shall probably not reach Good Will
before about Wednesday of next week.

We are all well.

Aff. your father,
P. A. Higgs.

Beloit, Wisconsin,

Friday July 25, 1879.

My Dear Daughter Martha,

I presume a letter will come from you to day or to morrow. But I will commence this. We are having pleasant days now compared with what we had a week ago. Robert left us on Monday night, and I had a postal from him written at Watiloo. He went by the Dubuque route and regretted it much. He would be a whole 24 hours reaching Vinton when by the other road he would have arrived in 12.

Yesterday Mr. Burkhill and Sept left for New Haven, going by the Lakes. Mrs. D. and Mary have been on there for some time. George and Lila are here when they are not away somewhere. But one street seems quite deserted. Rob. was intending to go up to Sully, but whether he does not dally along the way until the time is past is not certain.

We have considered our cucumbers about
done for some time, but still we get as
many as we want to eat at table. This
morning I gleaned about a pint. We
have been using green corn for a week.
Our beans are past using as string beans
as we are making succotash. I suppose
you have now plenty of green peas. Ours were
all done before I came home. I have picked
three or four ripe tomatoes - the first fruits.

In a week we shall have a plenty. But then
who will use them as take care of them
when we all go away? Edna and her mother
will leave soon after I do, probably, as she
wants to see two sisters only a little off the
way - one at Lipton, Iowa (Martha) and one
at Lyons in Nebraska. The tomatoes will
have to go to waste. The cukes too will
be ripe by, or before the 1st of September.

We have no other apples this year. One of our
little plum trees is quite full this summer.
Cucumbers, we have a plenty but don't care
much about them. Water melons are in

the market but sell high yet.

I am anxious to hear what your plans
are about going to Pontiac - when and how.

Monday morn - July 28. I intended
to have sent this letter on its way on Saturday.
But unexpectedly the Lapi Page Proof came
up to me, and that was as much as I could
to do. If you write to me next week
you will send it to the S.D. Convention
Minnetonka Lake. If you are arranging
to meet me, or have me meet you, anywhere
send me word where and when.

Nearly a week ago I received a letter
from Dr. Pagin - partly in regard to getting
a Teacher. I do not succeed in finding one
who will suit, though I understand there
were forty unsuccessful applications for plans
in the Detroit Schools. Good qualifications
and a small salary don't go well together.

We are all quite well this morning.

May the good Lord keep you all.

Aff. yours,

L. R. Riggs

Beloit, Wisconsin.

July 31. 1879.

My Dear Daughter Martha,

Your letter of the 24th came a day or two ago. It does seem as if Mrs. Eldridge's offering to come to your help just now was of the Lord's providing. If she comes on I have no doubt we can meet what is needful for her to the end of the year without asking for any thing. At least I think that will be so. I mean out of the amount that was cut off, and which has been restored. When I see Alfred I shall know. If we can do that it will be better than to make an application now for additional funds. If she needs money to come on with Mr. Morris can, I presume, send it to her without delay.

There have been several burglaries committed in this neighborhood lately.

Night before last two hours was
entirely only a squaw off. From on
they took a good watch and the other the
man's pants out of his pantaloons. So
last night we locked up and hid
away. But no tramps came to molest
us. We are a little family now. I got
up an hour ago and put the breakfast to
cooking. Now the rest have gotten up.

We have put up two new window blinds
on the double window, and I have been paint-
ing them. Our beans are dry and ready
to be gotten, which I must try and do
in the remaining days I am here. Toma-
toes are ripening but the most of them
will ripen after we all go away, and so
I suppose will be lost. Our early row
potatoes are matured and pretty good, but
the potato bugs are eating up the later ones.

Our corn too is getting almost too hard
to eat. I presume our garden will
suffer when we leave it, but there is
not a great deal to lose except tomatoes.

The sweet potatoes are growing nicely;
but they will hardly be molested.

Anna writes that Mr. Warner can't
go to the meeting - he has to stay by the
stuff. You have probably not de-
cided upon how you will go over, and
when. I am intending to start up to
Minnetonka on next Wednesday. I am
booked for the Monday following - Aug. 11th.
If you come down that way I will be at
your service any day during that week.
Let me know by letter sent to "Minnetonka
Lake Park". I suppose that will be the
direction.

Robert was to leave Vinton
yesterday and take a boat at Yankton
to-morrow.

I am very glad to learn
that you have had such a supply of
acriburns. There is no better small fruit.

Don't worry about Mrs. Knoville's mother.
She will do eccentric things. Our boys as
well laugh at them as cry over them.

We are all well. Love to all.

Yours aff. father,
P. R. Higgs

ST. JAMES HOTEL,

J. R. DAYTON, Prop.
S. J. BARLOW, Manager.

Minneapolis, Minn. Oct. 8 1879

My Dear Daughter Martha

Key time am I to night.

I have run around a little too much. So I went to a Hotel instead of finding elsewhere to stop. I purchased dried fruit and canned fruit - not quite as good as you put them down but as they seemed to come most economically.

The Bill I sent to Mr. Morris at Hancock.

Also I had Wakes and Co send over $\frac{1}{2}$ doz.

Bliss and Sonkey Thomas \$1.80 to go up with the fruit. I tried to find Mr. Whitney

at his office several times and failed. After that I saw him in the meeting of St Paul Presbytery away out at the Park Avenue St Ch. on 10th Street. But I did no business with him. I did not even make inquiries of him for Mr. Morris.

When out there I remembered that I had
not purchased for David Guy Cloud the
stand or table and chairs for this church.
Steve and I came down and I made the
selection. Three chairs, and a stand. I have
80 cts left to pay on the freight. Mr. Morris
will pay it for me please and I will credit
that amount to him. The furniture is
shipped to David Guy Cloud Hermanns
Miss. Care of W. R. Morris.

Steve wants to go to bed and I too.
Good night. I hope you are all well to night.

Yours very aff.

P. R. Higgins.

Saturday night.
Beloit, Wisconsin.

Dec. 20. 1879.

My Dear Daughter Martha,

Your letter of the 12th. has only come to day. It must have been kept by the snow. You must have had a great storm. Robert had a storm also - commenced on Sabbath the 7th. But the snow did not come deep there. On Wednesday they reached home. Rob. says they had a hard ride and he had two toes frozen. He does not say how badly. I was very glad to receive his postal card yesterday and to know that they had succeeded in getting through.

Thursday morning of this week was the coldest we have had - -16° below zero. We keep our coal fire going by night as well as by day.

I have a Postal from Isabella written yesterday morning at Lane Seminary. She met three old friends - Miss Peabody, Mrs. Drake and Edith etc. Next week she is going to visit at Dayton, Ky. with Mrs. Drake.

The offers of young ladies don't come

very abundantly yet. I have only had two letters of inquiry. And the first case is already settled - "an insuperable obstacle" in the way. The letter of inquiry was written by a cousin. I have a letter today from Mrs. Ainslie. Miss Norriss did not want to get married, and would not have the man her father wanted.

Miss Philena McKee has written me for directions when to send the Christ-gifts of this school. They want to make them for Dakota women and children. I have asked her to send to you for their distribution. She said that she and her sister remembered you and Isabella and Anna with much affection. Yesterday I took from the office a package of "bits" on which 23 cents postage had been paid. It came from Austin, Texas. The most valuable part of this package I will put up and send you by mail. Some of the heavier things we will keep to send in some way that does not cost so much. In answer to letters I have already directed that boxes be sent to Mr. J. P. Renville

Louis Magawabingyan, Joseph Iron Horse and David Guy Cloud - also to Daniel Renville - this last to be sent to Mr. Morris for Daniel. Of course I don't know that all will be sent. One woman wrote me that they had a Barrel put up for you and Mrs. Renville. I wrote to her to send it to Mrs. Renville.

Monday Morning, ^{Dec. 22.} We have had a little more snow. This morning it is clear and sunshiny. While I was writing a young student came in who says I wrote to his mother that I would send him some Dakota papers - but she had not received them. The young man is going home for Christmas. So I give him a bundle of Papi Oxyes.

The matter of sending that dress we submit to your discretion. Edna will be glad to wear it some. But if the postage is more than 20 or 25 cts. perhaps you had better not send it. I will put in the stamps I have on hand.

Edna's mother has gone down town this morning, and will buy you Christmas gifts to us to the amount of 75 cents each. I authorized a notebook.

As I am swamping all my extra cash in
the book business I shall defer my Christ-
gifts until the Book is out. Please accept
the promise. I will try and make it good.
Accept thanks for your gifts now.

Your list of books I will send down
to Mr. Holmes, who will send them to you
by mail - and send the bill to me to settle.

My Book is hardly started yet. I wrote
to Chicago two weeks ago to morning, and made
the arrangements. ^{Left} This week I ~~have~~ had a proof
of the first Chapter, which I have sent out to
Alfred, as I wanted his judgment in regard to
some of the details. We shall get well under
way, I hope, before the first of the year.

Since the cold weather came on, the general
health of Abbot has improved. Mrs. Dr. Strong
I understand is quite sick yet. We mean to
invite James Garvin and Philip Robinson here to
dinner on Christmas. I hope you will have -
all of you - a good Christmas and happy New
Year. Love to all from your aff. father,
P. R. Briggs.