



James C. Christie and Family Papers

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Spend on it as true that it is your duty as a Brother to open of an Avenue
to Reconciliation in Christian Fellowship. You owe the apology if you seek
your Brother's Welfare. Learn then thy Gift (Sacrifice) before the Altar the household
Altar if you please. First be reconciled to thy Brother then go an offer thy Gift. Let it be
a Spiritual Sacrifice of Confessions say also a coming down from an Assumed
Clemency to humility to the Lowly one Christ. There was no hint to which Jesus
was more tender than to those proceeding from a critical Questioning. There is
great want of Euphemism in Adverting I think we he could pardon even that.

This is the proscribed mode of procedure follow it - if you do not your will report
by and by. His Conduct pained me exceedingly and yours does also.
I ought to close this conversation just here. Looking better to go. Because I am so
drowsy you should attend to this I have been saying about blood. I have the impression just now
that you will do something about it. Something conciliatory that will here confront the
Lowest and worst Word in Writing have come from the Root as yet only. Why should you let
this lead to an eternal Alienation between you?

And pardon me if
I should recur again to that Hesitant Letter. I want to say a few words about those "Men of
Straw" through whom you persecuted me. This would have been a small affair. But I think
truth suffers at your hands in it. In the first place there were no numbers of Heretics. Matt. 23. 29.
and it is all the damage I did for I do think that and the figure (if figure it is) is quite a proper
way. And still think that there may be too much Intellectual Light for the Good of Faith, and here
I must give my own definition of Faith. When I use the word I mean this. Namely that "Faith
is the belief in the truth of anything which we do not know to be true". In Science this would
be called Hypothesis. Now in Science when a hypothesis is proved it ceases to be hypothesis and becomes
true knowledge. Now Christianity has never been proved true in any Science house before the Intellectual
and so far as the Intellectual is concerned it is still open to Question. The belief in its truth does not rest
on Intellectual Knowledge. That belief may be given to a man in an instant in his knowledge. But he

[illegible]

I fully pardon you. And I love in your action
Only at Exquisite. You cannot offend. Lb

3) Not be understood in its literal force. That is outrageously absurd! I really do not know what spiritual significations a Nile has in that country. But truly the Nile taken from the side of the Osiris is certainly a fine correspondence with the Moon as thorough off from the side of the Earth, and Moon is not this even evidence that the ancient learned priests had a theory of the Cosmos such as parallels a day running of Astronomers. As I have before drawn to your attention, the fact that the Egyptian and Babylonian priests must have had also great astronomical knowledge in following the constellations of the North. (Symbol of the prevailing force at that time the Bel of the Celtic worshippers.) Show it is, and from which astronomical name they can have derived to have proceeded from the glades in the back of the Bull. The mark signifying the back of the generative power in man, which agrees with Madame Blavatsky's also.

I have not yet exhausted the correspondences between Woman and the Moon. They are almost innumerable. And I may mention a few more, there are others which every one knows naturally belonging to the body.

I believe it is now said to be certain that the Moon's story on the back of the Earth is retelling it in its course round the Sun, from which ultimately Cassini is fall into the Sun. Woman in the Moral National State hardly also retells Man and necessarily herself also in his and her own approach towards, & all so long as her earthly influences alone are taken into consideration such as represented by the Moon in heavenly place for woman also. So that Woman in her heavenly constellations

should not be expected to be expected to be that both the Moon should although continually revolving round, continuously only the same side to the Earth, as it ought to be between any two who are inseparably united. The side indeed which is human beings radiates forth the vibrations of the soul. The face, nothing more constant in truth can be, although it practically the Moon has been accused of inconsistency. The real Moon turns away her face from her caretaker as also the case with the faithful Woman in all her evolution is the course of her life, in her days of darkness as much as in her days of light. The eyes of her countenance always shine however bright or how in little or may be present in her love. Beloved, never turning her attentions on another. This is also the case of the Earth as revealed to us from Heaven. Well as from the visible heavens, her light of reflection, as the source, only for adultery, planetary adultery should be the clearing of a satellite from its proper primary, from its place evolved. In both cases, I presume have of astronomical. The Moon, a woman's affection turned to another man. She has committed adultery and therefore ought to be divorced from her husband to be permanent as no doubt it would be with any from its primary by the superior attraction of another. Thus we see the same case of the Moral rules in the physical side, as we would expect it to be all is made

Saturday -

Dear Mr. Christie:

Can you let me have
twenty or twenty five dollars
in addition without inconvenience
I hate more than I can tell
to ask such a favor, when
you have been so very kind,
but hope to be in a condition
to help myself before long.

You know I expected to have
had both Maggie and her Sister
from the first of September,
and that failing embarrassed
me very much. I want to
get a gentleman to take a
room next door and board

with me, which will help me
through the Winter - Having my
furniture to pay for keeps me
pressed for money and will
for some time - Pardon me
for troubling you - I hope
not to do so again -

Your sincere friend
S. M. Taliaferro -

It is evident that if we depart
from the 6 Natural Days, and suppose
either that they were long periods of time
or take what is called the Idealistic
Theory and suppose that they were
not historical, but chronologies based
only Ideal Conceptions of 6 periods
of activity in which God created

Then we must conclude that there
is no Revelation whatever of the
time creation lasted, and the
statement that it took 6 Days is
a Revelation which reveals nothing.

My opinion is that the 7
Days is really derived from the
Quartering of the Moon, which in
popular view nearly coincide
with 7 Natural Days, and is a

quite common opinion of time
for popular use, neither too long
nor too short a time to mark
the Day of the Sabbath for the
Religious and moral uses to which
it was devoted, you see it is not
a mere arbitrary proceeding in this view
the Moon had much to do with the
Religious Cult of the Hebrews -
and I wonder no one has

mentioned this before - and this
view also supports the idea that
the 6 days should be taken just
in the Literal sense. of course this
is not scientific according to our time
but if scientific statement is to be
regarded of those ancient books
it will be found nowhere in them
they all go on the popular view
in all things. they make the sun stand
still and let the earth spin round
which would not lose any time
the day once begun. My Grandpa's
idea of Biblical Science was the
correct one. just to take all in it
as correct. as stated in the Letter -

Rapids June.

My Dear Alon -

Your latest
arrived. Speaking of the Landing of the
Mississippi. Am glad you still
continue in health. Able for work.
David and family are all well.

Do you think that Emma is
not many weeks from giving another
transfer to David Smith? -
I hope for another boy.

Crops look excellent. Some
corn. No one can just get
on to the fields to clean it. and
they look green as a crop of grass.

So now you see Grant
is shelved for a time. Shall it be
for all time? God send that is
true. for I cannot bear to think
that the May need his military
ability to keep down the enemy.

From reading the history of Garfield
I would conclude he will make
a good President. He seems to be
a child of promise and providential
uprising. It seems evident that
he also has been raised up for a
special purpose in favor of Liberty
and the genuinely true, & preservation
of the spirit of the Constitution.

possibly with another session at
Lincoln. I am particularly sorry
that the "Credit Mobilier" was too heavy
for him. and find excuse for him
in his poverty. Still I have some
confidence that he will be elected.

And it rests on the facts of his be-
lieves originally. Looking to me
that the Guardianship which
has brought him so far cannot
now desert him. and will be
continued until he shall be satisfied
that for which he was raised
up

Another of our neighbors
has been taken away. Mr. Flood
is gone. Suffer of Cancer in the face,
Mr. Thomas and David came to his
bedside after the body was brought
across the blue earth. I trust that
all of his best luck is now ended.
for ever since I knew him, and by
report allways, the kind of some
others must have been laid on him
for his fortune seemed to say his days.

I want to thank at least
Saturday with David, and brought me
a new coat. hat and shoes. and these
look up me in my heavy blue.
permit me once again to thank
you, for your benevolence. Make
a very great difference to me. I now
get many small comforts to make
pass more smoothly the long days.
Mr. Flood's coat makes me now
think of this. His childrens allways
using him so unmercifully!

3)

your remark about my
use of the word "holy" and that
I am wrong as regards its
meaning. Consult "Webster"
I have no Dictionary here -
but I know that our word
"Holy" is derived from the German
"Heilig" healthy. Wholesomeness,
have you ever considered what
that implies? Perfection of
Structure and function in
Every Organ of the Body.
The result of which is continued
Life. and as God alone is Absolute-
ly Holy so He also is alone
absolutely Immortal. The source
of all health in Body and Soul.
and necessarily the source of
all life, perfect in holiness, and
alone perfect in Life. His holiness
is undivided, Absolute, and
as perfect holiness is derived

from God through Christ
(who is the only medium of it)
therefore Christianity is the only
Holy Religion, that is, the only
healthy Religion. which ensures
immortal life, the Bible teaches
nothing of any Immortality in
separation from Christ.

"he that hath the Son hath life"
and he that hath not the Son hath
not life" became Absolute, Resur-
-ecting life can only come from
God through Christ, and therefore
those only who are one with him
can receive immortal life
perfect holiness, perfect
health - perfect life, no life is
perfect that ends - and all spiritual
life must end therefore unless in
direct communion with God.

But, I must quit. I am the more
thirsty of these things and let me hear
again from you, address letters
to Birmingham. He -

Now Again (proceeding with the first thought which occurs.)
It is very evident & clear from the last Clause of the 36th verse
that it is not the General resurrection. Has any one meant this
that James says. Because the Equality with the Angels, and the being the
Sons of God is reserved as depending upon "Being the Children of
the Resurrection." if there were then ~~the~~ a General rising from
graves this would make all Equal with the Angels, and Sons of God, thus
including all men, and destroying all distinctions in Character and Destination.
But, if this Clause is understood as pointing to the New Birth all is
in harmony —

Again. The most prominent part in the
Whole Statement is, that the Ultimate Condition of the Redeemed is to
be one of Liberty, that of qualified Personal Nature in the glorified
state. Therefore, as we are reasonable persons, we must
think, therefore, no need of propagation. Many think that there is a physical
as well as physical difference between men and women, however that may
be, never met, and there is no variation in the subject. But and if there be
and as it tends to the end, which I think it does, then there will still be
mutual attractions in spirit between the sexes. Such at least there will
be in the Middle Regions, in some of the many mansions of the Father's
House. But we cannot think of these relations existing in the lowest
world, because the essential attraction of humanity lies the life, and
we have seen that the essential life of the lowest world is to be of the same
nature as that of God and the Angels. the immortal form of attraction
which has no individual attraction. No personality in its nature,
but is universally Universal. A Love which extends over all. Hence
we conclude there really is no sexual love relations in Heaven
all other attractions will be conducted than the "Inextinguishable Bliss in
the presence of the Community of Nature with God will be associated.
The Unspiced Love will take full possession of body, soul and spirit.
Hence also we see in the saying of Jesus, "I go to prepare a
place for you". the indication that a New Order of men were to
pass into the World of Spirit in consequence of Him the Divine
Order, of which He was the First Himself. There having been
"no ascension into the highest until that the whole

But it is time I am drawing this rambling
conversation to an end. I am without Constructive talent
or my letter would have had a systematic form. No Builder in
I. Still I know a fitting home where I can it, and on this
topic there are many scattered up and down through hand
Scriptures. There are many collateral topics connected with
the views I am lettering forth also. Which it would give me
much pleasure to speak of. But this storm weather is
too heavy on me. And letter writing is as difficult to me as
making pinwood or Hoeing. Although in pressing I must say
it is much more agreeable to me than either of these.

Oh what a glorious occupation is yours! going
around amongst destitute high lowhood and awakening the
sleepers, passing the glad tidings to the poor and needy. And calling
all to follow in Him who has overcome all evil. And who looks to
do the same in every one who is willing to wear the yoke of His
service. But how much patience, persistence and unweariness
is yet to needs. How seemingly thankless also must your
labours often times seem to you. The dullness, the impatience
of people. And their incapacity to receive the general principles
of merely natural men. And the slowness of growth of the Good
Seed even when sown in the ordinary ground of human nature.
But we know that the Spirit of Christ is Love. And that it
looks to give itself away. All Love do. But this is the imprisoned
To Antithetic kind by mortgaged by the Serpents. Striving
to death, pride, and all that is earthly.

I have heard since I began this letter that a sweeping storm
has passed over Newwood as well as this place. I hope it has not
hurt your place. I have not heard recently from Thomas.
Alger is well, and as susceptible as ever to Gospel truth.
There is no use in Argument with him. He has two words
for my one. Yet do not lose hope of even him.
Please write to me if not too busy. Yours affectionately
J. C. Christie

Thursday 21st Feb: 92

My dear Sarah.

I am sorry to know you have
so bad a cold and that you cannot come,
now I go to see you. My Lungs are
the greatest trouble I now have.

It seems to me that it is
bottom of some kind. When I cough I
whistle, some bronchial pipe I suppose,
but I know too little about those
organs to say with any certainty.

Cannot get enough sleep for the
cough. Accumulated matter compelling
me to wake up. I never but once
before I knew anyone to whistle so ~~loud~~
while coughing. No doubt you will know
what it indicates. I see no use in medicine
for it. take the clover steadily. Nothing else.

These shocking changes of weather
has much to do with these colds and coughs
and what can we do about it? I thank you
much for sending so much scolding matter.

and trust you will soon get over your cold
hoping all others are dull. Yours Truly. J.C.

Mrs W. L. Stevens
Wood side

My Dear Sarah, please send up some of
the last 3 Tribunes, Mother is very anxious to
see the continuation of the story.

All is about the same with me
My Limb very painful, My Eye no better, and
the tumour quick, I trust all is well
with all of you. Affectionately, J. C.

My Dear Sarah []

It suits all if you are
well - the so usual - please send
what papers you can. and of course my
mail for me - And if you can a piece
of pork - say a Quarter of a hog - and of not
no matter

The first time I come down I will
pay you

JL

80
25
45
20
1.20

2.90

Miss W. L. Stevens

Woods side - Rapidan

Mr W. L. Stevens.

Please lay out
1 cord of wood for me. One half hard
wood if you have it. If not, then
all soft. I wish Jacob on his
return from the Wood to split
home a little of it. He cannot
go down into the woods for it.

Enter it on your book
until I copy you.

Please tell Sarah
I am just about the same -

Yours J. H. Motte

To Charles Ulbrich

Be so good as to go to
Mr Stevens and tell Sarah that
I need a Doctor immediately.
Dr. Willike is nearest, let him
be called. The trouble seems to
be pneumonia of the right Lung.
Be good to do this for me.

Yours Truly

James Christie

January 31.

My Dear Sarah.

You do not
mention having received your Shawl in your note; We
sent it by the Boys. Mother sent 21 lbs. - Mother wishes
to get sugar. By two Dollars worth. and I would like
if Mr Stevens could get me a pair of Hose, not too high
priced - Ray sent over 1 1/2 \$, and fresh fish if possible.

I am pleased you are all in health. We are just
in the usual way, a little sickly, and fondle of it, but
managing to live nevertheless. I am in the
humour of writing plenty to you, but no news,
and I, rank, sits waiting on this to get away.

So pray excuse me.

Yours Lovingly
J. Christie

[undated]

My Dear Sarah, [Christie]

I send a letter from Fanny

I would have liked well to come down to day, but
it is too late and the Wagon was not at Dorset.

Hope you are well all of you, as usual.

I am beginning to be much troubled about getting
no letter from Sandy, it is entirely unusual.

and I have had some very troublesome dreams,
if that means anything outside of myself.

Mother bids me tell you to send
her some Tea if you can, untill she gets some.

In the meantime Good Bye.

and Good Bye to Maria to day
tell her so.

truly J. B.

[undated]

To David
billion
map of Montana
Crackers
Eggs
Sungus
D. J.

My Dear Sarah

I have got an awfull sore eye
the upper lid of the left eye is terribly swollen and inflamed
please to find for me a little of the Alum for Penhose
go for his eye, and send it with Love.

he is in a hurry to get away and so
no more. All of us well otherwise as usual
like to hear you are

J. C.

[undated]

Excuse this rag of paper. I am out of paper
intend getting Cornett to get some tomorrow,

Cheese and Apples first rate.

Cider very pleasant also. Get me 1 Gallon
the horse no jug.

I am not a little amazed
as Mr Stevens thinking I owe him for wood
I paid him for that Second Cord sometime
before he sent it up. I owed at last time
Settlement 2 \$ for various things I forget what
and for 1 Cord of wood, which altogether was
6 \$, and I gave Mr Stevens 10 \$ telling
him he could send it when he had time
and I particularly told him to send it as
much as possible Brandy wood. He will
remember all about it when I see him
so I can tell him just where we seek of us
not at the time. I expect no trouble about
this forget of his - But it shows me more clearly
than ever. Not to get anything without paying on the spot.

[undated]

Sunday.

[Steno]

My Dear Sarah.

I have had just 3 hours sleep to night, was quite well comparatively yesterday, but the Cough came back when I lay down last night, and I slept none because of it, untill 11 o'clock then David walked out from Maunkote and reached here at 2 in the morning, of course he awoke me first, and then my Cough began again. I had to rise and after an hours fight with it, and so got rid of it but I must now try and get some sleep. I send

Sandy down to hear you make me some more medicine, as it seems to me that this I have may be too old if it will do, say so to Sandy, or perhaps you will come up sometime to see. J.C.

[undated]

My Dear Sarah, [Stevens]

I hope you are all well, as we are. But I send this to you to let you know that I am in much need of that Fish and Cheese. Mashed of potatoes and Bread. And they are beginning to put my whole system out of order. There would be no use in me asking Tomsey to go to Town for me, or to the Ford unless he had a will to go anyway. So please leave some of your people when they go to the Ford or Town get those things for me. I am being troubled with a great deal of flatulence inside and know it is because my Diet is not agreeing with me.

It is just possible some of your people went to the Ford yesterday. And got those things. And also Letters.

I am glad to see it thawing today -
but think it will not continue
24 hours.

Yours truly

J. B.

[Undated]

My Dear Sarah. [Undated]

I take the opportunity of 2 ome to tell
you to send my dollar for the Herald along with your box.

I am out of paper and envelope also. please get me some
of a superior kind. and will pay you as soon as I see you.

I am unwell this morning. Dyspeptic and nervous.
then last two nights. getting very little sleep. Caused by
I think from too much tea. too much tobacco. and too
much heavy reading and consequent excitement of brain.
I hope to be well shortly if I can give obedience to
the Good Laws of God.

I hope that you are all
well. I send the photograph. A very nice boy
indeed.

Yours Truly

J. L.

I sincerely desire that some printer
sufficiently dignified, Respectable, and
profitable, could be found or created
for General Grant. He sorely
deserves something from this Nation
which by the Apportionment of the Union
presents he sees the means of losing
from disintegration. It has been said
of Republics that they are Ungratefull.

It is true. Gratitude is one of the
nobler Qualities, and the Multitudes
have not as yet come up to it. Nations
Can be Generous, on Occasion. But
to be Gratefull is above that. at least so think.

I confess my inability to think
how Grant should be provided for.

And just think what a promise it
is upon unprincipled selfishness it is
that to have serving as president once. Must
again come down to scramble for a living
just like others. it is highly absurd

and short sighted for a nation,
to so tamely sacrifice their Morality, to
provide for themselves. While they hold
office from living Writings in Paris
by leaving their parts by any means.
While they have hold of the Nelson.
When a man has once reached that
Eminence, it is hard to descend
and it puts too much strain on
weak places. Let them have pensions
to support them in London and else.
In the present system it kills a man
to make him president and then turn
him out to beg or to beg. It is simply
disgraceful. Cincinnati's! That
is a humbug. Such men are not made
every day or we should never hear of him.

I know but little about anything
however. And know of no policy for
goats but simple honesty and common

sense, just what would longer serve
any man.

I smile at your diffidence
with the monthly finances, as if I were
a creditor whom it was necessary to
appeal for the time. You exhibit an
ingenious simplicity of purpose.

Which is creditable to you. I can
get along very well. I owe Adams only
a trifle and the Dr only 2½¢. take
noticeable on my account. David is
driving along this morning. Getting
better of his Asthma daily, as the heart
progresses. Oh that 1st to July was an
unlucky day for David. He's asthma
generally begins about that time.

If he would let it down in memory
as such, and act as if it were such a
morning over it, instead of keeping
it up, it is worthy of celebration.

I think it highly probable he

Should turn aside the last look,
the mere great pity for David. But
how can we help him to get clear of
the trouble? It is a bitter, many
a day and night for me. Because
when our children suffer we cannot
help believing that we are implicated
in the causes of their suffering, and
share our own suffering on their
account. know much or little
they deserve to bear the burden.

On the whole I am sure
must be highly pleasing to you. How quick
he rebounded from his depression!
Always taking the best of his circumstances.
And as the Quaker Laid advised
Alexander, "taking the good the gods
provide" as he goes along. There is also
a rather as persuading ones self that
the one happy. It is a most beautiful text
too to keep one's self out of evil and misfortune.
Consoling them into hours of pleasure.
Adieu. J.C.

[Undated]

Song. Author. Jack rabbit land of S. A.

Time: Mass of Malquiddon?

O Come you Daddy Come!

To the highlands of Montana
Where the Bears seldom turn.

Where the Truits are Cactuses.

O Come, and the Will roam

By Bridger Creek, and Progeny.

Far away from Coanofane.

With the snow up to your nose man.

Where the Wolf he hides in Saps

Making music with his howling.

Where the Bear, in his rage

Crunches Cow Bones when not growling.

O Why: Why: won't you come?

Are you afraid of freezing?

Why do you keep so mum?

For my incessant teasing?

O Come you Daddy Come

If you should report at Laramie.

You here might find a home

In this Eden Land of pleasure.

To the Lady Sarah.

Woodside Farm

Rapids.

New York Co.

Maine.

[Undated]

Dear Sarah. [Stevens]

That Baby is
ill again with Rose Mouth.
and The Brood and Honey is done.
It has some trouble of the
same kind in its Armpits.

The Mother is kind and tender
but they seem to have no know-
-ledge of anything. If you could
leave home and come up
and see the Child yourself it
would be good -

Send me up the
Independent. I am not
able to tramp down often.

I hope you are all
well. We are as usual.

Abbie.

Tuesday 17.

Dear Sarah

as to both of us
coming down together. I do not
know as Mother would agree
to it or not. I rather think she
would not. Mother is sewing the
button for you what little
she makes. Jessie must look
very funny without it. funny
is Jessies word.

as to our health. Well
just as usual. But really
I find the Infirmary most
very hard to bear. and at
times nearly unbearable -

Isn't it very pleasant
to hear of how well all of
Dennis family is? and as I have
Montana in mind myself I am
glad to hear that the winter
there is more pleasant than there

it is here. (Which by the bye it
may very easily be.) You will
see Mother to day. and you can
speak to her about coming down
to your place -

I wish she were at
home. I am in great need
of my dinner.

and her good bye
Christie

My Dear Sarah [Stevens]

I came down with
this Big German Atlas. Sandy went
it in Washington. I am vexed
I did not get down in time to
have Mr Stevens take it today.

please to send it away the
first chance.

I came down in
a good time. Fred is already
begin to work on his Grenary.

And Emma the family
must go somewhere - but so
they go up now with me.

please get one ounce
of Camphor for Mother.

I am not able to come further.

Affectly, J. B.

[undated]

January 29th.

My Dear Sarah.

Neither Mother
nor myself feel as if we could come
down to Day. I have not been very
well since down at your place
last, and know that a away from
home to Day would put me further
off. I hope you are all quite
well.

Please post these letters
first opportunity. Send me of our
monthly if need. and mail if any.

Thermometer fell 32° last
night and our wish for them
is gone off.

Yours Affectionately
Jb.

Nov-30.

[undated]

My Dear Sarah [Dear]

Woe is for nothing
Else than Respect to the Minister
I should have gone to the Meeting
to Day. But my Courage is not
Equal to it. This Moisture Cold
Wind Blows right through me,
and I shrink before it.

I feel it would do me
Good to see or talk with you, &c.
But I must forgo all of the
Advantages to avoid another
Attack of this Terrible Long
Cough. I am now much
better than I was. Much

Better, and must take care
of the betterment,

I hope you are
All Well. as I wish you all
to be. please to come soon
you and Mr. Stearns together
and see us. Bring any news
reading matter you have.

I do not read much now
and am very moderate in all
things. Especially in going out.

My Love to Berrie Stearns.
and to Estelle. So Odine.

J. B.
Mother has a bad cough like

[undated]

My Dear Sarah [Stevens]

You are busy cleaning house
and couldn't come to ^{help} us.

We are in health
just about the same. But we
are all out of necessaries. No
meat. No flour. No butter but
potatoes and salt. Could you send
a little meat with Tom in that basket
he will not grumble to carry it.

It is not quite so bad as
I said. We have Tea and Sugar. and
Currants, and dried peaches.

I need some Fish and Cheese.
and have no money.

My and My all will be better
but that is the first time.

If this had been a pleasant day
I would have been down to see you.

Remember me to Betty. I wish Francis's
to get 3rd Vol of Wilkinson's Egypt for me.
Please send what papers you can spare.
With the old love. J. C.

Mr W. L. Stevens -

Nov 24th

Yes, Certainly you can leave
the stove, but as we will not likely
use it any more. Had'nt you better
Buy it? You have too much wood
and we have a little too much stove.
Had we better swap? I need the wood
very much. and if you give me 1 Cord
Shople and a little Brasswood we could
agree I think, but if you think
it is worth more, you can make the little
Brasswood a little more. Since this
Cold weather set in I feel as if I could not
- do without on wood. I understand you have
a Bad Cold, I trust you are getting better if it
be such cold on the lungs here I had for
32 years. I think I am getting better
if it now. I want much to come and see
you all but cannot venture out yet
Yours Sincerely - J. C.

[undated].

My Dear Sarah
[Steven]

I need very much
to have you come up and see me.
I have taken no medicine since
night before last. Because the
Laxative acted too much
as a Cathartic causing no less
than 4 Evacuations on the
last day I took it, and I thought
causing too much Downflow every
day, and not knowing what
to do I have taken no medicine
since. I think it is necessary
that the Dr. should come
out up once, and I hope
you have so arranged it.

The symptoms are

just as before. and I think
a little more so.

Tell me by note
by Jacob what you have done
about the Dr. and if you can
come up to day.

I trust you are all
in health. I hear that David
has some kind of a Swelled
nose and face, and would like
if you could call there and
see if you could do anything
for him. or Ascertain what
is the matter. and its Cause
and let me know about it.

Let us be patient and
hopefull -

Affly. Christie.

Upon the whole I think well
of this Article. it gives rather a
favorable view of Montana. in that it
lays very little depreciation of the Territory,
and much ~~testimony~~ it is in favor of it
where it can be said. there is room
for a few corrections however in matters
of Fact. I take notice of these by the
pages in which they occur. where there is
room I shall correct in the M. J.
The Article should begin with the
Eight Line on first page.

I think it will take.

and I Congratulate Frank on his
ability to write a very readable paper
whether it takes with the Tribune or not.

It is well sprinkled with incidents and
Anecdote. a little Tautologous in several places

but altogether quite pleasant reading
for others as well as ~~myself~~ ~~and~~ ~~Frank~~ ~~and~~ ~~Frank~~.

The one tolerably well

What is the matter with Little Jessie?

TRINITY



OF THE BATT.

Presented to Thomas Christie
By Captain I. B. Innes

close at our backs, in front is the
new wet plain, & west of that the snowy
range of Amanus. So the air is kept
chill constantly by the neighboring
snows, & the sun but seldom, in
the winter, can rarify the air enough
to drive away the fogs rising from the
plain. It is the fact of Mesopotamia
open again on a small scale. I noted
this when riding toward Mosul the
last time. By 9 AM the plain the
hills ten or fifteen miles south
of this were clear of mist & had even
"sprinkled" with the northern dews of
the plain. The heavy vapors hung to
the horizon. Baby did not go to the
new house, but it was quite
west of her much deeper than
the river & drier locality. If she
had been able to travel often I saw
I could have seen - I would have seen
any with her at present of a sort
as well as her - I could have seen the language
then you are not to be made to call. He

(I find my carbon paper getting so thin that I must try only two copies instead of three for the present; have sent for more from London. Father B. will therefore send his letter out (Father C.) We are now about settled for the winter, in the two lower rooms of Mrs Coppin's house, & enjoy keeping house again very much. The other rooms in a native house, which had been partly engaged for us I found altogether too damp & too near a nasty yard to permit me to risk Baby there this winter; so after some little planning the present arrangement was made with which we are very well pleased. We have breakfast at 8, and dinner at 4. This is the arrangement best adapted for study. I am up at 4.30, & after ^{eating} a ~~break~~ or two go to work. Mamma & Baby lie till near breakfast time.

(4)

My plan for the day is this:

7.30 to 6 AM Study of the original Ser-
mons, (Isaiah + Galatians on alternate
mornings) 6 to 8 Study Turkish.
8 to 9 Breakfast + family prayers.
9 to 10 horseback riding. 10 to 11.15
Study Turkish + prepare lesson for
(11.15 to 12.15) Exercise in Homile-
tics with the three students who know
English. 12.15 to 2.30 Study Turkish.
2.30 to 3.30 recite Turkish to teacher.
3.30 to 4.30 Dinner. Then till
6 ^{evening prayers} play with Baby + chat with C.
6 to 7 read Forsyth's Life of
Cicero to C. 7 to 9 write letters.
9.30 Bed!

This plan is liable
to change to break; for example I
had to go yesterday with Mr. M. + the
leading Protestants, to call on the Gov.
Emir + 5 or 6 other Moslem dig-
nities. This is their Feast of Rai-
zan, when such visits are expected.
So I lost two hours sipping coffee
+ answering the compliments of

126 Rush St. Chicago. Thurs. 5 AM.
[Accepted, Stockbridge, Wis.]

Dear A. Excuse pencil, as ink is not yet obtainable.

I got yesterday from C the enclosed letter from Frowbridge.

The papers I sent for by a Harvard Junior of my acquaintance, and shall find in Andover on return; I did not wish to trouble J. with mailing them. His advice in regard

to publishing is good; Prof. Dana is a man who will gladly take them, - I saw him in N. Haven last Spring, and like him very much. His Journal is the one in which all such things - the notes by the way, as it were, of investigators, are published. When Irving & I studied the Devil Lake region, the results were printed in the Journal. I remember Irving had to pay for the engraving of his map - so perhaps your diagrams would cost something, and yet they are not the same as a map, and may come in free, as did Irving's sketches of dip, Strata &c.

The trouble is, that now everybody is away from Yale; perhaps nothing had better be done about it till we go East in the fall. I shall see to it that your papers are kept nicely.

You really must have a year at Harvard: it seems to me that your whole future hinges on it. Now do not let anything keep you back from that which will help all the most effectively. I shall borrow some money

for you in Andover, - I know I can do it - and by
tutoring & economy you can come out at the end of a
year - as I have done, with no balance against you.

A Tutorship or Professorship is sure for you, if now you
will only have the courage to show yourself to those who
are even on the lookout for just such men as you.

Pres. Eliot is not the man even to let you leave Harvard,
if he can only see you at work,

I came here on Tuesday, having left C at Stockbridge
in the Coiest, coolest, loveliest spot in Massachusetts. Right
among the Berkshire Hills. Her father's Cousins are very kind,
and the babies are luxuriating on fresh milk & Country
air - tumbling about like fruit in grass, as Fannyson
says. Came away after two hours stop in Stockbridge, took
boat at Albany & descended the Hudson to N. York - a
day never to be forgotten - The Catskills like the Adirondack
Mts. in the west, the rugged Highlands, the Palisades - these
are the natural frontiers - but when you add the historic
and literary memories of West Point, Stony Point, Tarrytown,
Sunnyside, & many more points of interest - you make
a Classic River - The Hudson. Delayed in N. Y. by my
trunk, stayed with Hale & preached for him in Jersey City. Heard
Dr. Jn. Hall, saw & heard H. W. B. at Friday prayer meeting (Came away a
Bushman, every fiber of me) Saw & heard T. L. More & Dodsworth,
saw Cienfuegos Collection from Cyprus, & paintings by Tandyke, Rubens,
Correggio & other old masters, besides some of Church's lovely land-
scapes, visited Central Park &c &c &c. Am now at work &
boy doing nicely. Shall write more on hearing from you. In haste Bro. J.

Andover, Wednesday.

My Dear A;

Be sure to come up on Saturday, prepared to help with the Christmas turkey.

We have been expecting a line from you. Try & see Helen, & tell us whether she is coming.

I go away to Ashby or Orange to preach, & shall not be home before Monday, but we should like you to come on Saturday. Bring up with you all the empty things you have. E says, if you have not put down those strips of Carpet, you might bring them up, as she is getting ready a room for Conrad, — who, by the way, is studying Greek with our preparatory to entering Harvard.

this coming term. A pupil
has engaged with him already,
to take \$75 worth of instruction
in German: So he is greatly
encouraged. I hope you
will receive like encourage-
ment ere long. I have 10,
of your money, but will
keep till you come; I send
ticket, & if you want money
get a dollar or two from
Mr. Hayden till you go in
again: I don't like to send
by mail, & I couldn't come
via Boston on Monday.

We hope soon to see you
in health & good spirits.

Ever Yours.

T. D. Christie.

Dear Alice: Excuse haste; There
is a little to help keep things going.

Father Brewer is with us. Come up
on Sat. Dont pay more than 1.50 for
Room &c. This must rush to mail.

Affly, T.D.C.

My Dear Dave,

Your little favor

arrived with Sanders letter, and was
duly appreciated. I hope you will
continue to write occasionally, if only
to get your hand in, as the saying
is.

I would like frustate to be
at home for an evening or two
just now to see how badly I
could beat you at Dominoes or
chickens. I made a set of
Dominoes a few days ago out of
white ash, & spotted them with a
bad pencil, and all the next morn
flag them. They are very popular,
and are useful in stopping a good
deal of card playing, which amuse-
ment is altogether too prevalent in
the Company, many of the men
having lost at poker already a large
part of the wages due them at last
Pay Day. I have played some
splendid games of chickens of

I have not much as I write

late, and found only 2 men
in the company who I could
not beat every time. There are ex-
cellent players and we have had
many an interesting set to, when
we would shout. You broke you
never dreamed of.

The physicians
are come to town I hear, and will
say us soon what is due to us.

Ask Father how I should send the
money home when I get it, and
let him write me in his next.

Hoping that your studies
are going on well, and that
you are not whipped more
than once a day for mischief.
I remain your loving Brother

J. J. Chester
Give my love to
Mother, and tell her the
love come handy in this
low weather.

[undated]

Boscobel Sunday Night.

My Dear Sarah; [Christie]

I leave this tomorrow
at 11 for Muscoda: shall leave M. for
Arena Tuesday noon: Arena for
Madison Wed. noon. Do not know
what connections of M. best hope to
get to Beloit Wednesday. At these other
places shall stop with Cong. ministers.
You can catch me perhaps at Arena
on Wednesday.

In haste Yours,

Thos. D. Christie,

Trains East here at 8.40 A.M. & 9.30 P.M.
by 4 O'Clock is freight.

[undated]

THE CHALET
PALM SPRINGS
RIVERSIDE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Dear Sarah, -

Emerson stayed 3 days, & returned to L. A. He works hard, but looks well. Clara and the Kiddies are in Wash., D.C. His field is Mexican Social Conditions. He goes soon to interview Gov. Cantón. There are five other young scientists working with E. He is a member of the Faculty in the Calif. State Univ. Speaks Spanish beautifully. It was a joy to see & hear him.

Cable from Jean in Bordeaux, that on Dec. 7, Carmelita was safe and well. Had permit to open sch. but bldgs all occupied by J. troops - etc the Mission house. Letter from J. W. C. A. Secy to his mother in N. Y. tells of Jean's great success in managing the Cantón. Mary got hold of the letter & copied it for me. All others well, & very busy. Some fine photos have reached me. I was glad to hear of Jessie's ch., and of Robert. Send him a Comrade's love when you write. E. in Indio not at all well. Prof. Drummond told me. I go there Apr. 7 for R. C. address: thanks for the figures you sent; have used them here. Am to preach very

from the Presbytery at Coachella Apr 9. Text, "Watchman,
What of the Night?" Very heavy & long-continued rains
here, for 3 wks past; now clear again. Hope your
hard winter is about over. — Sandy owes me
a letter; said this to him, please.

Agnes is doing nobly; working on teeth of
patients in Mass. Gen. Hosp. Is an enthusiast
in her profession. You remember Dr. White? Her
brother, who is here, was with Paul in Hotchkiss
Sch. in Conn. I am very busy, teaching as
well as preaching; have a fine class in Greek, and
two in French; in all, 11 recit^{ing} a wk. I teach my
pupils to speak Greek, with modern Gr. pronunciations,
and they make great progress. My Class Letters,
both College and Seminary, have just come.
(Mr Pullan is a great-fraudfather!)

Hearty love to you and Bessie
and the kids, and to all in Montana.

Yours.

Mrs. W. L. Stevens.
Internat'l Falls.
Minn. }

forward from between the
two friends with whom he had
been sitting talking, - shot thro'
the heart. That night, (it is
night here on the Taurus slopes
as I write you), I watched
with his body in his tent, the
Enemy's balls striking all around
and occasionally the cry of a
stricken man coming through
the darkness. The Enemy's
sharpshooters had the range of
us, and worse than that, they
^{were} in a position that enabled them
to rake the whole length of our
part of the works. - But
I am thinking tonight of
the goodness of God to me,
in sparing my life as He did
all through those fearful days
and nights. I try to be thankful
but I know I'm never thankful
enough. - Ever your affection-
ate Boy Tom.

~~over to the 2nd Marine at the end of the~~
~~that I am sure will be in Beloit by the end of~~
will be in Beloit by the end of
this month, I hope. I have
the kindest letters from the
Emersons and other Beloit-
friends assuring me of the
welcome I will get there.

Twenty-four years
ago this day I was lying on my
bunk under the "tarpaulin" of
my gun (- a square piece of
Canvas of which I made a
shelter-tent by throwing it-
over a ridge-pole held up by
two forked sticks, & tying it down
at the sides: it was open at
the ends, of course, but it kept
off the sun & rain) - when
a heavy rifle-bullet whizzed
through the two sides of it
just above me, - and instantly
I heard a death-shriek: it
was the last cry of our dear
Lieut. Korte, as he fell

Thomas Davidson Christie

ST. PAUL'S COLLEGE

TARSUS, ASIA MINOR

Chapel there is a Chapel belonging to the 'Primitive Methodists' or Congregational Methodists as they should be called, for they have no bishops, but ^{manage} ~~govern~~ their own Church affairs as we do by Congregations. They have a membership of 30, and a Sunday School of 135: they are all English, and although they keep the name of Primitive Methodists they are now made up of people of all denominations, as is the case at Riverside.

They own a nice Chapel & grounds, but are in debt \$1950. for them. Have been paying \$30. a month to a young man of the Boston Meth. Chm. for preaching, and this just takes all they can raise. Now, they and he have talked the matter over, and have agreed that this must be stopped, so that they may be enabled to turn their subscriptions to that big debt.

So he, being dependant on preaching is going elsewhere, and I, not being dependant on preaching but on teaching, am to take his place and preach for them till July 1, for nothing. My place at Riverside is to be taken by another man from the same.

This promises to be a fine field for work, and I trust this is but the first step towards a union of these brethren with Riverside, when we shall have a good strong church to embrace all the Evangelical population of West Lawrence. You remember Joseph Barker of Investigator fame fifteen years ago. I was astonished to be told last Sunday, that he preached for 6 mos in the very pulpit I am to occupy. This was a year ago; he is now dead, but before he died he gathered his family around him to tell them that he wanted all to know that he died as a Christian. He was converted among these Primitive Methodists after 40 years of activity as an Infidel lecturer. He disputed publicly with our Minister for five days continuously till the poor Minister went mad; you know what a workhorse of Infidelity he was, — and yet he was converted!

[undated]

New York, Wed. Early. —

My Dear Mother Sandy:—

Out of quar. at last, & hasten on to Aub. this morning!

Many, many thanks for the good letter and the remittance, recd. after I wrote you.

Shall try to see you and the Veterans about next Mon. eve.

Further from Auburndale or Boston. Am all impatience to see you. Write Sarah, please.

Hastily, Tom.

all you say of Anna's
case is right, and well
thought of. I shall be
very careful. You

Know her bank was
docked before she was
born: Carmie nearly
died of fever - close
to typhoid - in March,
and Anna came to
us June 2. She has
always been the one
feeble child among
them all. I shall
bear in mind - from
the very start - all you
have said.



NOTHING BUT THE ADDRESS TO BE ON THIS SIDE.

Mrs L. J. C. Stevens,
Mankato,
Minn.

Boston 16th

Send your long letter written
on train. I am telegraphing
you to send my mail to
70 Dearborn St. Chicago.
Go Orville Brewster. Please
do so for one week from
this date: then keep letters till
I come. Hope to see you
in two weeks from now. More
soon. Children well. Tom.

I shall love tonight when fall the ~~light~~ ^{light} ~~glow~~ ^{glow}
Attends the fane of chivalry above
These crowns on College Hill, ^{light}
The nearest wall was blackest with
Gleam of spirelets on the oaken beam bright
The glittering pinnacles -

2

Fair in that silvery light displayed,
Each buttress cast a deeper shade,
Each millioned window gleamed,
The slim pilaster on the wall,
From base to sculptured capital
A shaft of silver seemed.

3

Then thought I, if beside the seas
At Marathon and Thermopylae
Where battles for Freedom died,
They raised the mound and ^{marble} ~~stone~~ ^{rest}
To tell where sleep the sacred dead,
And this a "patrol" made:

4

If still on Seaside's steep hill side
The stone surmounted Cairn a-kiss
To note a lone hero's fall
Who bared their breasts for Freedom's sake
Their better land to save from
The horsemans' pride to quell:

5

If, near the shadow stately Hall
The towers of Antiquity's ramparts fall
On old sepulchral mounds
Where a dusky warrior's quiet sleep
Unbending that above them sweep
The shells of College Grounds:

6

Then fit that here their walls should stand
To keep enduring in the shrine
The memory of our dead
Who fought for Freedom, Truth and God,
And poured their lives in battle's red
To meet their Country's need.

One of these poems -
First - writing of it -
Sent - to me -

Let youth and youth and savage heap
 Memorial mounds o'er those who sleep
 Their victor arms beside,
 In our Talhalla Thought and Truth
 Shall keep in their immortal youth,
 The fame of those who died.

8

Oh, here brothers: resting now
 Whose Southern rivers sadly flow
 The Cypress shades between,
 Your couch the foot of lonely trees
 The funeral morn'g form canopy
 And glittering bay stream.

9

These haunts were sacred to your shout
 In your throats came old ball sang out
 Its haste compelling Chorus
 Your hearts beat high as ours today
 With stroke of young life ecstasy
 That fire the blood like ours.

10

Till do ye live they never die
 Who help the Race to victory
 In conflict with the wrong.
 Their lives are over through the space,
 Their men pass on high up-bears
 The ages Battle song.

* Memorial Hall is in a strong

The stars when other things are to come should be required
 to complete it. Shall into them before publication
 Tell me what you think of it. The boys here are in
 enthusiasm over it. I shall send it to follow.

Love to you my sister. Thomas.

[undated]

The new turn things have taken;
and I am sure I ought to
be a happy man. And so
I am. I am doing nothing but
going about among the folks,
singing with everyone that
can sing, and Howell is
ahead of most places on that.
Why, I have quite a number
of good Organists, Pianists, etc.
— one little girl of 10 years who
beats everything in Garden City,
with all its pretensions. After
the desperate campaign I have
gone through — 18 hours per day,
seven days per week — I am hav-
ing a glorious time. Sans souci.
I sing desperate Anthems and Chants
at sight — and they say I have
a splendid voice. Why should I
feel gay? I am not homesick.
I have twenty homes — I am

surrounded by friends on every
hand - I'm in Clover. Nor does my
happiness lack the two elements so
essential - My conscience is tolerably
clear - and - I'm desperately
in love - with about a dozen
different girls who love me. I'll send
you a photograph of some of my
sweethearts soon - among them
the little seraph who plays and
sings so like an angel.
I tell you, Father, I'm getting deep
into abstract mathematics, and
wonderfully romantic every day.
I'm not light-headed, at all; but
I do think I am treading the pure
marble halls of the Temple of Platon
Love. And it is improving me
greatly. That side of my nature has
been sadly neglected. Of course
as in everything else, I will make
up for early disadvantages.
What think you?

Sarah may teach here next term.
She seems to be in a fix to get
a school. For various reasons
I would not wish to have her
here; for various others, I would
she can have only \$25 here this
term. But for a shift till
end of school year it may
be her best. It must try to have
her with me for a year or two some
where; and I might do quite
well in Dodge. If she comes,
we will see. There is no end
to my hope and circumspec-
tion. Paid Bertie inter-
est. Spiritualist Lecture
here today. I sang in Methodist
Choir in morning. Took attend-
ed the afternoon lecture.
Stewart - a good scientist
and excellent logician. Finest
thing I ever heard, but marred
by frightfully irreverent allu-

fious to what have been heretofore deemed sacred things.
Heem and Charles, Uncle Wm.
St. B. and myself questioned him in turn. I took him on a geometric matter he had introduced, and got him arrayed against such names as Newton, Leibnitz, La Grange, etc. Tonight talked Gibbon, Mosheim, Taylor, Sale Owen, Horne, Strauss, etc, etc, with him, at Prasi's house. Nobody else could say a word. Discussed polarization of light, Bible Manuscripts, Scotch Metaphysics - everything. Saw all round him and got his measure. Intellectual, quite well-informed, somewhat sensual, and slightly off the true balance. But I must close.
Love to all our household and to all friends. Yours in good health
Alexander

[undated]

young Sam used to speak of,
and if I solve, I will pro-
pose it through the Herald.
Don't you fret about my health.
I am in fine trim.

I don't agree with you about
Lomb's refusal of the mathemat-
ical chair. He ought to take more
interest in eternal verities
than in Theological fire mist
and the doubtful interpretation of
obscure words, words which
are the mansions to which they
in vain essay to call back
the fleeting breath. Shall we
rejoice that he prefers to devote
himself to this process of electrify-
ing corpses and calling their
stuporous, ghastly contortions life,
while the whole world teems with

the real thing and its normal
manifestations? Doubtless the
Egyptians and Hebrews traced much;
but time has left but the fragments
of a knowledge which in its ori-
gin was distorted and compar-
atively incomplete, and which we
should wisely refuse to place as
a substitute for our own, were
it possible to obtain it in its
pristine vigor. No! I would
not destroy the veriest herd of
an Anglo-Saxon log schoolhouse
in order that Solomon's Temple
in all its glory of gilded cedar
and gilding, might arise from the
ruins. I am opposed to this
devotion to the lost cause of
Shemitic theory. We have a
better. If we must join
this musty school, let us be
consistent, from its fragments
rebuild the City of David, and

choose our friends from the
catacombs of Egypt.
In a financial sense, it was a
great mistake to refuse the
place and its pay; and in
its financial light he was
surely bound to consider it.
You may indeed have already
put his name to more than he
himself spent, but he should
never forget that the honor of
us all is bound up in an
almost hopeless cause of debt
payment, ^{and} to the contraction of
these debts he was partici-
pate either by commission
or omission. The history of those
years at Beirut after we left
Wis. was one of unparalleled
folly, and I have my opin-
ion of the chief actors in the
drama, including the Shemitic
gentleman who paid all but the

paper and the store bills.

It becomes us debtor bondsmen
to stand less upon lofty principles,
take good pay for good work, and
sometimes "owe no man anything."

I stand firmly upon this
platform: Each man is just
what he is in thought, word, and
deed; and thought, word, and
deed make or unmake him.
There is no forgiveness for sin in
the silly way preached among
us. I think there is, in a way
which can hardly, in strict pro-
priety, be called forgiveness,
but for which we ought to be
equally thankful; a way by
which we may give a just equi-
valent, set wrongs to right,
"work out and pay for" all the
damage we do. For my part I
would prefer this plan to the other.

With the old regard, heightened by
a reminiscence of your words of wisdom,
I remain, your aff. son Alexander.

[undated]
I am just what I am, and I take no
stock in the prevalent hearsay.

I believe in doing a little better
than Deacon Smith does, and so
must matters somewhat in this world;
and if we do our duty only partially
in this world, we will not have time
to conjure up and minutely consider
the next. He and his like, are the
meanest children beside me: and it
would be folly for me to waste my time
with a further consideration of his
preeminent virtues.

Mrs. Smith was very foolish not to marry
me in spite of her parents, when I wished
her to do so: or, she was very wise, for
she would have done so had she thought
half as much of me as I, poor devil,
did of her. Well, I'm at the
front, on picket: Let them consider
that. I'm not going to Rapsidam,
till I can pay my way with my own
money. Let them, &c. included, consider
that. I'm not going to make love by proxy.

nor by telegraph. Let them consider that. Am not going across Quacum Smith's threshold again, except by special invitation of the Quacum and Quaconess, nor am I going to warp my Creed an infinitesimal of the ninth order to please any one. Let them consider all these things and give it up.

The romance is pretty well knocked out of me, what between Baptists and Congregationalists, and such like soul-saving hat-horn-sympathizing-world-refusing, finery-wearing, carriage-driving love-making saints of the Thirt-stud apple-sauce order: and if I manage to live at all, it will be through the virtue of a proto-touch of the salamander tenacity of life under adverse circumstances which will one day be a characteristic of all such denying pariahs as myself.

But, thanks to the Hygienic god of riches,

whom I serve, I am still in excellent health and Dodge County, able to shove a pen or preach a sermon, solve quadratics or integrate by series, parse an infinitive or bind a bundle, pay the interest on what I owe, and freely damn the fools who don't give everyone a fair show.

That me, I'll be common sense hereafter, and you don't catch me looking any further, when I can barely pay my own board-bill.

I intend to go through the world for the present, just as I am. If I were in Spain I could tell at a glance whether the thing would or should go or not. As to myself, I say plainly, I don't think very often of her. I don't intend to go through the same or a similar unpleasantly mill again. And now, further, I wrote some time ago to Harry, to answer

to a feeling through Jane, that there
was an end to it, or to that effect.
If necessary, I can write again.
I have no time for nonsense of any kind,
and I don't wish her to be looking my
way anymore, when there is no telling
anything about my future.
If you think there is any occasion,
(I don't) I will write her a let-
ter. I can set everything right so
far as candid utterance can go.

Sarah will carry you this. She really
has a show for a better future. Be
cheerful, but wise. I do not think
she will ask money of you; in
any event, give her none. But
give her a fair chance in her fa-
ther's house.

Everything will come out right in
the end. Hope. May you have success
in managing the harvest, and no one hurt.
My love to each and all, and best
respects to mother. Yours affly
A. S.

[Undated]

I believe in everyone spelling, and so I stood up. After all my ^{scholar} schools were all down, there were still ten of us on the floor. For the sake of my own school I stood as long as I could. We had some glorious spelling - the best I have heard in this country. Ellen Shattoltz, one of my last-grade scholars, now going to Charly's school, and myself stood up & set and spelt for a good half hour. I finally spelt "inoculate" with two ns and that settled me into my seat. It was a really pleasant affair. I will have one in about two weeks - we are preparing for it now. Sarah, you cannot imagine how pleasantly these two schools get along. Charley & I are only teaching branches of the same school - and neither seems like a school. We constitute a school when we all get together. I acquainted Irving with the fact that "Appar" had not been received, and he will write to the publishers - I think, for the first time.

To draw a good map from memory, requires much practice; for practice at map-drawing alone will give one the intimate acquaintance with the subject necessary.

You do not have time to devote to it, commensurate with its requirements; but this you can do, - draw from the book and have your scholars do the same. This is all I do, with the exception of the maps of S. America, Ancient Mesopotamia, Syria, and Palestine. But I will keep it up until I can draw all important maps from memory. Scholars under the age of fifteen, unless they have an aptitude for drawing, will not succeed very well in executing good maps; but in trying to do this, they will become acquainted with the geography of the

country, and this is the end and object to be kept in view. Get some one to make a ruler for you, 20 inches or two feet in length with the inches numbered from each end, and another 40 inches long with a double line drawn every five inches to catch the eye. Use plenty of crayons - get some boy, apt with his knife, to prepare notched crayons for "coasting." etc. etc.

I give each Sunday, a lesson in Sacred Geography. It takes pains, but is well repaid in knowing that I am letting in a little light on what is, in most minds, a very obscure subject. Those who attend Sabbath School here are becoming better acquainted with Ancient Geography than they are with Modern. Many of them know the whereabouts of the "seven churches," ^{and} Damascus, Antioch, Jerusalem, etc. than they do that of Milwaukee and Chicago.

My first map was an exhibition of the ancient world, from Rome on the west to Persia on the east, from the Crimea on the north to the African Gulf on the south. I then took up Syria, then Palestine. Five or six lessons, come in the evening, familiarized them with these. After that - I gave three lessons to the map of Asia Minor. My last lesson was on that map, and the last part of it was devoted to following St. Paul in his travels as detailed in the 13th and 14th chapters of Acts, which the children are now studying. My board enables me to draw Asia Minor 10 mi to an inch.

The next lesson will be the province of Asia, Thracia, Macedonia, and Achaia. I draw chiefly from the "Little Corporal Maps" collated with all other books bearing on the subject to which I have access. There is nothing like

giving "a local habitation and a name" to these narratives, if they are to be believed. To give an air of reality to them which is very necessary in this age. In all this I am building for the Church. I know it. But in building for the Church, I am building principally for the happiness and well-being of men; something better may come in its stead - it does not seem practicable now. And so I build on, guided by a profounder philosophy and a better motive than the little school-boys in the name of their calling throw stones at me, give me credit for.

A few persons in sacred geography would have given a tone in fact to the whole subject in my boyish days, which I presume it will never possess for me. I read St. Paul's peregrinations and Gallus's travels without a map, and was almost as faithful as the other.

Later: We have received your letter to Davis. Am glad you got the trunk even if it was smashed. You have no room for complaint. On reading the passage in relation to Grandmother, I could not help thinking how many a weary mile those shoulders carried Dave, long ago. I look back to those days with a regret that I need not conceal. They were the happiest I have experienced. What wild rombles we had over east, round and over Uncle Tom's place, Grandmother carrying little Dary on her back, leading me by the hand, and at the same time taking a general supervision of you and Tom who were romping along, sometimes before, sometimes behind! Wasn't there a military air about Grandmother in those days? Her stick is very suggestive of a Marshal's truncheon.

I hope she is still well. Lou writes to Father that Grandmother
Bertie is failing fast. I fear the last of the Soudy's will never
see her more in this world.

Do the aged pass beyond our succor when they die? I
cannot believe it. I believe it possible for a human
being to so live that, living or dead, but the latter es-
pecially, they shall have power to move the other world
as they will. I believe in the possibility of man's ac-
quiring such a spiritual power, that he will be able
to influence Heaven and Hell for the good of anyone.
The doctrine is taught by Mother Church, and there
is truth at the bottom of it. Oh, the glorious possi-
bilities of our nature! Shall none of these things
ever be?

By the way, Lou tells Father to have
me write to him. I think it were no more than right
that the one who broke off the correspondence, should renew
it. Yet I will write him next week. I remember
many a loving letter I received of him in the now
shadowy but never-to-be-forgotten past; — none more
than one he left for me at Soldsboro. The writer of that
letter shall not ask me to write, in vain. Strange
that two brothers such as we, each professing to hold
to and revere so much lofty philosophy, should
find it difficult to be civil to each other! And, at
the same time, really loving each other! Strange
contradictions! Strange contradictions!

But I must bring this to a close.

Good night,

Sandy.

of anything but the usual political warfare, and tho' I could not see any power to thwart any of Garfield's and Blaine's plans, yet I still felt that the hand would appear to execute the divine decrees. Condliff made an ass of himself when he resigned, but both before and after that act the Administration hunted him to the death. He had helped, most ~~signally~~ to place them in power, and that power was turned against him to utterly ruin him. You do not know Garfield half as well as I do, nor Blaine either, I shall not put the blame on the "Premier" (as he loves to be called), and I shall not further attack Garfield whilst he lies at the point of death: but if you think that an assassin's bullet can sanctify hypocrisy, treachery, and base ingratitude to the man who walked among wounded men, and shot and shell for four years, that this nation might live; or that it can make me change my mind regarding the course of the administration, it is simply a mistake. It is but another illustration of the fact that when men violate the higher law, they bring judgment upon themselves. The excitement attending the

now on Conkling and Grant brought out
this man without moral perceptions—
the sky was clear—the Administration was
succeeding grandly, Conkling was on
the rack and at the point of death—his
old enemies were exulting at his death-
agonies. Did they relent? By no means!
They gave the accursed instrument another
turn, and went gaily to the feast. "Pride
goeth before a fall, and a haughty
spirit before destruction." I know of
no fact in history better illustrative of
the proverb.

There is an endless
amount of gush and sentiment going.
We want the President to get well—but
I, for one, am not going to abuse
the innocent for his sake. He has his mean
traits like other men, and compared with
his meannesses, Grant's meannesses are
noble virtues.

I lately got a letter to Rear-Admiral John
Rodgers, Supt. U.S. Naval Observatory, that gives
me access to the Library there. This is a
great advantage. I put in 6 hours there
last Sunday, and about 6 hours more
on two days this week after my computing
was done. This will also save my buying
so many books just at present. My book-
bills this month is 13\$—Books that I must
have to get along.

Now, I hope this finds you and all
well. With love to mother,

Adly your son

Alexander

4 Divinity Hall, Oc

My Dear Brother: I was
at Newbern 1865, and have
detto more than once since,
but never in my life heretofore
have I been so nervously and
almost helplessly in need of news
from home as I am now. For
days and days have I gone into
the reading room where we find our
letters, (let me emphasize, where
I do not find mine), in a most
deplorable state of Expectancy, to
return in a still more deplorable
state of the blues and a fearful
looking forward to bad news, when
ever they may come, whether from East
or West. You may say, and doubtless
will say, (and I can't blame you
much either, though I would
had ever had a taste of this
far from solid land), you

is too much of the old
It is more than all that
at monomania. I may
be giving too much Attention
to Dreams and portents and too
little to fresh air, sleep, Exercise.
— that may all be; but for once
I admit that, my general health
being good and my work for
the better part of my waking hours
the calm study of Equations, I
am sufficiently wrought up to jus-
tify me in saying that I am
"scared." Now, not to go
into particulars of my Experiences, if
you haven't already ^{written} ~~written~~ do so
at once, if you have to leave the
breakfast table to do it. Don't
let anything serious happen and
not let me know about it promptly.

This ought to reach you, and
I get your answer in one week
less, if it doesn't lie several
feet in Good Thunder.

Yours may be disappointed at

for another, to be there indulged to its fullest
extent and all eternity. If the New Jerusalem
is laid out like Boston, or its cemetery, He
be lost there! Well, I rambled round,
crossed the whole quarter section two
or three times trying to find Everett,
Sumner, Agassiz, Story, Jared Sparks,
and Rufus Choate; but I had no better
success than if they had been living
in Boston. I don't know how a ghost
can manage to get home after
his observant eye lights on a
glow-worm palcing his ineffectual
fire; and probably that accounts
for none having been seen about
Mt. Auburn Cemetery. None but
a defunct cosmographer would even
think of pursuing any other policy
than a masterly inactivity.
I went up and climbed the tower. There
is a magnificent view of all this
region - much the best I have ever

got - far superior to the view from
top of Bunker Hill Monument, although
there one has a sea-view. It was
now beginning to rain, so I came down,

lost myself twice, and got out.

Whenever I'd see a tall shaft with
a page or two of writing on
it, I'd start for it, sure that it
commemorated the signal services

of a President, a General, or a
Nation's Orator. But no; it told in
many lines that Smith, or Jones,
had won the undying respect of
his neighbors and competitors (implies
equally-virtuous) by buying tea by
the cargo and selling it by the box!

Or Arthur Augustus Nobody had
been the pet of his mother, had been
"lawfully seized" of all the virtues
- and unlawfully (if there is any
truth in poetry) by the Typhoid Fever,
and had died. All sorts of memoir

anecdotes packed away safely behind
padlocked doors, like their money
- and some other body carrying the
Key for the one lock and the other!

But a very pretty place is Mt. Auburn
Cemetery, and at some future day
I will try to give it a more thorough
Exploration.

I am now reading the Old Testament
in French, and the New in French
and in German. Even these modern
languages throw some light on
the true meaning. Luther's version
is richly strong, abounding in
words that have marrow in their
bones, like our own Saxon English.
French is effeminate Latin, a
bastard language, with a bastard's
view and none of his vigor.
Thought expressed grandly in our
English, and with equal grandeur
in German, are in such shape in
French that I laugh at them.

I have done next to nothing here in German, and intend to read a little in Luther's Bible every day. French is very easy. I dropped into the reading-room of the Boston Public Library yesterday afternoon and took up some Paris newspapers - copies of the Journal des Debats, - and enjoyed the fun hugely. The leading articles on political matters were artistically witty - in fact, I have never seen anything to come up with them in English, and MacMahon and mac-mahonism were getting fits in every line. I enjoyed it all the better that my sympathies are decidedly with the Gambetta school as against the Ultra-Montanists. It was especially amusing to find these Frenchmen gazing commonplace in our own vernacular - just as we do when we have something to say that is very pretty

common schools and teach
the Cossack to read, — and he
will soon be reading with horror
of his former self, just as we read
of Smithfield, Saint Bartholomew,
and Drogheda. Even arithmetic will
humanize him. How? It wakes him
up to the abiding recognition of
of the existence of Law unchang-
able and perfect, leads him on
to a sense of perfect law every-
where, and everywhere beneficent,
brings him face to face with the
immutable decrees of the Highest,
the Highest demanding perfection.
The common school would do all
this. The man who can read is
on the highway to the highest.
Here he never to read anything
but novels, it would make a
better man of him, it would
civilize him at least, and reduce
the devilish spirit of cruelty to
a minimum. The man who begins
to take an interest in repeating
decimals and the properties of the

parabola, will begin to lose interest in dog fights and broods; he who has seen the planets in their orbits and how they love each other, will ever after feel himself at war with war. Can any man long harbor hatred and be really in communion with benevolent, beneficent Nature? The whole spirit of Nature is benevolent and beneficent - in the bosom of the All there never was and never will be a thought of cruelty, there never was and never will be revenge, or malice prepense, or hell, or punishment even, reformatory or otherwise. I was wont to say that Nature's punishments are reformatory. That is a great improvement on Hodge's, or any other body's, hell; but it was implicitly a slander on the All-Existing, which knows no such thing as punishment, save mediately through the animal creation - and the animal creation does often look to me as an aberration from wouled ways. Is stubbing

one's toe the one essential element in travelling, or burning one's mouth the whole end and object of cookery? Or, to take a better illustration. When Sheridan blew up a half mile or so of Chicago, was his object the destruction of the city? When a fireman smashes a door or a window in order to get water into a burning dwelling, do we call that burglarious breaking and entering with good intent? Now, whenever there is anything abnormal, there Nature begins to blow up, blows all the environments sky high, and keeps on blowing up, sometimes till there is no city left. But the object all through is benevolent, and the destruction is benevolent, and the destruction is ^{incidental} and misery ^{is} purely ~~incidental~~ ^{purpose}. I do not, ~~propose~~ to set aside the real nature of processes, and name them from their incidents and accidents, - and ^{so} I say

that Nature does not punish.
Hell is a creation of man's perverted
imagination, and Heaven isn't
much better so far as reality is
concerned; but let me solemnly
assure all non-catholics, that
in a certain sense, a most
important sense, this whole
Universe is one vast Purga-
tory. The word isn't a good one,
and if adopted, would need ere
long to be discarded. It applies
however, to the animal's
condition in
nature - I think to nothing else.

I say, then, that the cruelty
of man is at war with Nature,
He hacks the flesh of his fellow,
and Nature closes the wound
or gives the mangled wretch
the coup de grace. And the man
was taking only a half glance
into his Environment, who wrote
"It is a dreadful thing to fall
into the hands of the Living God,"
- or, he was writing for the benefit

Now, go slow. You must not go
out 2^d day and play foot-ball or
climb trees for birds nests. Lie
pretty still. When you get tired
of one side, turn over and try
the other. Time and Patience, if
you can yoke them, make a
strong team. The medicine
may be doing you good, but
the principal factor is change
of mode of life. I feel very
glad too that Dave has again
a roof over his head.

All things considered, we
have reason to feel thankful.

Not too much of anything,
but just enough. Affly Sandy.

Is there no danger in that? Suppose^s that, having never cared for truth of any kind, and having never acquired any, he paces per saltum of a spring afternoon to the possession of arm loads of the article: Is there no danger in that? I doubt whether that is a normal way. The man who takes a whole theory of life, or of anything else, from men, or an armful of books of theory, all at once, and without examination in detail, is in danger. I have not accepted even the theory of the law of gravitation, without the most detailed examination, and not at all as the final form of ~~the~~ truth. I regard that theory, as do many mathematicians, as possibly only an approximation to the truth, as very probably a special form of a higher generality, and as by no means non-convalescent. The absolute stability of law may be inferred from almost every scientific treatise, if not dogmatically expressed ^{in it} - but I think the gentlemen are going quite beyond their knowledge. Aside from the possibility of its abrogation at any instant, for we know nothing of the ^{manner} modes of its maintenance, I am in-

-climb to suspect that it undergoes secular variation. I know of nothing else that does not vary, and why should this stand the same forever? But Tom got too much truth at once, or what purported to be truth. It was not healthful, and has hurt him. He will see his error yet. Just give him a little time. In the meantime it led him to abuse me for years. He has done rather much of it for a few years, and I could not stand it. I suppose you know that I am not a believer in one redeemer of everything and everybody for all times and all places, crowded into a corner of a corner in the corner of a corner corner. That isn't healthful either - tho' the priests have fattened on it. There is nothing so healthful for a people, or a generation, as to till their own land, spin their own cottons, raise their own babies, make their own laws, and produce their own redeemers. I think as regards babies and redeemers the world is made much on that plan. Perhaps I should not speak positively of babies, for I am not in the business;

but I am in the redeemer business, not perhaps in a very large way, but large enough to be a thoroughly healthful and flourishing concern without protection and with little competition - and I know something about it. Now, a living redeemer is a good thing, but the priests always kill him; and a dead redeemer is a very bad thing, for, just as soon as he is thoroughly dead and done for, these same gentry appropriate him, inject certain thoroughly ecclesiastical fluids into the corners where throbbed the living tide, now ebbed forever, and keep him as a mummy to conjure by. With this ghastly reminiscence of what was once a man, but more particularly especially of their own crime against ^{him} and the world, with this abnormal thing for a preserved redeemer - they are now ready, ^{for any} living redeemer that comes their way to interfere with their gains. Now, why they should not take kindly to a living redeemer is, that living redeemers do not take kindly to them. To the priests then is nothing endowed with so much innate enmity as one of these same living,

breathing, working, and (unfortunately sometimes) talking redeemers. They have found out, however, that he improves in temper by killing. ~~But~~

There is no more agreeable fellow than a dead redeemer. He now votes unanimously with the priests. He votes just one way - at a time. He may vote some other way at some other time, but it will be for reasons best known to the priests who vote with him. I have never

known a dead redeemer to call a priest a hypocrite or a liar, or even pig-headed.

This is a remarkable tribute to the character of the ecclesiastic, and proves him both immaculate and infallible. It certainly entitles him to the tithes, With the priest, hap-

piness (the happ denotes that it is an accident of existence) is in the future, and may therefore be sold; and truth is in the past, and cannot be had for the asking.

- save of the priests themselves, who bottled some before the fountain dried up.

Having made proclamation of this, and cut the tongues out of all who deny it, or who deny it loud enough to discourage business, they form a very respectable corporation. They are the custodes bottlhorum.

or keepers of the bottles. Now as to their first⁹ proposition, that happiness is in the future, they make one so miserable here that he never doubts it for a moment, and they² far enough with a demonstration of their other assertions, as to get the cash in their toll — Q.E.D.

The priests can brook no new truth. They keep a monopoly of the old. Neither can they tolerate a new prophet. When Jesus appeared, the priests tumbled of of Moses and the Prophets; and now having thoroughly eliminated from the Synagogue all that was not in harmony with themselves, viz, his life, they have found him not so bad a fellow after all.

Now, in a small way, I go a step further. I hold that every generation must produce its own redeemers, that it is redeemed only so far as it produces redeemers, that it is irredeemable by any other process than that of every man becoming his own redeemer by saturation with the spirit of redemption. That to confine redemptive act to any one time and one place, would be to do injury to the race; that the more generally and widely that act is distributed, the better; and that it is a natural

act always, lying in the direct line of a man's development, and is not so something foreign injected into his life. There are redeeming many. Not too many, not enough; but vastly more than one. In a small way I am one. Tom has departed himself toward me as becomes a priest, and in January I was in Gethsemane. I knew it, I knew exactly where I was. Whilst filled with the bitterness of that hour, my intellect no doubt stimulated thereby, I saw that it was likely that he would be punished for his conduct. I was startled with the distinctness with which I saw his danger, and it scared all regard for myself and sufferings out of me, supplanting it with a feeling of solicitude for his safety. It was on January 20th that I first felt that he was in danger, but later in the month, and early in Feb. the feeling was at times much stronger. Well, I do not know all that there is in the universe. If my condition had anything to do with his danger, I felt that my feeling of solicitude

for his safety would tell in his favor. I am no child, to go thro' forms of prayer. The thing is ridiculous. If those who read hearts need to be told things in words, what better are they than ourselves? I never resort to English with other than an Englishman.

However, there may be very little in it. A repetition of a like case - which I hope may never occur to anyone - might strengthen the theory. Luckily, it isn't of much importance whether I have the power to predict at irregular intervals, or not. It is not by these things we live. Let us go on steadily doing right, and have no fear of potents. Tom will come round all right. But it will take some time. At present he is simply a white-washed desperado, with no more idea of a fundamental principle of right than had Jesse James. pseudo knowledge excludes the genuine article, and the machinery of a false system of growth ^{or growth} which starts with disease, viz, with that pathological condition known as conversion, prevents true progress. I might add much, and may

some time, for, tho' I do not wish to
seem to instruct, I believe I have
arrived at some views not
usually entertained, and bear-
ing the appearance of probability.

But the longer I live, the more
reason I have to entertain hopeful
views of the outcome. If I were out
of debt, and all in shape, there
would be in death no special terror
for me. I am quite confident that
the general plan is beneficent, and
those who hold otherwise, and live
by inspiring men with fear of gorgon
horrors, are simply liars and cheats,
impious libellers of nature.

I hope this still finds all well.
Is there no reason for acknowledgement of
the beneficence of nature, or the goodness
of God (it is the same thing by whichever
name), to be found in our own story?
Much, I think. My love to Mother,
who for now nigh thirty years has faith-
fully followed your fortunes. I wish I
could look in on you for a day. But
that after a while. Aff. your son
Alfred Mosher.

Tuesday afternoon 8 o'clock
[Mr. James Christie]

Dear Father, I have been here
about an hour, and I thought I would
write you a note, and send out Sunday's
letter as you requested. Keep it for me
as I want to save all their letters.

The omnibus brought myself and
trunk up to Mr Ford's, charging .75
cts. The College term does not open
until tomorrow, so I am all right.
The time was changed, since Tom and
I were in - I have a nice, large
room, all to myself, upstairs.

I will write to you on Sunday next and
tell you about the College, and my studies.
My knee gets worse, write to me.

Young affectionately -

Sarah J. Christie

[undated]

School room

Thurs. Noon.

My Dear Miss Walker,

What about
the German? Prof. says there has been
something said about having it Wed.
eve. before time for Sociable. Don't
you think that would be a little
too much? having to dress and then
German? Well, I believe I could
possibly do it - although I should
certainly not like to. I think
the better way will be to put off
until Friday and then go down
and have a nice long lesson at
Miss Bonhoulli's - I do not think I
could be with the class if it is Wednes-
day evening - for I would like to attend
the sociable - But if the other members
would rather not put off until Fri-
day, but prefer having it with you
tomorrow evening, I shall say Amen
to it - and try hard to be present.

my lungs have troubled me &
have had a narrow escape from
lingering - Dr Hutchinson says
my mind is relieved now from
anxiety - & that - is half & more
need the rest of the money
last night - Everything is all
right - Will Dave & I will write
to him tomorrow afternoon -
I hope you are well father &
not fretting about things - You
may depend upon it - I will
not be forsaken - it will be
all right in a short time -

The thing that troubles me
most - now is, the thought
that you are sorrowing over
these things, & making yourself
feel unhappy & miserable - I
cannot bear to think of it - for
I want you to save your strength
& your energies for the good
time coming, when I shall owe
no man anything, & can be at
perfect liberty to use my money
to make mother & yourself com

fortables - & to do things that I
want - to, for Jane & Emma & their
children - I have no other ambition
in life - that time, my dear father,
is in the near future - And it
will be the happiest time of my
life when it comes - So be cheerful
please, & not downcast - for
the day has dawned upon me,
I cannot write more, for one of
our suspended dogs has been re-
admitted - Millions of Plainvians
& they have no fault in him -
& I do - & he is coming up to see
me in a few minutes - I asked
him to - for I want to impress upon
him what he must do, & what
he must not do - & he will do
almost anything to please me - so
I have hope, for I will see to him
closely - Had a letter from Rockwood
today saying that Parker's mother is
sick but soon as she is some
better, Parker is coming back to
me - Parker wrote me a beautiful

letter about A. Kempis. Panning
it last night by a short note -
you will see what a glorious
good time our jolly sentimental
Tom is having - I'm not afraid
for the boy, he will always
enjoy himself wherever he is,
no fear - Poor Uncle Will -
I hope you have written to
him father - no more - than
yours with love & hope -
Sarah -

You have not forwarded my
letter, have you? What about
the one that was sent to Rapin
Mills? Did Joe get it?

to old Mr Mountain. She
seemed to enjoy her visit
here very much - She
wrote me from Clyman, after
going down - real boarding
at Jennie's - That is Jim
Bennett's - I did not reply
to the letter - but last week
received another from her
from Chicago - She is with
the Sisters of Mercy again.
I will write to her today.
She wished to be remembered
to you & to father. She writes
me that Cousin Willie (you
know he is married again &
Helen does not like his second wife,
sold his farm & house in
Viola, & has bought a
home in Atlantic - & her father
she says is well - but does not
say where he is - I suppose he
is at the hotel in Atlantic
where he was when she was
here. -

I suppose you know. What -

Fred + Minnie have a
nothin' boy - born about
a month ago - making
four boys & one girl - quite
a family - I went over to
see her - the next day, but
have not seen her since.
Fred + Minnie are doing
real well I think. - I see
Frank + his wife + children
going just fine. They seem
very happy + contented.

They always stop & have
a talk. May + her husband
live in Mankato. I do not know
what he does. Poor May's baby
died - her final one, & I do
not think she has another.
Martin + Lydia + younger
children not here about
a year ago & seemed as
usual - & I have not seen
them since.

I have never been up to father's
place since they left it - the

New Corner German seem to
keep possession in rotation.
Matyske, & they just
do as they like. I do not
like to see it, or think about
it. We have had a queer sea-
son - a long, cold spring - a
short - dry summer - & now
in August - last week it came
on cold + chilly - so that people
fear frost for the corn. -
On spite of everything the
corn + flax look good.
The Chickens have dimin-
ed all wheat - will go from
nothing - up to eight bushels
to the acre at most. - Mr
Stevens had in 20 acres of flax,
& the men have been at
it for a week - but it is
a cold & rain today & stop-
ped work - Our potatoes are
good - hay all made - Hogs
good price - Mr Stevens got
5½ for 16 last week - whole
weight - 5430 lbs. - He has

left - about - 25 - large ones -
& about - 80 small ones -
He has bought - a good
many this summer. - Where
is Charlie & Loni's children?
Gather did not tell me when
he wrote. Tell me about -
the school & the children &
Emma - & your stock & your
crops. - Bull is coming home
on a visit - in a few days -
& the boys in Washington D.C.
seem contented. but - we never
hear from them hardly. Save
when they write for more
money. I do not - know what
they intend & nobody can
tell by anything they write
for they have first one whim
& then another. I do not
believe they will stay there
any time. I am losing all
faith - in their doing anything.
What - was the cause of coolness between
you & Frank? With love to all.
Sarah.

Wm Dodge

Dear Sister

I write to
let you know we are
all in good health
hoping you the same
Sunday and I was
banking round the
stables today because
it was freeze to hard to
plow we had snow this
afternoon were
getting a big first
rate with the plow
we have about 7^{1/2}
acre to plow now

William plowing
is all done. The
Drafting begins on
Monday I hope that
Chas. Woyes
~~and~~ would have
to go and some more
of that kind Willie
went to. I will be there
other day and he
said that the ducks
condemned ~~damned~~
and ^{were so big} that they
could hit them
with stakes so him
and me set of in

the morning with
about as much rope
as would make two
bed cords to carry our
game with us. ~~we~~
got there there was
plenty of them but
we could not get
near them as
we chased them all day
and came home
without anything.
We came home with
William. I wish he
were working.

up about candles
I must go to
school as soon as it
begins William
starting firing up
the school house he
is ceiling it inside
and putting on
addition it is
getting dark and
I must go to bed
write soon

I remain
your loving
brother
David B. Christie

Dear Sarah we will go
to town tomorrow for

Mother wants to go down
and I thought it would
be better for her to go while
this good weather lasts
I will send this down by
Sandy this Morning so
that if you want to fix
anything for Ed you will
have time to day and
you had best send it
up to night if you
send it up left me
Know just where to find
him yours Affe Dave

[undated]

Rapidan Thursday Sept 18th

(Dexter)

Dear Sarah, as the ^{little} boy
says I take my pen in hand to
let you know that we are all in
good health I am at present laid
up with a cut foot. it makes
me feel small to tell it. I was
Lying of a stick that stood
up from the ground. when near
through it broke with me and
my ar fell out of my hand and
fell edge up, and I came down
with my right foot on it cut
through my boot and stocking
and into the inside of my foot.
a deep cut but it is getting some
better now I have been limping
round for the last 10 days with
two Black thorns like the Hero
of Vinegar hill John Wilkes
could Father and I will have to
limp a while longer but I more

them naturally hate it just
think of it Such a Sumit file
me ~~Just~~ sitting round in the
house, well I hope I will soon
get out of it, now Sarah how do
you get along and why dont you
write we have not had a letter
from you in along time, I hope
you have not been Sick. that
what we were afraid of but Father
had a letter from Tom last
night and he said he had been
getting letters from you regular
so we thought your letters must
have been miscairied he said you
were teaching the east School
for a month, what is the matter
with John Lyons I hope he is
not any worse poor fellow, how is
Ann getting on with her School
though I suppose she is through now
I suppose they all like her well, I
dont think it would agree

with her though how dose
Kate and Maggie and Tom
get on this Summer I would
like to see Tom fixated, there
is a young fellow working for
one of our neighbors by the name
of John Keefe cousin to Jerry
Mahoney I fell in with him when
I was helping them to Thrash,
how is the crop turning out down
there Let me know how much Ken
has, Gibb & Uncle William also what
is turning out very well here from
20 to 25 bushels per acre, worth
87 1/2 in Markato, corn is a good
crop we have got some very good corn
and good potatoes have got all our
hay made about 25 tons and a good
horse stable up 30 ft by 18 ft and are
going to put up a cow stable 30 feet
long and 14 feet wide Sunday is cutting
corn now there has been heavy
frost these last two nights.

how does Grand mother Reid
get along and Grand mother
Bertie I hope ~~them~~ they are both
well Give my Love to them both
you must. of 'have a nice time when
Cousin Jennie was up I would like
to see her. how is all Aunt Jennie's folks
now Sarah tell me all the news every
thing that is transpiring, there is
Sunday School every Sunday
and preaching once in two weeks
at the School house in our
District I have been down several
times. Willie Reid is well, now
mind you must write soon and
let me know all the news, and
I will write again soon

your loving Brother
David B. Christie

[undated]

Bridger Valley Montana
[Mr. D. G. Stevens]

Dear Sarah have just recd your

note by Roy in regard to selling your
Ticket to Mrs Watsons Father I tried to
have him buy it - but - he does not want it -
he is afraid he would loose his money on it -
he thinks it - could not be changed so I
cando nothing more about it - I think he has
given up the idea of going altogether we found
Father much better when we got home since the
snow has fallen and the weather has cleared
he has no more pain in that lump and is just as
usual I have just got done washing his back
upon the whole I think it will be the best
for you to go home now after you see the Monies
and if Father should be taken dangerously ill
we can send you word we are all well we got
rained on that night - coming home but were none
the worse for it write as soon as you get home
and let us know how you got there

Father says to tell you that - he is glad you are going
now before any more bad storms and winter sets in
yours affectionately Dave