



James C. Christie and Family Papers

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[undated]

Winnemah, Minn 8/28
Dear Father & Mother,

I am
I am at last. I quit work
for Mr. Warshaw. Last Satur-
day night. On Monday at half
past ten A.M. started for
this place with my pocket
full of recommendations. I do
truly hate to mar the pleasure
of this letter by asking you
for some money. But I am
forced to. I haven't enough
to pay for my washing & will
have to wait until you can
send me some more. You
please send me \$2.00 make
out your note & I will sign
it. I was determined to quit

Plymouth ⁽¹⁾ had only a few
dollars to come with. Board
is fearful. I bought a
21st Meal ticket for 3.50 yesterday
morning ⁽²⁾ the cheapest
room. ³ For a month, so I
am solid on food for a week
⁴ & lodging for a month ⁽⁵⁾ wash-
ing is extra I don't know how
much. I did find one place
where I could get board & room
for \$4.50 a week. But it was
a rougher place than I ever
staid in. I could not staid
it. The Irish Landlady crawled
off from his couch after
going awakens. I asked his
price. ⁽⁶⁾ He show me the room
It was over a bare floor, a
peck of rock stand took in one
corner. ⁽⁷⁾ The walls were dark
⁽⁸⁾ & grimy. I told him I would

see ⁽⁹⁾ left. The room that I
have is small but pleasant,
carpeted, two (2) stoves ⁽¹⁰⁾
& a Bureau with mounted look-
ing glass. I have to take my
meals at a boarding house, some
where between 100, to 200 persons
come for meals. They have 7 tables
with 14 at each one. But all
can't eat at once, ⁽¹¹⁾ as good
fortune will have it all can't
be there at once, or don't at last,
Well I must. Tell you what I am
doing ⁽¹²⁾ getting, Swedish foreman
want to see. Myman, Muller
& Van Dyke, whole sale dry goods
& the Holstenia. There happen to
be a vacancy (Why what a storm has
I just came up, there). They said
I could work for \$2.50 a month
⁽¹³⁾ & board my self. Until January
1st. There for an advance in

rages. They told me the work
would be hard. But a good future,
if I attend to business, I had
to say yes or no. Then for a
man was coming at 10 AM, (and)
it was then past 11 AM. so I
told him I would accept the
position. But very reluctantly thou-
gh. I never, never worked so hard
in all my life. Boxes (10) Boxes
from 50, to 400 pounds to han-
dle all alone. Then when night
came I had to look up my place
to board (10) room. It was after
8 when I stepped into a restaurant
(10) called for Brand (2) Milk (10) a cup
of tea. But I was too tired to eat
or sleep that night (10) yesterday
I was too tired to eat, But today

[undated]

Plymouth Dorra Oct 27th

Dear Mother [Mrs. J. C. Stearns]

I received your welcome letter to day. I tell you I was glad to hear from home, for your letter is the first I have received since I have been here, I wrote to Estella last Saturday But have received no reply yet I would have written when before But I didn't know whether she would get them or not. But found I would have too wait too long so I wrote first, I am glad they are getting along "nicely" and if they only can always ~~live~~ live that way how happy it will be for them and

for me to, I'll pro- Frank
must be having a pretty hard
time it, for when a person can't
walk it seems all the harder
and they think if they only
were well they would give all
they had. But he must keep
up good cheer, if he thinks
it's bad at home where he
has every one to wait on him
he has' ought to try it away
a while, then a fellow thinks
of home if he ever does, I'll
him to wait a few days at
the most and I will write
to him, My I have to laugh
to my self sometimes when I
think of Edd he had grown
so since I last saw him that
truly if he had not been
facing me I would not have
known him. Tell him if that
little girl should come home

with me some time, and he
didn't break up some she would
not think much of him, in
fact all the girls like to see
a fellow broke up some
and tell him I said so, I
spoke to him when I was
there about it. But of course
he wouldn't say much about
it. I'll I hope he may soon
see he is in the fault and do
better, You wanted to know
about the folks here. They are
all well I believe excepting
Ernest. he has been sick
for five weeks, and feels
about the same yet, he sits
up part of the time, once
he walks around a little.
He hardly knows what ails
himself first it is one thing
and then another. But generally
it is some form of the

Dysphoid fever, he thinks it tougher
to lie still when there is so much
to do, he feels a good deal about
it, but that does no good. But
fannie she is as happy as ever
be. and that probably helps him
a good deal. I am sure it
had ought to. I believe that
trip home done me good for I
feel a good deal better even
now. and if it had done as
much good as you wrote I am
glad I went. But Mother I
can't promise to be there dur-
ing the Holidays, although I
would like to very much, for
if I get to coming home too
often. I will never get out of West
all that will do to talk about. But
I don't know as I can get away, the
paper is most gone, and if you can
make this out I will be glad. for thing
writting is I ~~the~~ time, and now I
must make up the mail.



WRITE THE ADDRESS ON THIS SIDE-THE MESSAGE ON THE OTHER

Mrs S. C. Stevens
Good Thunder
Blue Earth Co Minn

no encls /
please pay 50¢ / Minneapolis Oct. 2,
Dear Mother:

I think I
will not come home for
a while at least. We are very
busy, I went to see Favin
last Sunday, I'll write you
a letter in a day or so, Hastily,
Rene

[undated]

Plymouth Dec 8/10
Dear Mother, [Sarah Stevens]

I received your letter in time, read & destroyed it as you requested. The Book I got Saturday. Oh I am ever so much obliged to you for it & many thanks, & a kiss thrown in for remembering me. It was the only present I got. I spoke to Mr Marcham last night & told him I was afraid this month ended my stay with him. He looked so strange when I spoke to him but not a frown or an angry look came across his face. He answered he would have to be looking for some one else, but knew of no body now. He asked when I was going?

about wages. I told him, what
I knew. 2^d nothing more. 3^d should
go to Mankato if nothing better
presented its self. I believe it
is best for me to get away
from here whether I get a
place or not at Ledgerwood
there are many little reasons
why I the sooner the better
I wanted to hear from you
again before speaking to Mr. St
but could not put off too long
for I would have to give
him a chance to find some way
to take my place so with
3 weeks time he could not
blame me I have told nobody
here about my thoughts of
leaving neither wife or for a
while for it is no body's business
where I go, or I have to have
them talking about it so long

before hand. Well I hope to
secure a good place, before long.
write soon as you hear from
Ledgerwood folks all will hear
I hope you all the same.
Love to all Bye Bye
Bill

Q. H. Time, looks like it don't
it?

[undated]

(A) Lynmouth June 1/15
Dear Father

I did not
get some money prom-
ised me this week. Will
you please hand Francis
£20 or £200 when he goes
away. I will surely
hand send to you by the
last of next month & be-
fore if any is given to me
Father. It will accomodate
me ever so much if you
would. I will send Frank
by Friday, this week. All
I can raise & I do wish
you would give him the
balance. Will you do it?
Uncle folks are "ever so
much obliged" for those

Things Mother sent
them. And said They would
like to have you make
them a visit. The folks
well, Two of the towns
people's children have died
with croup since I
came back. & our man
with heart disease. He
was over 70 years old
& had never been sick
in his life. was getting
ready to butcher when
he fell dead while walking
along. I havint time for
any more now. I hope it
will be so you can help
me, I would thank you more
than I could express in words.
Will be with you. Love to all. write
soon & as nice as Loring's
Buell

WYMAN, MULLIN & VAN DYKE.

WHOLESALE

DRY GOODS AND NOTIONS,

214 & 216 HENNEPIN AVE.,

[undated]

Minneapolis, Minn. Aug 8th 188

My Dear Mother; [undated]

Yours
of the 4th inst. received yesterday, but not to afford me any time to look up prices. Enclosed find the list we have at present. If you could wait until about September 1st we will have in a fuller line.

Our best common Print is worth 6²^d. Lonsdale or Fruit 10^d any good merchant in Mankato will let you have the goods just as cheap as you can get them here. Our best Dress Shirts not over 18^d a dozen. Maybe I can get them

WYMAN, MULLIN & VAN DYKE

DRY GOODS AND NOTIONS.

214 & 216 HENNERIN AVE.

Dear Sir,
I have by me, I think
of the best of quality
and in order to I will have
goods now, of you need them
You know nothing about the
less, but they are good and well
worth the money. The Hosiery
in Merino \$4.50 a Doz. the only good
ones now. For Besen about \$1.75. All
the White Cotton hose we have left are
worth \$3.00 a Doz. Colored Cotton hose
\$1.00. Mens Hosiery hose, \$3.50
Hose Supporters with ^{hand} bands \$1.50
to \$2.50 a Doz according to length.
Ladies Linen Collar you wanted we
have not got. These goods you can
get in any quantity you wish
Dress Goods from 08¢ to \$2.00 a yard
we have over 50 styles of Alpaca
prices from 18¢ to 53¢ a yard. Some
styles we cut and others we do not
Now I have done the best by
you I can. But I am sure

moth. For every increase in salary. I have one
pretty good friend. After ~~Chloe~~ Mr. Chase, who travels
for them, Plymouth, was one of the towns, I have
had a talk with him several times. The 2^d of last Dec
(1819). he told me a boy about the 20th he said he
would be there by or before that time. I would doubt
he could for me, he told me there spoke to the Firm
I left a letter in the P.O. telling me it was pretty
sure of a position. When I gave my name they knew
who I was so I owe my place to him. I thanked him
I see him every day now, he will be here 'till after the Fair. He
he will do what he can for me. But of course I must earn
my position or I won't get it. A very nice young man
resides at the same place. I do (I have mentioned his
name in my other letter,) he is short hand reporter, his work about
commence with I am, but he gets there a little after 7. I do
other work, though he does have to, when he is gone they miss him
I speak about it on his return, He keeps telling me to do the
best I can. "all will be right" in the end. His collection
of Books tells that he is a sensible fellow. I am glad I
met him, although I don't see him every day. I
did not say whether Mr Bliss' folks were poor or not, I
can't find their name on the Directory. But still they
may be here. I haven't been out an evening yet, but probably I
will next week some, when the Plymouth folks come. I
haven't paid out a cent for "goodies" this week although
Apple & orange look tempting. I had a little change but

Minneapolis 2/10th

Dear Mother, [Mrs. S. J. Stevens]

You are

no doubt wondering why
I don't write, - Well I
have been sick ever since
I got here, and have only
been out a couple of
days - For two days I did
not get out at all -
I had a very severe cold
and sore throat. I am all
OK now, but it scared
me at first, it came
on suddenly in the PM -
and by night I could hardly
swallow, all I ate for
28 hours was 3 pc's of
toast a swallow of Turkey
and three cups of tea

But all the folks here
did every thing they could
for me, so I pulled
through — I haven't
looked for a single
place yet, but the work
will find me busy at
it!

We had quite a little
snow storm here to day
but this evening is clear
& pleasant and bids fair
to be fine tomorrow.

I hope I may
secure a position
for I hate to go back
home & do nothing for
a while when I need
the money so bad
Love to all —
Affly
Ruehl

[undated]

Helena. Mouna. Oct 28

Dear Mother -

I start to day for
M'ps. so address me
there at same old place
(Bryham House) & I
now I will have to
write, I find something
to do before my work
runs dry, Tell Mrs
Hanson not to come
to this place for there
are certainly better one
to go to.

Love to all
Bruce

[undated]

Minneapolis, Oct 31
Dear Mother [May, S.C. & family]

Only a word, I
arrived here last
morning P.M., we
look around some
in a day or so and
hear what you may
have for me. Just
a few minutes before
I left H. I got a letter
from North Star Post
& show 6⁰ 20 days be-
fore they had taken
in two salesmen, and
had I applied then
I would have stood
a show of securing a
pew, but now every-
thing is filled there,
but Mr. March said

he would keep an
eye out for me if
any vacancy did occur,
he would see a long
letter I was very
social in it, but
I must soon be
at work on other
lines, I will ~~like~~
you for worded. just
before I took the train
for Misses - lots of
sickness in Halma
90 cases of Typhoid
under the D & C care
when I left there, also
a good many cases of
scarlet fever -

Love to all

Bless

Brigham Young

^(undated) I
You must read this thro-
ugh so that you can reply
for I must know so that
I can arrange my plans. -
I have been trying to bring
myself so that your wishes
won't cause me anxiety
but it is a question if I can -
For years I have thought much
of you & hoped for you a splen-
did future, trusting that
your associations would
elevate you spiritually
& intellectually.

I do not not believe in
girls permitting themselves
the habit of going with men
less educated or refined than
themselves, for unless stronger
in character it means
a sinking level. I never

allowed myself to go with
any one such person more
than once or twice, though
some were particularly
fascinating & entertaining,
at least I thought so at the
time -

It is a dangerous proceed-
ing to keep company with
a person whom you
at first would not for a
moment think of marry-
ing owing to any cause
of defect intellectually
or otherwise, for love
is the outgrowth of
friendship. At first you go
for the sake of the open, or
social event, then because
you enjoy their company
& would ridicule the thought

of marrying him, but it is
possible to suddenly come upon
you, that you are in love (or there
comes the struggle whether rea-
son or love is master (I know
by experience) but when married
back to normal, how many
there are who wish that reason
had been their guide -

You don't know how I have
felt to see you so much in
the company you have been
for past few months.

Your independent & intellectual
real qualities would not
have allowed or permitted you to
enjoy a life with a man
whom you could not speak
of with true respect of his
superior excellence, for
you are naturally proud

④ will want a husband
whose learning & refinement
will bring you comfort & pleas-
ure & the High regards of
your friends -

You will have though all
through life various real
friends who in many ways
will be your superiors, but
don't worry any of such
We should not gravitate for
it is our duty to exercise our
powers to higher aspirations.
It is natural for, at least
most, girls to expect much
of, & "look up" to their husbands
but if he fails in the things
she desires the rift of con-
fidence has begun.

Do not constantly asso-
ciate with those you want

not for any reason ^{or} ~~go only with the worthy~~
worthy of you. Then should you
grow to love them your chances
of contentment are augmented,
for reason before loving is a safer
guide than distraction(?) by
love.

You are not any too spiritually
inclined & better to have ^{for} a com-
panion a good Christian (your
own denomination would be
best) not merely a "church
member" but he would have
to possess other fine nearly
traits or you certainly would
be dissatisfied.

Parents do a wrong when they
allow their daughters (nearly) to
go with men not what they should
be in bringing happiness - as
in seeing that they have a good

Education & moral training it is as much their duty to form the acquaintance of refined families & see that their girls are given the benefit of the society of such young men. Then they at least have done their best to make her life as pleasant & happy as in their power to do.

Now I expect you will go with, & marry, whom you choose for it is your own life that must be suited, but be prudent.

I am not meaning that at the present time you are particularly looking for any one man, or even think of marrying, but I could not pass the winter here & let you constantly go or have any one

mean calling ^{it} unless I thought he
was a proper person without
saying what I know, And if
you are going to be much in
the company of any one man
I want you to tell me now
or that "you don't know", which
will mean the same to me,
In that case I am going to
look for another position out-
side of the City, possibly in a trav-
elling place out west. I am
doing this for my peace & happi-
ness & you too will under-
such conditions probably
be happier if here alone
to act as you like best to
do -

Now you must, & I want you
to finish your college course
so if I get a place I will

send you money, but if
I fail & Mr. P. wants me (as
I think he does), you will come
just the same, and if you think
best act as though I was not
here,

I would be happier here
with you doing as I thought
you should, than be away.
But we cannot all think
alike, or have the same feel-
ings towards others, so please don't think I am try-
ing to compel you to do as I
would like of you, on the con-
trary I am leaving it to you
to do as you like & still
give me a chance to receive
something more pleasant
that is if our views do not
coincide,
What I have said about receive

ing company, or habitually going
out with any one person. I
have myself practised, and am thank-
ful I have so, for I believe it is
the right way, It is better to
go, only over or twice with a doz-
en people, or stay at home with
no callers, than take the chances
of leaving only & mainly the
company of one, Please re-
member what I have written,
and if you do not now believe
I am right, just see what
your future years will de-
cide -

All that I have tried to do
for you has been from
a motive of pure love and
as I thought best for you.
There is no anger, no spite
in this, only a desire to
make it pleasant for myself

yes and you to, for I shall
keep you as I have done in
the past whether I go or stay,
Please reply as pointed,
as I have written, or at least
tried to write it plain, and let
me know soon, for I
want (if I am to say) to see
some St Paul firms & write
to others.

It is now just 11⁰⁰ P.M.
but I wanted this to leave
here tomorrow -

I generally am in bed
by 9⁰⁰ o'clock -

Good night -

Affectionately

Bruce

Plymouth 6/18/20
Dear Folks at home. Sarah & I have

I received
your letter with my Thorough
Base all right. I am ever so
much obliged to you for sending
it, as I was wanting to see it.
And also the paper that
came around it was eagerly
read. I would like it very
much if you would send
me one occasionally for I like
to see the news from home of
course you need not write
every time, but whenever it
comes convenient for you to
put a wrapper around onend
send it, it will be gladly
received. Yes Frank wrote
me about Eddick leaving home

I was completely taken by surprise, for I never once thought of his leaving in that manner. I am glad he has been heard from, but he will find there is no place like home. I do, I had never heard of Mrs Vaughns death. It must seem lonely to Mr Vaughn & Colver to be then all alone. He & the had a funeral here this week a little boy of consumption, & last week a Mrs Walker died, leaving a husband and little girl about 9 years old. Well that is nice in little Bessie to be so quiet, of course she must so come to let you know she can make a noise. It will be fun after a while to hear her prattle off her little speech in her own Ruby tongue. How many cattle has Father now, and is he still buying. But I suppose it is a few more

of year. They bring in the heard now. My, you had ought to see the Hogs. This comment affords. I didnt think there could be so many in so small a scope of territory and they have paid well too this year. Lots of Rain had run here but none since Monday. ^{2d} for a wonder too, for up to that date it had rained every day in the month. Times very dull at present, nothing going on. I am not much interested now. But I have to pack in long hours, and makes me feel pretty sleepy some days when there is nothing much to do. But, I am glad I can stand it all "OK". Mr Wareham was gone from May 31st to June 1st to Chicago & Milwaukee. He said it was the longest he had been away from home at one time since he commenced business

But I guess he found things
all right on his return. He
seems well pleased at any rate.
Austin Leavis didnt get away
for north this time. The man
who was with him lost one
of his horses. Then he sold the
other. And Austin sold his
whole outfit ^{fit} team wagon &c for
\$200 = I will bet he wont have
any thing in a short time. A
year ago he had a house & couple
acres of land in "old Plymouth"
and at least could raised enough
to live on. but now he has to pay
rent, and his team gone. The
money will soon be spent and
then he will have nothing. Well

my time is limited just now and this must end
to day. This letter is for all. Love will soon. Love
to all. Lovingly, Nell

[undated]

Minneapolis January 9th

My Dear Mother, [Sarah Stebbins]

I know long, my
this you are waiting for a reply. But
time is so dicing in its allurments, that
like the young man in the Legion who think
-ing he that only staid down deep with the
fairies under water & asking to return home
found on regaining earth that centuries had
passed since his departure. But perhaps this
is too marked a comparison, still time
passes very quickly (or more properly it is
we who pass away) — Wasn't this been
a glorious day just cool enough to be com-
-fortable, & too right after such a gloomy rainy
day as yesterday - (well I guess I am all
comparison to night) - but such a contrast
every body could only speak of this early May
like day. Not the weather though I judge for
Corn to grow very fast, still I haven't seen
a blade of it this year & only guess at what what
I say in regard to the Farming question. —
I would like to go out now & stay a couple
of weeks, it would be real fun of the most
genuine kind. Still I can't see as I can
so I will write my decision about the "X" &
say I can't. Be there much as I want to
disappoint you - And you must not be
troubled so about me. Everesthine Mother. And I
am sure if I was used in confiding to any
body my whole life affairs you should have
them - so please never mind me, & dispece

those illusions at once. For what harm
can befall me here any more than elsewhere?
- As Miss Fox decided to spend part of her vaca-
tion with you I saw her a couple of days before
she expected to leave here but where to go she was
not certain, but said if she was to go there it
would be the first place. ^{And} that was more
than two weeks ago, so by this time she is
there, if my conclusion was in that direction.
How does Francis still think of the plans for
Col. But of course his mind is to travel. ^{And} that
will be another good chance. So far as every
thing but the money making part of it
I would enjoy that I am afraid might
prove rather small. Still I hope he may
do well, ^{and} I may follow some day. But of
course will know something what to expect
if I make the start. ~~Every~~ Every thing
apparently goes along smoothly here, ^{and} I
trust by another year to do much better. If I
fail here I will try another field for this
is not the only Drygood house in the country.
The ~~X~~ will soon be here I will then in
my next letter tell you how I put in the
day I think probably at some of the Lakes.
Have a good time for me there, ^{and} I will
remember you here. For the three past ~~X~~ I have
stood behind the counter all day, so think I
can appreciate this one, if all is well.

Write soon Love to all,

Ever Yours
Buell

Plymouth Row 4 - 30
 My Dear Mother: [Local Address]
 Your packet
 received. I hardly thought
 you would reply so soon
 but was glad for I was
 not sure the money
 would reach you safely
 although the danger is not
 great in so short a distance
 where one knows to whom
 it is going. I did not to
 register so risked it in a
 common envelope. This is
 a very dismal day. raining
 & chilly wind from North
 west. Another funeral. This
 makes three within a
 week & some others very

sick around here. It is strange
the way so many are passing
away. For it has generally been
pretty healthy in this neighborhood.
Uncle Thomas wanted me to
write & see if Father wanted
to hire a boy to help him in
the cattle business. Gus Jay
wants to work some where &
Uncle knows of no better
place, if Father wants him.
If you would please send a card
as to what Father thinks about
it soon as you receive this
it would oblige them very
much. I hardly know about
any summer vacation. I
have never been away from
home since I came here.
I would like to be at home
the "4th" but don't think I
can. I have passed the two

last ones here in the
store & in all probability
will pass another in the
same way. But many
thanks for your kind invi-
tation. I will come & see
you some time, sooner
or later. —
Has Father the summer
term in the old school
house? Does Father have
to keep more than one
third man now. How
much grain does he put in?
He must feel tired riding
home back so much. But
it will be much nicer
when he can take the team
& carriage. Stock of all
kinds are bringing good prices
here. Hogs ran as high
as \$4.40 last week. & then

sozins of The Farmers are
afraid to sell for fear of losing
a possible chance for a rise in
market. All the folks
will have at present. As
soon as Eddie writes how
wont you please send me
his address. Tell Francis
I am almost through looking
for a letter from him if
he dont write me pretty
soon. Well Bye bye to all
& a kiss for Bessie.

Lovingly your Boy
Burt

[undated]

Have you heard
from Edw. yet
and what is he
doing? I don't
write for any
more about it. I
give you love
to all & I am
ever me or
my love

By mouth Anna 7/28
Dear Mother [Sarah Stevens]

How long it
has been since I have heard from
home. or it seems like a good
while any way. Every day I
look for a letter but none
comes. Now you will an-
swer this by August 7. won't
you so as to give me a pre-
sent, by way of a letter & good
news (if you can get it) of a
place to work in as short a
time possible for I am tired
of staying here & long for
a change. I don't like to stay
at a place where they don't
agree. & some days M. W. is
gloomy or angry. I hate to stay
in the store unless I am busy

I don't know whether he is
angry at me or not. But at
any rate I do not like to stay
when they just go around
and don't say anything. And
last Friday eve. The Hoag Imp-
rove had an ice cream festival
and a Miss Kling (the Lady who
taught school here) came over from
the City not knowing the
L.I. were going to have any
doing. But wasn't folks before
going to Bee Moines? While
here I asked her for her company
that night? At the supper table
asked if she would walk before
going up? she said yes. But
she had to go to one of the neigh-
bors & put her little niece to
sleep (she was staying with Mr. W.)
just before going. Mrs. W. asked
if she was coming back that

night? she said yes. When I
got ready to go she (Mrs. W.) said
I was a smart one & would like
to know how she was going to get
there, unless she went with us, but
as we were going to walk, she could
not go with us, so had to go with
another couple. Well after we got
there she commenced on us, and said
she didn't know I was quite so
much of a fool & etc. It was said in
a laughing sort of tone. But mea-
nwhile I did not say anything? the
next morning When Mrs. (Mrs. W.)
came to bid her good bye, she gave
her a lecture for doing as she did? &
said I did not treat her as a gen-
tleman should. Now whether do you
think I done any thing wrong, I
had not heard her say any thing about
festival, I was through & had I did
not think I was obliged to see her there

more, I will
 have to write the
 my self. Well
 what he intend
 to do by me, for
 to month more
 on any more
 I am, old you
 I don't tell me
 to give any more
 anxious to come
 on the night
 I want to know
 get me check
 How are crops
 looking some
 there, come
 fields here are
 fair better
 poor. But the
 grain better on
 are average in
 better yield &
 really than
 last season

undated

St. Louis, Mo.
Dear Mother, (M. S. Stevens)

Your letter
received this afternoon and will
reply as an answer will
go this evening. It is storming
fearfully today from the N.E.
to day was the time the Passen-
ger train ran on the Chicago
& Milwaukee R.R. through here
since the 1st day of February &
the way it looks now it will
be a while before they start
again almost every day some
train is ditched on some of
the roads, but mostly freight.
It is almost impossible to
get any where these times
& travel is very light. A

good winter for staying at home. Oh, have you been on a visit to Wisconsin yet this winter or was you kept close at home. Every body doing well here except Ebbie (Colin's third child) He isn't expected to live. is very sick, Sam Jones I believe is the trouble. But he has the best medical attendance to be gotten. Ernesto & folks have a baby girl a few weeks old. & I tell you they feel proud over it too, Uncle's folks about the same. I have put in good time for a year all I have lost since I was sick a year ago this March. is when I went home last fall. Hadn't I kept pretty close, but I rot my self of sleep a good many nights. Going to Singing School an Long

folks Milt & Sister. But we have good times & I must have some time for play. I got a letter from Estella last week (It had been 3 weeks on the Road by the Post mark) She told me about Vincennes going mad, she was wondering for her board, he had only left her \$7.00 She was feeling bad & was tired of living such a life without a home or friends, so she would leave, I sent her \$15.00 all I could spare then. It was some more than she asked for so I guess she will not be disappointed. ^{as they give them 17 people} I feel sorry for her. I wrote for her to come & stay with me a while But hadn't heard from her, I had not heard from either of Francis or Eddie so that was new news to me. if it is old with you, How Eddie write

Suppose you
think my &
green yellow
home. But I think of
how all the
more, & the dear
ones there, and
also the rest of
them, & I care
to forget Mary
after I get my
dear's pain. I may
be a better boy
in the light of
some one the
same time &
am doing the
best I can.
Do not forget
me and love to
all.
What is his address, I am glad
Francis arrived safely. & That he
likes it there, Mary he will write
to me some time in the future
I wish he would. I don't know
of a man here who has any thing
to go right along with & That a
farm. I have kept a good many
inquiring for farms but the most
of them want things furnished. But
I will keep on the watch. & If I find
one I will let you know right away.
That was more news about Annie & her
return. Marriage to Mr. M. and also Jim
Strattons, I haven't heard from them
for so long I know nothing of what
takes place, I am glad Bessie is
well & all the rest of the folks &

Well Love
Bessie

Undated

Charmouth Nova Aug 26
Dear Father: [W. D. Stevens]

I received your letter the 24, stating you could not oblige me with money. I would liked it very much if you could have done so. Oh! I am ever so glad you did not get angry & scold me, for I have turned over a new leaf. Father is going to be better than I have been in the past. You don't know how much I liked you after I read your letter. For not one word of reproach did you send, did word go ten times farther than unkind ones. Though sometimes it is hard to speak them. I will answer Mothers & you

both in one, I spoke to Mr
W last Tuesday. I told him I
was not certain of my place
in Mauckato, he wanted me to
stay here then, for he had not
tired a man yet for a certainty
I told him no I could not
promise yet until I heard
from Edgewood. He wanted
me for another year, but
I cant live for any such
length of time in so small
a place as this, I dont like to
stay here one bit. I would not
if I could leave very well, But
if I should lose my position
any time you would not catch
me home for what good is a
fellow if he has to run home
every time any little thing
happens. I would not turn
my hand over for a man

with no more "Land" than
that, but must do you find
me fooling around home while
I am able to work. I do
have to pitch bundles for a
living. So many thanks for
the invitation but no home
yet for a while, to stay long,
Grain stacking is almost
done here, some are thresh-
ing. It is about half a crop
I have heard a good many
say it would average about
10 bushels a ten acre. Though
some farmers only got a little
over 6, by per acre some 8, ^{per} ^{acre}
I heard of one ~~man~~ man who
got 22. That was good for
this year. Wheat is worth about
\$60⁰⁰. Livestock are bringing from
\$4⁰⁰ to \$4.50 pretty good for
those who have them to sell

I don't know what cattle
are worth, scarcely anything
but politics now day. Men
for county officers running in
every direction. A lot of them
too. Every body will here, I
believe. Earnests folks go for
me about your not sending
them your pictures.
Been cloudy all this week
with mist or rain some of
the time every day. No news
from Eddie yet? I guess
he will come around all
right yet. Still enough
for this time. Write soon

Love to all

Loveingly

Bill

Please lend my Bible the first
chance you can for the little girls
say I will have to be a teacher. Mary
I will. Then I will need it very much. And

[undated]

Minneapolis Minn 1/90

My Dear Mother (Paul, Steve)

Sunday

yes now. To day I
have been in the house
most of the time. It
has been very chilly and
cloudy all day. Mr. Starr
a young man who bought
Wheat in Plymouth last year.
He is staying here for a
short time. He is quite a friend
of Mr. Kings and is attending him
some. Mr. King is getting
along nicely and I guess will

Is all right, in a short
time, I haven't seen
Laurie only that once
two weeks ago, Still I
have to work at my same
rough business pretty
tough this cold weather
but I am getting along
finely, I will have to leave
them soon, I expect to go
tomorrow but possibly may
not, you can direct to
the same place (16, S. 7th St)
for a week or a little long-
er, I must go to Church
this evening, I haven't been
yet since I came here
You must not worry
about me I am feeling

very well. (u) I hope I will
not be sick, although a
great many persons are
sick, I am taking good
care of myself, a great
deal better than I have been
while in Plymouth, that
is my thank, am more
regular -

Why, why don't you write
to me, this makes 3 letters (u)
1. Postal (u) still no word
from home, I trust you are
not offended because I do
not go home, I think it
is best for me to stay, I
would like recreation (u)
go home for a while, so
send me letters every little

which. It helps a fellow
along so much to get a
line from "Mother" every
few days. And be sure (L)
write soon as you get
this, (L) Have all the rest
send me a word. Well my
time is gone. I must go to
Church. Bye bye Love
to every body.

Your Affectionate Son

Paul A. Stearns

[undated]

[Address]

Dear Bessie I got a letter from Miss. Kathryne Finnegan yesterday in which she enquired abot you, and hoped that you would be down to the Fair, she said that she would have written to you but she had forgotten your address. She did the work for Mr. Dunn again this year and he said that it was better than last year.

The boys bought a grocery store near them last January, they have two clerks and two delivery horses ,and busy all the time,"had not played a game of cards for months", so they must be busy.

Mr. Feist went to France last month to see his father, just on a visit , said that he would call and see me when he returned.

Affectionately
Bill

[undated]

Minneapolis, March 25

My Dear Mother; [Mrs. S. G. C. Stevens]

Your letter
of the 16th inst. received. I
was writing you one the
same day, and am sure you
received it before this time
still I must drop a
line anyway. I received
a letter for C's friends Stevens
to day saying they would start
in about a week for D. C.
but deliver me from any form
life in that country, to day
is Easter^d & this P.M. a pretty
stormy one. This morning I
thought of the days when
we boys used to hide away the
eggs for Easter Sunday so as to have
all we could eat, when they

Brought in a couple of fried
ones for breakfast, but these
boarding houses are not houses
when eggs are 30¢ a doz, well
here it is 6 o'clock and I must
go to supper only a walk from
here ~~on~~ and back of a mile and a half
for a cup of tea, who wouldn't
live in a city and room and board
in different places. we don't mind
it at all, but I will wager a
kiss you folks would think twice
before starting out in a snow storm
that distance after eating Saratoga
Chips all the PM, Don't you get
my paper very much. for I send
them as regular as Monday comes
around, Tell the rest, I will
write some time in the future, but
am 'mighty uncertain'

Love to all

Affect your

Buell

[undated.]

Elizir. 2/20

Dear Bro. Francis [Stevens]

I got worried about
your nonappearance &
sent up word by the Mail
carrier last evening asking
Mr. Spurr concerning you
he answered that he got
a letter from you Sunday
& also Mr. Grayson said you
thought of stopping off at
Juplin, but I look for
you soon - Don't forget
to put up my laundry for
I am short. Put your
Valise (the one you left) in
the buggy I have a pair
of clean hose in it - You

might also bring along a
clean overshirt, not a
white one - The key to
your trunk I sent in a
letter to Harrison last
week Friday - My umbrella
you might bring along
in case it rains -
As you did not give me
any information about
that claim of yours &
Tiptons I could do nothing
about it, & I will
wait now until you
come before I tackle
this here for you may
have other plans in
view but had I known
you would not have
been here by this
time I would have
been busy by this

time, but undoubt-
edly it is just as
well for I was
about laid up for a
few days -

The Dr has blasting
for cartridges here
in his store.
Hoping soon to see
you both.

Ever

Buell

Mapleton. Oct 21st

Dear Mother - [Mrs. L. C. Stevens]

Mr Getty will be down for examination tomorrow. I called at his home this morning and saw his mother. She said if possible to give him a second grade Certificate. The young fellow has attended Winnebago College 2 years, but is a nervous & distrust himself at special times. The family (4) are Prohibitionists. I saw only Mrs S, Mr Josiah Rogers (near Mr Dumbucks) says he is against you because you have not visited their school if you go out there see him, Mr Hord (young man) who lives in Medo - in Clapshaw district is against on the same grounds. but Mr Clapshaw is for you - at N. Tracy's I saw Mr Hutchinson from Medo - (he is working on Mr S. house) he is against you on same ground & says you will not get any support from that district (No 56 I think) I think you are OK in

Beauford - but in other districts
you certainly will have to get out
to see the people & schools & I
think it will help you out a good
deal - Don't stop for Saturday or
any other day but go - I told Mrs
Betty I would see you but proba-
bly will not now before I reach
home -

Raymond C. Allen
Buell

[undated]

WYMAN, MULLIN & VAN DYKE.

WHOLESALE

Dry Goods and Notions,

214 & 216 HENNEPIN AVE.

Minneapolis, Minn.,

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To me, I am sorry you could not come, but maybe you would not enjoy it, for it has been very bad weather. Freezing last Friday (up to day (the last). But come when you can I will only be too glad to see you. I hardly think I will rent part of the place, for in the course of a year or so I will be over my better I think than running a farm, but still maybe not. Many thanks for the money you sent. Don't put yourself out to send me any more if you prefer to use the lower hall. I would like to see Bessie walking around. But I will some time.

J. Buell

[undated]

Plymouth Iowa July 6th
Dear Father; [Wm. D. Starnes]

Your letter
received, but it was three
days on the road instead one.
I almost finished a letter
to you last week but be-
fore I got through writing
I had other work to do. ^{and}
have you ever since.
He had expected to see you
here before this time but
guess we can give that up
now, I did not look for
you so much as Uncle
John for I knew you
must be busy the most
of your time, All the folks
will excepting Ella's letter

once, but she is better now.
quite a number of old
people are sick around here
this summer, but this warm
weather is enough to make
any body sick. 110 in the
shade I believe is the highest
reported in this place. but
that is enough. I have any
thing to do. We are having
considerable rain here too
much so for small grain
but still it promises a
fair yield if it had no
more drawbacks. Mr
Manham has returned from
Kansas then the wheat is
a very poor crop, excepting
in one county. That was
almost the best he ever
saw. They were busy harvesting
when he came away (10 days ago)

He enjoyed his visit very
much, but as so he had to
sit in the shade. There was
a continual breeze from the
south west but even that
would not keep them cool,
I would like to have been
from the 4th but could not.
We had a celebration here. (2d)
a very good time. But I
was not out at all. I stood
behind the counter all day.
a little before 9 P.M. I stood
the store & walked down the
street about 15 minutes but
I was tired & went to bed.
All the little children were
playing on the street, when
I went to my room. (3d)
I could hear the violins playing
but I was soon asleep. That
make the third 4th I have

passed in the store but
I don't know but that I am
just as well off, only it is
natural for one to have
some relaxation, Many thanks
for the invitation of a visit
home & a rest, especially the
latter for I am almost
tired out, It seems as though
I can't catch up my sleep, for
three weeks I was up most all
the time & since hav'nt had
full rations. But I must
work now & rest in after
years, if I should feel like
it then, I sent it lot bad about
Sanfile I hav'nt heard any report
this morning but last evening he
was better, Tell Mother & mother
yours with love. A kiss for
Bessie. Her Photo was just nice.
Your affectionate Boy
Sweet & Lillian

9 W/10 tonight
wouldn't the
boys think
it rough to get
out at those
hours. I tell
you it makes
a person feel
tired to crawl
out at that
time. Their
wails between
3 and 4 hours
for breakfast
I hope they will
soon make a
change to keep
it up all the
time or give us
more hours for
rest. Ah! please
do send
my thoughts
to you. That's
how we write

Wymouth May 22
Dear Father

Your Postal
received I was very glad to
hear from you, and still wished
it was from Francis, I wrote
him last Saturday, request-
ing him to answer immediately,
but as yet no word has come,
if he is at home, please tell
him I would like to hear from
him, before long. If he is
not there write me so in
your next letter. How fast
every thing grows this spring
Three weeks ago to morrow
not a leaf could be seen.
The buds were only begining
to swell, and the grass starting
in patches along the road

for before.
But if suppose
you all
has been
the thing
of
small grain
is doing well
only a little thin on the ground
It may come out though and
be a good crop yet, I saw
a man from Wisconsin a
short time since, who stopped a
day in Good Thunder. I went
to Mankato with a team going
by our place for he spoke
about it to me. He said the
ground was in need of rain
very much there, but the
farther he came this way
the wetter it got, How many
acres did you put in your-
self this year, and how much
help do you need, Is Miss
Knox teaching the school
there this summer or has
she gone away, and how is
little Bessie getting along.
I suppose she petitioned and

dearer every day of her sweet
life. You did not say anything
about her this time. Now be
sure and tell me every time
you write, how she is getting
along, for I am interested
in her welfare. I suppose
Mother is up and around the
house now, and feeling quite
strong, but plenty to do
looking after the housework,
seeing that the garden is put
in and the yard fixed up, for
"these horrid men never do look
after anything". Austin
Graves has started for the north
again, to look after his claim he
left there last year, no one
having taken it yet. Ernest
sold his a few days ago for
\$500. he has rented a farm
here. He takes things cool, but

days of it now
morning to get up
at half past 3
in the morning.
The time sleeping
some the Partridge
Rowd. In the
winter I had
to rise half past
4. Then they
changed so
we to get up
out about 5
that was such
the right time
to get up. But
this last is
spreading it
on almost to
Thick. In a
fellow can
get to bed
let between

fellow as one generally meet. I
don't believe he will ever amount
to much as a millionaire. Jay Starna
while breaking a stick of wood with
an Ax a few weeks since had one
peice strike him just below the
right eye cutting a long gash &
as the Dr. said shocked the nerve
so he is blind in that eye. but he
can see it is some light by looking
at the sun. The Dr. said he thought
it would get well. but Jay thinks
it is dubious, unless it gets better
faster than it has been. It will
be too bad if he loses the use of it
entirely. Uncle said for you to write
and tell him all the news. for he can't
get the boys to write much. And would
like to hear from you. I have long
(Dad's)

Saved us
 Frank's letter
 when you
 signed. They
 can't find it
 Rye says
 Bruce
 I would
 send you
 more now
 if I had
 it.
 House of Sals
 West or east. I
 was just going
 to send this when
 the messenger came
 I got Frank's letter
 so late. Sorry
 (awful) thank

Plymouth Corn June
 My Dear Mother, [undated]

I received
 your letter this morning
 from Wagon City, may, they
 must have carried it by
 last Saturday, Enclosed you
 will find \$25⁰⁰. (all that I
 have just now) But you
 are welcome to it. I wrote
 to Frank last week & offered
 to help him, I hope he will
 answer my letter. but I
 will have to wait at least
 two months, Bessie's photo
 looks very nice. & I thank
 you ever & ever so much
 for it, Mother I know
 I did not do right in

not sending you the money
I owe you sooner. But I
would like to borrow it and
I thought perhaps you was
not in a great need of it. I
am sorry it caused you
any trouble. Please write
me about it. for I am an-
xious to know what it is ^{all}
if I can in any way remedy
the matter. I will do so;
I am almost sick knowing
it is up so much. It seems
as though everybody was
stopping here now. It is
late & early with me. But
when Mr. H. comes home I
will make up lost time.
Part of yesterday & today I
could scarcely get about &
have to walk slow and care-
fully for the least jostle

me. But this pm. I feel
some better. I may be to-
=morrow I will be my old
self. Mother I have never
always tried to do as people
or rather friend thought best.
So as you want the money
you shall have it. & in the
future if you should want
more just say so. I don't
be afraid to either. I hardly
know whether this will
reach you or not. But
will send it on first
train going that way. I
haven't time for any more.

Best write me soon.

Lovingly your boy
Bruce

Love to all for Bessie
a kiss
Bruce

UNIVERSITY OF Commerce and Finance.

EMBRACING SIX COLLEGES

619-621 NICOLLET AVE.

Dear Mother [Mr. H. L. Rucker] St. Louis, Mo. July 16th
Hennepin, Minn.

Your two letters came - for a while I could not recall what I had written you about medicine, but many thanks for all your trouble, it might come handy although I am all right yet, excepting a little cold + effects of hard work -

Before receiving your letter I had made up my mind not to go with Mr. W., for I am fearful it may prove a fraud & I don't want to be caught again by any of those kind of chaps, he wrote me though, this week Monday, that he would wait until August 1st for me rather kind on his part, but I had rather stick where I am than try him, unless I should be out of a position entirely,

I am glad you saw about the Iron Range Co. I will see them soon as

I possibly can, but it may be a week before I can. If their office is not closed Saturday P.M. I will sell them then. It is next to impossible to get out of the store during working hours. Mr. JSTR. is very particular, & too just now we are driven with work & will be for some time to come, but if I miss Mr. Culver, & Saturday, I will drop him a line, saying that I wish very much to him, at some noon hour or at 6th P.M., but I hope to have a talk with him this week, & if I can make a deal with him I will very quickly quit my position here, the work is really too hard, but I would not mind that so much, if I were only getting paid for it, & this other place would give me nearly cash just what I am in need of now, But this may not be a "go" with me, but if I secure it I



619-621 NICOLLET AVE.

Minneapolis, Minn.
 Hope I can make a success
 of it, even so a month looks like
 a good many to sell, the year
 round, a fair little salary of its
 self just from the commission
 I will see them soon, & will
 then let you know at once what
 I will do, in the mean time you
 need not write to Bishop Gilbert.
 I wrote to Mr. Grob Henry (who is
 Broadstreet's Mrs. Agass's Supt at Niles)
 he had nothing to offer but referred
 me to Mr Chambers their Supt. but
 he likewise had nothing but Mr
 Henry said he would do all he
 could for me, & if not successful

with Mr Chambers, to write him
to he would write a other Septs
himself to aid me in any way
he could, kindness on his part
for the most of them drop you when
they have nothing to offer, but Mrs.
H. - my Music teacher probably was
the cause of so much attention, for she
was "very glad to have heard from me" & "sent
cordial regards", although I did not
write to her, - I have not written
Mr H, for I first heard from Mr.

S. - - - - -
Must hurry & mail this &
go to bed -

Glad to hear every body at home
is well -

Love to all
Affectionately
Belle

3226 Pine St -

[undated]

Plymouth Conn Sept 29
Dear Mother

It has been
an awful long time
since I heard from home
this makes four notes
I have sent. But I guess
you will answer this
before I write again.
I know all of you
must be well. but
I would like to know
about Mr Feggenwood.
has he got back from
Chicago? if so. why
don't he say whether
he wants me or not
I think he must be a
guessed man to promise
a reply by the first of a

month & then not hear
any thing by the last
Phase which soon as this
arrives. Whether he is then
or what is the matter
with him. I would
have written myself
before now but you
said to wait until you
saw him, I suppose
Estella is home now &
having a good time. Tell
her to write to me. & be-
fore I forget. Please send
my Bible (getting good
aint I?) Tell me all the
news. about home &
neighbors. Has Mr. Will
Smith been there yet?
I haven't time to write
more now. Am all hury.
Kisses & Love to all
Percy

Mother I have a fearful
fever every afternoon after
eating. Sometimes only for
a short while then again
it will last most of the
day. My face burns like
fire. (The girls say I look
good then. For I have some
color, & looks as though I
had painless to perfection)
Can you please tell me
what to take or shall I
just let it go. & wear
it out. Heavily But I'm
Percy

[undated]

Mankato Minn. City 28-

Dear Bro. Francis [Stevens]

I am at home & have checked my trunk into N.Y. he said when I run out of cash & could not sell bills for cash enough to pay my way to come in, you see me bring food as we go along. I sold a good many food but had to date April 1st so did not get the cash & one bill of \$34.00 cash I sent him \$20.00 of it trusting to do a little more cash business than I did, but then it does not make any difference for then you no pay in it for me, my worry most, Your letter rec'd of Tyler, which I answered from there also caused me to quit, tomorrow I will put out & see what I can do, (I was all night & changed cars 4 times so as to get him to day) had I waited for a day train I would not reached here until Monday (tomorrow) at 5⁰⁰ P.M., I may not be able to raise any cash on our lots so far away, but we have talked mines all day & I think Father will go down there this week & see you & property

you spoke about. I hope he will
give us a half share in it + then
we can resell + soon pay it off -
Now Frank I will undoubtedly have to
lay around here for two days, a change of
climate + work will be the more good
than Doctor bills & I want to go there
& work along side of you for a couple
of months. I know mother will furnish us
the cash - & we can do work on one or
two claims + thus be putting in our
time - I feel confident it will not be
later lost we can come north then
+ resell for cash. or if you choose to
study up more about zinc mine + go into
it in a real estate way why I can do
the hussling for ready cash - we will pull
together + somehow or another "success
will crown our efforts" - It is too bad you
could not secure that \$20000 deal
but maybe the \$200 will be enough for that place
for it will be less work to do done on
that place, so we can tackle something else

I would have gone now if I had, had the
cash & not waited a day. Father spoke
about me going along with him but on
second thought concluded you could go
along better alone than to have ^(me) a third
~~(me)~~ party - when Father returns or I
hear from you I will strike for there
should you wish to prospect farther I
can stay & do some work -

Make Father give us each a 1/3 interest
which would be better, now possibly
he may not go at all, as he may not
be able to borrow the cash. Should
he not give us a share in that deal
why let it go & we will settle where
as much cash is not needed & if we
need it & I can't raise it, may we
ever put some party with money to go in
& give us a share, better to have share
than nothing -

Will write again in
a day or so -
H. J. B.
Buell

[undated]

Plymouth Iowa 4/2
Dear Father [Wm. J. Stevens]

Your welcome
letter received all right, with
the Photos. for which Colee folks
were very thankful, As for Ella
I havent seen her this winter
I gave all the Photos to Colee
he said they would hand Ella's
here, I guess you will say
it is a perfect shame the way
I treat the folks here, I have
only been to Minnells once since
I came back. Oh, Ernest said
he thought you must have forgotten
them, by not sending them any
pictures, I Egged his mind some
by telling him I thought you
did not have any more at the
present. I saw Mr Maulsberry

and gave him the prices of cattle
you sent me. he said they were
about the same as here, I spoke
to him about your 2 year old steers
and he said he thought he could find
a buyer. and I had some talk with
a stock ~~and~~ man at Green. he
said they had not bought any stock
yet this spring. but thought
they would in about 3 weeks. and
then would see after your cattle
I told him you had some three
year old steers but did not tell
him for certain what you would
take for them but thought your
price would be somewhere from
27 to 30. Stock is bringing pretty
fair prices now. I know of one man
near here that who has several
head of young cattle for beef
and said he was going to have
4th a pound for them and he will
get it from the Butchers he feeds

them each $\frac{1}{2}$ bushel corn a day
but then he will make money
out from them. Hogs are worth
his weight 3.30. that is better
than wheat.

So the boys intend to stay
home this summer like good fel-
lows or have they high strong
notions about other places for
a living. My time was ^{out} fast month
but I am working along just the
same. but no increase in wages and
know there wont be until fall
then I suppose he will advance
some if all is satisfactory. but I
am going where the Ray is the
best makes no difference where
it is. I suppose Mothe told you
I had been sick with the Rheuma-
tism. pretty tough on a fellow
but I will haul through some
way. Nothing like being young
and have plenty of time to work

It out in. I am begining to feel
quite well again but still not
well. There is Miss Knof going
to send me her Photo Tell her she
hadnt better leave with paying
debts or I shall be tempted to go
after her. If Will is going away
wont you please let him have one of
my Pictures. And I will send you
next month some time that will be
fair will it not? How much of the
farm have you rented. and do you
intend to hire any help this Spring
Well I have written so much to
day I am tired to night.

So give my Love to all
Affectionately
Ruell

[To Mrs. S. J. C. Stevens
Good Thursday, March]

Minneapolis. 24
Dear Mother,

My letter
came all right with
your note on the back
of one. I am feeling
very well still my
head aches some -

I have been having
quite a bad cold but
am feeling better - I
did not feel any ill
effects from my trip
that Sunday after I
once got warm which
took a day or so -

My hand is getting along
nicely and will soon be
entirely well - We have
not sold any thing

yet and the out look is
not very bright but
we will hang on
another month and see
if we can do any
business - nobody seems
to want good just now
and I may continue so -
We have only two lines
of samples on hand
and maybe after we
recieve more we can
do better - At any
rate if we sell no
goods this month we
will close out. But
until that time must
hang on to give it a fair
trial -

Love to all
Dyott
Quill

[undated]

Oxtownville Aug 14th
Dear Mother, [David & Teresa]

Yours of the
4th inst rec'd, I know you
will be looking for this.
I suppose I am having
too easy a time to think of
even writing letters, But
I know before many days
we will be at work again,
& it will be better than
loafing around town all the
time still it is not
bad for I get invitations
to go out sailing, or a ride
out in the country, then
there are parties every little
while of some kind and
I am generally invited to

them, night before last I went
to a Birthday party of a
young lady here, there were
45 young folks invited and we
had a splendid time. And some-
times, a young M.D. Went-
ret, by name, J. M. Harris, ^{was}
I go to M.E. Church ^{at} S. S.
in the morning. ^{And} in the
evening to Congregational
church. you may think
it strange for us to be
so good ^{and} especially attend
church so nicely. But we
like the M.E. Ch. ^{and} our girls
sing in the Congregational
Choir so we have to go then
part of the time as a mat-
ter of fact, they belong to
the "home missionary society"
so they are taking an inter-
est in the "Brothers" or a
small part of the number

nothing serious only a little
attention to keep us straight
(if they can) —

I must confess I do not
know what I am to do after
leaving here. I shall soon
be on the lookout ^{and} do some
writing towards securing
a situation in some jobbing
house, ^{and} if you have time
I would feel happy if you
would do the same for me
^{and} try for some good pos-
ition for I believe you are
better than a dozen "employ-
ment Bureaus" put together.
I do not know whether Mr.
Kellie intends to give me
a place or not ^{and} I could
not afford to work for the
salary I am. I have not
seen him for two months
^{and} cannot say whether

likes me or not as he
has kept a strict silence
towards me, ^{and} has neither
said for or against me
so I think he is not very
much displeased with me.
I got a letter from Frank
a short time ago. He did
not know then what he
would do but would prob-
ably remain there at least
not return to this cold cli-
mate to stay, — — —

I have not heard much
about Mr. Jefferson, some
say he is a good fellow while
his money lasts, another that
he is a fair man only he
don't know enough to write
his own name. I think he
is an easy going R.R. man. —
without any reservation ⁱⁿ Texas
the world as it comes along,
Write soon love to all, Affec-
tionately
Bull