



James C. Christie and Family Papers

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Mrs T J Kincaid
Good Thunder. Blue Earth. Co
Minnesota
in care of W. L. C.

[undated]

[Sarah Stevens]

Dear Mother. I did

not like the idea of recom-
mendations, but they insisted
of course it was just
because it was me no
other reason. I shall not
bother my self very much
about, all right I write
to Granitt did not have
time until last night.
but I hate to try recommen-
dations from all the
Professors here, if they
offer good wages there at
\$7. I'll go. One is sure
of success where they are
not acquainted any how.
I'll come home if I can,
or Leonard ~~Smith~~ ^{Smith} come
for me, plenty of provie-

come. The boys are waiting
so good by I'll be home
if it is possible
Good bye Stella

be sure and send
that machine cover
and butter laddle

Mrs. I have called for
it and sent these
letters to you

opinion of
the people in
general of
Socsec. Well
this is a gossip
letter and I
will do in
the place of
me, but I'll
enlarge on
it when I
sell them.
With love
to all I am
affectionately
Stella

[undated]

Mankato Friday 26th
Dear Mother. [Loral Stevens]

I started to go home
this afternoon but after I got
to the depot I found that the
freight was not going on acco-
unt of the storm. So I had to
come back. I am sorry for I
wanted to go. I am not out
of provisions yet by any
means. bread and butter
is all that I need and I
think I have nearly enough
butter to last one week. I
am sorry about Jessie I hope
she is well now, but that
was fearfull weather to be in
a cold house, and out on
that prairie to. I heard the

otherday that there had been
40 deaths in all from diphth
eria this winter in town and
or two cases in Tineconville
now. Mr Pollock lectures tonight
on Ireland and its people.
10¢ admission. A work from
to night the ~~the~~ Normalites are
going to have a social with
President Seering and Miss
Hutchinson at its head. I would
like to go. and if you do not
object will do so. I am
getting along finely. It falls to
my lot once or twice a week
to take charge of the C. 2 gram-
mar class while Miss Mc.C. is
out. so you may know that
she thinks I am one of the
best or she would not ask
me all the time. I was one
of a committee of ^{last week} ~~them~~ to decide

who were the best workmen in
the class. Mr. Faust, Mr Doeken,
Mr Sirkland, Miss Jones, Miss
Lilow and Tiddle were chosen
as the six best. ~~and~~ We have
been having some trouble in
school. Fred Allen expelled.
Miss Burckholder was with some
of the rest that were cutting up
the day that the trouble occurred. so
I moved out of my seat to get
away from the nuisance. when Prof
Seering came in and said that
all who were confederates with
Allen and Sevensance stand a
few got up, all who have been
whispering stand, some were
nose, all who are or have
been out of their seats stand
that brought me up. We were
all told to go to the office 25 of
me. I told the Professor why I
was out of my seat so he

excused me, and I went back
but Miss. B. was mad, she said she
would not tell on another any-
how. I did not I simply said
that I changed my seat to get
away from the noise. They should
have expelled Lawrence as well
as Allen but did not.

Mother please send me the
Independent of Jan. 11 there
is an article in it that I
want to read. Did you ever
read James Arnolds light
of Asia Mrs. Swan is urging
her whole class to get it and
read it. I like her real well.
More trouble in Prof. Beckdolls
class or rather classes the
biology class with one except-
ion was invited to leave the
room and not come back.
Rev. Mr. Niel of St. Paul and another
man visited school one day and
when the bell was to be rung after
exercises it would not go.
practical joke. gave them a good

and that I want stand for I give
out in the back O Dear me
What that I love Stella
good little Darling

Oakland. Nov. 28

Dear Stella

Yours of 18th at hand
and ever so glad to hear
from you but you will
think different about this
place after you have been here
a while and see a group
of the Superior and see the
Drunkards Wine and men
on the streets all times
of night this evening I
Went up town and as
I came home a nice look-
ing Woman came out of
a house and says Mr I want
-t you to go in the house
with me I want you to help
me for a minute and see in
my house I want you to see in my

myself with work in my
own mind. I am not
happy. I have not a man
I feel for it and am
trying to get a complaint
the feeling of the mind
I would be more sure
than of talking with I and
I say this is the worst
climate that ever was for
that and the kidneys hurt
and his advice is to let
you stop there and as soon
as I get the money for
me to go. Oh I am so
sick of this place that
I could fly to Paris or
some other climate go
ing around. Regime for
Mark all day long it
is sickening. I tell
I am not going to do
it much longer I will

Deal something to
I will get but not till
spring and then I will
try. I tell you if I
was able to travel I could
get a job or the best for
a time but I can't travel
it for my back gives out
I tell I just as I half of
my time and I think
what a fool I was to come
off here. When I had a
torture at it last spring I
told her that I came from
Swiss - and they are as
sick as I going back in
the spring and so you
if I paper walk if the
walking was good maybe
I could try it now I tell
I guess still you will get

all of them go to the
house and I will be
there to see you

lived of reading this long
little to the end of the
page you heard from Bal
Lally Ed & wife is here I have
not seen him yet Mr Waller
says that Ed tells him that
you and have said he told
him the late history about
you & I mean to see Mark
and talk to him and tell
him to keep his mouth shut
about you & I and if he dont
I will shut it for him I will
tell me truly doe you want
to come out here after all I
have said and don't or will
you let me come back then
tell me in your next
ask you to write you that

being home to fill his
ey that is the store or the
I know that all in head
in Mr Penner had a letter
I should want to write to
I will be in the Spring
I will I received a letter
from you to day later
The 20 and I want
to hear from you I want
to know that you are
in. Coming to me you
had better let me know
home and take a horse
and out west for I will
dont think that you will
be like here it is a
Disagreeable here it rains
all of the time and the
people dress a boat the same
as here as they do in

Dear Stella if it was
for my back I could get all
of the hard work that I want
to do and I only wish I could
do for some one else and
if you ever wish milking
to go out west with me and
try to get along their for
a while and make a little
money for our selves we will
be happier there than here for
Stella this is 1 of the poorest
places that I ever saw in
my life it is only little
hills all the way from 10
to 15 years all got a piece on
the string and girls only
13 years. People ought to
be ashamed of the way
see of this the more I think
of you I will say damn me

and damn
Stella I wish
I could get all
of the hard work that I want
to do and I only wish I could
do for some one else and
if you ever wish milking
to go out west with me and
try to get along their for
a while and make a little
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the string and girls only
13 years. People ought to
be ashamed of the way
see of this the more I think
of you I will say damn me

that I was doing and he
says that has got to be
so and I says why has
it got to be so and he
says it has to be so and
I got mad and I told
him if the parish did not
tell him that he would
it him self and then he
went in to the office and
in a few minutes he called
me in and says he has
your money I have all
and packed up my things
and put it in my basket
the porter fell after but a
but it and took me to his
Horse and boarded me 2
times and my baggage and
after that he did right
I sold out at Stockholm and

Says good evening I thin
k that looks in to this
little matter now I think
that she wanted to know
he me lots of this thing
my eye here times at so
hard and people with me
a most every thing to get
money and found Stella it
is to bad that old Peter is
gone I did not think you
Staffer would part with the old
Stella just a good love as he
has well we must all go some
time Stella I hope you and I
will be together when we get
from this world of trouble
for this is what troubles me
very much for I long to see
you my little Darling
Stella you had Peter tell me

[undated]

At I am not home don't
worry I may meet with luck
that will encourage me to
go on.

Tuesday evening

Dear Mother I know you
will be very anxious and
probably send one of the
girls to the office in the
morning so drop this thou-
gh I expect to be at home
tomorrow "Wednesday" I have
sold only one I looked for
an opportunity to go home
to day but did not find
one so will try another
day but will go out on the
freight or with a team if
any are in town. Beside the
Episcopal minister there
are two other agents that
have canvassed here. When
I come. Affectionately Stella

[undated]

Dear Buell, [Stevens]

I started to write you
some time ago but
there was some inter-
ruption so it has
gone on till now.

I have waited and
wanted to hear from
you but I suppose
you are off on the
road and busy.

Never mind my spell-
ing to day I am
not responsible for
those small lapses
of memory. I was

out till after two and
awake the most of
the time after that also
the night before so don't
criticise. I've no heart
to talk of A. J. I'm
following where I am
being led and I
will be all right. I
don't know yet when
or how it will be but
"what is to be will be."
I'm trusting and
I surely have been
given demonstrations
enough of our all
ruling power and
after all the threats
that were made if

I went last night
I ought not to doubt
Theosophy has changed
me completely I would
not go back to that old
bondage of soul, no
not for Klondike. Even
if I have to pass the
rest of my days with
him [but I doubt it]
progression will not
allow it! I still would
be free. I don't know
much of my new
found science but
its coming all the
time. For a whole year
I read it not dream-
ing when I was drifting

not realizing its power
but it came at last,
the light; Only a little
it is true but it means
so much to me. Now I
know I shall be guided
and all will be good.
I can't make you un-
derstand unless you too
have looked into it so
I'll not try, but I wish
I could tell you what I
know. As I told Father
I'm trying to get a
situation at \$50. per
month, room, board

and washing. If I
am to have it it
will come and if it
does, I go. That's all.
That means school
for Elsie and not
so much drudgery
for me. I can't help
feeling sorry for A. J.
but he brought it on
himself and we
work out our own
salvations in this
world and the next.
He are given the oppor-
tunity to advance, if

we do not accept it
we are standing it
in our own light.

I wish I might have
seen it years ago but
I suppose it was a
condition that had to
work its self out a pro-
cess of evolution that
required certain con-
ditions to start it.

I have been too negative
all my life and am
yet but I'm learning
And I've reached this
stage, things don't hurt
as they did, they don't
reach me, I've learned
that since Christmas,

You will wonder at me
I suppose, - if you do
you don't understand.

Frank wrote me a
while back, and its
time he wrote again
A furious "chinook"
has been blowing all
day and the snow
going so you could
almost see it. but

we do not look for
~~that~~ bare ground yet-
for a month or more
Every body is Klondike
wild I know several
who are going and
several who have gone
I do not care to go

it's not what they
expect by a long way.

Now do write me soon
if I'm not here it
will reach me. I
enjoyed my month
outing in Spokane
and Medical Lake and
feel stronger since.

Don't think that I
am queer since
my trip to the lake and
believe me

Affectionately Yours
C.B. Jackson
[Esther]

Stella B. Jackson
Affectionately,

Ever and ever yours to all
embracing me in remembrance

Boundary, Wash. Aug 21

Dear Brother, [Mr. F. W. Johnson]

Yours of Aug 11th at
hand and I hasten to
reply. I have or can take
the time this afternoon and
I don't know just when
that will happen again.
You ask me to describe
my immediate surround-
ings. If I say a black
and yellow spotted cat,
a brindled dog, a tow-headed
girl of seven and a
dutch baby boy of two they
are my immediate and
intirely surround me.
But as to the country that
is different. I wish I

could describe our location. It is all what is termed brush land we are on a narrow rocky brush our best land lies above us (I've just tried a shot at a hawk and feel shaky. Every thing upsets me and makes me tremble since my sickness.)

forty rods north of us is that wild torrent the Pand d' Orielle with the mountains rising up from the water edge brush upon brush. East and north east are wide valleys where the Pand d' Orielle and Cedar Creek have outlet, up the Cedar Creek branches lie the meadows fine ones too,

South of us rising about fifty rods above us is a huge mountain, We call it flag-staff, from the fact that a tall smooth pole rises from its summit that many claim to have been planted there and to mark the boundary line but Mr. Cudahy told me he climbed up there to satisfy himself and found it a huge tamarack devoid of limbs or bark. ^{West} of us over brush, a mile or more is the Columbia and still west of that the inevitable mountain Jackson thinks portions of this claim good but he does not wish to develop them at present for he

wishes to take this under
the stone and timber act.
He says the bench above us
is grand I have not
been up there but can see
that a dense growth of poplar
and wild filberts cover it.
on that bench is a never
failing spring. If I had not
been sick so long Jackson
would have had a ditch
dug and tamped and
had the garden irrigated
but as it was the garden was
in late and when the ditch
was dug the ground was
dry and would not pack,
and the water sank in
sandy places, but after all

the garden is very good
and beside supplying us
brings in a good many
dollars from the villagers.
Yes we are still in the
dairy business and will
stick to it. It was a happy
bit for me. I still practice
dentistry and that helps
out but from the first
of Mar. till the first of
July I was not able
to wait on my self so
this year has not counted
much, beside every one is
so hard-up they can't afford
to have it done unless
it is a necessity. Jackson
is building a house for us

on the american side, We hope to be in it next month, It is log of course with a shake roof but will be quite nice and very comfortable I am sure. At present we are in our cow-shed Jackson moved it off the place where it stood, put a floor in, hung carpets and blankets around the sides, and a comfortable up for a door and now we are in the stable once more, although it is not more than 20 rods from our comfortable little log cabin in Canada. I was sorry to hear that but Jackson wanted to be on this piece to hold it for the land is unsurveyed

and it is only squatter rights at present. I wish you could buy out what interest I hold. I have in the dairy for he is tired of the country and longs for Minnesota or any where for a change, but you know Andrew let him have the money last year to send for his parents and helped him build his house and break his garden, and get started. He is located three miles east of there on one fork of the cedar there is a little meadow on his place and some clearing will make more. His land is nearly all covered with cedar timber and is a rich black loam quite

different from this, but they
agreed to take the places together
and make a dairy and
Market garden of this and
hay and pasture land of
the other. It would be very
convenient you see if William
will stick to it. (The children
are bothering). Jackson says he
does not see why you want to
stay there to try the onion venture
again when the price is so
much better here, with half
the quantity you could real-
ize the same amount.

You ask about hunting and
fishing there are both. Two
mornings ago when Andrew
went to milk a fine deer
jumped out of the cow yard
and bounded over the hill.

There are a few Bear, and
Martin are occasional
wolverine and a few goshawk.
 grouse of course are to be

had and some have very
good success catching Salmon
trout, and Speckled trout
We have not tried for we have
very little time to spare
for sport. A Mr Kerr who was
here last winter caught 125
Martin a few mink a good
many deer and beaver,
for some of the martins
he got $\frac{1}{4}$ a skin down to
\$.25 the deer skins bring
about .50 a piece deer -
saddles from \$.50 to \$2.50.

We are 40 miles north
of Marcus at the junction
of the Pnd d'Orville and
Columbia River, R.R. all
the way and still on to

Melton B.C. About claiming
Jackson says there are
better claims to be had than
when you have yours. And as
for market we are way
ahead. There is now one
piece that I have in mind
five miles east of here
just back from the meadows
that I have heard spoken
of as one of the best in
the country it has never
been located. Another
about four miles is
part meadow and can
be made more meadow
by irrigation and as
one fork of Cedar runs
through it that is an
easy thing to do. E. Padley Ryan
has it a cabin ~~top~~ it
and a small garden

the man wants to sell
Jackson thinks it can be
had for \$50. Of course there
are plenty of other places
I wish you were here to
see for your self, but all
unsurvived, I have ex-
pected you all the year I
can not tell why but have
felt that you were coming.
Grass land is the money
land for Wash. and what
Colville valley is to the country
below us Cedar will be to
this and the country north
of us. The grass is fine
and soil excellent in
meadows and Cedar lands.
Just where we are it is
Columbia valley soil you
know what that is and
bunch grass our cows

I have no definite hopes for I would not want
two of our country papers with the
to answer questions. I don't
return. I am only too pleased
and get sufficient little news
presently. I must stop now
looking for a worker in this
they will be hunting after and
as as fat as they can be.
We have a nice class of
People not the old fogies
that those more-backs are
in Daisy and Harvy. I think
intelligent, ^{now} is way above par
as compared with them.
I wish you ~~would~~ ^{had} tried for
a school here for the winter
the wages are so much better
than in Minn. Mr. Dewar
has \$60. per month for nine
months, the 10 months that
is what the school year is on
the British side. No I do not
see many Columbia Val. people
but will see all the office seekers
before long as the most of
them are acquaintances and

[undated]

Minneapolis Feb. 17.

My Dear Father & Mother,

This will be a comp-
any letter because I
will be at home now
in a short time to
say more than I can
on paper. Mother's letter
received last night.
I will see about that
the first opportunity
I have. Well only two
more weeks of school
I'll soon be with you
I have written to Bull
to see if he cannot
go home when I do.
That was good news

truly that Father wrote
me, but I'll not
discuss it now, I
dined last night
that I was at home
I had a nice talk
with you and Father
but none of the real
old Father's farm for
sale? There is a an
English Man coming
in' out here who wants
a farm and possibly
it may be a chance
for you. He is a brother
of a Mrs. Christensen here
with whom I have
become acquainted.
That It is moving
and dull, to day.

Just now we are
having a great deal
of snow. How is it
with you?
Mother that woman
I was going to tell you
of has a blood vein
that ruptured every
little while. It is
in her leg. The doctors
here have fearful times
stopping it when it
starts. They are in
poor circumstances
and cannot imple-
good medical assis-
tance. Some say
she will not be able
to stand more than
one or two more attacks,

I am glad Father
has concluded to ship
cattle to Montana.

Frank will be apt to come
home now and we
will all be at home once
more. I have written
to Eddie Mother has he
not received it yet?
I'll be with you now
shortly. So bidding you
all an affectionate
good bye for this time
I am your loving
daughter Stella
C for Grace in a ring

[Mrs. J. C. Stowers] Indio Calif. Feb 27-

Dear Mother: It is almost night and I have spent the entire day copying and arranging my notes for a paper on minerals to be read at the club on Wednesday. Of course it is all good in its way but when you work almost all the time one likes to read for amusement and not get down to thinks. However it is finished for this club year still, I have the treasurer report to make every two weeks and as we are a club of thirty that involves some time and careful attention then too I have acquired a reputation for brown-bread that sometimes brings me much work but also a little cash in recompense. Last week I made eleven loaves for a colonial party. This week I make eighty for a men's smoker. I'll work on this batch I can tell you but I grab for every dollar and am very thankful to get it. You spoke of Tom's coming here. A postal from him two days ago settles that question. He is very well in Pasadena and likes the climate fine but said he would try to visit me sometime between now and the middle of May when he expects to ^{over}

90
east. He probably will visit you en-route,
although he did not mention that. How about
Elsie and babies. They are little treasures and
Elsie is such a good, sensible mother. Both
children are well but Clintina teething. Elsie
always adds to Clintina's review "she is the best
baby, just as good as gold" Alice always has
been more or less ailing but is as sharp
as tacks. Elsie's health is never the best. She would
be better if she was not so ambitious, always at
work. Clinton is buyer and manager for the Cobb
Brothers at Miami, Arizona. ^{Holmesdale & Gate process} That is only six
miles from Globe. I think his salary is \$165 per
month. He is working for a partnership in the
distant future and I hope he gets it. His father
died in Covina (near Los Angeles) in January at
the time of the big flood. It was impossible for
him to get ~~here~~ then from any direction. They were
also having terrible floods and wind then at the same
time and their house was moved 1½ feet by the wind
one night while the rain was falling in torrents.
They were up all night did not dare to sleep. This has
indeed been a season of terror for all of the
South Western part of the U.S. We hate to see a
cloud form on San Jacinto and San Geronimo
mountains

for fear it may mean a flood and since
the last one we are right in the chan-
nel of the stream. ^{it shifted its course} However there is one
consolation, there may not be another till
next winter and then perhaps nothing
like this. This is the largest since 1882
so we hope for the best. The Government has
a man here looking things over and Mr
Paul, one of our influential men, has gone
to Washington to see what can be done
towards enlisting their sympathy and
also we have bonded the district for
\$25000 — to help take care of the White
Water so all together we hope we will be
safe eventually. The Almonds & saucer
peaches are almost out of bloom the
Apricots just commencing in also the Citrus
fruit. At Pasadena they are not that
far along yet. We are ahead of them for
ripe citrus fruits by nearly two months.
I have the most of our little garden
planted. Depending mostly on the awful
soaking the ground got to sustain it,
for two months yet and we are trusting
God to give us water by then. I believe

He will. Buell tried to frend the ground
off our acre of Alfalfa. (If the drift had not
covered it we would have been able to cut
it by now) he worked and worked & hired
Brown with three horses for two days. (We have
only an acre but enough for one team)
It was no go. They partially cleared one
third of the acre. Then Buell gave it up
levelled the rest and resceded it yesterday.
Ofcourse it means buying hay at ~~25~~ 20
per ton. Our date field eight acres is
just like that also the eight acres of
figs. It is heart breaking. Buell shovelled
around, about two thirds of our grape vines
and I get down on my knees and reach
into the hole and prune them. When
can they be freenowed out so they can
be irrigated? Must close Buell is writing
you. Love to all

Affectionately Estella

long time. I'm for all. Affection
with love & good wishes
not heard from either in a
month and I shall write to
[undated]

Minnesota Falls 27th Dec Jan 28

My Dear Mother, [Mrs. W. S. Stevens]
I am so happy since receiving
your letter. The splendid
joyful news about Eddie,
I felt it grand. I do hope
Father will take him home.
What a happy family we will
be next summer. For of course
I will take the school. It
seems like such a haven
of rest to be at home all of
next summer. Yes I am
more than willing. I have
thought I never would teach
any where there but I will
at home. By the time this reaches
you I will not have
more than four weeks left.

I will soon be home now.
Mother you are the best and
kindest of Mothers I wonder
who else would fuss and
fix, worry and fret over
a lot of children as you do
over us. I hope we may
some day be able to show our
appreciation of your kind-
ness. Often I wish I could
put my arms around you
and give you a good hug
when I am reading your
letters or let you know just
how I feel I am sure you
would trust me then. This
is my only scrap of paper I
have till I can get some-
one so you must be satisfied.
Father passes within 35 miles
of me if he only knew it
and would run across how
nice it would be. I do hope
Eddie is at home. How pleased

[undated]

Granite Falls, Apr 15.

Dear Mother [Sarah Stevens]

I reached here

yesterday Mr Reid met me
and took me to Mr Krowe.
They ^{have} moved nearly into the
village I had to stay there
all night and came out
here this morning it is
fearful cold and stormy.
Mrs. Krowe made me wear
Mr. Krowe buffalo coat
and her hood. found the
family well and happy.
I guess. Willie is quite
fleshy. looks as though he
might be fifteen or
twenty pounds more than
he did last summer

Alfred looks more like Jimmy and is as fat as Eddie used to be.

I am going to go to my school in the morning.

Paul is not very well, he says he is going home soon this summer. He was as good as pie and sweet as honey. I enjoyed myself very much, stayed at the Clark Hotel. Paul is tanned and freckled almost as bad as I was last summer but he was more like the same boy that he used to be at home. I have such a sore throat and cold that I can hardly talk. Before I got to Minneapolis it was

just as bad and does not seem to get a bit better. Perhaps it will be tomorrow. I write this to send by Mr. Reid and will write again in a few days.

Love to all affectionately
Stella

[undated]

Paynesville June 29th

Dear Father [W. S. Stevens]

Eddie is writing
and I must say a word
about stock too.

I am sure you could do
no better than to let Eddie
try for no where have I
seen nicer plumper
cattle than in this local-
ity. They all are in fine
condition. I have been
tempted several times to
write you about them and
tell you to come and
look up the trade but
was held back by the
thought that my opin-
ion would not be

counted as much.

It was a surprise to me yet, it is very uncertain when Ed. handed me his letter a few minutes ago but I think it a good thing for both of you.

I feel now E. is in earnest and will do all in his power for your interest. I advised him to go to Montana when he asked my opinion.

We will be very sorry to lose him but if any thing better is offered him I am glad for his sake.

I think E. is far better to work than he used to get credit for at least we are very much pleased. He will finish here in a few days. He does not know

when we will go but in all probability to Dakota. After finishing here we will still remain in camp for a time to let the horses rest before another journey. Our first 8 work Gindors has finished (\$500.) fifteen hundred dollars worth of work, but when the expenses are taken out it will leave about \$500. clear. He gave me \$50. dollars on the 15th of that the other day and I shall invest in stock when we are in our own home. I am sorry to leave this place in such a pleasant country. We have had exceptionally fine

as it is bitter as it is.
Write me every Sunday or always
my answer and please not
continually to write. He would
have been very glad to have seen
you. Love to each member of the family.

Officer
rather so far. Only two storms
of any consequence, they drow-
ned us through and through
the water poured from our
benches and valises when
lifted from the ground
and the water stood two
inches deep all over the floor
till Ed. ditched a place ar-
ound the shanty.

I must stop now. I am glad
you enjoyed your trip to Mon.
but was very much disapoin-
ted when I learned that
you had made a bridge of
my nose. However you could
not have done the trip in
one day and been with us
more than a few minutes.

This is a good cut of the house we are stop-
ping at. A five dollar a day house and on
Sunday night they have a fine band all through
the dinner hour.



THE TACOMA

[undated]

Tacoma, Wash., Apr. 28,

My Dear Father, [N. J. Starnes]

John has gone out and
I am alone so I will
improve the opportunity
by writing a few lines
to you. I wrote Bull
about ten days ago but
at that time did not
think of being on the
coast so soon. It is a
week tomorrow morning
since we left home.
It is dreamland over
here coming as we
did from the frost-
and snow. The spring
had been very backward
with us and when John

was pulling stumps
the frost was not out
two inches below the surface
in places. They tell us
here that the spring is
backward but when you
look at the wealth of
bloom all around it
does not seem possible.

Saturday John and I went
to Seattle by boat. I think
I would make a very
good sailor and we mean
to try it before another
year if all is well.

We intended running out
to sea to see the Battle Ship
Iowa yesterday but we
tramped and rode around
Seattle so much the day



Tacoma, Wash.,

before we never woke till
8 o'clock and were too
late to catch the boat.
John is over on business
and I on pleasure. It
is a grand treat to me.
I am quite a home-body
as you know and these
little trips are something
I appreciate very much.
We have so many people
at our home all the
time it is more like
a hotel than a private
house but I left company
and all to look after them
selves and just ran away.
It is a true saying 'one is

never so much alone
as in a crowd" Here
among strangers I can
enjoy myself and rest.
I do not have to be con-
tinually planning for
others. If John gets what
he is after it means a
big thing for us financially
and as John says "will put
us on easy street." He will
know today and if he fin-
ishes we will probably
take the evening train
for Spokane.

Buell I suppose is still
at home, John has been
so busy he has not had
time to write but when
this strain is over he will
feel more like attending to
other business. This is another
mining deal of course
It tells you him when he is
under a strain, I can



Tacoma, Wash.,

see it and I hope this
may prove to be all
that he thinks it will.
If it does you shall
surely come to see me
before snow flies but we
can't go then this summer.
John will be tied at home.
He will be shipping ore from
a mine he has owned
for nearly ten years but
never made much and
finally he sold it but
is still the largest stock-
holder. It carried fair value
but not in quantity. This
spring the wind blew a
tree over and disclosed

a new shoot of ore.
They stripped it for 20 or
more feet, went your feet
down and it varies from
10 inches to 4 feet in width
and carries values of over
\$100. one hundred dollars
per ton, \$7.88 bring in gold.
John is trying to get a lease
of the property and will
make a handsome thing
out of it if he does.

From my window I can
see the tide coming
in and soon all the low
flats will be under water.

We saw Elsie as we came over
and will see her as we go back.
She thinks more of music than
any of her studies. I am some
what disappointed. I would
rather she had had more of
a business mind than
that. I don't want her to be
handicapped as I was



Tacoma, Wash.,

and not be proficient
in any branch. It was
a God send that John
came into our life, what
would she have done or
I either, Of course I should
have kept her in school
at all hazards that is
if I had been well and
I probably would have
been back at Medical Lake
for nearly two years now.
but how much happier
as it is, and John is the soul
of honor and goodness.

Well I must stop I think
the type-writer is spoiling
me I hardly know how

to use the pen now,
Remembers me to all of
the family. John joins
me in sending love,
affectionately

E. B. Hall

[undated]

Granite Falls, Apr 27,

My dear Father, [Mr. W. J. Stearns]

I am very glad to hear reached
me to day. Little did I think
that one of our friends would
be the first to go when I left
home and least of all Uncle
Thomas. I cannot realize it
it seems like a dream.

Poor Uncle at last his
sight is restored in a far
better land than this. I know
you feel it more than any
of the rest of us, but Mother
is in better humor of spirit
in such trouble and will help
you bear it. What will Auntie
do now? Did Frank go
home from Ephraim and has
he returned yet?

At Wednesday I attended the
funeral of one of Mr. S. S.
Russell's children. I have
heard more speak of the family
it kind of ¹⁰astonishing story.
She is not known who will be
called. Yesterday when I saw
that family in relation to
don't not think that are one
man here. The same heavy
come but fallen.

I am glad that our family
circle is still complete and
best of all that they all are
enjoying in health.
I have wanted so much to
hear from Mr. & Mrs. but still
I did not expect her to write.
I know she has enough to do
aside from writing. Not sure
and about before eyes so
I conclude they must be better.

I do not believe it is as
cold there as it is here or
Miss Brainerd would not be out
of house much. Besides it has
water & nearly all the time.
One day I had no school and
to day attended long about the
prosperity of going to the school
here but finally said, I have
twenty-two scholars enrolled
and more coming. It is very
interesting and profitable to
ours for I have to study in
kept up. It is greatly improv-
ed in as much I thought here.
We all had dinner at Mr.
Rice yesterday after church.
Johnny is going down the
middle of May. All are well
in both families.
The men are opening get off
Dull? Eddie are it began his
duties in about a week.

Hardly a flower has yet opened
its eye on these prairie hills
distant without and sad
and lonely within. Nature is
in perfect harmony with my
feelings.

Kiss Mamma, Maria and
Mary for me, & tell her for all
of you. I hope to hear from
you soon again, I was
getting very anxious before.

Very affectionately,

Your daughter, Etta
Hillier and Nina send greetings.

JOHN W. WAITS,
PRESIDENT.

JOHN F. HALL,
VICE PRES. AND GEN. MGR.

JOSEPH S. COUCH,
SEC. AND TREAS.



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him to try to join us, and altogether we will have
a glorious time, and what about Frank poor fellow
he must not be left out for he is one of us and we
all love him, Wouldn't be grand?

Loveingly Stella

[undated]

Winona, Minn. Apr 27th

Dear Mother [Sarah Stevens]

Here at Miss Knapp's

of age and named she is just
over the age of 18 years. Her
Mother starts tomorrow morning
we go on the same train as
far as Farmington Minn. They
is to board with a lady that
is in this home and they to
are just moving. I am sure
that we put her to some trouble
to keep us last night but she
insisted and I was glad
enough to accept. She looks
just about the same as she
did last fall. To night we
will stay at Emma's house and
start at night in the morning
I think. When we get as far

as Hastings Otter Khatte and her
uncle Mrs. Pochler got out all long
for Minneapolis untill Friday
morning when Otter starts for
her school at Hutchinson.
It is rather nice that it
happened first so. Mr. Quill
I actually did not know him
at first she was coming down
in the elevator and I could
not make up my mind at
first who it was he has a
mustache and freckles
and looks like well. Just
as bad as he can look.
I don't believe "Miss Square"
would fall in love with Quill
legs are she did with Nicholas
for they are nothing but bones
sticks worse than Frank looked
when he came home. Her face
was full enough and she had
more collar than he had last
spring but I don't believe she

is as well. His eyes look
bad for that. he came up to
see me here last evening.
He laughs at the very idea
of typhoid and it is not
two months since he was
threatened with the fever and
had to take medicine. Says he
will go home next fall or
when Sandy comes.

These things from Bertie I am
afraid will not suit very
well but I did the very best
that I could the socks were
65¢ but that was the cheapest
all wool that I could get. The
socks I don't know how to spell it -
was the nearest white that
I could get. I will give you a
very cheap one or an old
one. I did not
think you wanted that. there
was something the matter with

almost every thing but I could
do no better. Bill should be
through the lace department
and nearly every thing was
examined there. Miss Kump is al-
most ready for school so I
will stop now and write from
Granville. Butter from 35 cents
per lb.

Love to all very affectionately
Lillian
Miss Maggie for me

Mr. Kogers was gone from home
this P. said it would be all
right would send it to me
all sick with measles. I sat
fast back of a man who was going
home from the funeral of his niece who

[undated]

Mankato

Dear Mother [Mrs. W. J. & Tim]

All safe so far

No lace to be had at Mrs.
Mrs Peak is going to try to
match it and she will
express the satchel. She is
going to write to you about
that Lacrosse affair tomorrow.
Mrs Foulk would not take
my old bonnet so the new
one is all new \$3.35 she
wanted \$3.50 I don't know
how I am to send your
old hat back my other one
will not come untill all-
most train time, but I'll
do the best I can. It is
raining and so dark

that I have not been to
see Mrs. De Rosier but will
see her in the morning if
I can. The train starts at
half past seven.

I am going by way of Minn-
neapolis for I have to stay
over night anyway on
the road so I guess it
had better be with Bull.
It is a surprise for me as
well as it will be for
him. I will write at
Granite and tell Minne-
apolis news so good bye
for this time

Affectionately
Stella

Granite Falls, Sep. 10.

Dear Mother. [Rev. W. L. Stevens]

I did not write in Minneapolis because I was at Mrs. Fullers and could not find an opportunity. First of all. Called at Langdon and Shepards office. Neither have returned although some of the men came down. could not find the address of any of them or a single name even. The clerk said he could not give any information whatever as the books were not there, but Langdon will be home next week their address is Hennepin Avenue

The largest part of the men
have gone to the Rocky Mountains
each on his own account. &
Others went on to Benson &
Grant, Still others to Minn-
apolis and Ellendale the
terminus of the Milwaukee
Chicago & St. Paul. Ashton
the place that lady spoke of
is about fifty miles south
of Ellendale. Could not
get the name of the Contra-
ctor north of that place.
The clerk said we could
have all the information
we wanted when Langdon
returned or rather all
they could give. But that
the ones to go to are Benson
and Grant, Colgaray, North-
western Territory like Minn-
eap. They are acquainted
with nearly all of the men

or can find out who they
are and will willingly
do so. Could not find
out about deaths only
that several have occurred.
The whole affair is unsat-
isfactory. It is to me and
I know must be to you.
But I could not get any
further information. I had
nothing to work on.

There is not a Commission
Grocery in the city and was
told that there was no
house this side of Chicago
that would let goods go
in that way.

George K. Newell & Co. alias H. G.
Harrison and Co. Said they
would let them go for part
payment or good security.
but that is beyond me.
My great expectations did

Our mag^s just now ^{do} not
turn out at all as
I expected.

I found Buell cooped
up in his room with
inflammatory rheumatism.
He had not been working
for several days but was
nearly over it again. Expec^t
to go to work Monday.
He came down and saw
me off on the train.

I like the people where he
lives. They are plain and
pleasant. Mrs. Fuller is quite
an artist. All of the rooms
are filled with oil paintings
her work. She is very anxious
to go to the old country to
study art. She praised
Buell's steady habits and
thinks him a model
young man. Last Sunday

Will invested \$32 in
R.R. Stocks "Northern Pacific"
closed them out Friday at
an advance of \$15 - clear
gain. He talks very freely
with Mr. Fuller's people about
his little stunts I should
judge from what I heard.
Found all well here. Mrs.
Reid remarkably well, looks
better than I have ever seen
her. Mr. Reid was at the train
to meet Alexander Ramsey
but he did not come so he
met me instead. All of
the family were down to
hear the Pennerians sing
so I went too. Had the teeth
ache - consequently, and took
a dose of Aconite in mis-
take for Arnica. It made
me pretty sick. Reid went
and saw the doctor for me

Am all right now except
a good deal of pain and
difficulty in respiration.

The doctor did not give me
any medicine. He said it
was only an ore dose but
would not affect me
long. I'll be all right to-
morrow. I had no idea that
so much could be absorbed
by holding it in the mouth.
I thought it was funny
tasting Amica.

The frost has taken every
thing here. froze water out
doors. I suppose it was
the same there. Alfred &
Mina are going to Wis. after
fall work is finished. Alfred
don't say much about rent-
ing, thinks they can't do it.
Lots of love to all. Write
soon. Affectionately Stella

[undated]

Minneapolis Oct 26th

Dear Mother [Mrs. W. S. Stevens]

I received your letter long ago but have been busy the most of the time. First we have moved from where we were, and are now living at No. 419 Sixth Ave. South. This will be our address after this. The reason we changed was because it was so far for Mr. Kincaid to walk to his work. We are only four blocks from the mill now. We have three rooms here. They are quite pleasant but I do not like them as well as those we had first and they are not as

convenient either. We have
to pay ten dollars here and
the others were ten and a half.
Then I have been tying comfort-
ables and quilting last
week, and this one so far.
The first Sunday we were
here we did not go to Church
because it rained, but since
we have attended the first
Congregational, the Minister is
Mr Tuttle. I like him very
well, last Sunday evening his
place was filled by Rev. Dr. White
of Granville College Ill.

His text was "Judge not lest
you be judged". I liked it very
much. We have not joined
any class in Sunday school
yet. They have a very
handsome Church here, by far
the nicest I have ever seen.

All the seats both below
and above are arranged one
above the other, so that all
can have a chance to see the
Pastor.

Mr Stimpsons
Church is only two blocks
farther but we have not
been there yet.
There has been five Ladies
that have called on me.
Mrs. Kimiston, Mrs. James, Edwards,
Chase and Ellis. I cannot say
that I liked any of them very
well except Mrs. James. She
was the most sociable one
of the lot.

Mrs James
husband graduated at Carlton
also his sister. Did you know
them? They must have known
them when you were there.
You see this is a poor place
to get acquainted. We have

Now please write soon for I am ~~not~~ ^{not} ~~soon~~ ^{soon} ~~going~~ ^{going} to have these things. With love & kisses
Mr. K. sends respects to all
down to the Munawapoke falls last
during the very fine time that
not as much as Munawapoke. I have
not seen them yet
work and no one has called
yet. On the whole I think it
pretty lonely work staying
here.

Albert is with us now but
I do not know how long he
will stay. He is very quiet
and modest and I for one
like him. Perhaps it is
because it seems more like
home to have him here.

How is Frank getting along? is
he able to be up yet? And
how is Don the little chub?
When are you coming down
to see us? I guess it would
make Eddie open his eyes in
this place. it is not much like
Mankato and Good Thunder. We want



Brainerd, Minn.
Thursday Oct. 15th

Dear Mother,

You will think the letters are concerning my
fact, but I want some
medicine for a cold not
for myself however but for
Sarah. She was up last night
with me and took a very
bad cold in her head it
is just one of those run-
ning colds. And I knew
you would willingly send
some. Homeopathic med-
icine cannot be had here.
She has waited on me faith-
fully Mother and been so kind

that I feel I can do but
little to return it no
matter ~~to~~ how it may
be I know the greatest
favor will be from you
however. I am gaining
every day. I went out door
a few steps to day. I hope
you will get this soon
it ought to go through in
our day.

Write soon, Love to
all, Affectionately, Stella
Her symptoms are these, watery
running from her nose, snee-
zing, membrane infl-
amed in nose and
throat, eye red and watery.
It promises to be a very bad
cold and is going downward

now, will probably be
on her lungs before we
can hear from you.
My head still continues
to trouble me but I am
much stronger.

Do not be troubled about
me now. Are all well
at home? I believe I am
getting selfish with my
own and Sarah's trouble
and do not think
that you may be over-
worked already.



Brainerd, Minn.

Oct 13th.

My Dear Parents,

It is a long time since
I have written and I cannot
remember who wrote last,
but no matter.

I am just getting better
from a long sick spell. I
was afraid Maggie might
write you about it and you
would be worried. I was
just going to start for her
home and she was expect-
ing me when I came down
with typhoid fever, so Sarah
had to write to her & I was
fearful that she might

write to you. I have sat
up for four days more but
cannot walk without help.
I am on the gain and
will be well soon. Dr. Ross
broke the fever after three
weeks so I did not have
the full run but five weeks
have gone by now. While the
fever lasted I never tasted
a mouthful of any kind
of food my stomach re-
fused everything so it has
kept me very weak. How I
did wish for some of you
still I did not want
you to know for I knew it
would be hard for you to
come. Every time I fell
into a doze I used to

dream of Persie. She was
always standing by the
bedside looking at me in
her shy anxious way with
her flaxen hair falling
all about her face. It always
made me cry when I woke
and found it only a dream.
Sarah wrote for Andrew to
come when I did not
know it they were fright-
ened, but as luck had it
he never got it. He came
home Saturday night from
St. Cloud where they had
been several days but we
did not know it. I was a
surprise to him but I was
glad he had not known
before. He went back this morning.

I have had the best of care
but the time has seemed so
long. I would feel better if
my head did not swim so
when ever I hold it up and
things thus before my eyes.
I am not taking any med-
icine now but I think I
need some. The Dr. ordered
beer but I cannot drink
it. Can't you give me some
thing for my head? I must
stop I am very tired. This is
my first attempt at writing.
Love to all, from Stella

Coming it coming
to stay with me
this brook she has
one action for
them day it is
open ticket but
he not have
to come to teach
even Saturday
if he have another
month for get
to sleep it is
eight o'clock and
get ready for
school. How please
write to me soon.
Clara said she
thought some of
going to see Ellen
and if she did
she would stop
and see you.
She was coming
soon if at all
but did not stay
any time at all.
Ever with sympathy
Stella

way to a little a when they were
lately in the morning and a big
a when they were absent in the
afternoon and leave the vacant
space for presence. My opinion
was that if he had, had good
sense he would have held his
tongue and not made that
criticism at least. He said that
was the way he always had
marked them. Because he did was
no sign I must. That was all
the fault he had to find in
praised me on the part of my
work, but he likes to show his
authority while he has it.

We are the only two Americans
teaching in District schools in
the County the rest are Scandinavian

There is but one certificate higher than mine, Emma is next. W. MacLach who teaches in Hamilton Falls has the highest and that is a second grade. There was but one first grade given in the county and the lady who got it has gone further west to teach. The day he introduced my mine he had just finished examining a lady she brought a second grade from Swift Co. marked 100. in every thing. He said he thought that was a little to fine and made her pass the examination she stood 24 in spelling and low in other studies so she only got a third grade. Mr. Rohlson Rohlson cannot talk very plain, that is there are some words he does not speak plain the th. sound is almost more than they can master. Express that will do for that subject. W²⁰⁰

I'll tell you about our home rain storm last Friday night, Emma and I were going to Mr. Reid that night. It mist most most all day but towards four o'clock grew brighter as I started I had not gone far before it commenced again and grew very full black in the northwest as I ran for a little shanty that was near me I did not get there any to soon. How the wind did blow and the rain fell in torrents. It did not stop until half past ten I had to stay for some. There was a Norwegian family living there. The woman two children and I slept in one bed the man slept on the floor. In the morning I went on I was only a mile from there and two miles from home. It was fearfull muddy and wet. Mr. Reid met me about a quarter of a mile from the house. He said Emma had just got there barfooted. She had

The school here is very poor. The most of the clerk in his office. There were five or six more families who offered to board him and what was it? I heard one thing yesterday you boys & perfect as far as I did not want to go there. I am caught to Mr. Reid and Jimmie were just starting home from town it fell when the storm struck them. They could not make the team face it so Jimmie had to go back back. Mr. Reid got home about eleven o'clock. Jimmie came a few minutes after I did. He had, had his wet clothes on all night and was nearly frozen for it was cold the next morning. For the next two days a few flakes of snow fell and two nights it froze a seal of ice all over the lake and I shiver. My fingers ache with the cold when I get to school Monday morning. It is just like winter. Is it as cold there? Jimmie makes fun of Willie all the time about this Arctic Eden, I have to pay for my board at least \$75 per week. Then was another family offered to board

Dec 11 1892

Red Wing Dec 11th

Dear Father and Mother [Mr. W. J. Stone]

We arrived safely Thursday at
two in the afternoon and
came out to Mr. Noble we are
still here but expect to be
settled before long in a little
house with three rooms at \$
per month. We shall be very
cozy. Mrs. Noble is expected home
tomorrow from Wisconsin. Mr. Noble
cannot live long probably not
more than three weeks. The
weather here is much warmer
than it was when we started
from there there is not half
as much snow as in S. B. C.
Did you like those little
stockings they were the best

I could find they were 60¢ per
pair Mrs. Baker showed me
the hinges and Hood and said
she had the pattern of dicky
drawers so so I will not
send one. I miss that little
chubby Jessie. I did not see
one on the train that
would compare with her they
are all ~~evil~~. Have you heard
from Frank yet and what
will his address be where he
gets there? As soon as we
are settled I will write again.
I think I have a clue to Edna
whereabouts I am going to ~~write~~
write today and will let you
know the result. Kiss Jessie for
me love for the rest.

Respectfully Stella

Did Mr. Golden bring the
things back all right. We lost
Cappis in Mankato he followed
us to the depot and then
did not where we could
not find him Jeff did not
have the time to spare as
we had to leave him. Did
he follow Mr. Golden home?
Love to you