



James C. Christie and Family Papers

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[undated]

Dear Miss Christie, [Sarah]

I thought last week I would come to see you Saturday but it was so unpleasant of course I wouldn't go up town. I will try to come this week if I possibly can. You are too sensitive. You think I don't care for you because I don't come to see you. Well if all my friends that I don't go to see should say the same I'm sure I don't know what I should do. I don't ~~have~~ have time to visit much just now for I am busy working getting ready in case I should teach this summer. I know I shall enjoy a talk with you for I can tell you lots of things that I want to tell somebody and then you will help me. I am ever for almost to

Don't think from this that I am
getting discouraged because to R. a
Christian, I am not, but I would
like to do work more for Christ-
than I am now. If some my work
is right here or God wouldn't have
placed me here, but sometimes I
don't see very plainly what it is.
When shall I come up to see you some
night after school and stay the evening?
I expect to teach for fifteen next week.
I feel very incompetent to take charge
of such a large school. I expect Miss
Jones will have to take the lead a good
deal for she is as inexperienced as I am.
I started out to write an notice for
Sunday service last Friday, but some
how was forgetting all about it.

Give my love to Brook and tell her
I want her to come down with you
some day.

Your sincere friend,
Emma.

[Undated]

Willis Hall May 7th

Miss. Christie [Dear]

Dear Teacher & friend
You don't know how hard it is for
me to realize that you are going so
soon. I need you so much & you help
me more than you are aware. I did
hope & pray that something would
happen so that you might stay
with us but since you told me
what you did yesterday I feel
so disappointed and discouraged
that I cannot help study.

I think of it when I see you at the table in the morning, and at chapel, and when I am reciting to you I am not thinking about my lessons as much as I should be: every time I see you that subject forces itself upon my mind yet I know it is unpleasant for you to have me speak about it.

I know your employer here will be sorry before you have been gone a month, just as he has been in other cases, and then to think that others are and have been using their influence against you when it can in no way benefit themselves. It makes me loose what little faith I ever did have and almost say that religion is all a farce and is used as a cloak to cover all imperfections. I dislike to go to sabbath day meetings for I shall see those whom I cannot think of pleasantly Sunday afternoon is the same! I know you will say I ought not to have and cherish such feelings and perhaps if you were here always I should not but it is not easy for me to forgive those who suppose my friends. I shall never forget how you befriended me last summer you never can know what you kept me from doing for contrary as I seemed I did not do half as bad as would had you acted as my other pretended friends. I am glad that I have but one year more to stay where there is so much to remind me of you who are away. If it was two instead of one I would make every effort to go to some other school, but it seems impossible for me to go from here under the circumstances. Oh! if I were only rich" as I have heard someone say

I try to feel that God knows
best and directs everything
aright and sometimes believe

that some unseen hand is
guiding us all to better circum-
stances than we could ^{reach} for ourselves.
It is not easy to see this always but
when I look to the past I find
that it has been a kind fatherly
hand that has shaped my course
And wherever you may be guided
in the years to come I hope
you will not forget one who will
ever remember you with the
kindest feelings. I ask
you to pray for me especially when
you are away and be assured
you will not be forgotten by
yours

Loving pupil.

Mrs. S. J. Christie
Esq.

[undated]

School Room - Room
Thurs. Afternoon

Dear Miss Loring

Upon some second thought
I have concluded to make my
arrangement suit for the lesson
tomorrow, or instead of tonight
which is the regular time, and
Miss Walker is agreeable to the
change and will inform Miss
Anna of the postponement.

Hoping the weather and other
things will be propitious for
me.

Very truly yours

Maria L. C.

My dear Miss C.

I am more than
willing for I am sick & would like
to rest this evening.

Truly Yrs. W. M. Walker

Miss Christy -

[undated]

kind Christy. It being rather
inconvenient to postpone
can you not come down
to my house at 6 o'clock.
or afterwards go to the "Ling"
We shall be ready at
that hour to see you all
In the greatest haste
Sincerely
Mr. L. Coyswell

[undated]

Garden City. April 6th

[undated]

Dear Miss Christie

You will now have "an opportunity to write again before I come back," of which, I doubt not, you will be as prompt to take advantage as you were before.

Dr. Warner was down from Mankato to consult with Dr. Torrey, with regard to Mother, last week. and they decided that a surgical operation was the only thing that could

do any good, and it
was performed yesterday.
It is impossible to know
as yet, how it will result;
but she seems as well
as could be expected.

and we are quite hopeful.
If she gets along as well
as we hope, I will be
back to Carleton in a couple
of weeks. Annie came home
yesterday and will stay
for some time. Gaspard
thinks of leaving Pine Falls
and forming a partnership
with Hidden of Mankato.

He has what he considers
a very favorable opportunity.

Of course it is
all right as far as Miss
Dresser and Miss Finney's
letters are concerned.

It wasn't a matter of any

importance to any one,
though if they didn't
want to write, they needn't
have taken such a roundabout
way of saying so.

Remember me to Miss D.
please. and to Miss, when you
write.

Did I say Emilie had
joined the Methodist church?

She hasn't. The churches
here quarrel over their little
affairs, as churches will, &
she takes the Methodist side
of the question, that is all,
and attends their meetings
instead of the Baptist.

If you do write, I
wish you would tell me
about the debate at the end of
the term. I rec'd a note
from Mr. Goodhue giving
the question, and saying I

must give notice before the
5th of May if I wished
to speak. Will the most
of the class take part? Will
any one know which side they
take before the 5th, and will
the disputants have ^{liberty to choose} any choice
in the matter? By orators of
America, are those of U. S.
alone meant? Who are the
judges? What time is allowed
&c. I am rather doubtful
about hearing from you,
but if I do, shall receive it
very gratefully.

I haven't seen Rockwood
since writing before.

Very Truly Yours,

E W Parker.

Miss Christie

[undated].

Dear Miss Christie

I think I will accept my invitation to tea, if you will relieve me of several little duties.

Will you please hand the accompanying rhetorical part to Mrs. Swenson at tea? If I should not return at the opening of Faculty meeting, will you please do the honors of the house as to fire, lights, &c.?

In department record which is to be considered to-night, I only know of Furber's fault, and Lentholt and his friend, whose name I do not recollect, escorting Miss Roberts and Miss Fuller from Rhineland.

I shall be glad to spend to-night, as at every other time that I am your true friend and that I love & honor you.

Loving you always
M.

[undated]

Minneapolis, Apr. 23rd

Dear Mrs. Christie, [Dear]

Will write a few lines
before I go to bed - am so sleepy can
hardly hold my eyes open.
Rec'd the letter from you through
Mr. Holt or somebody, to that effect
two or three days ago - guess he had
it for me quite a while - intended
to answer immediately - could not
possibly find time - have not
since till now. I am attending
in University - think I shall like
it - have to study - study is no name
for it - ~~is~~ have to just dig.

it came up here because it was the
best I could do. My sister had been
here and liked it. Father would
have to stay with her anyway so
we concluded that it was best all
round for me to go to school here
and all be together. We have not
yet determined, only rented
rooms for the summer.

including if we like it to fix
up our permanent location
within 3 or 4 months going to school
at least. The Baltimore & Annapolis
were safely met at St. Paul before
I started. With kinder thanks I have
had more time, can only say it just
suits me. When can you come
up and see me? We have school
Saturdays - one holiday Monday.
Will you come sometime or as
to visit the school? We'll find
a spare room for you somewhere
I suppose but the most inviting
in the world, perhaps, for it
is just about done for the
summer. Simply staying at
home - but it is home after
all and you will be as welcome
as the breeze if you will only
come. I should like to
see you ever so much.

If you will tell me when you are
coming I will go over to the depot.
I wanted to stop terribly when I
came through D. but I had to
hurry and I did not feel well at all.
I could not possibly spend time.

I guess it must be a bad time
for you. I will have to stop.

My love to every body (that wants
it). Write soon.

And come and see me often.

Thine ever,

Lucy.

Admission, Minneapolis, simply.

Excuse this fearful envelope
it was hardly.

[undated]

Dear Miss Christie [Sarah]

At Allenton

and I am writing away rather
hastily on Wednesday it would be
a great deal more convenient for
me to come up to school tomorrow
forenoon and go home with you
than to come to stay all night
Monday night. Will you please
send me word tonight whether I can
come tomorrow or not. If you want
to go away, please don't stay at home
on my account. Will look to write

me a little later and tell me
what she is mean at me for.
I am not much afraid that
she will speak to me when she
see me. I want to come up to
school tomorrow for it will be my
last chance so I will have to
leave for Bethel after that. I have
found out about my school. I
will tell you when I see you.
Give my love to my mother
father and remember for me
me. Yours affectionately
Guslin.

for table talk next term now that so
many have gone to the Centennial.

I understood that Mr. Osborne intended
to go South soon.

Do you hear from Miss Knight? I would
like to know how she is getting along, so well.
I am running around and thoroughly
enjoying myself, laying up ^{such} a stock of
health and spirits as shall last all
next year; read a little Virgil now and
then. I did intend to read the First
book this summer and think I may
go to work and finish it by-and-by.

You kindly asked about my room
for next year. I should like the one that
Kate and Mattie had best of any I
think. I should like to have the

measurement of that room not in-
cluding the space next the door begin-
ning with the chimney, for I must
have a new carpet. I am sorry to
trouble you but if you will obtain
it for me I shall be much obliged.
My chances of bringing a room-mate
are very small for Mount Union
College is only eight miles from here
and is generally attended by the
young people on this part of the state.

I have not heard from Miss Igoe.
I shall hope to hear soon that you are
recovered. Please do not disappoint
me. (I am sure you will not if you can
help it) How is Mr. Hunt and
what do you think are his chances of

[undated]

Camassaville, July 21st.

My dear Miss Christie, [Dear]

Your welcome letter was received in due time and I resolved to answer immediately and atone, if possible, for that "little bit of a short-note."

I was very sorry to hear of your ill health and that you will not be out here this vacation. You will surely have much success in that work which the state of your health permits.

It will have quite a treat laid up

recovery? Papa and Mama send
greetings. Please write soon and
send any news concerning the girls
which you may have at your disposal.

affectionately yours,

Emma Hawley.

much more marked, Prof H has
gone to Chicago to attend the ded-
ication of a Lutheran, The college
is unusually full this term
I have scarcely been out since
you left, & has been very busy,
a great deal of sickness, Dr Evans
is married, boards and has his
office at Mrs Wadsworths, Prof Eaton
and the senior class go to Devils
lake tomorrow, Mrs Mittell has
not come, we have letters often
from Daniel, he likes much
Mr Dow and Miss Sherwood were mar-
ried last week, thus we have lost our
good singer, He sends you his love
and the enclosed poetry, With had
some great and good news to write
but cant think of any.

Do try and be careful of your
health, trust you are not far
from your school, Many friends say
give most kindly for you
Yours with kind regards

[undated]
Belvid. Sunday 3 P.M.

Dear Miss Christie [undated]

I have just asked Dr if he acknowledged your letter and the draft for \$7.50, which was duly rec^d, and as he has not, I hasten to ~~inform~~ inform you of the fact. Many thanks

I trust you are not finding your duties too hard. you must have some mercy on yourself. As to miss, your brother moved into the upper rooms of Mrs Hinman's house yesterday. The new Baptist minister, wife and babe, occupy the lower part, nice people, I saw your brother and sister last evening. they said it was not quite convenient at Mrs T's, and they pay no more for all the upper part of Mrs M's house, it is more convenient and

[undated]

Indimindia - Sept.

My dear Miss Benson

I am very sorry
indeed that you are so well
but am glad you did not
try to come out this morn-
ing. As you are feeling much
better tonight and will be able
in the morning to do just as the
doctor says you are fit
of the standing of the procedure

that were informal enough. Mary Carroll - chairman of my
Fall Pack. only three birds from pupils and a good one -
Willie Lewis fell down 70 ft. from tower.
viz. J. Patrick. I found ^{W. Williams} Mary Williams.

Donnie found what is meant.
This afternoon, W. Williams of course I
can't tell. Frank & Della seem
to take much eat than find of
trampolines without a name.

C. Adams. Klynn. W. Smith.
and Rosa. Callie are on probation.
One more scholar has been
added to our numbers a

For Lumber

Redwood

Case of Campfire (Chicago)

Miss Christie

[undated]

Brick Cottage

Dear Miss Christie

Anna and Dr
have gone to the factory I shall
keep house here till they
return. They told Jacob
Christy to go over to the
other house with you to dinner.
don't let him but please
send him here as soon as
you can excuse him as he
can help me

With love

Mrs Morrison

[undated]

Dear Miss Charity:

I am going with a
protégé of mine, a young
lady - But I have no idea of what
he would be pleased to have
your company also - At any
rate Miss Jennie will come
and has I believe no official
escort.

Young Mr. is waiting party
over.

Yours truly

Wm. L. G. Powell

I'm sorry you couldn't have
come about & staid a while
with me

[undated]

Dear Miss Chasely.

We were very sorry that you were not able to be with us last evening. If you have so much to do that you are nearly beside yourself, I assure you that I can sympathize with you. The pressure is almost too great to be counteracted.

After our "Speech lecture" had departed we had a little business meeting with reference to remunerating him for his services. After many solutions of the intricate problems in mathematics we decided upon an apportionment. To the best of our ability we made \$2.11 for us four, \$1.50 for Miss Peckham & \$2.00 for Miss Bucknall. We propose to put the whole amt into a ten dollar bill, & dispatch it to the Prof.

If you think it correct with you
please hand the same to my
sister & Miss W. I will attend to it.

Hoping to see you some time
this week.

Very truly yours

Marion L. Leonard

Miss Christy

[undated]

Dear Miss C.

I snatch a moment
to say that you have crowded
so here today, I have not been
able to command the team
and get that stable down but
if possible will still do so to-
night. We are to have them
here six o'clock Monday.
Yours truly
Wm. Blanchard

[To Mrs S. J. Christie, Portland,
Maine.]

Garden City Jan. 3rd

Dear Miss Christie,

I found
"Following of Christ" in
the office yesterday, and
recognized the handwriting
of a dear friend.

She will hardly need to
be assured that I shall
read it carefully and
value it highly for the
sake of the gift and
especially for the sake
of the giver.

Her kindness has perhaps
been better appreciated
at all times than she

believed,

I thank her heartily
for the present, and
more for the kindly
interest which it shows,
and assure her of my
affection, though I may
never have shown it in
any practical way.

Truly Yours,
E. M. Parker.

Dear Miss Christie
Please accept the little
letter case, into which
many loving thoughts
are stitched, from her
affection

Mary Ann.

Miss Thickett

[undated]

Dear Miss Christie [Dear]

I am afraid I shall
be obliged to fall back upon
you for the charge of my dear
Son-in-law (or Miss Evans). I
have not been able to get
anything on my foot since
Last Sat. except Mr. B's slipper
& I tried my foot this morning
but could not get it on or
keep it on - I can go out
in the evening with an old
Polish boot - but it won't do
in day light. I am sorry
for I know you both have
enough to do. More than this

I am about sick today - for
the today kept me awake
most of the night. But
enough in this line -

I am about Mrs & Miss G. & Miss
Are sick now must not
moralize the whole school.
The girls - ought not to be
expected to do one thing
for her. Those who work
like Miss Hunt - Miss C.
& others can't - in justice
to themselves & others do any
thing of the kind. & none
of the young ladies can
study & sit up nights. I am
there will be a long list of
sick ones. Further up. You

Washburn or Mrs. B. to do the
sitting up - I am daily - al-
lowing me to be the judge
his claim here - Now I know
just what Mrs. G. is -
have known for a long time
She will allow you all to
wait upon her to the end
of time - will assume no
responsibility herself & will
finally be sick or think she
is, herself - Now my advice
is this. Though I do not
speak "with authority" -

You three ladies work to-
gether. have an understanding
put the child today in the
open room - as you have

a right-to-charge all
the girls from any one.
tell Mrs. G. that in justice
to the girls - for whom you
there are - I will be held respon-
sible, she must obtain a
nurse - I help her all you
can to do so - and there-
saving the ordinary courtesy
& demanded - let the matter
rest - Now you must do
this - I should command
you - only I can't - I am
distressed & have thrown
these things upside down

Now can you excuse me
from any further remarks.
Ever with love - M. W. P.

[Undated]

Minneapolis Thursday.

Dear Miss Christie, [Sarah]

Yours was well yesterday and you are too late or too early for everything. I have just been over town examining dry goods, and can find no suits except linen. that of course you will not want - but in the summer. The Fall racks have not arrived but will be in next week probably. They will range from \$10 to \$16 a suit. If you had thought of it sooner, I could have got the cloth here and had them made, or so nearly that they could have been finished after you came.

I can't tell you how sorry I am about the money, but it would be an impossibility to let you have

is soon enough to do you any good.
Our affairs are in such a shape
that we can get nothing until
after harvest, and have been com-
pelled to support ourselves here
all summer because times have
been so hard that we could get
nothing that was owing us.

I do wish I could in any way
get it for you, and were it only
weeks later I could easily do so
but am powerless now.

I trust this ^{will not} disappoint you too
much, so that you would be able
to see me, for I think by the time
you come you can get what is
necessary. I am, as a great many
of the Fall goods have arrived.

I must close or this will not
get out to night. Excuse this ad-
dress, for I am in a great hurry.
Be sure and come if possible.

Hastily Thine
Thos. J.

[undated]

Granville Ill.

My Dear Day

My Dear Miss Christie [Sarah]

You don't know how I wanted to talk with you the day I left, but every thing seemed to conspire against it. I hope you have been having a good rest during vacation so you will be ready for good successful work & be able to carry your good plans through against all opposition. For myself, I have not been as well since my return. Have done very little in the way of getting up a lecture for Wheaton Col. If I am able I will get at it next week. I am leading really a dull life down

7
4
here, wish I could get a
little inspiration from you
once in a while. Now I want
you to write me as soon as
the term opens, & tell me
the number of pupils & how
things start out. There are
two or three new ones com-
ing from S. I still hope the
best for Wheaton College.
I am trying to get my sister
to complete her course at
Wheaton. If I return I will
try & bring her back with
me. I will be glad to receive
suggestions from you in regard
to the best way to raise money
for the Cal. Now don't for-
get to write me as soon as the
term opens.

Yours truly
H. B. Blake,

Miss Sarah Holmstrom

[undated]

St. Charles, Aug. 13.

Miss S. J. Christie.

Dear Friend. -

Some of the 80
inches is just rec'd. I have been out in the
country searching or should have got it
before. I have secured the position of
function since am no longer looking
to the school at Gordon City for a place.
I forgot to mention in my letter a
vacancy at Dixon, Fillmore Co. - at
least I suppose the place is not yet
filled. The former principal Palmer

Come to St. Charles. The place is
bordering you are aware, I presume, I have
but 2800. I can not think of another
concern of which I have been informed.

I hope to meet you at the Convention
at Cincinnati next week.

Very truly yours

James F. Dow

My dear Miss Corlies. [Carol] [undated]
Henry up and come back. It
concerns without you although we
have had a better time than I expected.
We have had spent one afternoon at
the Strimac. One evening at the
Kultursta. Tonight is the school
celebration for the Sunday school.
Mollie & Jennie sing that I wish
success and I have trained four
boys to sing a round. I have to dress
them and probably lead them on
the organ. We have lived on the fat
of the land and altogether the days
are slipping by too rapidly.
The long dreaded convocation has
taken place and I am crazy to
tell you all that was said but
perhaps I had better not write
or indeed tell you very much until
you have had a little and then we
can compare notes. I don't think

[undated]

San Francisco Aug. 24th

Dear Friend

We had heard before we
received your decision letter of your
decision with regard to the school here.

I was sorry on my account for I
think they must be good teachers here.

But is so much ^{more} pleased to hear
advanced scholars that I was glad on
your account that you had that
situation offered you.

The last I heard that had not
heard anyone here. Mrs. Brandman
told me they had decided not to hire
any of the applicants about here.

Will has been very sick since you

was here but he is better now. I do
not know just about his invention.
He was sickest at the time he
wanted to test it in the barbed-
field.

We have looked for Alex out
here but have not seen him yet.

We talk of going to Clyman this
fall. We may see him then if we go.

Give our regards to your father
and mother and tell them we would
like to see them here.

Write and tell us how you like a
residence at Northfield. I don't
believe I want to go any farther west
to winter. But you may not find it
any colder. We are all well and send
our love. Write soon.

Yours truly, John L. Hayes

of anything in particular that
it would be important for you
to know. She has yet to have a
talk with me at Leeds. And down
in her heart she owes me a great
much love but I don't care. I have
said to him - all that I want is
for her to treat me kindly so that
I shall feel no restraint when with
her on my own part or fear the
effect upon the family. I have
grown perfectly indifferent to her
and yet she has lost a friend
for I am reconciled enough to think
that my friendship is worth some
things as well as hers. Patience
every thing is lovely. Miss S. takes
my arm for us. For she has had a
conversations place - ~~he~~ is only about
now that I shall not be able to win
her love. Oh dear I've got much to
tell you when I can. I think she
is a peculiarly fortunate person
if she can always be surrounded
by those whom she loves -

Run up or come back - Nothing
particular only I want to see you.
My strong has gone to Cambridge.
She had spent most of her time
in the kitchen. She is with a
sewing girl & I have been visiting
her. After she has a talk with
me I'm going to have another with
the P. and then I think I shall be
ready to teach. Miss S. appears in
a table and tonight two of the ladies of the
Leeds Court. Mrs B. got it up & the

Compo May 16

My dear Miss Christie [Sarah]

I have been so busy since your letter came that I have had no time to answer before.

I am very sorry for you, for I know how unpleasant such affairs are. I had been very anxious to hear how affairs were at the College, and how every one was prospering and thought all the time that you would write, but am becoming wearied entirely from Northfield, and have never cast a longing look behind.

This is the time of year when school teachers must anxiously lay their plans for the next year, and I know how much you

are thinking about it.

As far as this school is concerned there is no opening that you could fill. I know about the plans for the next year, and the places are supplied all except Prof of Natural Sciences. But there are circumstances that I could not explain to you that would make it impossible even if you had had long experience.

And they need and expect to have a man to fill the place.

Prof Boston goes to San Jose Normal. And I'm afraid Prof Phelps would not recommend you unless you were personally acquainted.

You know that even as much as he knew me and the attainments of my sisters, one of whom had taught

in his school, he would not recommend me until I had gone to Trinoma, and he had heard me teach. He is very careful about that. There is a young lady with me whom he sent here when he did me.

But she had taught successfully in Trinoma schools seven years, and her sister had been with Prof about as long.

So I see no help in the directions you have named. Why don't you advertise? It seems to me this year, ^{experience} at the College will do something for you.

Knowing what I do now I would give Kansas a wide berth.

My place has been just as pleasant as it could be, and all the annoyances I thought of before I came have vanished like smoke. But on account

[undated]

Northfield Minn.
Sunday Evening

Miss Christie.

My dear Friend.

Your letter
ought to have been answered long
before this, & in fact I did begin
at one time or at least set down to
write, but was interrupted.

I have written to see one except-
weather this term. That was a
necessary duty of course.
I am taking the extra studies of the
scientific course in addition to
regular work & intend to graduate
from both departments next year
if possible. I am getting really
contented here & find things pleasant
& people more agreeable than ever before.

I remember P. A. Beecher said, at the
time of the spelling mania, that
the man "who spells every word with
unfailing accuracy is presumptively
a fool." I found great encouragement
in myself in that statement; I
felt that my worst enemy would
not call me a fool on that ground.
If P. A. Mayhew & Co. succeed in
changing things, it won't grieve me
much, but they never will.

Miss Stuart has been making
confessions about some questions &
answers in her correspondence with
you. You see she is equally false
to both of us: but as she says she didn't
write "any thing bad," I have forgiven
her for this point. You ought not to
blame her very much either, for I
cross-questioned her & made her
tell all about it. It wasn't hardly
fair, now was it? I have always

frank & honest with you. Of course
I may have said things to others
that I would not have said to you
because I had no right to, they would
have been impertinent. but I never
said anything to any one that
could have led them to think I was
not your friend. You know that
I am. What possible motive
could I have in saying what
I have to you. or even in writing
tonight - were it not true? I never
said any thing that I should not
be willing you should hear exactly
as I said it. though your position
and character and my own insignif-
ificance would have made it
impossible & improper to say
it to you. I suspected that Mr.
Mulliken or Mr Wilson. or perhaps
both, are the ones who have told you
that I was not your friend.

Muliken was always a
malicious little tattler & busy body
and no one ever supposed Wilson
was truthful. If they are my
accusers, I don't care to defend
myself.

I finished my Latin with
Prof. Chamberlain, & have no
means of knowing personally
how the new teacher compares
with him. She seems to be
liked. Thomas apparently
answers the purpose well
enough. Miss Carmichael does
well of course.

I have five recitations this
term & am stuffing Greek &
Roman history & one or two other
studies of the Scientific department
for an examination at the end
of the term.

I feel uncommonly well & in

a mood for work.

Mother's health is very good.

We have about the usual number of scholars this term.

I am reciting to Pres. Strong for the first time this year.

He very kindly does all the taking for us, and by putting in the yes & no in a proper place, we get along finely.

I am boarding at Mr. Plunkett's again, and all little of the students except at recitations. Edgerton is very much the same. He rooms in the bank again this year.

See Misses Finney & Lambie occasionally. Miss F. doesn't shingle her hair now, but is apparently as cross-eyed as ever.

Write as soon as possible. & believe me - as I really am -
your friend. E. M. Parker.

[undated]

Mrs. Christie, [Dad's]

I think it probable
that Sam was once detained
ten minutes - not longer - the
rest of the detention was in
trifling away his time. If you
could keep him in at school
it might be desirable - or
as you choose. I did
cancel school after I read
him home from the store, and
I reached home at 2:30 -
past 5 o'clock. If you have time
write a few lines as to his
general conduct. Mrs. Royce

Mr. Hooper,

James was
lately 33' minutes this
morning. Please let me know
if he was necessarily detain-
ed at home - Very Respectfully
P. C. Christie

Thursday Morning.

[undated]

Tuesday evening

My Dear Miss Christie
now that I am at liberty from school
duty will answer your very --
welcome note of this morning, your
absence from school has been noticed
and penance imposed.

I was very willing and happy
to take your place for a day or two, but
as Miss D. & Susan were in my room,
much as I enjoyed it, it seemed to me
best that I should return to my
place, unless I was to please you as
I know nothing of the cause of
your absence, though I think you might
have imposed some other penance.

Your absence was indeed quite a
mystery to me, especially as you were

Exdated I
Tuesday noon -

James has no excuse for
being tardy this morning.

He was late to breakfast -
late in doing an errand
& late to school

I hope that he will not
make another such failure
F Royce

Mrs. M. C. Cinnamon
Beverland.

Mrs. M. C. Cinnamon
Willie
was absent from school
on Friday afternoon, and
I would like to know if
it was by your permis-
sion that he was absent.
Please return answer
by the bearer of this.
Yours Respectfully.

F. G. Christie

[undated]

Miss Christie:

I am very much
obliged to you for letting me
know that Willie is as absent
for I did not know anything
about it but I will have
him punished severely

Yours Mrs. McGinnis

[undated]

Handwritten in margin:
I am very glad to hear
of a practical man
I have thought about
in a special place
for a great while.
When you will
write before after
honesty
Sincerely
Harry

Minneapolis, Aug. 15

Dear Miss Christie [S. J.]

I have rec'd two letters
from you since I wrote. I have been
very busy studying - will be busier
still if I make up the studies I
have to in order to enter my class.

I intended to send you the
proceedings of the N. T. A. - but forgot
all about it when I was over town.

There was nothing that you would
be specially interested in, I think.
The exercises seemed to me very dull.
I have attended County Institutes
that seemed to have far more life
and practical importance.

There was such a wise mist of the
time that you could hear nothing
much when you could hear it was

generally some story thing or hobby, not worth remembering. The most interesting thing I heard was an address by Mr. Poley Pollock about our University. He has a fine voice and sent a shiver down the house. I met quite a number of old friends from the home vicinity.

Then for the evening I went over alone at 6 but a few minutes when a lady and gentleman came and took seats beside me - the lady seemed socially inclined and in the course of our talk, inquired if any of the Northfield Profs. were present. I said her name was Pires and that she and her husband used to have charge of the institution. I had heard a great deal about them but it was rather strange that I should meet ~~him~~ her in such a crowd.

While I was talking with them, McNight caught sight of me from the other side of the house and in half a minute he was over there, patting his tongue like a steam engine. I had not heard that you were going away - seemed very much surprised and he should not go back. - spoke about Scott seems to be pretty far gone in that direction.

but it doesn't seem possible the she ~~can~~ ^{can} see him - I could hardly imagine him for ten minutes. Did not get a chance to talk with him any oftwards. Ran again.

Now how one night we were going out and had no chance to talk and did not see him of-terwards. Eliza Thelore was there - looked natural and happy - saw her but a moment. With Pops, Strong I was more fortunate - meeting the last day as they were passing out so had more time - he was very cordial and the other Profs. were all last. Spending vacation - told me about the new ones - seemed very hopeful about the institution generally and gave me a very pleasing impression. He came down and we talked.

He inquired about our school - I was glad to tell him that I was very much pleased with everything about the institution - especially the President - he seemed a little disappointed - said he thought the Pres. an excellent business man and praised Prof. Campbell. There is a Congregationalist you know who is really one of the most unpopular profs. we have.

Had a letter from Mrs. ~~McNight~~ the other day - she had not decided to go back to L. but probably will - mate who could be decided not to come here - I suppose Mrs. Pires' influence would be against it as she has been here and is I understand much prejudiced against the school. It was not her very anything about it ? How did Mrs. R. and Thelore get along ? I should think they would have to be good friends, on the outside at least.

Do you know of any of the Northfield students who are coming up here? How about Parker & Edgerton? I hope I will not return

to E. for left to his own devices. with no
one to lend a helping hand, he would
go right straight to the back.

here he would meet the teachers
only in the classroom, and I think
would get along much better. he
would probably have hard work to get
his studies made up with his class
but I think he could do it.

Now of course, you think I want him
to come here for purely personal reasons,
but it is not so. my friendship is as
disinterested as can be. I don't care
whether he comes here or goes somewhere
else only I don't want him to go back
to Carlisle for Mrs. B. to make fun of.

I came near forgetting that congratulations
were in order - I do hope that you will be
satisfied at your new post - but I think
you would have had less to contend with
had been better satisfied had you found a po-
sition removed from sectarian influence.
It seems a long way down there and I
suppose it shall not see you more than
once in ten years - You go soon, I suppose.
You certainly can find time to expect
me one first - write you come this way.
By the way - there was a Miss Jessie Smith
at the dedication from W.V. don't remember
what town - I thought it was probably your
cousin.

Went down to Minnehaha today or two
ago for the first time - was a little disap-
pointed - the water is very low, but the place is
beautiful.

Jackson Minn, Sept. 15;
[undated]

Dear Friend:

[Mae, W. L. Sterling]
Your note was delayed probably
at S. C., and reached me too late - I had ru-
brily forgotten the order. Hope your brother has
not been seriously inconvenienced by my
neglect - You have probably rec'd my letter
written from Fairmont. I had intended to
go via Scott's and stop with you a day
or two but my brother's folks insisted that
I should make a longer stay here, and
now I shall have no time to stop - will
probably not go that way - start Tuesday
evening (the 24th) - Mrs. Fairchild wrote that
she had left some money (\$1.00 or more) which
she was owing me, with you - wish you would
send in whatever way is most convenient to
Minneapolis any day after the 24th. - I am
depending upon it and may be consid-
erably inconvenienced by not getting it. - I send
to-morrow by express goods at Garden City to be freighted

but will not have the chair sent if you
have changed your mind about taking it.
I can have it sent at any time - I have
heard nothing from you since I left -
would like much to see you but feel
that I really ought not to stay away
from Minneapolis longer - The husband of
the lady friend with whom I spent most
of the summer is expecting soon to go to
the Sandwich Islands! has been offered
a good position as pastor of church composed
of wealthy Scotch & English sugar planters -
goes for his health - wife goes too - wants
me to get travelling dress &c. in Minneapolis
and send to her at Fairmont very soon -
hence our cause of my hurry - Have had
rains ever since I came to J. so haven't
been out much - my doctor friend is in
Europe is coming back to call for me to
see him - John Cowing is thriving - has fallen
from the independent chairs to day besides
circumnavigable bundles over small truck
such as water fairs - wood piles &c. - he talks
a little - is the most mischievous littleascal
in existence - My sister-in-law is going on a
visit to the cousins down south - I am trying to get
her to go ready - she has just finished her school.

Dear Miss Christian.

Just now to Prof Phelps
on the last evening on invitation
and your case was discussed
at the table - the place we talked
of had been supplied. But I
think if you had written soon -
immediately you might have had
it - now too soon you did not.
The one who takes it is coming
in a day or two here. & shall
have a chance to know him.
I wish it could be you -
no other place open at
present - shall do all I can
for you. shall have another
conversation with him soon.
His home is elegant -
and they are just as kind
to me as they can be -
but we all can be treated
very generously - am
going to work in a few
min & think you shall
have success. I have every op-
portunity & it is a rare chance.
Will give you all particulars
& take great care of my boy.
Love you. Tell him to thank you

anxious to see you - and to hear of your
prospects. Write me again if you can.

Must stop now as the girl is
going to take this to the office -

Think of you more than I can
tell you. I do think I could have
suggested a good principle to
the women who are now
man with children.

Good bye now - Only a little
more than a week! So as you think
best about accompanying only saying
how much love I send to the

Yours
C. M. Smith

My dear Miss Christie

Monday
[undated]

I am not going to make any apology
for paper words passed for you must
take them or nothing. I can't tell
you how much good your letter did
me but I did not answer sooner
because I thought you would hear
from me through Walter, and I have
written him most every day. I am
glad you went home for you needed
the change and I know it will do
you good. The time too will not seem
so long. I would give much to have
a good long talk with you which I
shall have before long. I shall leave
here next week Friday but can't go
through on that day. There is no train
leaving on the morning. I feel that
my days are numbered and yet
somewhat impatient as the time approaches

but have enjoyed every moment. Every
thing has been pleasant and I feel
that I have gained a great deal.

Wanted to know when I was going to
return. It was a very kind letter.
I shall write him tonight. I am stay-
ing with my cousin or rather Prof
of this week & next week at Mrs
Gagnon's a friend whom I found
late. I am enjoying myself very
much - though I don't see my
dear one. What you wrote me of him
did me so much good. Am trying
to decide on summer clothes.

[undated]

Waymouth Aug 12 1872

Dear Miss Christie [Sarah]

four letter

As duty requires ^{went today} I don't think
Lottie will be able to go back to school
for the present - one reason is that her
health is not good enough she is suffer-
ing from rheumatism in her arms and
shoulders at times she suffers severely and
another reason is that Mr. Boller was told
^{after he came home} sick with a fever and for weeks at
bed but little hope of his recovery but
I am happy to say he is improving now.

but his sickness has disarranged our
plans very much. in regard to Adeline
we regret it very much but it cannot
be helped. we feel very grateful for the
kindest interest you have shown for her welfare
and if it should become possible for us to
bring her back to school during the coming
year we shall be glad to do so and will
write in time to secure a room for her
Mr. Potter joins with me in sending kindest
regards to you and Adeline will write a word
for her self yours with respect & Bel
Dear Miss Chittenden.

As mamma has left
a little space I thought I would write a
few lines to let you know that I still
remembered you. I am very sure I will
not be long in seeing you, next time, but
how it will be I cannot say with you, before
the year is out. If it would not be
asking too much, I should like very much
to hear from you after the school opens.
Remember me to all my young friends and

Nov. 23rd

My Dear Miss Christie.

Your very kind
invitation has been received.
and although another engagement
claims me for dinner, I shall
be most happy to be with you
to tea and during the evening.

I will come as early as possible
after dinner. Many thanks for
the kind remembrance from

Yours Truly

Julia M. Wheel.

P.S.

Enclosed

find P. O. order
for \$2.00 - for
the use of what

please accept
my heartfelt
thanks - as you
could not have
sent it sooner.

Yours

Address

High Point

Charlotte Co

Virginia

[undated]

Spring Valley, Dec. 12.

Dear Miss Christie, [Sg.]

I feel rather
guilty - but don't know that I shall
feel any less as by waiting longer.
It is but because I haven't thought
of you that I am not - written - because
I have constantly - but I can't get
a chance to send letters to the office
where I want to at my school and
I can't get time when I am at
home. And so it has gone and
so I hope it will not go any
longer - for I will try and write
you an opportunity to think
you dangerously sick again for
I see not - but on the contrary,
have not felt so well since last
summer.

What is the world did you
put all those fellows up to write to me
for? I don't know what I shall do
with them all - the best I can. I
suppose. I wish they would keep
up their side of the correspondence
and let me prop mine up.
I think we should manage to get
along. You are mistaken - V. has
not written to me, or at least - I have

would nothing from him.

Two which I am not particularly
sorry - for distance, ^{not} ~~seems~~ ^{is} ~~an~~
obstacle to his character.

I almost despair being cognate times
from his character - for I
know that he could have more
control over his "moods" if he would
only try.

They have been changed. ^{Indiscreetly}.

Mother says she can't understand the
thought of my going away so far now.

After it getting what V. knows
she would worry all the time without
me - as I had decided not to go.

I shall go to school somewhere as
soon as my school is out.

Not to Northfield - for fate seems
to have called me from there
for the last time.

Tell me all
about Ketchikan when you write
again next year. I do hope our
division will do well against the

Rockwood and Sawyer. ^{Clearly}
good boys: these two, should like

to see them and Mulliken & Miller
& Alexander and all the rest of

my boys. By the way, I recall a
letter from Alexander the other
day - just about literary, your

way - but a real nice. Especially
letter which quite and ^{interests} me.

Nearly time for the "great con-
test" I want you to take notice
for my special benefit. Help

the Philo's all you can.

I came down home this morn-
ing tried to get this letter to the
office in time for today's train

but did not succeed. My sister
is staying here with Mother - but

went away two or three days ago
and has not got back yet.

She has the horse much busier
as it looks, rather stubborn

about my getting to my school
I suppose I have to make (?) some

of these accommodations young men
to transport me thither I suppose.

There are some splendid boys
down here, Miss Christian. Would

go through first water for me if
I would let them.

I plan to do something for me
for I do like to progress my

independence - but I find I
can't always, now.

Every body has been so good
to me ever since I came home

seems as though they paid it too
much. The people in the dis-
trict where I am teaching let

me do just exactly as I please
about everything - this is very
fourth time with them as they

must think I'm trustworthy.

It's a mystery to me - what any-
body can do in such great, of

everybody unknown, up there
that I find - to be good to.

I suppose they do it for their
sake as they would to any other
"heathen".

Miss Christian I am beginning
connections to see a little of the

"power" and the "mystery" - but as much
of the times I feel that ^{revelation} to
popularity and doubt the existence of

either, a hereafter or a Creator.

Write to me often for your let-
ters do me more good than any
thing that comes to me now.

Love to all the girls (4 boys).
+ Miss Anna Schmitt, Miss Emily, Missie.

Reward of Merit

This is to certify that
Miss Sarah Christie has by
her good attention to her
studies has merited the
approbation of her teacher

Emilie L. Brown

as though I was displeasing
every body. I am so tired
of living. I write this
because my mind is full
of many troubles and care
I doubt that I can not-
get-rid of I have taken
this way to let you
know because I can
not-tell you

From

Ida Braver

Miss Christie

I can
not - help but - ask you to
pray for me I feel as though
I could kill my self every
thing seems up side down
I do not - know what - to do
Some times I feel as
though I could give up
trying to do right but some
thing keeps me trying all
the time and perhaps I
do try to do right - it seems

My dear Friend

Miss Cogswell
allows me to express
to you my warmest
thanks for the interest
manifested in our daughter.
On our return we read
an excellent letter
from her she writes "I humbly
have call myself a Christian
I am willing to confess Christ
anywhere in all places,
I feel I am growing stronger
every day and hope the time
is not far distant when
I shall be ready to take
my place with Christ's"

May I ask you special

prayers in her behalf at this
time as well as Christian
sympathy she has trials hard
for a young Christian to bear
may God's great sustaining
power be between herself
you and I

Yours in love
M. C. Merrill

Wm. Lloyd Garrison

Miss Elizabeth Proctor.

Dear Miss Christie -

It was very
not to see you last night, &
we were fated not to meet.

Brother & myself would
be much pleased to have
you come in this morning,
to meet the High School
teachers & Prof. Hendrickson
- He is a special attraction
Hattie will be here.

We leave 7 o'clock as the
hour, as it begins to be
cool & pleasant there.

Hope to see you -

I remain, as ever
your friend H. C. Fisher

Watertown Wis
Saturday morn -

Miss Christie,

Am very much obliged
to you for the use of the book
you so kindly lent me, and
would have returned it before
had I known where to leave it.
I have kept the book, & covered all the time
and therefore think it is not injured.
as I am in a great hurry this morning
you will please excuse me from
writing more this ^{time} ~~morning~~.
with many thanks for the past
favor I remain truly yours
Fred -

At Home with the 100
Miss Christie,
Kind Friends,

I regret to-
know that the Presumptive, almost
certain to go out sickly, now.
During the last term I cannot
attend her to go out - and she is now
since the - back and had stomach
and should be in a fine
position again. I shall not
be out of school.

I am astonished
that a lady teacher, should give her
consent to a girl of Sam's age,
going out with a person of an entire
stranger. I am quite displeased.
Will you see that this is made right?

To Miss S. J. Christie,
Montfield, Penn. 3

Caniscon Mar. 16th

Dear Miss Christie,

I arrived here
yesterday afternoon, did not
come directly by rail
as I had planned when
leaving as I had to lay
over at Ramsey so long that
I should not have reached
Caniscon until after mid-
night. I reached Spring Valley
after dark found house locked
up. the key at a neighbor's
went in with a fire - stayed
alone all night and had
a man to bring me here
the next day. Found my

Please answer me immediately -
as I am very anxious to hear
from you.

Yours faithfully
A. Jones.

Kind Teacher

Please do not think it
was intentional on my part, in slighting
the lessons which I recite to you, for I did
not intend to do that. The truth is that I
did not fully realize (before our talk) the
necessity of placing the proper amount of
study on each of my lessons. I shall try to have
my lessons as near perfect as possible in future.
Thanks for your kind interview with me and,
please feel free to speak to me any time if I
am not doing just as you wish for it is my
desire to please my teachers if it is possible!

Respectfully

Grace. Q

again - I have to watch my
brother almost constantly, and
while I will have one
eye on him.

Remember me to
our friends (3) (as an object of
charity) I can't say more
to them now without making
a hypothesis of myself.

I am tempted to
close this letter for about now
when I can write another
so it will have to go.

Wishing much better the
writing and perhaps I shall
find it one of these days.

Thine for Truth,

Knapp.

brother's life suspended by
a more thread and I
that strengthened, as it
were, by cowardly.

I saw that in this
afternoon, he continued to
sick from that time until
evening when every body had
seen gave him up.

He appeared to
understand exactly his situation -
called me into his room & gave
me all most directions about
settling up his business. I said
his head back on the pillow
and said that was all
he had to say.

He remained
in about the same state until
midnight when he fell into
a delicious sleep and has
been in a half stupor con-
dition ever since.

My oldest sister
who was here when I came,
was obliged to go home this
morning and as Mother was so
sick, and all tired out, she
saw with her, and left my
brother-in-law and myself to take
care of him.

I, shall stay with
him until there is a decided

change for the better, for he
cannot change very much
for the worse and
live, and he shall not
must not die.

Mother tried
to preach resignation and I
will be done to me - but
I am not resigned nor am
not he. I have never felt
so utterly faithless in all my
life's than persons seem
made of iron.

You need not
be afraid of my getting sick,
I feel as though I could
endure anything. I heard
the lady of the house remarking
to her daughter last evening -
when suddenly looked like
a tomb stone - "How utterly un-
human is - I do not believe she
sees a bit!"

I don't know what
unpleasant thoughts about the way
I choose to manifest my self
- now.

Miss Christie I can't
write I feel so utterly heartless
and hopeless and bitter.
I can't
let alone you may hear from me

— Dear Doctor — Please accept with our heartiest
wishes for many happy returns of the day —

Danvers Ck

Belford J

Carothers A J

Carothers F L

Cheney E

Demmitt H

Dunham S D

Grifford J

Grifford S

Green C

Hayes L & A

Lawley C

Lincoln H

Myerwood E

Doker M

Doker F J

Dear Miss Christie.

The accompanying letter I thought I would send at once to you - instead of Mr. Strong - as he can do nothing about it - and it really belongs to you -

I hope you are feeling better today - I should have gone to see you this afternoon - but Martha is sick & Carrie almost - so that they are both in bed & I am "victim of circumstances" - And tired & sleepy too - What a "strife" life is - Sometimes.

Good night - with love -

Mary D. Strong.

[undated]

London City Dec 20

Dear Miss Christie. [L.C.]

Did you see me at the Maunkato House this morning? I hope you were not disappointed because I did not come.

Mr. Parker told me at the depot that Father could not ~~come~~ come to me very well, so I thought I ought to come with him. I wanted to see you again when I found out I was coming but didn't like to ask Mr. Parker to wait.

Palmer was greatly disappointed because I did not stay, & also I was sorry to come away without ~~visiting~~ visiting him. It was about 12 when I arrived & all were buried in deep slumber, but

Mother was soon out to see "my boy". & We sat up & talked for 2 hours but I waited till morning (on her advice) to see the others.

We have had a very pleasant time today. Eli & Sarah are here so I have seen the bride & groom. They seem happy & contented. They are going to the farm on the prairie in the spring to live. I never witnessed such consummate nonsense as my brother is guilty of. He even has to have his hair combed for him. (By S. of course) How foolishly some people will act!

You will remember ⁱⁿ what mother said about the religious interest here. There have been ~~about~~ 10 conversions, I think.

Father & Mother have been giving me advice in about the same direction that you did, i.e. that I must go into the Church & S.S. & work there. They seem to think a great deal of good might be brought about by this. I confess that if I were to follow my own inclinations I should do nothing except to attend church, & go into S.S. class if there should be one interesting enough to keep me awake. But inasmuch as my own wishes & those of Father & Mother clash I do not know what I shall do.

Havent seen Mr. Sterling nor had any talk about school matters with any one, but guess I can go on without difficulty. Well enough of this Ego-ism.

[Undated]

Sunday Sept 27.
Dear Miss Christie; [Dear]

I have
something to say to you &
did not dare to trust myself
to speak with you & so write.

You probably ^{and} remember asking
me a while ago whether I
had changed in religious
opinions &c, since I went
home. I presume my answer
gave you a wrong impression
(although indefinite) for I don't
not like to own the truth.

While at home I read an
article which advanced argu-
ment that I could see ^{possible} no answer
for. Father said some things
(not intended specially for me) that
did much toward convincing

me that I was wrong. And since my return different things, & particularly Prof Payson's remarks in G. G. today, have had a similar influence over me. ^{There are, however,} ~~many things, yet,~~ ^{facts still,} almost vital to Christianity which seem impossible to me, yet on the whole I incline much more strongly toward Chris., modified a little perhaps, than towards its opposite. So much for belief.

I have, through all the summer, felt greatly drawn by my affections & otherwise towards the complete acceptance & practice of Bible teaching for I know that if I could fully accept believe, and put into daily use B. teaching (whether it be true or false) I should

find great enjoyment therein, both in pleasing those with whom I am connected by the ties of friendship & nature, and also there would be a positive satisfaction to myself in so doing.

But so long as I am ^{serious} ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ doubt as to the truth of the Bible, I do not feel as though I would do differently from what I am now doing.

If I were not troubled with these doubts, I think I should not hesitate to resume christian activity, but I cannot now.

I have written, because I wanted you to understand my mind on the subject, and I knew if I should attempt to tell you, my pride would not allow me to say what I want to and nothing more, for I only wanted to say a little.

Should you wish to say
any thing to me please hand
me a note for I can consider
more calmly what alone
what you may say

Let no one know what
I have expressed to you for
it would do more harm than
good I am confident

Ever your true friend

C. J. Rockwood

You must tell me all about
going out from Mantato, about
your health &c. By the way
I hope you will be well
so that you can enjoy your
visit. I shall try to see
you before you go back to
say good bye. Do you think
you will be over here to
see Mrs Carr? If you are
not I should like - (Do you
take the hint!) Ego is in again.
Edgerton came up and staid
with Parker last night.
I shall try to have him stay
with me tonight.

Write, please, as soon as you
can.

Amicus Fred Permann }
Rockwood.

[Undated]

Sunday Eve.

Dear Miss Christie [Sarah]

I was a

little surprised on reading your note that you should say just what you did. Now, what you pity me for I have often congratulated myself upon, by that I have Miss Christie as my friend, for ~~from~~ really what you have said to me, especially in the letters & notes I have rec'd from you, has done me a great deal of good. Although when talking with you I have partially ridiculed what you said, and have spoken, as I can myself see, in such a way as to make you think I had little regard for your opinions &c, yet when away from you I have deeply & truly

respected you & your example,
in many respects. Now excuse
me a moment while I frankly
say what I think. Your remarks
to me have never impressed me
with the depth of thought or in-
tellectual display which they
contained, for you have not to
any extent, in your notes, attempt-
ed to convince me of wrong,
but to remind me of that which
I already knew to ^{be} wrong & to
incite me to a better life (I do this
not true) And while I must
admit you have done little to-
ward changing my belief, I
will not admit you have done
little toward changing my
desires, i.e. desires to become
good and live a worthy life.
Your conduct toward me
& others, so purely, nobly, un-
selfish & generous has, let me

Assure you, had its telling
influence on me. I imagine
you saying, "Why then have you
not done differently, & why
is there not a plainer effect?"
You forget, or rather you never
knew what a nature I have.
If you could see the motives
that sometimes affect my actions,
so base, so evil, & so terribly strong,
you would not wonder so much
at my conduct. But enough
of this.

I will do as you say partially
at least. I will visit ~~my~~ Miss
Evans as often as Bognetto, & my time
& inclination will allow, and
will try to profit by her influence.
But ^{my} remember our friendship is not
to abate, and if you think it better
for me to visit you less you
will not object to occasional
notes between us, will you?

[undated]

Sunday Eve.

Dear Miss Christen [Sarah]

I have something
to say to you & have just 20
minutes to say it in before retiring.

I am aware you feel a
great anxiety for me. I see it in
your countenance; its expression
speaks more forcibly than your
words. There is indeed reason
for anxiety; I have felt for some
time that I am approaching an
important crisis; I have sometimes
pictured as though the next few
months (perhaps weeks) were to
decide what course my life
shall take. And, let me assure
you, I am deeply concerned
for the result. I often talk
as though I didn't care, or rather

Please say nothing to anyone of a single word contained in this.

I must tell you something about Barker. You have probably heard of his withdrawal from the Society last night. He & Norton want to organize a rival society, with Rolfe as "chief cook & bottle washer." Barker wants me to go with them, C. & N. also want me to go because they think I could influence Miss Knox. I shall not leave the Philomathian but have promised Barker to help them if I could without injury to our society.

By the way it is a mystery that they should think I could influence Miss Knox, don't you think so. Barker would do four times as much in that direction as I.

Very truly Your friend Rockwood

as though I wished to take the
wrong course rather than the right.
But when alone, or when the better
part of my nature controls, I
do sincerely wish that my life
may be truly good. I am
afraid you will think my actions
tell my words for I deliberately
do many things which I know
to be decidedly wrong, yet there
is an element in my nature, oc-
casionally in the ascendency, which
leads me the other way. Would
that I were more persistent in
cultivating this!

Now for the question which you
consider the all-important one.
My mind has been gradually
drifting toward Christianity for
the most of the time since I
went home, 3 months ago. The
feeling that I ought, yet that I

must be an active Christian is
sometimes very strong. This morning
and again at the afternoon prayer
meeting - I will not say I almost
decided but certainly there was
a strong inclination to make the
decision immediately. There are
still, however, some points in
the way. While there seems to me
to be a mountain of evidence
in favor of the Christianity, some
things seem so dark & incompre-
hensible that I often fear that
should I make an open stand,
I could not be satisfied. I need not
say what these doubts are but they
are stern realities to me.

If I could consistently, I would
ask you to be patient with me
a while longer, hoping & also praying
that I may be led in the right path.
Miss Christie, you must not

mind all I say when speaking to you.
For I take a fiendish delight often
in saying things to give people trouble.

I presume I spoke to-night as if
I didn't care for what you said.
But I most surely do. If I did
not I would not listen to you at all,
I appreciate, in part at least, your
kindness to me, and feel grateful
to you for it. I only wish I were
more worthy of it.

Do not think I have written
as I sometimes speak in a shallow
careless way. I have been careful
to say what I mean, & with all
my heart I mean what I have
said.

Believe me gratefully yours,

G. R. Crookwood

[undated]

Garden City Dec 26th
Miss Christie [Dear]

My dear friend:

I cannot (probably) come over with Father tomorrow because he stays so late or, perhaps, will not return before Monday; so I will send you a note by him.

There was a gathering of the S.S. last night also one of the public school the day before neither of which I attended but staid with mother she being unwell, so we were here alone each evening & had a first rate time together. You must not conclude that it was on account of my generosity that I staid with mother but because

I had not the least desire to go. You would say that I am giving reign to my selfishness in staying at home so closely, I suppose. Quite likely it is true.

I have read nearly all the Caesar that the class went over, since I came home, and shall commence Virgil soon.

School has closed here & I am having Julia study Latin. She has not been as thorough in it as she ought to be, but she will soon have it made up.

You want to know what the "P. E. Co" on the envelope I sent you means. I am very sorry that I should, by the use of characters blind & meaningless to you, be the cause of unnecessary trouble & anxiety on your part. For I know that in

your condition of health, such perplexity of the mind must be anything but beneficial. Hence, I am very sorry. As to the main of the characters. 1st They were intended only for the benefit of the different Post Masters through whose hands the letter might pass, and I doubt not that to each one they had a clear, definite signification. And 2nd They were meant for an ^{easy} abbreviation of "Blue Earth County."

Now I have been deliberate, by impertinent, and with equal deliberation I humbly beg your pardon.

You remember I told you I should write to Mulliken.

This morning I sent him a letter of nearly 6 ^(long for me) pages, which I have no doubt he will answer

although he did not promise
to correspond with me.

Why do you ask whether I have
heard from Miss Knox? I presume
you knew 6 weeks ago that she
would never write to me.

Confound her, (as Parker would say)
I wish I had never written to
~~her~~ her. But all things are for the
best, I suppose; but I must
confess my inability to see now.

You say you are sorry about
Parker, that we did not pay
more attention to him coming
from Northfield. Although I
thought nothing of it at the
time, since you speak of it,
I can see that there was a chance
for him to feel that no one cared
for him. I am afraid he has
thought for the several weeks
past that I was less friendly
than before. If this is the case

I regret it sincerely. By the way, he has (of course) asked me to come and see him, & I shall go often through the winter, for I am sure I shall be welcomed by Mrs & Mrs. R. as well as by R. Jr. and will try to show him that I do care as much or even much more for him now than ever before!

I have a copy of the oration, I read it to mother the other day, and in a few minutes Father came into the room & wanted to hear it so I read it again. They both said they liked it which made me happy, of course.

You ask what I think of the "Coat of Mail" which you refer to. The fact is I don't care what you put on, provided you exclude no one who now has a place in your affections or to be more definite, provided I am not excluded. You see how

completely I am controlled by
my own desires. But to be more
serious, I have sometimes thought
it better that one should form
but few close attachments, yet on
the whole I have about concluded
your way is best.

Miss Christie, you cant imagine
how glad I should be to come to
some conclusion in religious matters
and yet feel sure that I was right.
For two weeks I have been more and
more uneasy on the subject all the
time. There are arguments on
each side which I cannot for
my life answer. All things considered
I think I incline much more
strongly toward Christianity, but
I cannot become satisfied.

Well, I believe I shall
dismiss the question from my
mind entirely, for a time.
(although as I think of it I know

this is impossible.)

The arrangements for Parker
& myself in school are not com-
pleted yet. I presume, though, that
each of us will have a class or two
as we take so much of the principals
time. Dont know yet how much of
a teacher he will be for us, but I
like his school very well.

You try to reconcile me ^{to} the
foolishness & absurdities of
the conduct of my brother & his ~~wife~~
spouse. As well try to make me
think black is white, right is wrong
or that a body unsupported ~~to~~ will rise.
I can think of but few men
who used good judgement or exhibited
sound sense in being married (one
of them & the one I most admire for his
wisdom is Father.) Women as a
class are a humbug anyhow.

It was undoubtedly through carelessness
or thoughtlessness that Parker & Edgerton

left the car without bidding
you good bye at Mauxato. It
certainly was not designed that
it should be so by E.

Well. Have a little more Latin
to read to night & am obliged
to close which will probably be
to you a cheering thought.

Sincerely Your Friend
Rockwood.

P.S. Some one asked to what
denomination of Christians
you belong? And I said you were
Ectetic. Was I right?

I presume you will
have difficulty in deciphering
much of what I have written
for I have written more poorly
than usual.

Garden City, May 30th

My very dear friend: [E. J. Christie]

I have been constantly wishing to hear from you

Since your last letter came bearing the news which it did. Now only one month remains before your return home, I suppose. On what day will the term close?

(I saw by the catalogue that it will be June 29th.) So you will come to Manhattan on the following day, will you not?

Please be sure to let me know about this.

Perhaps you will be interested to know what the grasshoppers are about at present. As yet they have they

damaged but a small part
of the grain comparatively.

Only now and then a field
has been eaten to any consider-
able extent & none that I
know of have been destroy-
ed entirely. Last year as
late as this hardly a spear
was left, in the country west
of us. From this I am hoping
that there are not enough of the
hoppers here to eat the grain, for
they are growing rapidly & seem
perfectly healthy and I cannot
see why they should not eat as
much now as at anytime.

Yet no one of course will fret
at ease about them until they
have taken wings & flown away.

I hear, in a very roundabout
way, that Parker is thinking
of going to the University at
Minneapolis. I always thought

he had not the highest opinion
of that school. Perhaps he
has become better acquainted
it in some way & his opinions
have been modified in regard
to it. But more likely it was
only an unfounded rumor that
I heard. — I have been
looking over the courses of
study at the Minn. lately
and I don't like them
nearly as well as in Dartmouth.
And especially their requi-
sites for admission, I dislike.
They seem to make as
much account of the matters
of Physiology, Astronomy, &c.,
as they do of the solid Mathemat-
ics & Latin & Greek. My idea
is that these three things form
the basis, the foundation of
an education & are the important
part of the preparatory course.

The other things may be left out without serious disadvantage to the student's later progress but these cannot. If I had anything to do with examinations, I believe I should make these together with Eng. grammar & U.S. history of more importance than all the knowledge, almost necessarily superficial & unsatisfactory, of the natural sciences which could be crammed into the head of a youthful student.

I am, however, no heretic of Science, but admire it as much as most of people I think. But I would have the classical knowledge first & scientific afterward. Don't you think that is the correct order?

I cannot, notwithstanding all my effort in that direction, reconcile myself wholly to

the plan of teaching all of
next year. I want to keep
on uninterruptedly with my
studies. I would work my hands
off if I could pay my passage
by the means, and attend
school. Why in the world isn't
there some way to do it?

I suppose there is wood enough
to saw but I it would be
the height of folly for me to
attempt to carry the usual work
of the course & earn my living
by work of that kind. I could
not endure it for a single month
& hardly for a day. If work of some
other kind could be found there
might be a little hope.
I think I stand in need of
one or two convincing lectures.

on patience. Can't you sup-
ply them?

Mr. Conrad, (Geo. Conrad's son)
preached at the Church here
this evening. I intended to
hear him but was prevented
by unforeseen circumstances.

I wish Parker would
write. It seems an age since
I saw him. I don't see what
the fellow thinks. But if
he finds felicity in holding
his peace, I can endure it.

You will please not tell him
that I have said anything
about him, for I do not
wish to say anything or do
anything ^{from} which he would infer
that I am anxious to renew
our intercourse. I have
done enough heretofore, now
he may do if it be so pleasing
to his majesty.

From what you said I conclude
that Miss Evans remains for
next year. Should I ever return
to Northfield, I shall be more
friendly to Miss E. than I was
last fall. In some things not
within your knowledge I
did not do exactly right, al-
though others of the boys did
worse than I. I do not think
she was well understood by many
in school and I hope the ^{little} dis-
^{little} satisfaction amongst students
in regard to her, has before now
disappeared.

It is late & it is a duty
which I owe to myself
that I retire

Hopefully Your Friend
J. F. Rockwood

Garden City, Minn
Sat. Eve 10 o'clock am 4/24

My dear Friend: [J. J. Christie]

Perhaps you have
soliloquized within a week past
something as follows "I wonder why
Rockwood doesn't write: I will
now tell you why he hasn't.

I have been away from home nearly
all the time since you heard
from me last. - returned this after-
noon. & seize the first opportunity
that presents itself of commencing
a letter. - It is nearly
three weeks since I have heard
from you. I thought surely I should
find a letter awaiting my return
but the hope (which gave me
no little pleasure) was doomed
to disappointment. I try, however,

if the grasshopper people
are generally poor, and
possibly they may close
this school. if the Legislature
think best next winter.

As for myself I have two
places in view. If they will
give me my price \$7,000
in the other place I will
leave here probably. I shall
know this week nothing
short of that will I expect
now after my success. The
preparation I received last
summer and at Triona have
enabled me to do it - and
I think I shall receive it.

Wallis is taller than I am
and is the same dear boy
"little man".

I wish you would write
me when you hear any thing
and also your troubles -

I wish I could do something

to satisfy myself with the explanation that the numerous duties which crowd themselves upon your time & attention have made it inconvenient for you to attend to unimportant correspondence.

I have been out on the prairie helping Eli with his work.

When I started I forgot to take the books which I had intended should fill up my leisure moments and so was obliged to do the next best thing - look for others. I found two - "The lives of Mary & Martha Washington" and "Israel in bondage" - the latter by the author of "The Prince of the House of David". This was the one in which I was most interested. It is in the form of letters, supposed to have been written Sisotris, a Syrian Prince, to his mother, the Queen of Phenicia, and is intended to show in

an attractive manner, the conditions of the Hebrews while in slavery, & this to set forth clearly the circumstances of their delivery. Moses is first introduced as an Egyptian prince & General-in-chief of all the Eg. armies. He is represented as a ^{type} model in all respects of what a ruler should be. Finally, as he is about to be crowned King he discovers his true nationality, refuses the crown, and leaves Egypt. He afterward makes an attempt to ameliorate the condition of his race, which being thwarted by the discovery that he has slain an Egyptian he departs to Midian. His call, 40 years later, to the work of leading forth the Israelites by the Angel in the burning bush, is described by a supposed eye-witness; also the resistance of Pharaoh and the final triumph.

of the "Lord of Hosts."

The most interesting part of the whole is the breaking forth of the mind of this "Man of God" from the almost total darkness of superstition & idolatry, to the complete light of truth as finally revealed to Moses. This is represented as being the result of the workings of his own powerful intellect, his intercourse with the Prince of Uz, Job, and his own ^{secret} family and lastly implicitly, though not directly of inspiration. This part is deeply attractive. - There are some criticisms (What presumption!) which I thought I would make ^{but} will omit them.

The other book is very good but does not suit my taste exactly. "When I'm a man I will write a memoir which shall not begin with "What a great man was -!" and close with "He died

on the twenty-fifth of — —"
I will reverse the order, i.e. tell
what he has done & go through
the events of his life in a plain
straightforward way and make
my comments (if any) after my
reader has obtained an ability
to judge of their fairness &
truthfulness. There are many
things usually not included
in biographies which I would
tell, & some things usually in
which I would omit. — But
enough of this,

I shall want to write more than
I have time for tonight &
will now adjourn. Good night.

Sunday morning.

~~on~~ I am now anticipat-
ing (with how much pleasure
I cannot tell you) the speedy
renewal of my studies

I have decided to study alone entirely. Shall hold the morning forenoon & evening sacred to my own work and the P.M. will probably be spent out of doors usually. It is chiefly on Father's account that I follow this plan. I can be of much more assistance to him and lose little myself. He, however, has said nothing to influence me to this, but he has done so much for me that I want to help him all I can while at home. There is a chapter in his history life (which I will perhaps give you sometime) that would explain partly why I have not had more help from him while attending school. You may have never thought this strange, but one or two remarks which I remember

you to have made led me to the conclusion that you did think it strange.

The result of the teachers' examinations in this county has been made public. Of 157 applicants only 86 obtained certificates. Some old teachers have failed & many I presume have lost their former grade. Julia obtained a third grade (with a fair standing - a little more than 70) and has the promise of a second grade in the fall if she succeeds in teaching. She has a school about 3 miles from here and a very good boarding place. We are all much pleased & she herself is highly elated with her success. But the trial is yet to come. We shall of course do all we can to aid & encourage her

I have very little doubt (I might almost say none at all) that she will get along well. There may now be an opportunity for Miss Murphy as so many who had engaged schools have failed to get certificates. If she still wishes a school, & if I hear of any will inform you.

You will undoubtedly return home at the close of the Spring term, will you not? That is some way in the future but I am already finding pleasure in the prospect of a visit then. There dozens of things that I would like to talk with you about.

Please write me a good long letter such as you used to write last Summer & also the first part of the winter term. Hoping to hear from you soon I am
Ever your friend
H. C. Wood

Thanks for the orthographical pamphlet.
I am not a convert however. We can
hardly afford to lose, it seems to me,
the word-listing recorded in our
spelling. I don't believe children have
such a terrible time learning to read
& spell. At any rate their minds
are not adapted to any thing else
at that time. It is nonsense to talk
of "furnishing books of science and
literature" to six-year-old children.
What idea can they have of "philosophy
and art"? Isn't it strange that the
English language, with a system of
"cacography" should crowd out other
languages, & that the number of
"iconoclasts, humbly paying tribute
to the Goddess of Traditional Spelling,"
should continually increase?
The proposed change would be a
great convenience, as far as I
am concerned, for I never could spell.