



James C. Christie and Family Papers

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Perryburg, Wood Co. Ohio. May. 13. 1862.
[Wm. J. Stevens]

Dear Friends. (We received your letters some time since with pleasure we are all well, as usual Hoping this will find you the same I have not forgotten you yet as ~~you~~ yet as you may seem to think however it is seldom that I write to any one unless on business. Strange to say but I have never written to any of my friends only you in Wisconsin times are pretty hard in this Country at present. on account of War. however I have not enlisted yet.

We are living in Perryburg Wood County Ohio at present. We have lived here for five years I expect to live here for the year to come I have rented out my place & the time will be up next spring when we expect to go and to it again. You wrote that Sheep were pretty high in your Country. now if I could engage a hundred or two so that it would pay me I would bring out a bar load or so after a while for it is hard to get any before shearing now. Perhaps you & Edgar would take a hundred between you & if they are as dear as you said it would pay you well. if you would like to get some write soon and let me know how much I can get. & if it will pay us I. or Father will come out. It will not take us more than 3 days at most. Write as soon as you can & Oblige
No more at present. Yours as ever.

(I wrote this in a hurry)

Joseph A. Smith
Direct to Joseph A. Smith Perryburg Wood County Ohio

Brave Sam, May 28. 1862,
My Dear Friend, [unclear]

Having a few moments before school commences I thought I would write to you. I should have answered your letter immediately, if I had had time. It seems as if I did not have one spare moment. I attend meeting almost every night. We had a young people's prayer meeting at our house last there were about 60 young people present & the spirit of God was there. It was the second meeting we have had. I cannot tell you how much strength the Lord has given me since I came home from the Lake. It seems as if I grew stronger every day. I have in a very great measure overcome all fear of man. Oh! Christy the only

advice I can give you is always
do your duty & leave the rest
with God. You will grow strong-
er every time & each time it will
less a cross & will yield more
joy. Anna Sylvester opens her
School with prayer she seems to
gain strength some of her scholars
are seeking the Savior. A number
of my little girls think they
have found the Savior.

The revival has spread some
distance from B. D. nearly to the
Grove & I hope it will reach
you. Can't you begin there and
let the light shine in each di-
rection, and meet the cloud from
here that is moving in that direction.
I have no more time now.

Trust in Jesus.

Your Friend Sarah

Waterbury June 1st 1862.

I got the Paper and it suites me well
thanks for the same & its contents. Notice
{ Dear Friend & Brother } - all right
We received your kind

Letter a Month ago, & I think it is about
time you heard from us. we were
very happy in perusing it for it
dispelled all fears we had Ent-
ertained of the Lads Safety
at the Battle of Shiloh, as we
had come to the Conclusion that
they were Prisoners. As I Read the
List of the Killed & Wounded & Not
Seeing any Christies, In the List
we came to the Above Conclusion
we thank God, from our heart
the Boys has Escaped so well &
Pray most fervently he will Pro-
tect them from the assaults
of the Enemy with his Almighty
Arm, & Return them in Safety
to you, & then to relate to you
the Gallant Deeds of Dearing the

Performed on the hard fought
Field of Shiloh, for the Preservation
of our Glorious Union, I cannot
Relate to you how ~~Un~~easy
Chas & I. were about the Boys, as also
all our household, & from our heart
we sympathize with you in your
trouble an Anxiety, you must
have been in about, them for
their Safety, we think nowonder
you were overcome on W^{ch} I sh^d.
Letter, and trusts he will be spared
to gladden your heart with many—
—more as there is no saying when
this War will End, in the mean-
—time we will hope for the Best
& as Halleck, has caused Beauregard
—and to Damour, from Corinth
& Polking him up with a Sharpe
—Stick Down in Dixey, with Gen^l.
McClellans Capture of Richmond
which I have not the Least Doubt
—of the Rebels will have to—

Surrender to the Army of Right
Night & Freedom, Remember me
to the Boys in the kindest manner,
when you write to them, we are—
all in pretty good health here wh^{ch}
we are glad to see by your Letter
you and all our Friends were
in Enjoying the Same, Sarah
her Husband & Children are well
as is also Br Wm & Emily, Sarah is
Living next House to Uncle William
in East Hartford the were flooded
—out, and Sarah came down to—
Waterbury and Stopped a week
the Flood abated, My Rob, Tony
& Willy is at School, you wanted
to know if I had work, I have
had about half work this
same time past & the Foreman of
the Shop told me Last Night there
was not a measure on the Books
for this ensuing week, for all
the Bad Prospect is at Present.
We live in hope of better times

"Owing to your forethought in
- sending us on the flour we have
not heard the Growl of the
Hungry Wolf at our Doors
your Donation Lasted us to the
25 of Last Month, when we were
Enabled to get one Bbl. which
Cost \$8.50. When that is Don
we trust that with Economy
- & industry to Replace it, we
were Glad to Se By your Letter
that Sarah is well & Improving
- herself at Collage give our kind Love
to her and Send her Frank Lesley
I hope you Preserve Them Great
Battle Scenes I sent you, Eliza
me Sends our Love to you & family also
to our Dear Mother, Brother Thomas and
Sister Jane and all ~~the~~ Children Let
me know how the are all doing & tell
Join to take your Measure if he can
Length heel Instep & Toes & Send it to me
and I will try to Send you a Pair of
Boots of my Make By the fall of the Year
Your Truly Robert. W. Reid

Dear Corinth June 3^d 1862

Dear Father. [James Christie]

According to
promise I write you today
to tell you that we have
been paid off this forenoon
and W. and I received
\$50 each. There is no
good chance to send it
at present, for the Express
charges four per cent. and
that is more than we
are willing to pay.
I think we will keep
it a day or two untill
we see what will turn
up. It is perfectly safe
with us, and we will
find out soon some
means to send it.
After deducting debts.

and reserving a little
for current expenses.
William will send
\$30 and I 40. We are
paid in fifty, legal
tender notes and every
fifth man gets ten dollars
to distribute. The con-
sequence of this is that
nearly the whole Battery
is running from
Butler to Butler after
change which is al-
most impossible to
procure. I have been
unable to get five dollars
broken yet, so you will
have to pay the postage
on this, and perhaps
on a few more, for
there are no stamps
here. This health
of our men is improving

fast as the weather becom^{es}
warmer. That is, although
none of our Sick are
returning yet from the
Hospitals, yet those who
have withstood the Diar-
rhea and Malaria of
the Spring months are
now becoming stronger
and heartier every day.
There are rumors that this
Division will be ordered
east to assist Banks
and McDowell, but
I doubt it. However,
I do not see why we
are left here while
the rest of the Army
have moved forward.
Perhaps they intend no
to go towards Memphis
to invest that city on
the landside.

You have of course read
the account of the evac-
-nation. Some of our boys
have been in Corinth,
but I could only get in
sight of their fortifications
on account of the guards.

Our cookfire has gained
a great addition of inter-
-ests by the shredaddle of
the Rebels. They were
much better provided
with such things than
we were, as we have
nothing but what
Government furnishes,
while they took a great
many things from
home. I have seen
Secesh letters full of
the naval gas of the
Chivary, and others from
South Carolina urging
the recipients to return
home.

There are some
splendid orchards near
here and the apples are
fit to eat. We are living
better now than we have
since we left home.

Write soon Yours, E. D. Christie

Corinth Miss. June 12th 1862.

Dear Brother, [Alexander]

The letter that I promised you has been delayed until now by various circumstances. In the first place, I was detained one the evening of the 8th to go to Pittsburg loading with the baggage teams for forage. We started the next morning at daylight. Perhaps you would like a description of the journey and as I am in scribbling humor today I will try to give it to you. First and foremost comes the Mule team - a great heavy covered wagon of the strongest build with 3 span of yellow and black mules attached, driven with a single line by the teamster who rides on the high wheel mule. The mule is one of the most important elements in the organization of this great Army and performs his duties as faithfully as the rest of us, and yet he gets more abuse and illtreatment (to say nothing of curing) than any other animal I ever saw. If 2 mules are tied behind a team (as is often the case with empty wagons) they are almost invariably fastened so short that when the team trots and then stops suddenly the poor quadruped not being able to stop soon enough raps his cranium against the tailboard with extreme violence. This is but an instance of the treatment this patient long eared brute experiences, and if the doctrine of future recompense is true, the Army mule will have a large balance in his favor when he leaves this world. We left as I was saying at daylight and soon after passed through Corinth, a straggling town scattered over about

a half mile square and containing numerous fine residences and a few stores and saloons. One thing I noticed - nearly all the names on the Signboards are genuine Scotch. McCalla, Polk, Davidson &c. Many of the rest are French. This predominance of Scotch names I have also noted in the Rebel reports of killed and wounded at Shiloh. The breastworks about which so much talk was made are about half a mile outside the town, the whole space between being occupied by their troops. The works consist of but one line with bomb-proofs at short intervals. I think that we could easily have taken them at the point of the bayonet after a day's bombardment by the Artillery. After leaving the breastworks we passed through heavy timber for about a mile when we passed through our advanced line of works thrown up by our fellows on the night of the evacuation. After this the road lay through old cotton fields alternated with forest and orchards. At noon we stopped in the shade of some trees by a creek to feed the mules and eat our rations. At this same creek a laughable incident occurred, the wagon ahead of us having on board 3 of our men and 2 infantry chaps who had been taken prisoners by the Rebels and paroled, undertook to cross where the bank was pretty steep, and the mules preferring to go up the bed of the creek instead of straight across tipped the wagon on its side and spilled the whole of them into the drink.

While we were eating we observed a herd of cattle in the woods, and taking the feed-pail

our driver and myself sallied out to fetch some milk. We succeeded in catching one old Genus Bos female Genus, and obtained a supply for dinner, having been without milk so long it tasted like nectar to me, (although to tell the truth I never sipped any of the latter liquid.) Ah, you who live on bread and milk and grumble if you don't get butter too; think of the hardships and privations of we milkless Soldiers who would gladly give a quart for a quart of the nourishing fluid. All the cows of the country that are not the property of Union men are monopolized by the hospitals, for the benefit of the Sick. Soon after dinner we passed through Monterey - a small village of 15 houses scattered over all Creation. From the ridge on which it is built is the finest view I have yet seen in my travels. You look from this high ridge away to the N.W. and N. over the top of unbroken forest the distance of 20 miles, to a chain of hills that skirt the horizon. I never saw a landscape to equal it for beauty. The battle ground is greatly changed since I saw it last, the old Church by which we were camped in Sherman's Division being torn down for some cause, and the whole ground of the battle completely bare instead of the thick underbrush that covered it before the fight. This has been mostly done by the numerous roads that cut it in all directions. At the Landing business was as brisk as ever teams loading all the time, Sutter stores thronged

What would I not give to see those new

white men running round on foot and little niggers not bigger than a pint of Soap riding like dragoons through the crowd. Our teams were loaded that evening and we slept in the wagons that night, washed in the lukewarm waters of the Tennessee next morning and got back to Camp in the evening. Today we had Battalion Drill, that is, the whole of the artillery of the Division manœuvred together under the command of Major Hinkeloper our chief of Artillery. Think of seeing our west lot full of Batteries dashing about or drawn up in line of Battle and going through all the movements of Action. When those "Bulldozers" as the Infantry call them are let loose on the rebels there will be some Skedaddling I reckon. It does me Cannoneers a great deal of good to see how much the Infantry think of the Artillery, they seem to have a respect for our pieces mingled with wonder and dread. to see the cautious way they touch them you would think the bronze was some mixture that would explode by a slight friction. We have been called into line of battle several times since Shiloh when of course the Infantry formed before we did but they never felt themselves secure till we came up. They know and feel that we are their backbone and appreciate us accordingly. If I were to enlist again I would go in the Artillery every time. When you write let me know how the Stock have increased this Spring. Tell Father the money is all right. Sarah must write soon. A. more. J. D. Christie.

Cornith June 27 [1862]

My Dear Sister,

Having
derived great pleasure from the
singing of some old tunes
to new words last night,
I thought you would be
equally pleased with a brace
of them, so here they are.

I hope you do not
forswear singing of this kind
for I am in hopes of learning
you some beautiful new tunes
that you never heard before
when I return to Civilized
Society again. We sometimes
sit up untill 11 making "the
lofty circles of the dim woods ring"
with our Sacred Music and
home songs, and the Star-
Spangled Banner, and the
Red, White, and Blue song

Air, Annie Laurie.

The Death of Annie Laurie.

I sang, when in the Crimea,
My bonny Annie's praise.
My heart then turned in smile,
To sweet Marcellton's breeze.
To sweet Marcellton's breeze,
But sweet now never for me,
For I have seen wi' anguish,
Their fairest blossom dee.

When war's alarms were over,
I sought my loved ones bower.
But death's cold breath was blighting,
Blighting my bonny flower.

Blighting my bonny flower,
And I now help could gie.
Oh, why, when in the battle,
Did I nae fa' an' dee.

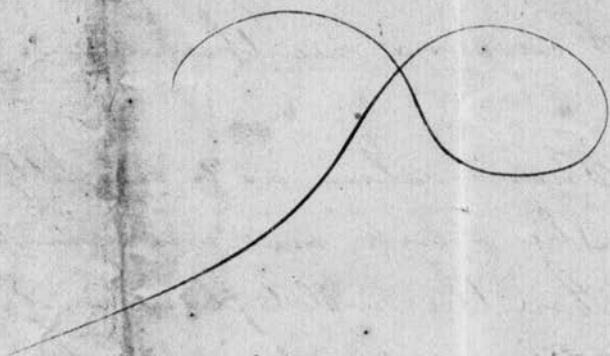
I saw her cheek grow thinner,
But flush wi' hectic hue,
I mark'd her ee's strange brightness
Shine ee's o' darkest blue.
Those ee's o' darkest blue,
That beamed sae soft on me,
When I cried my Annie Laurie,
I can nae see thee dee.

Then calm as to nightly slumber
She sunk in my arms to rest,
Am the wild flowers o' spring ^{cumbar} now
She sod upon her breast.
She sod upon her breast,
Oh, what mad I now ~~gave~~ gie.
If beside my Annie Laurie,
I could lay me down and dee.

in Chorus by 20 strong
voices round to the listening
Citizen like the Death knell
of the Rebellion.

Yours Affectionately

G. D. C.



Corinth July 4. 1862.
Dear Father. [James Chute]

I have put off writing to you for several days in hopes of receiving a letter from some of the family to answer. I do not understand the reason of your long silence: we have got nothing from home for 10 days and begin to think something is wrong in that quarter.

However, we hope to get a letter tonight and I will keep this open until that time.

We have had a celebration here today that has convinced the citizens at least that we have not forgotten the Birthday of our Nation. The Batteries of our Division fired a National Salute of 34 guns at noon amid the cheers of the assembled Infantry. After this, our piece which had a Hotchkiss shell in it, put in on the evening of the 7th April, was discharged at a white oak 30 inches through and distant 100 yds. The shell passed into the heart of the tree and there burst, driving the forward half through and about 50 yds beyond, and leaving the bare in the tree, it was a most splendid shot and showed the tremendous force and precision of this kind of projectile. The Hotchkiss shell is used exclusively for rifled 6 pdrs and weighs 12 pounds being cylindrical ~~at the base~~ for half its length and conical the other half. A heavy charge of powder fills a tube running the whole length of its interior and at the

Barinth July 4. 1862.
Dear Father. [James Chute]

I have put off writing to you for several days in hopes of receiving a letter from some of the family to answer. I do not understand the reason of your long silence: we have got nothing from home for 10 days and begin to think something is wrong in that quarter.

However, we hope to get a letter tonight and I will keep this open until that time.

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The Hotchkiss shell is used exclusively for rifled 6 fids and weighs 12 pounds being cylindrical ~~at the base~~ for half its length and conical the other half. A heavy charge of powder fills a tube running the whole length of its interior and at the

upper end this tube is capped with a large percussion cap. The hole in the upper end of the Shell is stopped by a large screw whose lower end nearly touches the percussion cap, a small piece of paper only intervening. To prepare the shell for firing this paper is taken out and the screw screwed tightly down. It will then explode the moment its motion is checked, by the throwing forward of the tube on to the screw. It is coated with lead to prevent the rifling of the gun from being hurt by contact with the iron. There is also an arrangement by which the lead is forced into the grooves at the moment of explosion.

July 5.

Your letter to William of the 30th Vlt. came to hand this evening, and on account of its excusable brevity, we expect another soon. I am glad to hear of the Clover cutting, it reminds me more vividly and pleasantly of Home than any other thing you could have mentioned. Do you have as heavy a swath this year as we had last? I don't believe you have, but hope there will be better success in curing it than attended our efforts last June. There must be a great demand for wool to run it up to such a good price. I expect that the next manufacture of woollen goods for the army has something to do with it. "It is an ill wind that blows nobody good," you know.

Clayton arrived here this afternoon looking fresh and ruddy as Minnecosta winter faces. The ball has not been extracted from his leg but gives him no trouble. Gov. Ramsey came down with him to visit the Minnecosta troops here. He is in Corinth now and will come up to see us in the morning. I will give the details of his visit in my next which will be in answer to the first epistle I get from Plymouth. Clayton brings a great deal of news from our State which are interesting to me I assure you.

The weather here is extremely hot and dry compelling us to keep in the shade, (or take a Sister) between the hours of 10 and 4 and to haul our water 2 miles in barrels.

The ground is baked like marble and the roads are 10 inches deep in dust. The sky ~~blazes~~ blazes through the day like red hot brass, but the nights are beautiful. The moon shines with a brilliancy and softness of lustre which I never saw equalled in the North.

I see nothing of the Southern Cross yet though I expected to find it this far south. I begin now to think that this Constellation is seen only in the Tropics. I am detailed to take care of the sick in our Hospital tonight and so must stop writing at present.

July 7.

This letter has been delayed by one of those accidents peculiar to this war.

We got orders yesterday morning at daylight to be ready to move out of camp at 6. prepared for action. Accordingly each one of us took 1 days ration, in haversack and a blanket, and at the time appointed ~~were~~ were led out to a position 4 miles southwest of camp commanding a long bridge over the Tuscumbia creek.

We now learned that a body of the enemys Cavalry had been encountered at Ripley, about 5 miles out, and they were expected to advance by this road. ~~But~~ Our Battery

was masked with bushes and we lay in wait all day but no Butternuts appeared.

Towards night an expedition, consisting of 3 Companies of the Iowa 11th, 3 or 4 Co's. of the 11th Ills Cav, and the 2 howitzers of our Battery passed out to beat them up. Gen. Felt went out with it. Our 2 rifled pieces remained

in position untill this morning when we were relieved by a section of the 5th Ohio and returned to Camp.

We have since heard that the expedition went out 9 miles last night and bivouacked, having seen nothing of the enemy.

2 of our company deserted a few days ago taking with them 2 horses and saddles and about 50 dollars that did not belong to them.

Hoping that this will find you in as good health as it leaves us with, I remain, Yours,
J. D. Christie

Corinth Miss. July 10. 1862.
My Dear Brother. [Alexander]

Yours of the 2d Inst.
I read with pleasure some days ago but
postponed answering because I had
written home the same day and William
wrote to Sarah the next.

I am glad to
see the improvement in your hand-
writing and composition and hope
you will apply yourself diligently
to the study and practice of the former
accomplishment, for I have found out
that it is a most important part
of Education and more needed in
practical life than many other branches
to which more importance is attached
in the Schools. My own ~~stagnation~~
development in this respect has been
retarded by my present mode of life,
which leaves no time or opportunity
for practice and ~~is~~ necessitates
hurry in letter-writing, for it will
not do to hang over a sheet of paper
for 2 or 3 hours when my duties
call me elsewhere, and in the way
I am living now my hands are
full from morning till night.

This is the reason why I have not,
(to say the least) improved any in
this respect since I joined the Army.
However, I think you can read my scrawl
well enough, and that will have to
do until the war is over.

Corinth Miss. July 10. 1862.
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Yours of the 2d Inst.
I read with pleasure some days ago but postponed answering because I had written home the same day and William wrote to Sarah the next.

I am glad to see the improvement in your hand-writing and composition and hope you will apply yourself diligently to the study and practice of the former accomplishment, for I have found out that it is a most important part of Education and more needed in practical life than many other branches to which more importance is attached in the Schools. My own ~~own~~ development in this respect has been retarded by my present mode of life, which leaves no time or opportunity for practice and ~~more~~ necessitates hurry in letter-writing, for it will not do to fumble over a sheet of paper for 2 or 3 hours when my duties call me elsewhere, and in the way I am living now my hands are full from morning till night.

This is the reason why I have not, (to say the least) improved any in this respect since I joined the Army. However, I think you can read my scrawl well enough, and that will have to do until the war is over.

I will expect a good description of your doings on the 4th. by the next Mail and also of your adventures at the River when they take place.

I should think that there would be more game up your way this Summer than usual, owing to the absence of the rest of the hunting population and the consequent application of the rest to the work of the Community.

The game is plenty enough down here, if we only had permission to hunt the Camp would never be out of meat of some kind.

I have seen Possum, turkey, and any quantity of Squirrel and woodcock, quail and partridge. There are also plenty of deer and Raccoon in the neighborhood.

I am becoming quite savage and chivalrous in my appearance lately, having become the possessor of an excellent rifled pistol and regular Mississippi Bowie-knife with edge like a razor and silver-mounted horn hilt.

This knife was found in a haversack lying in the woods near the Rail Road by one of our Men of whom I purchased it for a quarter.

On account of this ridiculously low price and my friendship for the man, I regard it more as a gift than a purchase.

The pistol I paid 1.50 for and consider myself very lucky in getting it at that price, for while we were coming down the

Mississippi there was considerable practice at floating wood and crows on the sand bars, and I made some very good shots with this same pistol which is of Allen and Wheelock's make, and carries a ball about the size of Buckshot.

I hope to take these things home with me together with a beautiful little powder horn that I picked up at Shiloh from beside a dead Rebel Rifleman whose flintlock rifle was grasped in his hand even in death. This horn had been used for priming with being entirely too small for loading purposes.

Our 2 hoiv itgers returned from their Expedition very before yesterday after remaining at a small village named Rosanth for about 10 miles out a night and a day. Nothing was seen of the Rebel Cavalry although plenty of Rebels in Calico were met with who would reiterate vehemently the Southern cry "He can never be conquered!" Kill, Kill, we will see about that.

I notice that they have no objection to our money however, never failing to ask the very highest price for anything we want to buy, such as potatoes or milk.

The old man from whose well we get our drinking water is becoming softened a great deal by our good treatment of him. He is a type of a large class of Southern men.

Have
some
Bought
what
gives
hot
ice
I come
home,
and tell
Father
to buy
another
cow be-
fore that
time.
Oh, yes
I'd be
green
beyond
measuring
to think
that they
miss
me at
home

Men who have only become Rebels
by the immense pressure ~~upon them~~
of opinion around them and who
only need good treatment and for-
bearance shown towards them to bring
them back to their allegiance.

The difference between the Southern sol-
diers and our men in moral char-
acter, Mr. Williams says, has convinced
him of the righteousness of our cause
and our eventual triumph.

We get along first-rate with him now
and, seeing that we have almost
worn out his Bucket and rope by
continual hauling, we took up a
subscription yesterday and raised
money enough to buy a new rig
for him.

The well is of the kind
generally seen around here, bored very
deep and having a long tin bucket on a
rope that runs over a pulley and from
thence is wound round a windlass.

The water is impregnated with sul-
phur and iron to a great extent as
is the case with all the water in
this vicinity.

We are expect-
ing the Governor here today and con-
sequently have had a good deal of
policeing to do round Camp to make
things look smart. He has been to
see the other Minor troops first as
we were out of Camp. Let me
hear again from you soon, L. D. Christie

Watertury July 13th 1862.

Dear Friend & Brother [James Christie, Clyman, Wis.]

" we were Surprised at
the Sudent arrival of your very kind Letter
" thinking that it Brought ill tidings -
- we were Timorous in opening it, But to our
astonishment it Contained nothing worse
than the Announcement you had Dispatched
Another Barrell of Flour to us - if all Such
Notes received would Contain Such Simelar
Announcements it would Gladden the Hearts
of Many Such is Human Nature " I would
- have wrote you Sooner But waiting for the
Arrival of the flour which I thought would
get along Quicker than the Last But it
Seames I am Misicam as it Did not Arrive
to Last Evening on the 12th. I have Seen it
marked R. K. Rice. I will have it home -
tomorrow and it Cost \$3.33^{cts} Except Our
Thank and your Wife also for her Consideration
Send on her Measure to you See how we
work in the East, we were glad to hear that
Willie & Tom were in good health, Tom
might think it was ^{Promotion} in the
- English Service No 2 at the Gun
Requires a very Smart Man, Spunging
& Raining home in front of the Gun
and is a Nice Practice to do with Percision



I was one of 50 of our Men that was Selected
to Learn the Light Artillery Drill, as My Father
was an Artillery Man you may Be Sure I was
Proud of the Announcement and I Learned
to handle the Spongers Staff So Dextersley
that Sergt Major Grant of the 2nd Battⁿ
of the R.A. Used to Call out We'll Drive.
— Artillery Mans Sir. I was Proud then & I pre-
— sume you Is also No 2 Requires the Greatest
Activity No 9. is the Easest the takes Care
of the Spare Forces away in Reare of the
Ammunition Boxes — "You will have Seen
By the Papers that ~~we~~ we have rec^d a Succe-
— ssion of Defeates Lately," W^ms Robert was in
that Charge on James Island on the Battery
Robert was Struck Slightly on the Side with
a grapeshot he fell and remained Senseless
fifteen Minuts when he came to himself his
Regt had Left him he took up his Rifle when
another Ball Struck his Rifle in his hand
Smashing it in Splinters he Escaped and is
Now well at Hilton Head "we are all as usual hope
that Mother is Better I Wonder why you Dont write
me Eliza joins in Sending our Love to you all —
Mother & Forns Hamley, Hall Friends & Believe me
Yours Truly Robert H Reid,

Corinth Miss. July 10/62
My Dear Sister.

Your lecture and songs of the 7th were thankfully received on Monday with your letter of the 9th.

I can see by the style and mechanical execution of this last one that you are still in good health and lively spirits, for I have discovered that we write best when we feel best, so that it did not need your assurance to that effect to let me know that you felt well.

I am happy to let you know that I never felt better in my life, and William is in first rate health as he no doubt has assured you in his letter written yesterday.

I would have written at the same time only I ~~was~~ was off on a jayhawking expedition after Apples. Don't be shocked, they were not stolen, as there was no owner to steal from, he being in the Rebel army.

You read probably of the severe skirmish at Russels house just before the evacuation of Corinth, well, this was the place. the fine house was set on fire by one of our shells and burned down, the apple and peachy trees are young of them unmarked by our bullets, and the whole place is now abandoned to ruin.

I of us went on horseback (it is about 4 miles) and brought home a

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I of us went on horseback (it is about 4 miles) and brought home a

basket and a half of pretty good apples. Even when ripe they are inferior to our Northern fruit, being neither so large nor so juicy. However, they make very good sauce and pies. The peaches are very numerous and good looking but not ripe and they will not be in 3 weeks. As I came through the fine garden all overgrown with weeds. I picked the prettiest rose that I ever saw intending to send it to you, but the petals very soon all dropped off, so I send you another flower that grew close by the ruined house inside of which the Rebels were posted until driven from there by our Artillery. Several were killed on each side in this engagement.

That is a very good letter from your friend Powers, but it struck me as singular that she addresses you by your ~~own~~ surname. It is the fashion here among our men but I did not think that it was among young ladies. With us it is Clayton, Everts, Koethe, Southwick, Christie W. G. or Christie J. D. No Mr. about it. in fact we don't adhere much to any of the conventionalities of Society but go it roughly and kindly. "Smith" throw a letter over here before I hurt you so bad that you can't.

All jokes must be taken in good humor for nothing else will do.

and we are just as free with our Sergeants and Lieutenants in the way of joking as with a private. Well, they are just as frank with us and have themselves to blame if they get the worst of it sometimes in Report. Nor do we obey them the less for this freedom of intercourse. for our Battery will do more today for our Commander than many a one whose discipline is more strict, whose officers ~~tie~~ tie a man up by the thumbs for missing Roll call, or ~~some~~ ^{any} other pretty offence.

The Minnesota fellows don't believe in the Regular Army-theory that the Officers are Gentlemen, and the men are dogs. but I regret to say that some of our Volunteers seem to be governed by rules deduced from that axiom.

In the 17th Wis. there is considerable of this kind of punishment used by the officers. But, Sub Rosa, let me tell you it is generally needed in that Regiment, for a more scalliwag looking set of men I have seldom seen in ranks. they are the strongest Regiment in the Division and may be the best drilled, but the general phiz of the men is repulsive and most Celtic.

It is always disagreeable to me to visit ~~at~~ our Clymer boys there, for I seem to descend into a lower ~~so~~ moral sphere, with their cursing and brawling and quar-

<sup>I have
to say
that you
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military
or family
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I write
under
table
anywhere
anywhere
that we
have
built
at the
door
of our
tent.
A half
mile
in the
center
of West
quarters
tent.
on the
west
street
the long
line of
Infantry
Dispersed
of our
Division
while on
the east
line the
Artillery
and Cavalry
In the
rear of
north is
the town

nelling. I expect though that they will fight like devils from mere habit and disposition although there are a great many among them who would not care now one snap which whist, the North or South, if they only were out of it. Of course this is not to be told round Clyman or even to W. who has a different opinion of them. Every one to their taste you know. I am bound to say that the Clyman men are far superior to the average of the reg. and I am always glad to see them. They visit us often, and are entertained with the best we have. Bread, Baked beans, new potatoes and Apple or Blackberry pie and sauce. A Company I have visited yet lives in the better style than we do, well, we have a better chance, being Artillery and getting better Rations than Infantry and then we pay 50 cts per month a piece for cooking. I ascribe to this our superior health at present, and better muscular condition than the infantry. for while they play quoits with mule shoes at 12 paces, we use the heaviest kind of uncorked horse-shoes at 20. This is a pretty good index of strength for when I commenced I could not throw more than half our present distance.

I remember of but 1 of your letters that I did not answer and that - came almost a month after it was written, continue to write and I will answer. My love to all the folks - Grand-mother Reid and Bertie especially, P. D. Christie, not forgetting Mother from whom I expect a few lines soon.

I write
on the
table
anywhere
a good
that are
have
built
at the
door
of our
carpenter
tent.
A half
mile
south
in the
cluster
of trees
of West
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Corinth, July 19th 1862.

Dear Brother,

Your 2 letters to W. dated the 9th Inst. and 17th Ult. were received last night, and as he is engaged cleaning his sabre for inspection tomorrow I will answer for him.

We were much amused by your description of the Invincibles and the doings on the 4th.

I hope you will continue to keep up the Military spirit in Chymani by such displays, for it may be needed yet. By the way, how does the recruiting under the new call go on in your vicinity?

Rather slowly I suppose, for I hear there is talk of drafting to fill up the quota.

July 21.

I have not been in writing humor for the past few days and therefore delayed finishing this until I could think of something to fill up with. Although I feel somewhat stupid this afternoon and would like to go for apples, yet I think it would ~~it would~~ be rather shameful to neglect you so long. So here goes for what I can think of.

In the first place the weather is infernal hot just now and the least exertion brings the sweat out profusely. We had an awful thunderstorm a few nights ago during

which the water fell in torrents. By some means the ditch around ~~the~~ our tent became obstructed, and the rain rushed in streams under the blankets wetting them through completely. While this was accomplishing we were sound asleep and did not waken till we were lying in pools of the element.

In fact I don't think I would have wakened at all if a terrific gust of wind had not blown down the tent and the booth that we had built on one end. Crash! ^{Or Shush!} went the wet canvases on our sleeping faces, inducing smothered groans and angry exclamations from the poor dwellers ~~there~~ in the Land of Nod. There was no help for it, out we had to crawl in our dripping shirtflaps and put up the tent again, going through of course with a complete course of Scientific Bathing, including shower bath. Diving, (when we fell into a pool), and the sitting bath, (when we went into the tent). After this, sleep was impossible and so we sat huddled together like wet poultry until morning when the rain abated a little and we sallied forth to view the condition of camp. One of the tents was filled to the depth of 2 feet with water and several were blown down. Strangely enough, these misfortunes instead of disposing us to melan-

choly, made us the most hilarious set you ever saw, and the appearance of each victim as he emerged from his place of refuge with bedraggled clothes stuck to his skin, was received with shouts of laughter and inquiries about his health and night's rest.

Probably this jocos way of taking the accident prevented us from taking cold, for none of us were injured by our bath although the whole of the succeeding day was very rainy.

Contrary to our expectations the health and vigor of the Company is steadily improving during these hot months and the physical strength of the men is gradually coming up to the Ft. Snelling standard. Not so with our weight however. We are all becoming as lean and cadaverous as the Britons themselves almost and probably, at the end of the war we will be as yellow and bilious looking.

I have remarked the same thing here that Bayard Taylor did among the dwellers of the far North, viz, that the young women are handsome and the old ones hideous. I have seen many very good looking girls down here, but

William writes soon. Gaffed letter from Father.

the moment you get into conversation with them you are disenchanted, (presupposing of course that you was enchanted at first sight.) They display the most deplorable ignorance of even the commonest subjects of conversation, and by the language they use show their nonacquaintance with English Grammar or its most simple rules.

In fact the most of them are almost wholly uneducated, and know nothing beyond the narrow sphere of their domestic duties.

Of the young men I cannot say much as I have seen but 2 or 3, and those are but poor specimens of human nature, all the able bodied being in the Army.

Contrabands are constantly coming in, and I saw lately a very good looking quadroon with her 3 children who had fled from the threatened punishment of her master.

Her story was very interesting, but I have not space for it. All of our camps are full of these people and more would come but for the damper that is put on their efforts by Authority on our side.

I was after apples this afternoon and secured a rose for Sarah from Russels house.

My love to all with it, and may Wisconsin homes never show the Desolation that reigns over the place of its growth.

Your cramped Brother, C. D. Christie

My Cousin writes from Father's Letter - Letter from Father.

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Your cramped Brother, C. D. Christie

Corinth Miss. August 6th 1862

My Dear Sister, [Sarah Christie, Clyman, Wis.]

I am really glad to learn by your letter of the 30th. Ult. received last night, of your continued good health and success in teaching. So you really have had no trouble during the term. Let me congratulate you on the finding of your Vocation and I hope you are determined to persevere in the pursuit of the Profession you have adopted, for you must realize that it ^{is} one of the highest and most important of Human pursuits.

If this part of the Republic had taken the measures for the education of her children that have been adopted in the North, we would never have seen this wretched War. You can have but an inadequate idea of the deplorable ignorance in which this people ^{are} steeped. This renders them ready tools for the educated and ambitious few.

Those people are unfit to be citizens of a Republic and if this Rebellion should succeed would soon sink to mere Serfs of the Slave Aristocracy. They are not educated like New England up to the standard of self government.

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I went to Hamburg with the teams last week and experienced the glory of battling the tremendous current of the Tennessee the water of which is almost like warm. I have no fear of drowning now, having almost learned the whole art of swimming. ~~During~~ During our four days stay waiting for hay we bathed about 3 times a day and fished the rest of the time, catching enough Catfish to keep our 7 men supplied piscatorially at every meal.

But Oh! the glory of driving Mule team with single line. I mount the wheel mule, gather up the line and, "yep!" "yep!" they start with a jerk. Mule No. 1 makes a bee line for the trees, "wha-a-a-a!" a few smart raps on the back with the line and he hauls off again the other way with mouth wide open straining at the bit, like the picture of the Egyptian ox. I finally succeeded in getting them into a clump of bushes on the side of the road from whence it required all the cursing and skill of the regular driver to extricate them, and if there is anyone who understands the whole dictionary of profanity, that one is the Mule driver.

As I write, the splendid ^{brass} band of the 15th Michigan is practicing, about a quarter mile from here. The stirring notes of the "Red, White, and Blue" swell triumphantly through the still night air, but such things are so common here that the beautiful tune is but little attended to.

We have a perfect surfeit of music here. The drum and fife are seldom quiet and the brass Bands often practice during the whole night, while the Bugle calls of the five Batteries and Regiment of Cavalry in our Division make the woods ring.

Our Bugler is considered by Major Hinkellooper to be the best in the Battalion and he always gives us the post of honor - the right - in all drills and reviews on account of our superior discipline.

We hope to recruit enough this fall in Miami to fill up to the maximum and get 6 guns again, for this purpose Lieut. Pfander is going home as soon as the Capt. comes down which will be within a week.

We think that we will have work here pretty soon as the Guerrillas are marauding in the neighborhood pretty extensively. They have even had the impudence to enforce the conscription law in

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the immediate vicinity of Shiloh Church, and quite an expedition left this Division last Monday to break up some bands west of here near Bolivar. It has not returned yet.

Mr Williams son has been ~~that~~ put under arrest and will soon be tried by Court Martial for furnishing information to the enemy. I am convinced that if he is guilty the old man did not know of it, for I know that his sentiments are for the Union.

We have seen Amos Noble here, he belongs to the hospital of the 16th, and was living within about 10 rods of our tent for the past month. They are now removed some distance from here.

Joseph Emerson is hospital Steward in the general hospital in Corinth.

We are going down to see him today. Has Luther Noyes returned yet to the 18th? How does the Harvest go on? tell Father that I will write to him in a day or two, I hope he does not work any in the field, for I would rather have him pay \$ dollars a day for a man than work to hurt himself. Uncle Tom and Aunt Jane I see have made a new call for Volunteers. Congratulate them for me. My love to all F. D. Christie

Corinth Miss. Aug. 20th
1862

Dear Sister,

News of the 13th
came to hand yesterday, and
astonished us by the news
it contained. 5th Division
all out to piece Hartwig an
Adjutant. Harvest almost
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promise of it and that
is all. I bet you now
that he slips up on it,
for it requires an able
man for the office and
they will soon see
his incompetency.

As our boys would say—
"He's Adjt. of Co. B."

About 3 O'clock on the
morning of the 17th we
were awakened by the Bugle
notes of the Assembly.

Wondering what was the
matter we tumbled out
of the tents and staggered
into line half naked
and half asleep.

Lieut. Pfenniger woke us
up thoroughly by saying,

"Boys, our Right Wing is
"attacked and we have
"orders to get ready imme-
"diately for action."

In a moment all was
bustle and preparation.
The Drivers harnessed and
hitched up instantly, and
the Cannoneers strapped
their blankets on the
ammunition chests
and filled the Sponge Buckets
with water. Haversacks
were filled with "shingles,"
and knapsacks packed up
ready to throw on the Bag-
gage wagons in a moment.

Fatigue dress was thrown
off and every one put on
full uniform so that
we could be distinguished

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from the enemy.

Revolvers were loaded and
Sabres buckled on.

We were all ready and on
the qui vive. And so we
remained all day to our
great chagrin.

We heard
afterwards that the 12th Wis.
which is about 4 miles west
of here had been attacked, but
held their ground and sent
for Reinforcements.

I have heard nothing since
from them.

Our 2 boys
have done wonderfully
this harvest. They must
be Giants to do the days
work you allude to.

I suppose they must
have developed greatly

from the enemy.

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work you allow to.

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Head Quarters Camp No. 12 Meigs County Miss.
August 29th 1862

Sarah ^[Christie] My Dear Girl

I take the opportunity of writing these few lines to you hoping to find you and all the rest of the family in as good health as this leaves me in at present. Sarah I have the pleasure of seeing your brothers almost every day, for we are Camped close to each other. his battery is in the same division. I suppose there is great excitement up there on account of the fighting but tell them one and all not to be afraid that coming down here is not going to kill them for to keep up courage that all we want of them is to guard those places which we have taken and we shall do the fighting and tell them to make haste and come so we can go home for I myself would like to see my girl once more and all the soldiers is the same way I presume.

Sarah I have no time to write any more for we are going out on picket so I must bid you good by. in hopes to hear from you soon and don't forget writing this I remain yours truly

Sargt. James Dempsey

Letter to Sargt. James Dempsey Co. D. 11th. Vol. Inf.
Corinth Mississippi



John

James Dempsey

Corinth. Miss-

Oct-5th 1862

March 26th 1867

Heck

My dear Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th inst. in relation to the above named subject. I have the pleasure to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration. I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Yours, &c.

Prof. Frank Parsons

Corinth, Miss. Sept. 2. 1862
Dear Brother, [Alexander]

On returning from watering this morning I was surprised by finding 2 letters and the Independent waiting for me, Fathers of the 26th Vlt. and yours of the 24th and 25th. As a letter from you is an event of rare occurrence just now I will pay it the first attention and answer Fathers tomorrow.

Never imagine that I will ever think the details of the old farm, ^{labors} uninteresting, or that I forget my last years life in the novelty and excitement of the present. I rely on you principally to supply me with all the events of the Homestead and hope you will ~~remember~~ remember it in every letter you send me.

Our present life is unproductive of anything of much interest to write about, although I suppose if you could be transported to Corinth for a day you would see enough to furnish you with talk for a month. I sometimes indulge in the fancy that I am just from home, to see.

if I can get up a feeling of wonder at the strange events that constitute my daily life now. But, I am sorry to say, I am becoming case hardened pretty fast and ^{begin to} take things just as they come, in a matter of fact way as if I had been used to it for years. Thus, I think more now of a good dinner, (a mighty scarce article nowadays I tell you on account of the inefficiency of cooks) or a gallop through the country for fun, than I do of the best novel Sir E. Bulwer Lytton ever wrote. Perhaps you think I may be developing my Animal too much ~~at the~~ to the neglect of my other faculties. But I think just as much of Beecher's Sermons now as I did a year ago, and in the absence of my Algebra I am applying myself leisurely to German, a grammar of which was found a month ago by one of my comrades.

But enough of Ego, don't you think he sticks out a great deal in all my letters.

Well, it's your own fault if you have increased my egotism by ~~your~~ the interest in all my doings that you show in your letters.

The news from Minn. grows more each day and it has become possible that

we may be needed there yet to furnish the rascals. This anticipation is pleasing to most of us. After a Summer in the South it would be extremely pleasant to rejuvenate our physique hunting Deer and wild Indians ~~through~~ over the prairies of Northern Minn. this coming winter.

This indolence here is becoming tiresome and if it was not for independent individual activity I would die of ennui.

As it is, the news of the great activity in Virginia makes us regret that we were not sent there when they gave our Division marching orders some time ago with that intention.

We have just heard of the second Battle of Bull Run and it creates the greatest enthusiasm in Camp. Pope will fix off Jackson now that he has got him where he can feel him and meet him on fair ground.

~~The~~ The weather is gradually tempering down into Autumn, and Mr. Williams tells me that we may soon expect the commencement of the Raining Season. I dread the wet winter now more than I did the hot Summer, for the memory of the weather we enjoyed in Camp Benton and the Arsenal during

our sojourn there is anything but
pleasant.

Lieut. "G. Fred. Cooke" commands
the Battery now and we have drill every
morning at Sunrise.

On the occasion of our inspection on the
31st Ult. we were given the post of honor
which is the right of the Line, and Rawlins,
Adjt. Gen. to Grant highly praised our
appearance and celerity of movement.

Old Gen. Ord addressed the troops after
the Review was over and announced that
the medals and extra pay voted by Congress
to the bravest men of each Co. would soon
be distributed.

The old fellow looks
just like a Russian Marshal with
his fierce Mustachios and beard.

I would have a great deal more confidence
in him than in Grant.

Feed call will soon sound, and,
as I am taking care of a horse now
I will have to be on hand.

Give my love to Mother and all the rest
and answer as soon as possible.

Your loving Brother

J. D. Christie

See Helen I expect a letter from her soon

Corinth Miss. Sept. 8. 1862
My Dear Sister, [Sarah J. Christie]

Box of the 2d has arrived and I see with pleasure that you are soon to ~~resume~~ your studies.

Of course you need no exhortation from me to make you pursue those studies with industry and perseverance, for I know you must appreciate the opportunities you have to fit yourself, by acquiring a thorough education, for the noble profession you have adopted.

But there are a few other points on which I feel you perhaps need advice, and I know you will not think it amiss if I give you a few hints as to the manner of conducting your studies.

In the first place do not begin on too many studies. Put yourself through in Common English Branches; Arithmetic, Geography, Grammar, and Writing. Leave nothing behind you in these things not fully understood, for, as you know, they are the foundation of every good education. While you are pursuing these studies I would have you practice vocal and

instrumental Music to a limited extent as a recreation only, and do not let the pleasure you derive from it or any other similar occupation, make the plainer and more useful labor distasteful to you.

As to foreign languages, painting, drawing &c. I advise you not to think of them this first year, I know you will be greatly tempted by the example of others to disregard this, ~~too~~ but you must observe that their pursuit tends to draw the attention from the sterling acquirements and impart to the mind a superficial cast and make it unfit for deep thought.

Do not be ashamed of, or try to conceal, your ignorance of anything that you do not understand, but remember what Benson used to say to us, that we must always confess our ignorance in order to be taught anything. I speak plainly to you because I wish you to succeed, and I know that ^{by} these means your success is certain.

In your anxiety to study do not neglect or injure your bodily health, take plenty of outdoor exercise

and bathe frequently. Strive to excel in the playground as well as in the Schoolroom, ^{and} when you play, play, and don't shun it. This will do now, but expect more hereafter and I would like you to keep me posted in the progress you make in all your studies and the way things are conducted at the Establishment. It will be pleasant when we are driving the enemy south towards the Gulf to read of your peaceful triumphs in the recitation room.

Apropos of driving the rebels, I may tell you that we have received orders to make everything ready for active service, all the ammunition is to be inspected, and cooked rations kept on hand to last 3 days.

Rumors are flying round of our Battery being ordered to Kentucky to defend Cincinnati and help to whip Kirby Smith.

One thing is certain, your letters will not be directed to Corinth much longer, the Fall Campaign will soon open in the West and we entertain expectations of wintering in Mobile and bathing in Salt water.

A foraging expedition went out day before yesterday and I was

one of fifty mounted men who accompanied it as guards.

We rode west about 2 miles and passed one of the dozen forts that guard the town. they extend in a semicircle ~~for~~ 6 miles in length and each mounts 6 guns.

After leaving the fort we took the road to Ripley and passed the pickets about a mile out. We then rode through an extensive swamp full of pawpaw and persimmons bushes. the former is a fruit as large as a

common sized Netherhook and about the same shape. it is very sweet and pulpy. The persimmons looks just like one of the round tomatoes, and tastes very good.

On emerging from this swamp we came to a cornfield and immediately entered it with about fifty teams. In 20 minutes the field of 10 acres was swept clean and the fodder piled on the wagons.

We then turned and came back leaving the Division quartermaster to pay the owner five dollars per acre as he was a Union man.

On the road home we filled our saddlebags with wild plums, that were considerably inferior to what you are picking nowadays.

I have just got the Independent and must read the Sermon, write when you get this and remember me as your loving Brother.

J. D. Christie

Sept. 10th. A.D. 1862,

My Dear Brother,
[James Christie]

The commencement-day at College has ended, and I sit-down to pen you a few lines, hoping that they will find yourself, and all of my friends, in as good health as usual. I cannot tell you exactly how I feel. In the first place I am very homesick.

I have wished a hundred times that I was at-home again, I cried myself to sleep last night; and I suppose I will do the same tonight. I bid fair to anyway, But I suppose that I will get over such feelings in a little while. I feel a great deal worse

than I did in the Spring even.

I find that I have a very hard
~~time~~ course of Study before me.

I have entered the Normal Class, the
examination to be in the last of
December. There is I in the Class.

3 young Ladies beside myself and 6
Gentlemen. I send you a circular with
this and you can see for yourself.

Mr. Goldthwait thinks that we can all
master it sufficient for the examination.
He is to attend to us specially and
help us to get through. He says
that he will do all he can for us out-
of school hours, and evenings. My room-
mate is in it too, so that will make

it pleasant. She is not much farther
advanced than what I am. Her name
is Sarah C. Van Horn. She was
at the Institute in the Spring, and
is one of the best girls at the College.
She is an American, from the Town of
Rural in Wapreese Co. She is one
year older than me. She came up on

the cars with me from Minn. Junction.

I had to wait at the Junction
till 4 o'clock, and had to buy my
dinner there which cost me .50^{cts}.
I could not have gone without it-
for I was so sick and tired waiting.
My ticket to here from the Junction
cost me .85^{cts} and I bought a
washboard and pitcher which cost me

1.50, and a gallon of ^{kerogene} oil between
us my share of which was .25^{cts} so
that it took all of the three dollars
which you gave me and one or two
postage stamps which I had, so that
I had to borrow one for this letter
from Van Horn. It will cost
a good deal for ^{the} books which I need.
I send you a list of them with
the prices which Mr. Goldthwait gave
them. It amounts to \$7.10. now I was
you not to delay sending it if it is
to be got anyway for I will have
to borrow books wherever I can get

them till the money comes. Now
do not delay one minute on receiving
this, tell you put it in the post Office
for I must hurry up; you see we
have all got to conform to the
books which Mr Goldthwait says is
standard, no matter what books are here
with us. When I commence tomorrow
or when we can buy books, I will have
hardly a moment to spare for anything
But - I will write to you once a week
at least. For nothing does one so
much ^{good} when I am homesick as to
write to you. Mr Goldthwait says
that if there are too many studies for
me I can give them up after a trial
put - I know that I can put it
through.

Now do you ~~say~~ write
as soon as this is received, and inclose
what I need for it - is absolutely necessary
Miss Hatch born Lowell is teaching the
Primary Department and Eliza Keeble
is one of the scholars. you can tell
Grandmother and Helen.
My love to all your loving Daughters
Sarah,



TRUST HIM.

Clyman

Sept 14th 1862

My Dear Son [C. W.]

I received your
note yesterday.

I looked over
the circular, and think
that the curriculum of
study is entirely too much
for you to engage to go
through. I do not wish you
to try for a State Diploma

My desire is that you
confine your attention to
arithmetic, grammar, geography

Physical Geography
and Analysis of Crystals
The other Branches
may be acquired ~~scarcely~~
by Reading, with the exception
of Algebra. Another course
you may take up Algebra
and some ornamental
Study. too many studies
at once confuses the faculties
Master the Arithmetic I suppose
you may with benefit
Join the Vocal Music Class
you may & row
Mr Goldswaite my slave
and it is probable he will
require no more of you

There is nothing you
more require to know
than a knowledge of Physi-
ology. But a similar
course of Reading would

Give you that. Besides
it is no dry detail, of Bones
and Muscle. I would wish
you to fill your memory with
it is the functional factors
of the vital organs, the nature
of the Nervous system, and
its relations, ~~and its~~ to mind
Besides some other things
which every young woman
should know. that kind
of Knowledge you should not
be likely to acquire in your
Text Books. to give the Latin
or Greek name to your little
finger Bone, is simply not
worth learning. It is the
results of a full knowledge
of Physiology, that you need
But more impor-
-tant than that, than all your
studies is the cultivation of your
Moral and Spiritual faculties
Give your Heart to the Religious
services, and daily pray to

God that you may be
directed in this life to
prepare yourself for entering
in a proper way upon that
that life which is Eternal.

While Enclosed ten
Dollars is this, you ascertain
of Mr Goldthwaite what
money will be requisite to
take you along to the
Examinations in December
and I will send it up
sooner as possible

And now Sarah
you know my wishes to
your husband, and believe me
Christie

Camp No. 12. Near Corinth

Miss Sept. the 5th

dear sarah I received your
very kind letter a few
days ago in answer to mine
and I was very happy
to hear from you -
dear sarah I would have
written to you sooner
andly that I was afraid
that you would not
answer ~~it~~ my letter But
I have found that you have
answered it promptly.
well dear sarah we are now
camped about three miles
from the Town of Corinth
it is a very nice place andly
that the water is very
scarce we have to draw
it

all the matter that we
use with the seames. the
weather is very warm in
the day time But very cool
at night —

I have not seen Thomas
or William since I wrote
to you Before But I will
go to see them in A. few
days I guess that they
are well. William promise
to come and see me about
A. week ago But I guess
that ~~that~~ probably he had
not time. he told me when
I saw him last that you
was going to send down your
likeness so I will be in
A. hurry to go over so that
I can see your nice picture
But I would A. great deal

rather see yourself But I
will live in hopes that the
war will be over pretty
soon and then we can have
A. good long talk. I see
By the news papers that there
great fighting near Washington
we expect an attack here pretty
soon But let them come
we are ready for them —

deare Sarah when you write
let me know how all the
Boys and girls around Chymen
is getting along —

I was very glad that none
of the Boys ran away from
the Town of Chymen to
avoid the draft. I think
that them young men that
ran away ought to be ashamed
of themselves.

well deare Sarah there is
nothing more worth writing

at present. you never be in
the least afraid that I will
ever let any Boddy see ^{or} any
your letters -

please answer this soon and
let me know you like
Hox Lake.

no more at present But I.
remain your true friend

James Dempsey

Direct to James Dempsey
Co. D. 17th Regt Wis Vol
Carmith Miss.

good By Deere Sarah

Dear Mr. B. I have just seen
 Prof. B. and he says that the
 for the 1892 including mine's
 had one lesson in vocal music and one in
 singing. I am sure we will get some
 good.

E. J. Lake Sept 16th/67.

My Dear Father, [James Christie]

I got your letter
 yesterday, with the money in it - and gave
 the postmaster a receipt for the same.
 I have bought some of the books which
 I need but not all, I will buy the rest
 in the morning. I also will get a pair
 of rubber overshoes, as we have to take
 a good long walk every day rain or
 shine, that is if it is not raining too
 hard, and all of the girls have them, with
 straps across the instep, to hold them on
 and they keep the feet perfectly dry,
 as windows certainly also. I have to self-
 get for our windows, and one or two
 other little things for our room.
 I am still continuing to take the
 Normal Course, and I hope that you will
 not forbid it. I will tell you the reason

Sept. 14th 1862.
Dear Mr. Brewster, I have just received
your letter of the 10th inst. and am glad to hear
that you have been in several places and are now at home.
I am at home now and am glad to hear of you.
Yours truly,
J. D. D.

My Dear Father, [James Christie]

I got your letter yesterday, with the money in it - and gave the postmaster a receipt for the same. I have bought some of the books which I need but not all, I will buy the rest in the morning, I also will get a pair of rubber overshoes as we have to take a good long walk every day rain or shine, that is if it is not raining too hard, and all of the girls have them, with straps across the instep to hold them on and they keep the feet perfectly dry, as windows certainly also. I have to self get for our window, and one or two other little things for our room.

I am still continuing to take the
Thermal Pains, and I trust that you will
not-forsake it. I will tell you the reason

why I take it - Mr Goldthwait meets
with that class alone, two evenings in
the week, to teach us all of the difficult
points that will be required at our examinations,
such as orthography and some points in
Grammar and Arithmetic, to make us
thorough in everything that will be required
of us. We take up topics every evening that
we meet. We had the vowel sounds last
night. And I find that I am gaining
an knowledge every day, always getting
new ideas. I have tried and find that
I can keep up well in all of the classes,
for I have my hours all divided just
right, so that there is a study to fill
up every hour. I have got as far as
Multiplication in Algebra, and understand
it and like it too. We are into
the Geological part of Physical Geography
and like it well, and we are in Hygiene
of the bones in Physiology. It is not -
as you think about Rhetoric, so great
a portion of it which we study, give us so
much knowledge of the rules for the preservation
of health, or Hygiene, and Mr Goldthwait

makes that take the load in everything,
and as for grammar and arithmetic I have
no trouble at all with them. He has
two reading classes, one in Young Ladies
reader and the other in the History of
the U. S. I had a reader with me
but I bought a History and joined
the latter class as I thought it would
be more profitable as that is one of
the studies to be examined on, and
so we first read it and then ~~to go~~
be questions as on what we have read
besides giving us a great many new
facts that are only in the book.

Rhetoric and the Analysis of words
she is going to take up the last five
weeks before the examination.

And now as regards my health, there is
no fear of my hurting it by study, as
I take precautionary measures against it -
I run down and I rise at 4 1/2 in the
morning, and after performing "the duties of
the toilet" and making our bed, we go
out and take a walk of a quarter of a mile
and back, and by that time the bell

rings for us to get-up, at half past five
so that we are ready for study when
the rest are startled by the "get-up bell"
we study till breakfast time which is 7 o'clock
and after till the group hour we are not
required to study by the rule of the school
but we always do. The recitations come
from 9 till 12. and we have a "shimmer hour"
of an hour and a half, and the school is rung
in at half past one and lets out at half
past four. The Supper hour is half past five,
then we do what we have a mind to till 7,
when the study bell rings and we study till
9 in our own rooms, when the bell rings
the bell is again rung at half past 9 for
us to retire. I have had one letter from
James since I have been here and answered it -
he said that they expected to be removed from
Covington soon. I have also received a letter from
Janet - Clarkson. She says that there is great
excitement - there on account of the Indian
troubles that all of the men have listed to put
them down and she also says that James is
not any better if anything he is worse and one
of the Doctors they have had, have told them that
he has this Consumption and will never get well.
I will write again on Saturday - either you or
Dandy. I have no time left to write as there is
no school on Saturday. I am in a hurry or I would
write another sheet. But I must stop now. I am
at home.

ring for us to get up, at half past five
so that we are ready for study when
the rest are startled by the "get-up bell"
we study till breakfast time which is 8 o'clock
and after till the 11 o'clock hour we are not
required to study by the rule of the school
but we always do. The recitations come
from 9 till 12. and we have a "shower hour"
of an hour and a half, and the school is rung
up at half past one and lets out at half
past four. The Supper hour is half past five
when we do what we have a mind to till 8.
9 is our own room, when the bell rings
the bell is again rung at half past 9 for
us to retire. I have had one letter from
James since I have been here and answered it.
he said that they expected to be removed from
Covington soon. I have also received a letter from
Janet - Clarkson. She says that there is great
excitement - there on account of the Indian
troubles, that all of the men have listed to put
them down and she also says that James is
not any better if anything, he is worse and one
of the doctors they have had, have told them that
I will write again on Saturday, if either you or
Sarah I have no time else to write as there is
no school on Saturday. I am in a hurry as I would like to
write another sheet. But criticism is not a good thing.
Sarah

Corinth. Sept. 21st 1862.

My Dear Sister, [Sarah Christie]

No doubt you have been forming a sort of gloomy conjecture ^{as to} ~~at~~ the cause of my long silence, but it is easily explained.

At 3 O'clock on the morning of the 17th we were roused by the notes of the Keville, and when our eyes were rubbed open ~~we~~ fell into line. "Make ready to march" "Boys, with 3 days rations in your haversacks and 2 in the Baggage wagons."

The "Boots and Saddles" was sounded immediately, and every man sprung to his duty, the drivers to harness and hitch up, and the cannoniers to do up the tarpaulins and fill the Sponge Buckets for it was well known to us that an action was imminent, as Price had been threatening our left flank, having taken Suva the day before.

In the gray of the drizzly morning we left camp and passed down through Corinth, preceded by the 16th W. I. and followed by the rest of our Division with its five Batteries. Our handsome

General, McArthur, led us out on the Iuka road, through the Rebel fortifications, and down into the great swamp that sweeps around the town on the North and East.

By this time it rained in torrents. The Infantry threw on their rubber ponchos and pressed bravely through the mud, and we, having none, donned our overcoats and sat in silence on the ammunition chests, while the spattered horses plunged through ~~through~~ the holes and over the rough corduroys of the narrow road.

After getting through the swamp we ascended to the level of the cotton and corn fields of last year, now a wilderness of weeds, with now and then a cotton press or gin standing, solitary and dilapidated by the side of the road.

At noon we stopped to eat dinner at an old church 2 miles out of town, the rain still continuing unabated.

The country we had passed through was alternate swamp and high pine land with here and there a clump of chestnut trees loaded with their green burs. Scarcely a house had we seen since leaving

Corinth and those we did see were of the rudest construction, built of rough pine logs with the chimney running up the end outside.

We bivouacked that evening a few miles further on, our cannon frowning down on the little hamlet of Glen Dale, our horses picketed in the woods, and ourselves, wet to the skin, stretched around enormous fires of chestnut rails, that evaporated the water as fast as it fell on us.

The morning dawned cold and rainy, but by the time we resumed the march it cleared off and showed us the Sun once more.

Our progress this day was slow, the citizen guide, whether purposely or not, led us on the wrong road and we had to counter-march several miles to resume the right one. You never saw an army moving to Battle. "What a sight," thought I, "this would be to the quiet people of Clyman." as we would reach the summit of some hill and look back at ^{the} marching column of Cannon, Caissons and Infantry, the dark blue of the latter contrasting finely with the crimson facings of the mounted ar-

tillery men. Any one could see that an action was looked for, every Surgeon and ambulance was with us, and marching in the ranks were men with white badges on their arms whose duty it would be to take care of the wounded.

We camped that night not far from the outposts of the enemy and in consequence the guards were doubled and the fires built in the hollows where they could not be seen from the front. By the neglect of our officers, our rations which were to have lasted 5 days were finished here and we had to depend on what we could get for the rest of the time till we got back to camp.

In the morning we pushed forward again, the outlying forces of the enemy flying before our skirmishers. untill about noon a high hill was reached that completely commanded the country in front for some distance. The enemy was reported in force a short distance ahead. Our Right Section was ordered into battery here and we waited for some regiments of infantry to go in front and feel the way. Shortly afterwards our Section was marched down the hill and forward about quarter of a mile to another eminence.

"Action front." is the command, and we come round into position like the crack of a whip. The guns are undisturbed, and brought to bear on ^{the} road ahead and the limbers and caissons take position in the rear. Axes are brought into requisition, and every tree and limb that ~~was~~ would impede the sighting of the pieces is leveled to the ground. The cannoniers take their posts and we wait. Old Gen. Ord rides by and looks with grim satisfaction at our bronze bulldogs. A half hour passes and no enemy. Not even a shot in front.

Presently an orderly dashes up. "Limber to the front," and we pass ahead followed by our right Section which has come up. Another quarter mile. another hill, and again we take position. Here we stay untill evening hearing brisk cannonading to the right where Rosencrans is, pushing them in. Is there nothing for us to do? Tomorrow will tell. We build our concealed fires and go to find something to eat, for we are absolutely starving. I set out with a half dozen others, and soon return with

a dressed calf and a sack of sweet potatoes. Don't ask where we got them. Men on the eve of battle are not apt to make nice distinctions of Meum et Tuum when they are furnished, and tuum meum, belonging to Secesh. Another difficulty now presents itself, we have no cooking utensils with us. "Necessity is the mother of invention." The potatoes are rubbed clean on our pantaloons and nicely covered with ashes to roast. Long forked sticks are cut on which we impale large slices of the raw meat and we all squat round the blaze "à la Indienne," just wishing, as Lieut Clayton remarks, that some of the dear folks at home could see us. Suddenly, something glides in between him and me, and, a young wild turkey stands inside the circle looking into the fire. We were so astonished that, for a moment, it was unheeded, but the desire of having a fine piece of roast soon overcame my surprise.

Whack! went my roasting stick on the ground, close to the bird, who jumped clear over the fire and disappeared among the young pines. But what had become of my

bird. I remembered once to have seen what we used to call a potatoe sling and concluded that its (the bird's) disappearance had been according to the same principle that gave us so much amusement when at school - Centrifugal force.

Next morning Price was gone, "skedaddled," as he always does, and we proceeded to Iuka without opposition, the road being strewn with clothing thrown away by the Rebels. We stopped at the town about an hour and then started back to Burnsville 9 miles this side. It was late in the afternoon when we got under motion and we travelled the ~~last~~ last 5 miles in the dark. Never shall I forget that night march. The soldiers, infuriated at the escape of Price, fired every rebel house on the road that was unoccupied, which was the case with nearly all. They were mostly built of pitch pine and burned like so many matches. The sight was sublime to one who, like me had never before seen any extensive conflagration. The immense red flames crackled and roared and threw their light far into the deep woods that surrounded them, the buildings fell with a crash and

ing up millions of sparks, and the heat was so intense that we had to drive by on the gallop on account of the caisson. We bivouacked on a hill that night and the fire of our 2 Divisions, - the 2d and 6th, - made the air lurid for miles.

Braking on ~~yesterday~~ today, we arrived here this afternoon and found a stack of letters awaiting us among which were 2 from Clyman for William and 1 from you to myself.

I am happy to see by it that you are well and happy and my only fear for you is, that in attending to the development of the mind you will neglect the proper care of your physical system. Do not fall into this error, remember that the most splendid education will not remunerate you for the loss of bodily health, ~~and~~ and that, while keeping one law you may be breaking a more important one.

I had almost forgotten to tell you that Clayton is acquainted in Fox Lake. He knows the Willards and a young man named Davis who attends College.

Clayton's brother was wounded in the retreat from the Rapidan. Write soon and remember me as your affectionate Brother, J. D. Christie

Send this to Abby my sister has me writing of present

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Send this to Edg. my friend has me writing at present

Olyman Dodge Co. Wisconsin.
Tuesday morning, Sept 23rd A.D. 1862.

Dear Sister, [Dad Christie]

I received your long & excellent letter yesterday just when I had gone to post one to you, but as there was only a small sheet in it I brought it back. I can see by your letter that you are far from being out of health and you must keep it so even ~~at~~ the giving up of some of your studies however excellent and entertaining they may be. You must not try to do at one term what that which requires two, but learn thorough that with which you grapple.

We heard the news of Uncle Wm Reids enlistment some days ago by a paper he sent. As for Tom, he and the rest of them left for Madison on Saturday. I do not think that he could be transferred. Ask our Tom.

Our Threshing is "over and gone."

The turnout was very poor - only 319 bu's of Wheat. It gave 13 bu's per acre. Uncle William had 153 bu's of wheat - 12 per acre.

Uncle Tom had 345 bu's or not 12 to the acre.

Gibb had 389 or 9½ per acre, Wm Emison 489. further off, there is some who had but 5, 6, 8, and 9 bu's per acre so we have no cause to grumble. How is the wheat-crop around Rose Lake?

Mother ~~as~~ acquitted herself first-rate at the Threshing.

Father sold the Steers to Henry Noyes for \$50, half to be paid when he takes them away which is ~~when~~ in about 10 days, and the rest on a note of a year. He has got a farm on shares S. R. of Lowell. There is ~~a~~ another New-borne, a niece of Mr Sutton, and Husband. I cannot find out what his name is but it is Walter-Something. He has been many years in Rhode Island, and was a 3 months man from that State - was in Alexandria when Ellsworth was shot. He is going to live with Old W^m Sutton in Lowell. I thought that he was a Norwegian before he spoke. He speaks with a strong Derby accent. I have not seen the woman.

If you had been at home last week you would have been startled by the news that John Frank had written home for somebody to come after Jack Ramsay, for a barrel of pork weighing 500 lbs had rolled over him at St Louis. Alex started next day for Rolla Mo. to bring him home. John Frank said that the Doctors had given him up, but a day or two afterwards they got a letter from Jack himself. He had been sick but 3 days. They have also received a letter from Alex in St Louis. What could have been the meaning of all this I cannot divine, nevertheless, it has cost Alex something and scared the whole family. Was that letter which Father has reposted to you from Jack or Willie? did you get it?

You had a chance to see Gen Pope a few days ago, as he went to Minn, he made a speech at Juneau. The & Crandalls sent their families home from Minn but were not let come themselves. They were within 50 miles of the murders, and left their wheat in the stock to cut their stick.

I suppose you see by the Daily that a collision at Corinth is probable & that communication is cut off from the Boys. However, I don't fear the result even if Price attacks them with superior numbers - their fortifications are pretty strong and ditto their force. We expect a letter from them soon if a letter can come. As to the Daguerreotype, I am of the same opinion as you, for I can believe anything that is bad of the S. C. clique. Mary got a letter from Willie a few days ago.

I am glad to hear that Miss Tenney is an admirer of Beecher & Greeley, and a hater of Mc Clellan. That is a man who has been styled the Young Napoleon, he has acted as Napoleon would have done has he 9 months in the field and he has brought this Country to the brink of ruin. We have just heard those whispers of Revolution and Military Dictatorship which ^{are} silently going the rounds of the Press. I think that Fremont will declare against it, if he does not I lose my faith in him. Did you read his speech delivered at

Boston

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What could have been the meaning of all this I cannot divine, nevertheless, it has cost Alex something and scared the whole family.

Was that letter which Father has reposted to you from Jack or Willie? did you get it?

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Did you read his speech delivered at

Boston.

There has been a Battle at Rengi
12 miles S of Coaruth and Father has
been Dreaming of Willie's Mother.

You know, it does so when he is going to
have trouble about Willie.

I don't feel right about the Boys.
I feel as if they had been in this Battle.

Alex Ramsay has come back from Kolla.
The Regiment had just left the city.
He did not follow them to see Jack.

All that was ailing Jack was Home
Sickness excessive. Sick a fellow!
Car Tom did not do so. There was the want
of Principle to sustain Jack.
We have heard of the retreat of the Rebels
from Maryland.

Now Sarah, I think that you should
never study on Saturdays, you have
Study enough for a week crammed into
the 5 ~~or~~ School Days.

We are all in fine health and hope this
You are the same.

So here ends two pages of worthless
Scrawl,

Good Bye for a few days

Alexander, S. Christ

Corinth, Sept. 25th 1862.

My Dear Father,

Having recovered somewhat from the feelings of Do-nothing-at-present-moment, consequent on our return from an active campaign to the idleness and regular duty of the Camp, I will summon up energy and industry sufficient to write you all that I think will be of interest to you, in answer to that excellent letter of yours dated the —th, which I hope to get sometime this week.

I wrote two letters to Sarah on the 21st giving an account of our doings at Iuka, and directed her to send them to you, so you have doubtless got them before this.

Of our health here I need only say, that we have not a man in the hospital, nor is Sick Call attended by a single one in Camp.

So far from the hardships and excited activity of our life in the field having prostrated or debilitated us, it seems to have had the opposite effect, and left the men in better health than

ever before, and eager for another opportunity to fight.

The weather now is very cool and pleasant, the nights being a little too cool for comfort, necessitating the use of all the clothes we can get in order to keep warm. I hear that in the Northern part of Miss. the frost has made its appearance, and I suppose you are beginning to need overcoats in Clyman. This is the very best of weather for aggressive movements, and from certain preparations we are being made it will not be long before we advance, probably in the direction of Vicksburg and from thence to Mobile.

That is if we are not ordered to Miss. which is very far from improbable, as Senator Wilkinson has gone to Washington to urge upon the War Department in person the necessity of sending at once a Reg. of Cavalry and our Battery to the defense of the frontier. This would suit the most of the men including myself, but others object to going up there to "fuff" as they say.

Sept. 26. I have great news to tell you, the Capt. arrived last night with an order

from Gen. Pope for the Battery to proceed to the frontier. But it is not of any account unless Grant gives his consent, and it is reported that he is in St. Louis.

Captain Munch is looking well and hearty but he has to use a cane yet, as his leg is very weak and he told us this morning that it would be years before it would be sound. He tells us that Pfander has resigned and been appointed to the command of one of our new regiments. I send you the Order issued by Gen. Grant on our return from Iuka.

Head Quarters, District of West Tenn.,
Corinth Miss. Sept. 20th 1862.

Gen. Field Orders,
No. 1

The General Commanding takes pleasure in congratulating the two Kings of the Army, commanded respectively by Maj. Gen. Ord and Maj. Gen. Rosecrans, upon the energy, alacrity, and bravery displayed by them on the 19th and 20th inst. in their movement against the enemy at Iuka.

Although the enemy was in numbers reputed far greater than their own, nothing was evinced by the troops but a burning desire to meet him,

whatever his numbers and however strong
his position.

With such a disposition as was manifested
by the troops on this occasion, their com-
manders need never fear defeat against
anything but overwhelming numbers.

While it was the fortune of the
command of Gen. Rosecrank, on the
evening of the 19th inst., to engage the
enemy in a most spirited fight for more
than two hours, driving him with great loss
from his position, and winning for
themselves fresh laurels, the command of
Gen. Ord is entitled to equal credit for their
efforts in trying to reach the enemy,
and in diverting his attention.

And while congratulating
the noble living, it is meet that we offer
our condolence to the friends of the heroic
dead, who offered their lives a sacrifice
in defense of constitutional liberty, and
in their fall rendered memorable the
field of Lookout.

By Command of
Maj. Gen. Grant
John A. Rawlins.
Capt. Asst. Gen.

I will write on receipt of more news
in regard to Minn. & more, J. D. Christie

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And while congratulating the noble living, it is meet that we offer our condolence to the friends of the heroic dead, who offered their lives a sacrifice in defense of constitutional liberty, and in their fall rendered memorable the field of Suka.

By Command of
Maj. Gen. Greint
John A. Rawlins.
Capt. Adjt. Gen.

I will write on receipt of more news in regard to Kim. No more, J. D. Christie

Box Lake, Saturday, Sept 22/62.

My Dear Brothers,

I got your long and interesting letter the day before yesterday and as this is the letter writing day I sit down to answer it. I am still enjoying good health, and I hope that all of the folks at home are doing the same. I was a very little homesick last night - but not so much as Otto Reese, it was her who set me a-going I believe. She was awful bad, and declared that she would go down and get a livery stable horse and buggy, to take her home, and she went down this morning, but she found that it would cost more than she could afford to pay. She has written for her brother to come for her two weeks from now, to take her home, to stay over Sunday.

Mem: The letter from
with was from West James
Democracy of the 17th was
inf. shot through the
heart on Sunday Oct 3, 1862.
the 1st day of the battle
of Corinth. Oct. 3.
Clarksburg, Miss.
Fark Mont, Jan.
26, 1921.

Fox Lake, Saturday, Sep. 21st/62.

My Dear Brothers,

I got your long and interesting letter the day before yesterday and as this is the letter writing day I sit down to answer it. I am still enjoying good health, and I hope that all of the folks at home are doing the same. I was a very little homesick last night - but not so much as Otto Reese, it was her who set me a-ging I believe. She was awful bad, and declared that she would go down and get a liveriestable horse and buggy to take her home, and she went down this morning, but she found that it would cost more than she could afford to pay. She has written for her brother to come for her two weeks from now, to take her home, to stay over Sunday.

From
Mum: The letter of Cor-
with was from several lines
down of the 1st and
infy, shot through the
head on Sunday Oct. 3, 1862,
of Council Bluffs.
Cuneo, Iowa.
26, 1921.
Fox Lake, Monday, Jan.

I am getting along well with all my studies, I have understood everything as far as we have gone, I cannot help understanding them if I only get my lessons which I have always done as yet, some of the girls here are awful dunces but the reason is that they do not get their lessons. They would rather parade up and down the streets after school is out than to get their lessons. Such a one is Miss Chase of Lowell. I find that those girls who dress the best, and change their dresses the oftener, are the worst scholars, and those who are willing to wear a calico dress a whole week, are the smart students. Last evening we had a musicale in the college reception room. It was composed of the scholars in the College, and the young men, and Ladies, who board out of it, and the Prof. of Music, and the German Master. He is a young

American of about 25 yrs. I should think he teaches the German Class. I do not believe that he is an American, though. He looks like my idea of a German student with his long yellow mustache and unkempt hair, and he is very silent - too he hardly ever opens his lips to any one. The girls make great sport of him, sometimes. But so far as I have got acquainted with him, I think that he is a very superior young man. You speak of Gen. Pope, having passed I suppose that you did not see him any of you. Mr. Feltthaus went down town the afternoon that he passed here, and heard that he was going to pass but he did not believe it. But he thought that he would go down to the depot anyway, and see, so he came up, and passed the College, and didn't tell anyone, and he saw the Gen. Pope, and heard

him make a speech. The Prof. said that he did not look one bit like the picture of him which he had seen in "Frank Leslie." The Gen. was dressed in plain black, with no insignia of his rank about him. His Staff were with him, and they he were locked into a car by themselves, so that no one could approach him. We were all very sorry that we did not see him. The girls have been scolding the Prof. ever since, because he did not take the trouble to tell us.

you speak of my having received a reported letter either from Jack Ramsey or Willie. But I have not. I got a reported letter from Janet Clarkson the first week I was here. I think it was, but none from any one else. Either Father had not posted it, or else it had miscarried some way. But I don't see how it could. But it is maybe that one from Janet Clarkson which you mean.

I was astonished that Uncle Tom had not so much to the acre as we had, and every one talking about his great crop. I do not know anything about the wheat crop here. I do not see anyone that knows anything about it, except the Prof.

and it would look so queer for me to be asking about it. Last Saturday afternoon, seven or eight of us walked out with the Prof. to his farm, 2 miles south east of the village. we took a basket and pillowcase with us and filled the first with plums and the bag with hops. We had a nice time picking flowers for him to analyze, and gathering pieces of rock for him to tell us of what species they were. There is a beautiful Spring out there, and he made a cup out of large basswood leaves for us to drink out of. It did me good to see him jumping over the fences, and wading in the marsh grass, chasing butterflies and picking flowers. Then when we came to a big Stone he would snake us all sit down on the grass while he would hammer off a specimen.

He is one of the men who really enjoy life. And the reason is, because he is an Earnest Christian. This afternoon he is going to take us all down to the Depot in the horse car, to see the Telegraph in Operation, and then next Saturday we are going away out to the Lake shore about two miles away, and then another day this fall he says he is going to put up an excursion party for to go to Waukegan (which is ten miles from here) to see the prison. We are doing well in our Music Class. We have had four lessons, now, two every week, Tuesdays and Fridays. Prof. Hays has got some new Music books for us. They are called the "The Treble". They will cost us \$3.25.

Someday I do not feel much troubled about the boys. I feel as if they were all right. I have not seen any account of a

battle near Corinth, but I have not had time to look at all of the papers. After Dinner,

I have just been looking at the Daily for today. But do not see anything of importance from Corinth. If you get any letter or news from the boys, I want you to send it up without delay. I had a letter from Corinth this week, and he said that they expected an attack of the rebels every day. The letter was not from our boys. He said though that they had nothing to fear, as they were fully prepared for them. So I do not fear so much about the boys as you do at home. It seems to me that they are all right.

If I get a letter from them I will let you know. I want you to tell Helen that she must tell all the girls I promised to write to that I really have not time now

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Sometimes I do not feel much troubled about the boys. I feel as if they were all right. I have not seen any account of a

battle near Corinth, but I have not had time to look at all of the papers. After Dinner,

I have just been looking at the Daily for today. But do not see anything of importance from Corinth. If you get any letter or news from the boys. I want you to send it - up without delay. I had a letter from Corinth this week, and he said that they expected an attack of the rebels every day. The letter was not from our boys. He said though that they had nothing to fear, as they were fully prepared for them. So I do not fear so much about the boys as you do at home. It seems to me that they are all right.

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But that I will write in a week
or two. Tell Ellen that she will have
a letter to answer from me in about
four days or a week. I will write to
Father in a day or two. I suppose that
you folks at home don't want to be
pestered answering so many letters from
me. But you will have to stand it
the best way you can. For I could
not live if I could not "let off,"
once in a while to some one, and when
you write I want you to use just such
big sheets of foolscap as the last one.
I have to write me a few lines
in your next, and if he does I will
write him as long a letter as I can,
about everything that is interesting.
I often think of his pretty blue eyes.
So there any talk of schoolmastering?
How is "Little Willie" getting along?
I suppose that I must have the chance
of taking any sleighrides or his old cutter
this winter. Give me all the news that
you possibly can, and give my love
to Uncle John's folks and Mother, and
the two Grandmothers and everybody, and
write soon. W. F. G. I am in a great hurry
as you see, on the horse car and will
express the Cornish soon. To East Ferry.
Sarah J. Christie

But that I will write in a week
or two. Tell Ellen that she will have
a letter to answer from me in about
four days or a week. I will write to
Father in a day or two. I suppose that
you folks at home don't want to be
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How is "Little Willie" getting along?
I suppose that I won't have the chance
of taking any sleighrides or his old cutter
this winter. Give me all the news that
you possibly can, and give my love
to Uncle Tom's folks and Mother, and
the two Grandmothers and everybody, and
write soon. W. F. W. I am in a great hurry
as we are going on the horsecar and we
expect the Cornish soon. To Dad & Mary
Sarah J. Weston

Fox Lake, Sept. 29th A.D. 62,

My Dear Brother,
[James Christie.]

Last night I got the letters from Tom. (After having forwarded one to Gandy) which I send to you with this, you see I was right, in thinking that the boys were in all cases. I want you to be very careful of them, and the rebel letter also, for they are mine you know and I will claim them when I get home.

We have had a great deal of sport in the College with that rebel letter. Miss Hatch read it at the breakfast table this morning, and the Prof. read out some letter. Miss Tenney said the same as Henele Dane did. She said that it was fully as good, if not better, than those which appear in the Sentinel.

She tells us a great deal of the manners and habits of the Southerners, as she has been a teacher in the Baltimore Female College, and also in the States of Louisiana, and Alabama.

She has been in almost every State
of the Union.

I have put the
second letter of Tom in an envelope,
addressed to Dave, and the first part in
Sandy's. I will send you the second letter
along with this. Tom sent them in two
envelopes to me. I am in a great hurry
writing this as it is Sunday Morning
and almost time for Church. I would
not have written this morning only that
I would not have time on Monday
in time for the post and I went down
to get them as quick as possible. Write
to me and let me know if you have
received any from Willie since I sent
them.

I have no more time,
So Good Bye;

Sarah,

Camp No 14 Near Corinth
Miss sept the 29th 1862
[Christie]

Dear Sarah I Received your
very kind letter yesterday
which gave me great pleasure
to hear that you were well
and that you are so contented
at the Lake College—

Dear Sarah you cannot imagine
how much I prize your
welcome letter I hope that
you will continue to write
often. you may be sure that
I will not neglect to answer
them —

well Dear Sarah we are
still camped near Corinth
there was a battle at
Iuka the other day which
I believe is about 10 or 15 miles

Wife from here I believe
that there was none of the
Wisconsin troops engaged
only the 2nd. There was as near
as I can hear about 10,000
killed on both sides
our side coming out
victorious I was on Dundy the
other other day Down at the
Depot and I saw about
one hundred of the wounded
that came in on the cars they
were very well taken care
of better almost than what
could be expected -
well Dear Sarah I went
over the other day to see
William and Thomas I
saw them they were well
I had not a very long talk
with William as he was
going on some Dundy other

I had not time to ask him
to let me see your likeness
so I had not the pleasure
of seeing it But I hope that
I will have the pleasure
of having it myself Before
two weeks that is if you
will be so kind as to send it
to me I would like very
much to have it and then
I will send mine to you that
is if you care anything about
seeing my ugly picture let
me know when you write
how Agnes Gitt gets along
Margret Lyons Kate Chiffon
and all the rest of the folks
around there now or when
you were there -
now Sarah be sure and send
Down that picture to me
for I would like very

snatch to see it so I will
will be looking out for it
dear Sarah I would write
you a longer letter and by the way
I was on picket last
night and I am sleepy
so I must close
By sending my love and
best respects to you hoping
to hear from you soon again
so good by

{ James
Sarah
James
Sarah }

to Miss Sarah
J. Christie
Lake Lake
College

J. Dempsey

good By -

Clyman Miss Sept 30 1862

Dear Sister I write to let you know we are all in good health. Hoping this will find you the same we received your letter last night Sandy and I was out mistaking the threshing to day and yesterday his wheat turned out very poor this year he had about 147 and George had 18 Bushel Sandy and I started to plough this afternoon but it rained so we had to give it up, we got a letter JD and W J to night and they say they have not got your picture. Father and Sandy are playing Dominos Father was 58 last night I am writing with grape Juice so no more at present David B Christie

Colyman Miss Sept 30 1862

Dear sister I write to let you know we are all in good health. Hoping this will find you the same we received your letter last night Sandy and I was at mister Buttons threshing today and yesterday his wheat turned out very poor this year he had about 147 and George had 79 Bushel Sandy and I started to plough this afternoon but it rained so we had to give it up. we got a letter T. B. and W. J. to night and they say they have not got your picture. Father and Sandy are playing Dominos Father was 5's last night I am writing with grape Juice so no more at present David B Christie

[Sept. 25, 1862]

My Dear Sarah

I hope you are keeping
your hold upon Health.

I am about as usual, not
very well, still doing a little
housework, so not work
overhead at study. But
take all things regular,
and remember, that health
of mind and feeling depends
very much upon health of
body. I feel more anxious
that you should attain
to a knowledge of those
things, that will fit you
for a happy life here and
hereafter, than to a mere
acquisition of school
learning, it is all very good
in its way but it is and
should be subordinated,
and guided by a high
toned moral and religious feeling. I am

Miss Sarah Christie

Box 100

Gods

Wis.

Alman Wri
Sept 25
1862

[Sept. 25, 1862]

My Dear Sarah

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your hold upon Health.

I am about as usual, not
very well. Still doing a little
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and guided by a high
toned moral and religious feeling. I should

Miss Sarah F. Christy
Sept 25 1862
Galt's up
N.Y.

Almon Wier
Sept 25
1862

Tuesday, 3rd, A. 10, Oct 4th 1864.

I got your
note and Dave's letter with some days
or two ago. I will answer Dave today
sometime and it will go out on Monday.
I have commenced this one early so that
it will go out with this morning's mail.
I hope that you will get it tonight. I
write it to let you know that I got
the express package from Watertown with the
\$25. in it for the Prof. and Prof. Hawley.
I will pay the bill this morning, before I go
down. I paid Prof. Hawley yesterday with
some of the money I had left. The rest were
paying so I thought that I would. I have
three shillings left now for postage stamp.
I might have had 25 more, but I spent
it to see the show which was here on
Monday last. the price was 50 but the
Prof. arranged with the Manager for all
of his scholars and himself to get in for

Tuesday, 3rd, A. M., Oct 4th 1864

Dear William,

I got your
note and Dances letter with Jones' day
or two ago. I will answer Dances today
sometime and it will go out on Monday.
I have commenced this one early so that
it will go out with this morning's mail.
I hope that you will get it tonight. I
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paying so I thought that I would. I have
three shillings left now for postage stamp.
I might have had 25 more, but I spent
it to see the show, which was here on
Monday last. The price was 50 but the
Prof. arranged with the Manager for all
of his scholars and himself to get in for

.25 to stay one hour and leave before the
Circus commenced. We also went into a side
show to see the Dyer children of Beaumont,
and a couple other side shows, but I will tell
Dave all about it. I suppose they have
been in Peterboro before this. The bees
were worth going to see. I suppose that you
will be angry that all of that money is
gone already with the exception of postage
money. But I have spent every cent of
it for books and useful things for our
room, things which were necessary, with the
exception of .25 for the show, and .36 when
the girls clubbed together to buy peaches
last week. I do not need any more
though, as I have enough to pay for
my letters for a good while and we have
everything that is needful now. We have
our room fixed up good now as good as
any of them in the College. Miss Van Horn
brought a carpet with her so that our
room is carpeted all over, and we are well
comfortable. Our room is one of the pleasantest
in the College. If there is a spare half
hour at any time, the girls are sure to flock
to "Christie" and "Pans" room. Last night was

Friday night and as there is no studying
then I thought that I would write some
letters. But before I had written half
a dozen words, "The whole 'ging-hang'" of them
came in, about a dozen or 15, with a
big washbowl full of pickornuts and
innumerable hammers and flatirons, of course
there was no more writing to be done, we
stole my paper under my ink, and so
I had to give up, and they stayed in till
10 o'clock and finished the nuts. "Perry" went
down stairs, ~~and~~ ^{and} he left eight, and Mrs
and Mrs Goldthwait sent up some apples
for us, and so we had a good time, but
our room was a pretty sight this morning,
the carpet all covered with hickory nut
shells, as thick as they could be.

I have just been down
and paid the Prof. he said that he
would give me a receipt to send to you
but I told him that I did not think
it necessary, I do not know whether you
will want one or not, but the Prof. said
that he would mark it paid in his book
and that will be enough I suppose. I am
not afraid of the Prof. "swindling". That

.25 to stay one hour and leave before the Circus commenced. We also went into a side show to see the Dyer children of Beermann, and a couple other side shows, but I will tell Jane all about it. I suppose they have been in Antetrom before this. The beasts were worth going to see. I suppose that you will be angry that all of that money is gone already with the exception of postage money. But I have spent every cent of it for books and useful things for our room, things which were necessary, with the exception of .25 for the show, and .35 when the girls clubbed together to buy peaches last week, I do not need any more, though, as I have enough to pay for my letters for a good while, and we have everything that is needful now. We have our room fixed up good now, as good as any of them in the College. Miss Van Horn fetched a carpet with her so that our room is carpeted all over, and we are all comfortable. Our room is one of the prettiest in the College. If there is a spare hall room at any time the girls are sure to flock to "Christie and Hans" room. Last night was

Friday night and as there is no studying then I thought that I would write some letters. But before I had written half a dozen words, "The whole 'ging bang'" of them came in, about a dozen or 15, with a big washbowl full of pickornuts and innumerable hammers and flatirons, of course there was no more writing to be done, one stole my paper under my ink, and so I had to give up, and they stayed in till 10 o'clock and finished the nuts. "Perry" went down stairs, ~~where~~ heffest eight, and Mr and Mrs Goldthwait sent up some apples for us, and so we had a good time, but our room was a pretty sight this morning, the carpet all covered with hickory nut shells, as thick as they could be.

I have just been shown and paid the Prof. he said that he would give me a receipt to send to you but I told him that I did not think it necessary, I do not know whether you will want one or not, but the Prof. said that he would mark it paid in his book and that will be enough I suppose I am not afraid of the Prof. "Swindling". That

Package was the means of me getting acquainted with the Principal of the Academy O. J. Lindsay, he is the Express Agent. He got the money, but did not know where to find me, and was coming up the street just as Perry and I were going down. And they being acquainted, he commenced telling her about the money, and then she introduced him to me. He immediately asked me if I was any relative of the Christies who lived in Chymon, and when I told him he wanted to know all about all of you. He asked for Grandmother in particular. He said the while his father was alive he talked very often of going down to see all of us.

Nancy Reid, and I had a letter from Aunt Robert has enlisted in the 2^d Co. 11th Conn. Inf. with his Company. Uncle Williams is at New London with his Company. She sent me two parts Photographs with all of Uncle Williams children in a group in them they are both the same one is for John Reid. I want you if you can to send me his directions if he has any yet, so that I can write and send it to him, I have not time to write another sheet before the mail goes, I will enclose one of the cards and if John is round there you can give it to him and if not send it back in the next letter after letting Uncle John folks see it. If you get any more news from the boys about going to the war, I had a letter from Willie yesterday, but he did not mention

Box Lane Saturday 6 1/2 P. M. 28/9/4.

[David B. Christie]

My, ~~very~~ dear Brother,

I received

your very interesting letter, (it ~~was~~ is to me) of Sept. 30th, a day or two ago, and now sit down to answer it, and tell you all that I think will interest you in any way. In the first place, I was very homesick this afternoon, and had a regular crying spell. Like Prof. told me at supper time, that he had not been down to the office yet, but he was going right away, and he said that he would bring me two letters if it was anyway possible, and sure enough he has just come back and brought me one from Father, which has made me well entirely, and you can tell Father and all the rest of the folks, that I am enjoying the best of health, better than I did while at home ever. Why, I have got as fit as can be, I

went down with some of the other girls
to get a ride on the horse car to the
Station the other night, it was, and
Mr Lindrags weighed us, and I weighed
143½ ^{lbs}. I never come up to that at home.
"Pa Toletthwait," don't starve us, I can
tell you. If you could only see the great
slices of beefsteak which I make disappear
every morning, at breakfast, you would
open your eyes I guess. But I will let
that go now, and tell you about that
great show which I was at Last Mondays,
maybe you were at it too, were you? Tell
me in your next, I suppose. Father got my
letter tonight, I see that his is dated today
and mine is the same, that letter I sent
to him was an awful "mister mister" sort
of a thing, but I was in such a hurry.
Well, that has nothing to do with the show
but I am ~~so~~ glad at getting that
letter from him, that I really hardly
know, how to sit still. Well to the
Show. There was about twenty couple of

us went with the Prof. at our head,
all of the young gentlemen of the school
went and the rest girls. We made quite
a show by ourselves, we stayed one hour
in the menagerie, and had a good chance
to see everything. There were two elephants,
not very large ones. The next close up to
them I took hold of one of their trunks
and gave it an apple for the privilege.
The first cage we come to had a yebra
in it, eating timothy, and looked exactly
like the one I saw before. There was a
large white pelican in the same cage,
a great bird twice as big as a turkey,
the next cage was full of parrots of
different kinds and pheasants, they made
an awful screaming all the time, enough
to deepen a person. The next cage had a
kangaroo and white scow, with an endless
variety of monkeys of all kinds and some
anteaters, such awful looking little
varieties the monkeys are anyway, they were
fighting all the time and pitting and scratching.

catch other. The next cage to them had
a gaunt looking grizzly bear who would
scare a person only to look at him. He kept
reaching up and down his cage roaring all
the time it made me real nervous to look at
him and then there was 4 or 5 lions, awful
powerful looking beasts when they opened their
great jaws. There was one black maned lion,
a real Kimpidian and then there was two
tigers one black one and a leopard and a hyena.
It was a horrid looking beast then there
was two California wolves or Coyotes, that
you read about in "Chile on Carve," they
gelled most of the time and were impatient
looking little crotchets, about the size of Uncle
Sam's Chick. There was also an Ethiopian
and an Antelope, and an Cashmere Goat of
Cyria, as they said it was. Now I think that
was all, no there was a South American black
bear too. Maybe there was something else but
I forgotten now any more. We did not stay
for the circus you know so we came out
and the boys and Mr. Goldthroat-clubbed
together and took us to three of the sidestones.
The first one we went to was to see Bismarck
market renowned Bytze Children, and a bush
woman of South Africa, or Bottentot. She was
18 years of age and a very large specimen too
as they said, but she was only about as large
as Margaret Singer, out as I guess. She
looked just like the pictures which you have
seen so often of them. She had on a sort of
kilt made of lions skin and some cotton
cloth round her waist all covered in beads

and trinkets. But what an expression her
face had. She looked like a sister of
"Ivory, Porter," only not quite so bad looking
as him. The Bytze children were the
strangest looking creatures I ever saw.
They were about three feet and a half
high, with a head not quite so big as
a child of six months, and such small
wrists and limbs, poor weak little things
they could not stand perfectly straight
they had a very black mulatto skins
with woolly heads, and very large noses.
The boy was 24 yrs and the girl 18 yrs
old. They couldn't speak any except like
parrots a few words. They were taught
to shake hands with everyone but I
could not touch them. They were such
horrid looking little things they frightened
me, we went next to see the Panorama
of the war, which consisted of a kind of
covered wagon with lights inside and

catch other. The next cage to them had
a gaunt looking grizzly bear who would
scare a person only to look at him. He kept
jumping up and down his cage roaring all
the time it made me real nervous to look at
him, and then there was 4 or 5 lions, awful
powerful looking beasts when they opened their
great jaws. There was one black maned lion,
a real Kimpickian and then there was two
tigers one black one and a leopard and a hyena.
It was a horrid looking beast then there
was two California wolves or Coyotes, that
you read about in "Chile en Carne," they
yelped most of the time and were very faint
looking little creatures, about the size of Uncle
Sam's Whisk. There was also an *Aphacacche*
and an Antelope, and an Cashmere Goat of
Cyria, so they said it was. Now I think that
was all, no there was a South American black
beast too. Maybe there was something else but
I forgotten now any more. We did not stay
for the circus you know so we came out
and the boys and I. Gold throat-Clubbed
together and took care to three of the sideshow.
The first one we went to was to see Bismarck
world renowned Bytze Children, and a bush-
woman of South Africa, or Zottentot. She was
18 years of age, and a very large specimen too
they said, but she was only about as large
as Margaret Simon, not so tall I guess. She
looked just like the pictures which you have
seen so often of them. She had on a sort of
kilt made of lions skin, and some cotton
cloth round her waist all covered in beads

and trinkets. Just what an expression her
face had. She looked like a sister of
"Ivory Sister," only not quite so bad look-
ing as him. The Bytze children were the
strangest looking creatures I ever saw.
They were about three feet and a half
high, with a head not quite so big as
a child of six months, and such small
wrists and limbs, for much better things
they could not stand perfectly straight
they had a very black mulatto skins
with woolly heads, and very large noses.
The boy was 24 yrs and the girl 18 yrs
old. They could not speak any except like
parrots a few words. They were taught
to shake hands with everyone but I
could not touch them. They were such
horrid looking little things. They frightened
me, we went next to see the Panorama
of the war, which consisted of a kind of
covered wagon with lights inside and

a hurry, surely, playing all the time, you
had to look into little holes all round to
see the scenes. There were some real nice
ones. I saw the battle of Pittsburg Landing
and the men and horses, and cannon blazing
away, I looked for Tom and Willie but could
not find them, one was a fair for courthouse,
which was a very lifelike picture it was
like seeing the building by very bright
moonlight, and the officers consulting before
the battle of Shiloh, and an encampment
of soldiers was the most interesting of all
I think. It looked so lifelike, you could
see the expression of their features so perfectly.
The next show we went to was to see the
mammoth graver, a girl of 18, weighing
600 lbs. and her husband the live skeleton
weighing only 60. Such a contrast. I never
saw one. He looked about as big as one
of her arms. She had a cuba deefelle
and an Onacunda, a great mountain snake
which she had tamed and twisted round
her neck. Such a horror looking sight.

Mr Goldthwait would not go in with us
to see that show, he said he would not
go to see them for five dollars. We
all came up to the College. Then we went
to our studies well pleased with our show.
So now you know all about it, and that
is one thing off my mind. How do
Willie and you get along now, have you
had any more hunters and who did
you get? Is there any talk of Robert
Ervin teaching in the school this winter
or of anybody, and tell me everything you
can think of. We are having quite
chilly, rainy weather up here now. Last
night we had a regular thunderstorm,
the lightning flashing all night and then
this morning it was so chilly we had
to have a fire all day. I suppose it
is the same show there, are you pleas-
ing yet and have you got it nearly
all done. What do you and Sandy
get now to "pettifog" over now that
the stars are gone. How many of

the sheep have bad colts this disagreeable
weather and see "Old Kat" still assert her
authority among them. Tell me everything about
everything in your answer, and tell Esther
that I will write to him on Tuesday if the
weather is possibly can, give my love to
Grandmother Keid and tell her that I am well
and am going to be so till I get down
there in Cyman again, anyway, and that
I am happy too and hopes that she is give
my love to Grandmother Bartee too, and tell
her that Miss Hatch sends her respects to her
Tell Sarelly to write to me, a long letter I
believe it is by now, anyway tell him
to write and tell "Little Willie" that he must
hitch up yack in the cutter and bring up you
and Sarelly and Helen when the snow comes.
It would be a first-rate sleighride, give my
love to Abner too, and I hope that she is well
and that she has got someone to help her with
the fall sewing, I have no more time to write
now, or hoping that you will think I deserve
a long letter from you soon. I will close by
sending my love to all of you, everyone.

So Good night from

Your loving sister

Sarah J. Christie

By Lake letter

Half past eight o'clock at night

I am not going to stay

any tonight but am going the
night to bed as soon as I
read this up.

When does "Old Kat" go down? "Little Willie" got a horse?

the sheep have bad colics this disagreeable
 weather and doe "Old Kat" still asserts her
 authority among them, tell me everything about
 everything, in your answer, and tell Father
 that I will write to him on Tuesday if the
 farthest, if I possibly can, give my love to
 Grandmother Keis and tell her that I am well
 and am going to be so till I get down
 there in Cyman again, any way, and that
 I am happy too and hopes that she is give
 my love to Grandmother Baxter too, and tell
 her that Miss Hatch recd her respects to her
 Tell Sarely to write to me, a long letter I
 believe it is by now, now, any way tell him
 to write and tell "Little Willie" that he must
 hitch up coach in the cutter and bring up you
 and Sarely and Wollen when the snow comes.
 It would be a first-rate sleighride, give my
 love to Abner too, and I hope that she is well
 and that she has got someone to help her with
 the fall coming, I have no more time to write
 now, or hoping that you will think I deserve
 a long letter from you soon, I will close by
 sending my love to all of you, everyone.

So Good night from

Your loving sister

Sarah J. Christie

Brookside letter

Half past eight o'clock at night

I am not going to stay
 any tonight but am going this
 night to bed as soon as I
 read this up.

When does "Old Kat" get along?

Clyman Oct 4th 1862

My Dear Sarah [Christie]

I hope you
are in all things in the right
way. the are as usual,

I went into
Town yesterday, and I paid
\$25 for you By the Ameri-
can Express Company. The Sprague
could not tell me the name
of the Express Agent in Fort Lake
But you will readily find
that out. The Express charges
are paid. if you have received
any letters from the Boys
Please inform me,
or Letter send them down

I had a letter from Robert
Reid from New Haven. He
has come as a Substitute
for a Drafted Man and received
\$400 Bounty.

and now you
have the news. Why have
you not written me a letter,
By all means let me hear
from you. I suppose you
are writing me one today.

I am inclined to think
Genl Grant will not let
the Battery go to Rome -

Cousin Tom Stearns Philbrick
has gone into the 29th Wis.

I have continual
fears about your Health
let me know just how
it is with you;

Keep All the Laws of God
with a Religious Faith

so far as you know them
and if you lose Health it will
not be laid as a burden on you
that you brought the trouble
on yourself. That feeling of
innocence is a Great Allivator

A conscience void of
offence to God, is worth all
other things or conditions.

I write these things because
too much Intellectual exertion
has a tendency to draw away
from, and exhaust the nervous
Energies of the Moral and
Spiritual faculties, which require
at all times to be in a state of
vigilance to restrain the Lower
feelings. The neglect of ^{the} Laws
of Hygiene is the reason why
so many of your Educated People
fall into ill understood diseases
and become a Burden to themselves
linking into Early Graves

victims to ill regulated passions

I must tell you such things
and you must think of them
and so act as to avoid all such
Error, and consequent suffering

evil Tendencies will come
upon you as the Hereditary
Legacy of your Fathers

and you must
summon all your powers to
to meet the Enemy. My Love for
you Compels Me to lift the
Hand of Warning.

How please to Write
Me, and I wish you to be
communicative about all
your affairs.

I think of you in
the still hours of the Night
and pray to God He may Guide
you in the right Way.

Yours With a Father's Love
J. Christie

Clyman, Dodge Co, Wisconsin.

October 8th A.D., 1862.

Dear Sister,

I received a letter from you some time ago and am going to answer it now if I have time. I did not feel like it on Sunday and have not had time since, nor need you be surprised if you find a second date in this.

I have two important pieces of news to tell you if you have not heard them before. ^{last} ~~first~~, I will relate first, as the most important.

It is an accident which cost life and of course lies at the door of Alcohol. Saturday was the Democratic Caucus-day when it occurred.

Well to make the story short, Gibb and Barney Trainer came back from the Caucus about 12 o'clock at night and parted at the Railroad crossing each for home. Barney Trainer was quite drunk when he started up the track. But he never reached home alive. He was found next morning somewhere above Peskys; the railroad train having ~~the~~ literally cut him to pieces.

My 2nd piece of news is, that about 10 days ago Dave Ramsay returning from Threshing fell from his horse and lighting on the ground on his head and shoulders broke his collar bone. He is getting along pretty well considering. It is a bad break the Doctors say.

Friday, October 10th.

We heard yesterday and today of more reliable accounts of the fighting in and around Corinth. That our boys have been engaged either on the Hatchie River or in the more sanguinary conflict at Corinth we have no doubt. Nor do I fear the result — not that I have as much confidence in their safety as I had in April, — but I am as confident now that they have escaped with nothing more than a wound.

Well anyway, I hope that the same good news awaits us now as did in April.

We must just wait in patience for a letter and until then by all means don't fret but just get your lessons as usual and don't read the Daily for will make your anxieties worse.

I know you will feel more anxious than us for you are away from home.

On the receipt of any news from the boys we will let you know it at once and you mind to do the same.

Father is just now writing for the St Paul Press.

We are all well but I have no more time to write So Good Bye until we get I hope good news from the absent ones.

Your affectionate Brother,
A. S. Christie

P. S.

We have some more news. Their names are not in a list of the killed & wounded embracing several hundred.

We felt feel confident of the Boys safety.

It was a big fight and the Rebels were ~~thoroughly~~ thoroughly whipped.

Write soon.

Tom Reid is in the 29th Reg
Col. Gill, Madison Wis.

Good Bye

A. S. Christie

Clyman Oct-14th 1862

[Chaute]

My Dear Sarah

I received your letter last week and did write to you then, But forgot to post it

I was Glad to hear of your continued Health

Mother has been sick but is now getting better
My Health is very poor and I suffer considerably from Anxiety about our

Boys. You of course see the daily about these Battles in which

they have been Engaged
I see no details, But
have sent for the St Paul
Presb. to learn all that
they can tell about the
Battery, We must be
patient and willing to
submit to the Will of God
in these matters, Believing
that He does all things for
Our Good, Mr Sampson
people have heard some
reports as if their Son
had fallen. it may be
and it may not.

The Certainty of the
matter will soon be known

Even if our Boys have
Escaped they will not
be able to Write to us
very soon. Because the
Battery I think is pursuing
the Rebels.

I will Write
to you again in a few
days. I did expect a letter
from you yesterday. but
none came. If you have
seen anything throwing
any light on the part
their Battery took in
these engagements, send
me word. I do fear there
is something happened
that we would not wish

to hear of, and I wish to
think as little of it as
possible, Untill we may
get certain word.

I find I can
write of nothing else
let us hope for the
best.

I will send you
a few lines when I
get hold of any money.
Daniel has not been
able as yet to write
you a letter, the boys are
working hard.

Good Bye
May God Bless You
Christie

Fox Lake, Thursday, Oct. 16th. 1864

My dear Brother, [Dear]

I feel home sick this morning and think it will do me good to sit down and let off a little bit to you. I imagined Father "hurt and sore," I then said right and wrong that you were reading mine which I did in the morning while I was reading his. I did answer his on Saturday, instead of yours, and answer yours now I cannot any more spare the time. But I feel so much now that I would like to see you and your dear faces, that I think it will do me good to write. Ethel Beere has just bid me "good bye" to go home to stay over next Sunday. She is going on the car to Fox of Beauregard where her father will meet her with a team. She feels as happy as can be. So quick as she was gone, I run to my room and commenced to "Ojinal!" as the girls say.

Pox Lake, Thursday, Oct. 16th 1864

My dear Brother, [Aunt]

I feel homesick

this morning and think it will do me good
to sit down and let off a little bit to you.
I received Father's "Christ and soul," letter
last night. I suppose that you were in his
mind when he wrote it in the morning while
I was reading his. I will answer his on
Saturday, instead of yours and answer yours now.
I cannot say well, spare the time. But I
believe you never saw it. I would like to see
one of your dear faces, that I think it will
be one good to write. Ethel Seere has just
bid me "good bye," to go home to stay over
next Sunday. She is going on the car to
New York, where her father will meet
her with a team. She feels as happy as can
be. So quick as she was gone, I run to my
room and commenced to "Ogwall" as the girls
say.

But do not imagine that I have ever
or ever will regret any leaving home to come
here. I only wish that I could come for
a year right along, even if I could not see
any of you all the time. I should then feel
certain of a first grade certificate as Perry
told me. But I suppose that I need not
indulge in any such "highflown" as it is
not feasible. I wish that some of you
could only see "Perry". She is going to
graduate in the Spring, and is about 23 yrs
of age. I do not think that any of you ever
Father himself has ever seen such a highly
educated Lady, in every way, both intellectually
and morally. She is one of the "Shining Lights"
here in the Church, and she is one of the best-
hearted girls. For all her being so well
educated, she does not feel above anyone,
when I have any trouble in understanding
any example, I immediately go to "Perry" with
it, and she helps me. But she has tastes
too. She is greatly troubled with heart
aches sometimes, and she has been delirious

with them sometimes they have been so
severe. Nothing will do her any good at
such times but to have some one stroke
her head for an hour, or more. She
comes to our room every night to have
"Dan" or myself, give her headache. You
know she was here in the Spring when I
was here before. Her Father kept the three
mile house when it was burned down, and
built that house as it is now. She was acquaint-
ed with the Piggars and Seges and all of the
folks down that way. I never knew that till
a day or two ago. The Prof. has left the
charge of the P. Coffin, and everything connected
with the College in her estate he is away. I
made a mistake in thinking that the Prof.
would be at the Stone School home on the
18th. it was the 15th I believe.

There is no word yet of the boys battery in
any of the papers here. Though I have seen
Gen. Ord and McArthur's Divisions and Bridges
mentioned very often and of course they are
in them. It is likely as Father says that

October
Glynn, Wis. Friday Sept 17th 1862.

My Dear Sister,

I received yours of this morning, tonight, and to be punctual I will answer by Kerosene light now.

And before I go any farther, I will let you know that we are still enduring the "Heart-sickness of hope deferred".

No better. How long will we have to endure this torture of the mind - this dreadful suspense. I cannot think of anything else by day but strange to say I have only dreamed once of them.

Where they are we know not and it is hard to tell by the newspapers where they have been. Father has seen the Weekly Sentinel with some clippings of the series of battles at Corinth but he cannot find out whether the battery was at Corinth or not but they saw some heavy fighting on the Hatchie River. All of the artillery behaved first-rate - nobly. Knapp's Battery was especially noticed, one of the guns having recoiled so as to disable its carriage. So you see they have fought again.

Death will come to somebodys door but God keep it from ours is my earnest prayer night and day. It has come to Dompneys door - for Jim has indeed fallen. A letter has been received from Charby Pizgar with the sad news. He was killed in the first charge on the Enemy before Corinth.

Amos Noble has written but does not mention
our boys. He was in the whole dreadful
fight until Price was whipped.
At one time when skirmishing nearest
the Enemy he had to fight behind trees.

Whether our Boys Battery was detached
from their Brigade or not we cannot find
out but it is probable. It seems that
after the Battle at Corinth, Ord with
a large force went in pursuit and by
a forced march of 24 miles, got on the
south side of Price, gave battle at the
Hatchie and after a fierce battle of 1
hour succeeded in driving the Enemy
5 miles towards Corinth. Here was where
the Battery was mentioned.

We know nothing more about them - have
not got the Press yet.

Some how I feel that we are to get the
letter you speak of sure. I am just sure
that they are perfectly safe however many
Battles they have been in.

We wait

Thomas Ireland reached a few Ulm
alive, of which more anon. He had 3 balls
in him.

Write if you see anything more
about the Battery.

I sign myself your loving brother

A. L. Christie

Camp near Corinth, Oct. 18th/62
Dear Father,

I begin to despair of ever getting another word from any of you. Since I came back from Iuka not a letter have I received, there must be a screw loose some where, for this long silence is unprecedented in the course of our Correspondence.

I wrote you from Ripley acquainting you with our participation in the Battle of Corinth, but whether you have got the letter or not I could not say, for Mail regulations here are in a very uncertain state. You probably have seen accounts of the great victory, and perhaps have seen our Battery mentioned, so you will know the share that we took in the first day's conflict.

Nearly all the correspondence that I have seen slight our Division most shamefully, and seems to give the impression that the first day's fighting did not amount to much. The number of troops engaged was not very great, to be sure. But what there was, fought desperately, as witness the

losses of the 15th Michigan and 14th and 16th Wis. who supported the First Michigan Battery. As at Shiloh, our guns were the first to open on the advancing enemy, and unlike some batteries who have paid reporters and get praised accordingly, we never limbered to the rear without the General's orders.

Let the newspapers go, the official report will set us all right. And now I suppose you would like to hear an account of my second battle.

My remembrance of it extends to these items.

Country heavily wooded, and intersected by chains of hills, every one of which we defended as long as possible and then fell back to the next. The booming of the guns and bursting of shell, the roar of the rifles and "spat," "spat," of the bullets around us, men limping to the rear or carried by comrades, with here and there a skulker hurrying out of the reach of the musical lead. All this I remember

and also that when our guns were heated it was mighty hard work to run down the charge, which was my duty as I was No. 1. Nothing is so exciting as working a gun in real action. The sound of the discharge almost raises me off our

feet ~~and~~ with delight. Before the smoke lifts from the muzzle I dash in, dip the brush in the Sponge Bucket and brush out the bore using plenty of water, then seize the sponge staff and sponge it out dry; No. 2 then inserts the cartridge which I ram home, then the shot, shell, or canister, whichever it may be, and it is sent home, then I spring out beside the wheel and fall flat. "Ready," shouts the Gunner, No. 3, (who has been serving vent while I loaded) now pricks the cartridge.

No. 4 jumps in and inserts a friction primer, to which his lanyard is attached, in the vent, springs outside the wheel and straightens his lanyard. The Gunner gives a turn or two to the elevating screw, taps on the trail and has it carried round a little, and then, "Fire!"

"Take that, — you," says No. 4 as the gun rushes back with the recoil. The other numbers run her forward at the command, "By hand to the front" while I load. While you have been reading this ^{description} we would fire 3 or 4 shots, so rapidly do we work.

The sound of the gun is most exhilarating, it fills us with enthusiasm, and we would die rather than desert her. However, you probably do not understand these feelings, and so think it all foolishness,

I saw James Dempsey on the morning of the Battle, and we had quite a talk about the expected conflict. He was quite cheerful and courageous. Little did I think when we passed the 17th strewn up in Battle line as we went out on the field, that it was the last time I should ever see him.

As we passed over the Battlefield early on Sunday morning in pursuit of the Rebels, I looked at all the bodies I could find, but, although there was many a one of our brave fellows stretched out, I could see nothing of him. Two of his comrades buried him that forenoon and put up a neat headboard

The enclosed relic I picked up beside the grave of one of those who fell in the attack on the fort. They were in a bloody haversack that he had worn. This storming of the redoubt was the most desperate and murderous charge that has been made during the war. This is shown by the rebel graves that cover the space before the fort. Gen. Rogers is buried within 10 steps of the ditch, and his men lie in long trenches close by.

Hoping that illhealth is not the cause of your long silence, I remain your affectionate Son, Tom.

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[Oct 19, 1862]

Ox Lake, Tuesday Oct 14. 1862

[James Christie]

My dear Father,

I now sit down to write you a few lines, just to let you know how I am, and to fulfill my promise of writing once a week, which I think I have kept so far. But time flies so quickly here that I cannot tell one week from another, or where one ends and another begins. I received Alex's letter a few days ago but have not answered it yet, having had no time. I hope that he will be content with hearing from me till Saturday when I will answer his letter. I will really have no time till then. I am more troubled about the boys than anything else. I have had little or no rest at night since I first read in the Daily about the battle. And yet after all I feel confident that they are nothing worse than wounded, if they are even that. But it is the suspense that kills me. I can think of nothing else.

[Oct 19, 1862]

Box Lake, Tuesday Oct 14/62

[James Christie]

My dear Father,

I now sit down to write you a few lines, just to let you know how I am, and to fulfill my promise of writing once a week, which I think I have kept so far. But time flies so quickly here that I cannot tell one week from another, or where one ends and another begins. I received Alex's letter a few days ago but have not answered it yet, - having had no time. I hope that he will be content with hearing from me till Saturday when I will answer his letter. I will really have no time till then. I am more troubled about the boys than anything else. I have had little or no rest at night since I first read in the daily about the battles. And yet after all I feel confident that they are nothing worse than wounded, if they are even that. But it is the suspense that kills me. I can think of nothing else.

I cannot turn my mind from it, wishing and hoping
and fearing and dreading all day and all night. I am
anxiously I scan the daily every morning. But I see
nothing but to make me feel aware. Gen Ord and
McCorture always in the front - and in the thick
of the fight. Though there is no mention of any but
Wisconsin Soldiers in the Sentinel. If you get the
St. Paul Press, please read it - me or any news that
you may get from any of the papers, about their battle.
I had a letter from James Sampson, dated two days before
the battle, and he said that they were expecting a
battle all the time. I did not know how soon. He
said that he had been to see the boys a day or
two before, and they were in good health and spirits
expecting a fight soon. But said that none of them
were afraid of the consequence as they felt that they
were strong enough for any amount of rebels. It
seems that the rebels have suffered a fatal defeat
and are being pursued by the Federals. I know
that you at home must be just as anxious as I am
but still it seems to me that if I were at
home I would not feel half as much. I had
a letter from Jennette Clarkson this week informing me

of the death of her brother James of Consumption. She
seems to feel awfully about it - and wants me to
send up his likeness which I have as they have
no good one of him. so she says I will send it
to her when I write on Saturday I think. She
says that they have awful hard times up there on
account of the Indian troubles and everything else.

The Prof. is not here this week having
gone out to examine the winter Teachers. He was
he at Lumb and also at the Stone School Home.
I think that it is the 18th that he is going to
be in Ommet. So that if you would like to
see him, you could do so there. These examina-
tions for the Teachers of this town and also that
of the Normal Class took place here on Saturday.
The Normal Class has to be examined two or three
times I believe by the Prof. before Prof. Allen
examines it. In the absence of Mr. Prof. the
Senior Teacher Mr. Reid takes his place, and
Miss Tenney, Mr. Reid makes a first-rate Teacher
just about as good as the Prof. and even better in
it. He is not so good in some things. We miss the

Morning Devotions when Dear Good Prof. is gone.

They sing and read a chapter but there is no prayer and Miss Janney is a professed Christian. The omission has a bad influence on the school and in the evening devotions it is the same. if "Dear Perry" does not lead.

The set of girls here now are not as good as they were at the Institute. There is not any of the new girls Professors of religion. They are more inclined to scoff and make sport of such things than anything else especially the Lowell girls. There is only five of the old set of girls here or those that were at the Institute now. They are "Kerry", "Emma Whitcomb", "Abbot", "Van Horn" and myself, and we are the only ones who have joined the Bible Class of the Professor. The two Miss Dyes have also joined I believe.

In my studies I am doing finest these last few days even better than I did before and then I did as well as the average of them. We had gone about half through Physiology and I ^{can} repeat it all from beginning to end. What was here gone over but the Prof sent for me to go down and see him one evening last week and told me he thought I was studying too hard and that I had better give up one of my studies till review and left Physiology and will take it up in review with the rest of them. You see we have commenced to write compositions and speak pieces which takes considerable of our time. I could have kept on with Physiology but the Prof. said that if I studied so hard I would surely lose health and then he would have to send me home which he did not want to do. I hated to give it up but I had to do justice to the rest of my studies, my fine health by too hard study. Mr Goldthwait told me that he wanted me to take three hours of recreation every day to counteract all the bad influence study might have on me. But I find that I am a speller of words, a thorough examination in Physiology now and I can finish it up with a little reading in the evening and let me hear from the boys. I would like a letter from you before I write to you all.

Corinth Miss. Oct. 27th 1862

My Dear Father,

Yours of the 30th Sept. and 2^d Oct. came to hand yesterday, but, as I was on Guard and W. wrote immediately I put off answering until today.

I am glad that the wheat turned out as well as it did, I am sure I would hardly have thought that you and the Boys could have brought the years labors to a close so successfully as you have. Sandy and Dave must be true heroes in the use of the Cradle and Plough. Apropos of S. why don't he write, I have had nothing from him for so long that I will soon forget his handwriting.

And Mother also, let me hear from her, if only to send her love and say she is well.

As to our health, we are rugged as Grizzly and don't spare the Grub.

Lighthearted and do our Duty cheerfully. Don't fret on our account.

Be sure we will adapt ourselves to any circumstances that befall us, think of us as happy and contented, and making

the best of everything. I hope that Sarah has gone back to her studies and that she will not leave them again on any such occasion.

Miracles of miracles!! Did you ever hear the like? Heard frost and Snow in Massyspy in October. Disparage the Selkirk Settlement indeed; why, we wear more clothes here now than we would at St. Paul and feel shivery all over nevertheless. It seems as if Dame Nature, to recompense us for not going to Minnesota this fall, has done the next best thing and kindly brought Minnesota down to us. But I notice that even those who were most clamorous for our change of Latitude do not thank her for it, and seem to prefer the natural climate of the Sunny South to the frigid anomaly that we witness now.

I suppose that William has told you all about our doings for the past month, and anyhow I am too lazy to particularize.

The Company has been re-organized partly since the Battle by Capt. Munch, and our Squad, having no Sergt. has been divided up. Some go in one platoon and some in another. William and

I are transferred with the most of the Squad on to the Left howitzer, he in his old position as wheel driver on the gun and I am No. 4 in the Gun Detachment.

This howitzer is the one that broke its axle by recoil, was dragged by the prolonge rope until it broke, and was then spiked and thrown into a creek, and recovered after the Battle, sent to Battery Williams, and we never found it until today, although we applied at every headquarters in town.

It is now repairing at the Machine Shop and we will get it in a day or two.

I must acquaint you with the fact that I have a new Correspondent. Her name is Minnie B. Southwick, the sister of one of my best Comrades, and she resides in Connecticut. She writes beautiful letters, and seems to be of the right old Puritan stamp as her brother is, only he is sharpened considerably by several years residence in the west.

If you need not say anything of this to either of the girls, for, although there is no harm in it, they might quiz me considerably. But just do as you like about it. I will send you one of her letters.

with this, if you will return it, just to let you see her style.

After your Summer's work now, you will have a chance to take it easy this winter, whereas our work is yet to begin, for we have done nothing this Summer and have got quite a big stent to do, including grubbing up Vicksburg and threshing out Mobile.

We expect to be in Mc Clellan's command who you know has this work to do. Major Hinkelooper has been ~~transferred~~^{ordered} to report at Bolivar and it is thought that our Division will move soon in that or some other direction. However, we can not tell anything about it, and so "possess your minds in peace," for we will let you know immediately if we move. And remember to write often, for I feel so perfect better since your kind letters came.

It is very cold, and all the rest of the boys are in their blankets, so I must say

Good night and blow out the candle,

Ever yours, T. D. Christ

I write to Fox Lake tomorrow.

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It is very cold, and all the rest of the boys are in their blankets, so I must say

Good night and blow out the candle.

Ever yours, T. D. Christ

I write to Fox Lake tomorrow.

Corinth Miss. Oct. 28th 1862
My Dear Sister,

Yours of the 30th Ult. came to hand day before yesterday, and I must offer several excuses for not answering it immediately. First: I was on guard. Second: wrote to Father yesterday, and one letter per day is as much as I have time for, and. Third: I waited for another letter of later date.

I direct this to the Lake in the hope that you have returned thither from Glynn. It will not pay, my dear sister, to leave your Mathematics every time you hear of a Battle that we are engaged in.

According to my opinion we have work before us this fall and winter of no easy accomplishment, and you will have to bear with patience and fortitude the news of many a hard fought battle in this Department before the Mississippi is opened and Mobile garrisoned by National troops.

Our Major of Artillery has gone to report at Bolivar to take a command under Mr. Clemens, whose mission it is to take Vicksburg by a land assault, seeing that the Grants have made no impression on it with their shells.

Corinth Miss. Oct. 28th 1862
My Dear Sister,

Tours of the 30th Vlt. came to hand day before yesterday, and I must offer several excuses for not answering it immediately. First: I was on guard, Second; wrote to Father yesterday, and one letter per day is as much as I have time for, and, Third; I waited for another letter of later date,

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According to my opinion we have work before us this fall and winter of no easy accomplishment, and you will have to bear with patience and fortitude the news of many a hard fought battle in this Department before the Mississippi is opened and Mobile garrisoned by National troops.

Our Major of Artillery has gone to report at Bolivar to take a command under Mc. Clelland, whose mission it is to take Vicksburg by a land assault, seeing that the Gunboats have made no impression on it with their shell.

It is not at all improbable that we will follow the Major as we all would like to serve under him.

By his absence Capt. Munch is brevetted Major Commanding Artillery Battalion of the 6th Division, and this makes Clayton Lieut. commanding in the Battery.

We held an election yesterday and appointed Orderly Sergt. J. M. Allen, and Sergt. Munch, Second Lieutenants.

Our account of ~~the~~ want of men the 16th Wis. was consolidated today into 3 companies and put in with the 14th and 18th to form one Regiment.

The most of ^{the men of} Co. D (raised at Watertown) are coming into the Battery, which, with the recruits from other companies will give us our ~~to~~ six guns again.

John Shaller and Charley Vigor are coming in and if Amos Nobles was here he would join, but he is in the hospital taking care of the wounded.

The boys are tired of the Infantry service and are glad of an opportunity to join the Artillery, which, as every Soldier knows, is the finest branch of the Service, and is to the army what the Old Guard was to Napoleon - the right arm.

We had some splendid long range practice in the ~~thir~~ first time that we have

had a chance to use our guns as they should be used, to play on heavy columns instead of scattered skirmishers.

At the very first shot from our rifle we had the range, and plumped a ~~Heath~~ Hotchkiss percussion Shell right into the midst of the Greysbacks, whom we could see plainly marching along, at a "Right Shoulder shift." The way they scattered was a caution to snakes, and wherever a bunch of them could be seen we would plant a Shell or spherical case, till you could not see their backs for the dust.

Some reckless scamps among them returned our fire with their muskets although they were a half mile distant, but I noticed that they sent no more men up that road.

I should like to get my revenge out of them in this way to compensate for the way we had to fight them at Shiloh - at short pistol range - and compelled to use nothing but canister and short-timed shells.

We may be in many a fight yet and see death and wounds enough, but I doubt if we ever see another such time as we had there.

Our troops here naturally look upon themselves as "Some Bumpkins" after giving Van Dorn the whipping that we did.

They are inclined to look down on the Army of the Potomac as inferior soldiers, but I think this is not warranted, as there they have had a far more difficult task to do than we have.

Did not the news of James Dimpsey's death shock you Sarah? I am sure it did me and at first I could not believe it. He looked so full of life and so handsome, when I saw him on the morning of the Battle, that I could not bring myself to believe that he was killed. We have one consolation - that he died at his post with his face to the foe like a true Soldier as he was. I am sure that Glynn will mourn his death more than the loss of any other one of those who have gone from among you.

Now, Sarah I hope that you will not let your anxieties or your studies impair your health. Keep a good heart and don't lose appetite. And also remember me as your Affectionate Brother

T. D. Christie

I wonder why Helen don't write to me.
I must have offended her in that last letter of mine