



James C. Christie and Family Papers

Copyright Notice:

This material may be protected by copyright law (U.S. Code, Title 17). Researchers are liable for any infringement. For more information, visit www.mnhs.org/copyright.

Beloit, Sept 5th / 66

My Dear Father; [James Christie]

I wrote you yesterday, but I suppose a line from me will be welcome again; and besides, I have a decent modicum of news to fill up with.

In the first place, I go,

I have changed my arrangements for rooming, in consequence of the kind effort of Mr. Fiske, who secured for me yesterday the advantage of a vacancy in one of the College Buildings; principally on acct. of my theme singly, which would have made it troublesome for him to walk from our first location,

and partly on account of the pressing injunctions from Mr. Bogniton, to be a little partial to me in all the preliminary arrangements,

Mr. Fiske came down to our hosts last night late to give us the refusal of this room, which he had just learned would be vacant through the sickness and consequent non attendance of its former occupant. This is but a sample of the kindness shown to us by all the Officers of the Institution in all our dealings with them.

Though we were loth to leave Mr. Simmons, where we were learning to appreciate the family more and more as we became better acquainted, and though they were sorry

to part with us, still we felt, and Mr. Simmons told us, that such an opportunity was too good to be lost, and so we accepted of the offer and are now domiciled, this evening, in our new quarters.

A pleasant second story room in a frame residence which was bought by the College last Spring with the garden and grounds pertaining to it - on account of its nearness to the College proper - within a stone's throw. There are some 13

Students in the building, and we have organized a Dialectic Club. A worthy widow lady who rents the kitchen, is to cook and wash for us, and the Steward of the Club will be Capt. Broomer, a veteran

of the 18th Mrs. and
member of the Freshman
class, Every thing will
be managed economically
and thus say that Mrs. Bently
is a good cook,

Our Rent here will be fifty
cts. per week a piece,

Altogether, I consider
myself very fortunate in
getting such an eligible sit-
uation so soon, and one which
I can keep throughout my
whole course. We will form
a pleasant family, all by
ourselves, and have the
advantage of contiguity to
our places of Recitation.

The term opened this
evening at Divine Service,
but we will not do much
this week except to organ-
ize classes, &c. They have a
half day holiday on Wednesdays
and another on Saturdays,

I have subscribed for 6 months
of the Independent, and 3 months
of the Chicago Republican, so that
I shall not be as ignorant of the
course of current events as I was
all last term. The Republican
I shall post to you.

If you see Aunt Jane you
may tell her that I called on
Mrs. Foster yesterday afternoon,
and on making myself known,
was very kindly received by
both herself and husband.

Mrs. Foster is a fine woman,
and well educated, can talk
delightfully on almost everything,
and quite cordial in her
manners. I spent a half
hour very pleasantly, and on
taking leave was pressed to
call at any time, and as often
as I could find time to spare.

She inquired very particularly
about Aunt Jane and James.

and all their prospects,
They - the Hostess, are both
~~though~~ thoroughly loyal, and
not in the Johnsonian sense
either. In fact this whole
Town is Radical to the back-
bone, in Politics, and it is
refreshing to see a place which
like this shows the effects of
the application of ideas of
Progress to ~~the~~ its manage-
ments, and the effect of the
practice of its citizens of
all the virtues so much neg-
lected in Watertown and
cities of that ilk.

If I can spare time from my
studies I shall take great pleas-
ure in calling once in a while
on the Hostess,

My love to all the family,
As ever

Thos. D. Christie,

I wish I could have had some time
to talk with a Professor
You will see that the University
of Detroit College
Sept 8th 1864

My dear Father: [James Christie]

I write again so soon to ask you to send me a remittance sometime in the coming week. I am not out but I would be, were I to pay my dues for tuition and Room, which I have not yet done, just to show you how many things there are to get for the first of a term which are to be used all through. I will subjoin a list of Expenses since I left home.

I have bought an unusual number of new books, which I will sell as soon as I

am done with them, and in order to keep them perfectly clean and new, I have covered all of them with good stout paper. Here are my payments out-

R.R. Ticket, 2,75	3 Sal. Pil 40
Board at Simmons, 1,00	Compt. pen, 55
Subscription papers, 3,50	Quill pen 35
Backs stamped in 87	Red cord 35
2 Tom pails 1,00	2 Chairs 1,50
Oil can 55	Soap 25
Wash dish 25	Adams ^{ing. club} board 2,00
Lamp 50	Greek Grammar 1,75
Soap holder 50	Greek Lexicon 1,00
Lamp shade 40	Eng. Grammar 1,00
Mirror 50	Latin Gram 1,20
Speller 25	Latin Reader 1,00
Newspaper Exp 55	

11 35
12 63
 \$ 23.77

You can see from this that were I to pay tuition and Room, I would be in a minus condition, and so I wish you to send us soon as you can convenient ly. My Estimates for the rest of the term are as follows:

Tuition	7,00
Room Rent	7,50
Board, 14 weeks in club,	28,00
Hat, Shoes & Pants	10,00
R.R. Ticket	2,75
Incidentals	1,00

Which will make a total of about ~~45~~⁵⁵ dollars, counting off what I have on hand. Of this, I will not need more than 25 at first, unless you had it all by you and should send it together, to save Expressage. After receiving all this furniture and extra books, my expenses

in subsequent terms will be

Luition - -	7,00
Board	28, 25
Rooms - -	7
Books	2
R.R.	5
Incidentals	2

Total 51 Dollars

Please write to tell me how and when you will send. I have found no letter from home yet in the P.O.

I send you the ~~Sanby~~ Republican ~~instead of the Tidewater~~ which I did not get last night.

I sing in the Choir of our Dept. and provide at the Chat Table. I will tell you all about Everything in a subsequent letter. E. M. Christie rooms in the same building with me, but I did not see him till last night - and then only for a minute. He is Scotch by birth - from Falkland, and has often been in Dundee, none of him in the future. My love to all
Yours
Thos D Christie

Of the which please you can
blush if you wish to,
kindly. You can read with me
if you come bring bedding, and a

Beloit-College Wis.
{ Monday, Sept. 10th / 66.

My Dear Sandy;

I snatch
time to send you a line or
two this evening, to tell you
what I have just learned about
Madison. Professor Stirling
was down here yesterday to
preach in the Presbyterian
Church, and visited the
College this morning.

I saw him, and had a chat
with him. It seems that
Prof. Chadbourne has resigned,
that the Board of Regents met
to select a President, and have
again adjourned till the 3^d
Oct. In the meanwhile, the
College is without either

President or Professors, for the
Regents have not elected even
the other Professors to their old
posts, which is necessary to be
done before they can open the
Term. Prof. S. says this will
not be any Fall term at all, in
consequence of this, and says
a great many of the students of
the University will be joining
me here before long. All this
is sad news. I think that
the Board of Regents will call Prof.
Stirling back again, by what he
said, but our plans for the Fall
are all fallen through, any way.

The best thing you can
do Sandy, is to come here with
me, immediately. I have
seen enough of this Institution
to appreciate its great thorough-
ness, and to see the excellence
of its modes of teaching.

I do not see how this method
could be bettered, Everything is
admirable. Between it and
Madison there is scarcely a
comparison. There might be
some things in the strictness
of the Regulations enforced here
which would offend your inde-
pendent notions of things, but
it is all necessary, and all
 requisite to the maintenance
of that thoroughness which is
the leading feature of the In-
stitution. And nothing is asked
of us, which is not just and
right, and very easy to give.

Our Principal of the Preparatory
Dept. is one of the men who do
one good just to see them.
He is a regular genius in his
way. If you come here now
you can study Algebra, Grammar,
Phys., Geography or Highest Math.

netic, There are two classes in
Grammar and I am in the advanced
one, in which we are taking up for
analysis - Milton's Paradise Lost,
The Principal Teacher, it himself, &
it is a splendid study.

You could also begin Latin with
~~your good Greek~~ if you wished,
I hope you will wake up your
mind speedily & come right along.
We are just starting in everything,
and you could catch up easily
by coming anytime within ten
days. Sarah will have to go
to either Fox Lake or Ripon, for
there will be nothing done in Mad-
ison this Fall. I wish there was
an opportunity for her here but there
is none nearer than Rockford.

Butter, give her the must have
courage in view of these unex-
pected difficulties for there is
always a way of getting over them.
I hope you will take that way by
coming here at once. Write immedi-
ately. I have nothing from home
yet. Tell me how Dolly is getting
along. I wrote Mr. yesterday.
Yours (at 11 P.M.) Thos. D. Christie

Clyman Sept 10th 1886

My Dear Friend -

I sent by Express
(the Amerscons) to you at
Beloit \$50.00 - to day -

I have received your
three letters.

Our wheat is in the
Granary. 369 Bushels
would have gone too if
it had been well threshed
Contracted with G. Cotton
to take 250 Bushels.
at 1.65. and are delivering
it to day

We are all as usual
in all respects -

and Thankful that
things are so well with
us. Of course we all
need Mending in a Great
Many Respects.

And before we
must wait until
we get better.

Mother is getting things
ready for Lent.

But she says they little
about Madison.

Dolly is not Recovering
and lingers along
after you left we could
not let her up. But
Lenny suggested the
getting up a Windsor
chair for her and make it
and we can hoist her
easily 2 of us

I must buy
a horse that is clean
and using Emerson
now -

The Expressage on
your package is paid -
Enclosed I send you a
line for Extras. Please
send me a Good Map of our
State if you see one in
Beloit -

My love to all the family
Last Sunday, and heard that I must
I caught a cold on Sunday School
Thank you very much for your letter, please

Deloit College, N.Y.
Sept 12 1866,

My dear Father, [James Christie]

Your letter
and the Express package to the
reel a few minutes ago,

I hasten to reply knowing
you will be anxious about
the money, I am very much
obliged to you for the prompt-
ness with which you have
complied with my request.
I can now pay my Room rent
and Tuition in advance,

I spoke to the authorities on
the subject a week ago, as
these bills should be paid at
the first of the term, and
was informed that I need
not be anxious on that

score, but could pay when I should receive the money.

That five you mentioned was not enclosed, as you are doubtless aware, and it is not necessary, as I have enough now to last the rest of the term, if all goes as I think. Of course, I am just as economical as it is possible to be, letting not a cent go ~~but~~ except what is necessary.

I am glad you are getting such a good price for your wheat, and suppose it could not have been damaged so much as that of our neighbors for I saw some today sold here for 1.45.

I want Sandy to come here immediately, and if he doesn't like the Institution

it will be because he is very hard to suit. The whole thing is admirably managed.

Let him come right along without delay. Our classes have just got started, and he can go into any of them if he comes within a few days. The sooner the better. Had a letter from Clark Smith, my Chum in Madison, and he tells me that there is to be no term there this Fall. He was in the University lately and saw our things in the room, all right. Send Sandy down, and when he comes let him leave his trunk in the baggage room at the Depot, and post up here at once.

When he comes up to the College let him enquire for

the Burrall House. It is a
frame building in the
S.W. corner of the College
grounds. I room in
the house, and he will eas-
ily find where by asking
any one. He can bring
down a few apples, if he can
take care of them.

We have two writing lessons
per week in our Dept - free, and
Declamations, Compositions &c.
on Wednesdays and Saturdays,
Holidays every Wednesday &
Saturday afternoon.

I am getting along finely in
both Greek and Latin. In the
latter I am pushing ahead of
my class, and will soon over-
take the one in advance of me,
which began last term.

Mr. Fisk will give me private
lessons to facilitate my prog-
ress. He is one of the best of
men, and peculiar as Abolitionists.

I wish you could see some
of the men who are con-
nected with this Institution,
to see for yourself the natural
fruits of Christian Education.

It would make you think
more highly of the Race and
its capabilities, and value
more highly the benefits of
Religious Culture. The more
I see of the world since my
eyes were opened, the more
do I feel convinced that the
grand Panacea for all the
ills that Man is heir to - social
evils, and everything else that
is out of harmony with the
Higher Law, is to be found in
Christ. Oh that all could
see the beauty and efficacy
of the workings within them-
selves of this Law of Recon-
ciliation to God, "Behold,
all things are become new."

I feel condemned in
my conscience for not having
been more in earnest in
urging the acceptance of the
Truth upon all those who are
so dear to me. I would that
I could constrain you to take
that which is so necessary,
so well adapted to supply every
want of our natures, so abso-
lutely indispensable to secure
our present happiness and give
us a hope in the future, and
withal so easily to be obtained.

If I could only hear you
say, "I will believe; I will
follow the promptings of my
better nature, which constantly
tell me of the necessity of faith
in the risen Christ, I will
sacrifice everything that lies
in the way of my spiritual
Progress, and take for my

loving Master, Teacher, and
Comforter, Him only, "in whom
all fullness dwells."

My dear Father, you have
had enough experience in spiri-
tual things, and in life gen-
erally, to feel that all is van-
ity except that great something
for which at moments, your
whole Soul yearns. It is not
found in the intellectual percep-
tion of Truth. It is, and you
feel that it is, that perfect
Peace which passeth understand-
ing, which cometh from above
as the natural effect of our
asking in faith. Now what
can be of sufficient importance
to prevent your exercising this
child-like confidence in God
and enjoying its legitimate
fruits? If I had been con-
strained by the love of Christ

as I should have been, I
would have pleaded with
you in tears if need be,
to induce you to take this
step, the one thing needful.
But the diffidence, which never
troubles me when talking with
Christians of the wonderful things
in the operation of the Spirit on
our hearts, ties my tongue in
the presence of even those who
are the dearest to me. I can
talk with perfect strangers, if
they confess the same relationship
to Christ which I trust I will
ever remain in, on matters of
Religion, with absolute freedom,
~~what with those~~ The fellowship
of the Spirit in Christ Jesus is
a higher bond to bind together the
hearts of believers than ~~any~~
the ~~common~~ ties of Human af-
fection. I wish you could
throw everything aside but that
which would bring you into this
same fellowship -

Affectionately Thos. D. Christie

Clyman, Wisconsin

Sept. 13th 1866 -

My Dear Brother,

Yours of 10th is at hand.

The news about the Madison University does not astonish me in the least, but rather confirms me in an opinion I have long entertained - that I am one of the lucky-unducky chaps - if I may so express it. I can look back to three instances of the kind, where there was just as much apparent ill-luck but really good-fortune, which I now see.

There are many things would conduce to make me go to your College, and at once, were I to abandon my own principles. This I can never do how ever it may go in consequence. First, my duty to Father precludes it till winter,

If I do not stand by him now, I may die before I get another chance to assist him, and thus however good my motives might be the consequences to him would be the same.

My duty to him consists in reducing my expenses the cost of a tour at Albany in order to facilitate his buying a horse, and in working him all free to put things in ~~the~~ shape to bear fruit next year in order to meet other expenses the more easily. If I were to leave, he would have no more to do than he is able to do.

So I cannot go this fall even if the Madison University was in running order. Again, there is Sarah she must go somewhere, and if Father will not have the money to spare for everything. Thus my duty to myself precludes my ever going to your College. Hypocrisy would be less tolerable than death, and ra-

ther than abandon a principle I will fly the haunts of men, and live nearer God than ever I could announce by hypocrites myself a hypocrite.

You seem to think my opinions are only forming, and that if brought under proper Christian influences, a new direction would be given, ere it is too late.

But you mistake me - it is too late now. Had I been brought up in a Christian community, and my mind been filled as it formed, it is probable I would have been different, but as it is - allow me a partisan sentence or two - I have read God's word, as he speaks in his Allmighty works around us, in the sighing of the wind in the tree top, and the pattering the rain; In the glorious noon and the solemn night; In hunger, thirst and satiety; and I scoff at the idea of putting it all

withing the covers of a book. You
might better attempt to force Niagara
through a pump-log man.
I will not join with ~~any~~ who hold
such doctrines. I will fly from them
to the uttermost parts of the earth
will I go rather than for a moment
cease to combat these errors. When I
lack strength to contest, I will fly and
hide myself, but never will I ~~at~~
ever appear to yield.

Oth. Esop's hungry Wolf? I admire you!
When a man abandons that prin-
ciple of Independence, he abandons
his own soul. Let me die in ig-
norance and penury, O God, but
give me light to see, and strength to
continue in the Right. = We live
in the Present, and the Present is
Eternity. We may measure it by
motion, but it is Eternity still; for
why should that change it? It
does not, save that then we are un-
abled to grasp it, and when we
grasp it we call it Time. Yet is it
Eternity still. When a Man does
right in the ever-present Now, he
does Right Eternally, and he moves
higher and higher, and comes nearer
to God. Where else shall we go to find
happiness? God give us strength to do

right-always! Let us not hurried our
life here. Death will bring our du-
ties. Shall we not praise God all our
days? and how shall we praise God
but by righteous actions? Let us ful-
fill the duties of today. Mine is here.
Tomorrow it may be there. - You may
think me a wild visionary. I hope there
are not the figments of the imagination,
for they are my solace and my good
angel. Fetter walls of Stone! but let
my airy castle stand. - I much need
your advice in Sarah's case. It complet-
ly staggers me, and I am afraid to
take a step in any direction.

She is opposed to going to any College
but Eastman's, to secure a Business
Education, and somehow I think it
would be best too, if she will only
take care of herself. I feel bad to have
her leave home, for if she gets any

good situation somewhere (the end
in view) it put an end to her home
life, it seems to me forever. Yet she
cannot live ~~here~~ ^{there} in peace, and she
almost refuses to go to any other col-
lege. If she were to go with me
to Madison, Ripon or Appleton, when
it became impossible for her to stay
longer, she would be almost where
she is now, for she will not teach school,
and would not do, I fear, for a ω higher po-
sition in the Profession. It will not
do for her to stay here any longer.
She has such a predilection for what
is not right. Thus it is only a night
or two, ^{or} she was at a ω force of the
Widow trainer's without any of us
knowing it, or Father's consent.
Not only that but she says it was
quite right. Now what can be
done, and what should be done?
(Remember, it is quite useless to
write her ω reprimand. Talking things

as they are, what should we do? =
We are afraid poor Doty is a case.
The very next day after you left
we attempted to raise ^{him} with the help
of Willie, and signally failed, she was
so very helpless. That night we
agreed to kill her next morning, and
partly dig her grave, but when
morning came she had improved
 ω little and anyway we could not
have the heart while there was the
least hope of saving her. We went
to work and set two crotches and
a long windlass, to work with two
loose handspikes, and ω passed two
logs under her, one in front and one
behind, fastening them over her back
with short pieces of rope. Then hitch-
ing into these with the big ropes and
adjusting them on the windlass
we were enabled to raise her with
the greatest of ease to us and to her.
I am able to raise and lower her

myself alone, expeditiously, and
there is no chance for her to sprain
or to ~~re~~ sprain her leg. Raise and
Lower, ^{her} morning and night. She has
improved greatly since, as I feed her
oats too, but her leg continues to
run out on one side a thin human
sometimes fresh blood, and we think
"a ~~thin~~ vein is ruptured and
corroded as it ~~was~~ in which case
it will never heal. She must have
got it sprained very bad sometimes
we lifted her, for she will never
put the foot under her.

However, we will see: had this
plan of raising her been adopted
at first she would have been much
longer since. However, we did not know.

= We are thrashed out - 369 of wheat
245 of oats. We have just finished
hauling 250 to the station at \$1.65.
Father sent you \$50. by the Express
= Do not feel disappointed. Take things
as they are. Write soon and give
me your mind freely.

Yours (at Midnight) Alex. S. Christie

not carrying during this season
I have a little from Mr. all well, but
H. T. soon and truly!

Deloit College

Sept. 21st, 1866,

My dear Sister, (Dear Charlotte)
I steal an hour from Greek verbs and Latin declensions, to devote to a chat with you. I wish you to write to me regularly, and I promise on my part to do my best toward interesting you as often as you shall choose to determine, in the future. I have written hitherto to Father & S. exclusively, knowing that you would like better to hear from me after my ^{home} life, should become familiar to me in all its details, without which there can be only partial descriptions. And then, I knew also, that you would share as

much of a share in anything sent to either of the others, as they could themselves.

Now in this letter I will take in hand to photograph a little for your sake, as I know you will be pleased to hear of all the minutiae of our lives here. And first, the situation and appearance of the town and college.

Beloit is built on both sides of the Rock, partly in Wis. & partly in Ills. At the Racine & Mpls. R.R. Depot, there are two doors, about 6 feet apart, one of which is in one State and the other in the other, the line running between them. The names of the States are painted in large letters over the respective doors.

The town is occupied by a population of about six thousand, and is beautifully laid out

in fine wide streets, with good sidewalks. There are more handsome buildings in it than I ever saw in any other western town of the size; all the dwellings surrounded with fine flower gardens and shrubbery. The people mostly the best class of Americans, with a large sprinkling of Scotch; and all Radical in everything; down on Intemperance, Slavery, Tobacco, Andy Johnson, and every other enemy to the most advanced and enlightened Christian Principles.

It does you good to walk its streets and note the individual appearance of the population, so different from Watertown in this respect.

Here you see the high forehead, the clear eyes, the expressive face of a people whose moral and intellectual natures are in

the ascendancy.

Our college grounds are situated on a hill in the suburbs of Town within five minutes walk of the business regions, and contain about forty acres, level, dotted with trees, and knee deep with Red clover. The buildings are three, of brick, and are in a line, from north to south, about 100 yards apart. The North College is used entirely for rooms for the students and for the kitchen and dining room of the largest of the College boarding clubs. The Middle College is the building in which the Recitations take place, and only the rooms in the fourth story are occupied by the students.

The South building is called the Chapel, but only the hall upstairs is devoted to Chapel services, while in the large room on the ground floor is our Preparatory Dept. school room, under the charge of Mr. Fiske, the Principal

And here, when I mention "Old
But" as the boys call him, I
must drop everything else and
take his picture for you.

He is a man about forty years
old, I should think, squarely &
heavily built; weighs 240 lbs, with
short, black curly hair completely cov-
ering his large and rather bullet-
shaped head; short, square-cut
whiskers & beard, as black as night,
flanking a face which can be by
turns the most jovial and the
most determined of faces,

Add a pair of keen black eyes,
twinkling with humor, and you
have before you the picture of the
best teacher and master of a school
that can be found in the State,

If I were to describe his Personnel
in two words I would say "square-
cut and solid," His character -
"firm, genial, and full of power."
It would do you good to be in

the school room one day, to see
the admirable way in which he
conducts things. As active as a
cat himself, he fairly drives the
dullest and slowest of his pupils
into vivacity; no one can sluff
through a Recitation with him,
the least mark of inattention on
the part of a scholar will bring
Fiske down on him like a thun-
derbolt, and then woe to him
if he betrays a lack of prompt-
itude in answering the question
suddenly put to him. The
luckless wight is held up, un-
mercifully to the ridicule of
his Class mates. There is nothing
that Fiske likes so much as a
class as sharpness and boldness
in discussion. I am in his
advanced Eng. Grammar class,
and we have some of the most
animated discussions there

ever you heard. Here is a sam-
ple. Fiske, standing on the
little raised platform which is
his quarter deck, and surveying
the class in front of him, (35 of
us, all seated on long forms) as you
might imagine the Czar Nicholas
regarding a Company of his Guards
on Inspection, reads from the
lesson - "The powerful Speaker
stands motionless before us,"
"Willis, what part of speech is mo-
tionless," "quick now," and he
snaps his finger and thumb at the
individual named, who says
something in a rather low voice,
"Speak up Sir, open your mouth
and let your jaws work as they
did at dinner time; now Sir,
what did you say it was?"
"An Adjective, Sir." "No, it isn't."
(This is one of his "Professional demials"
as he calls them.) "Don't you see it

is a verb," and he goes on with a lot of specious reasoning that is to prove "motionless" a verb, to the great edification of those who see what he is driving at,

At its conclusion, he asks Willis if he don't see it, Willis says "yes,"

"Class, how many agree with me and Mr. Willis that this is a verb," Some of the weak-kneed ones hold up their hands.

"How many do not think so," The bold ones raise hands,

"You are right, my men, it is not a verb," "Willis, I would not give two cents for a man who will not maintain his position in the face of any and all opposition if he knows that he is right," And then follows an exposition of his ideal on Manliness and "Backbone," for the benefit of the weak-kneed ones,

One day when we had the sentence
"I bring thee here my fortress-
keys," one of the boys passed
"thee" as in the Objection Case,
governed by the verb "bring."
"Now," says But, "I'll give you
an ocular demonstration to
show you that you are wrong."

Buts his hand in his pocket,
draws forth a bunch of keys,
comes down from the platform
and presents them to Bickerdike,
the one who was reciting, saying,
"I bring thee here my fortress
keys," "What do I bring,"— my
keys," "Keys" is the object of
the verb bring." Now, I will show
you how you would have it by
your parsing" and before the
astounded "Bick" could resist
Ticke threw his arms around
him, lifted him up and carried
him to the platform amid the
roars of the whole school.

Set him down; "I bring
the here, Bunkerdyke," "the in
the objective Case & governed
by bring," "Do you see the dif-
ference now my friend,"
and the scholar goes to his
seat with a lesson in grammar
which he will not forget in
a hurry; He and I have a
spat every recitation about
something, generally Appositions,
in which I generally come off
second best. But it fairly de-
lights him to get some one to
fight him, for in this way the
interest of the whole class is
fixed on the point at issue,
and he gets some of the dull
ones to think. I wish I could
keep in mind all the good things
I have seen and heard in the
school room since I came.

They would fill a book,

Fiske is very adroit in the
use of a pencil or chalk crayon,
and one day drew in rapid
succession on the B. Board a
series of objects to illustrate
Ratio between things of the
same Denomination; such
as a long + a short line, a large
and a small cask &c. and
last of all, with about a
dozen strokes he drew two
men, a big one and a little
one, in pugilistic attitude,
with hats cocked on one side,
and fists extended in the
regular Fire Points style.
All this with the greatest
gravity, while the boys
laughed till he had to rub
out the pictures to secure
order. He taught High
School in Lowell, Mass. a long
time, and is first cousin to

Edna Dean Proctor, who writes
to the Independent. It does
one good every day to see such
a whole souled, large hearted, loving
Christian man. He takes great
pleasure in patting and stroking
the cheeks of "his boys" while he
is talking with and encouraging
them, and seems to love each
of us as if we were his children.

His influence for good in the
College is greater than that
of any of the Professors, for his
business is to give boys in the
Preparatory Course a good founda-
tion on which to build a life-
work.

Today, (Sat) we had in-
struction from him how to write
a letter, and superscribe it, and
all of us are required as our
exercise in Rhetoric, to bring to
him for criticism & correction a
letter, next Saturday, - a model
letter. Every day we have a short
and impromptu lecture from him
on practical subjects in Morals or

conduct in general, all seasoned with his peculiar humor.

But I shall have to defer any more about him for the present. In some future letter I will give you a sketch of our life here.

I am doing well in all my studies, and especially in Latin, thanks to Geo. Christie's help; for I am now advanced by Mr. A. to a class ahead of the one I started in; and intend staying in that just long enough to let me get over the ground between it and the one in advance of it; I have to work, for there are three years' work of Latin and two of Greek to crowd into the present year, and everything is very thorough here.

I can do it like a top, though, if I am spared.

What I prize very highly here are the daily Prayer meetings of a half hour in the evening.

We meet in one of the rooms of the College to read a chapter of the Bible, on which there are remarks offered by the one who leads the meeting; and afterward sing, pray and talk. And we have most sweet Communion in all these exercises, with the Spirit of the Highest.

There is nothing like Prayer, my dear Sister, to keep us firm in the path of Life and Holiness; nothing like it to cleanse our spirits from all that tends to drag them downward; nothing like it to give tone and character to all our aspirations for good, to comfort in the midst of trouble.

If we do not constantly renew our spiritual strength from the source of all strength and purity, we must fall, for there is nothing within us to sustain us.

As well might you sit a glass of water under the burning rays of the Sun, and expect it to remain ever full, as to think that without constant nourishment through Prayer our spiritual strength can be maintained.

My dear Sister, follow the moving and tender impulses of your better moments, and come to Christ once more, truly confessing with a broken and contrite heart all your sins to Him who is able and willing not only to forgive, but to save to the uttermost.

Ask for Divine assistance constantly, cultivate assiduously all traits of your character which are Christ-like, and resolutely caucify all else. No one ever yet earnestly tried to escape from sin, and

follow, no matter how far off,
our Blessed Redeemer; who was
not assisted by Him who hath
promised that "they who do
hunger and thirst after Righteous-
ness shall be filled."

What do we live for, if not To do
in all things the will of our Creator?
Is our life so long and so sure
that we may afford to spend it
all in neglect of our relations to
Him,? In whose hands is
the breath of our life even,

Oh Sarah, neglect not one of the
blessed means through which the
Spirit of Christ is brought to
dwell in us, making our wills
subservient to His. Pray always;
and if you feel a coldness and
lack of that love which once lifted
you into the very arms of Christ,
do not be discouraged, but con-
tinue to use the means, in faith,
and you will find again the
joy you once possessed.
Your loving Brother, Thos. D. Christie

I am sorry to hear of Abby's death, and
of the necessary purchase of a house,
I had all along hoped for the termination
of her illness - perhaps unnecessarily.

Beloit College

Sat. Evening, Sept. 29, '66.

My Dear Father:

I got yours of the
23^d some days ago, and have waited
before answering, in the expectation that
I would receive something from Sarah
or Sandy first, but they have not
written, and so I will do my duty
to you at once,

I do not quite understand to
what you refer, in speaking of my
lack of judgment in writing some
things which I have written.

I know that I am unable to
say what I should, and what I
would like to say; and that I
can make but a poor bungling attempt
at the best, to set forth the claims of
Christ, to those who do not believe in
Him; but if you mean that I

have been too earnest in what I have said, I cannot agree with you, feeling as I do the paramount importance of these things.

I only wish that I could be more in earnest in persuading those who are so dear to me to act for themselves the good things of the new spiritual life which come through the acceptance of Christ in the soul. "If any man will try my doctrine, he shall see whether it be of God or of man."

I can say, and I hope you will think truly, that if there is a Reality in the world, it is the Reality of the Religion of Jesus Christ, and thanks be to His Name, I know Him as my Redeemer. I feel His power in me working complete spiritual purification. The words "Redeemer" and "Savior" have a new significance to me now. It is just as natural that the

work of Christ should be a redemptive work in the human soul as it is that constant communion and association with a wholly wicked or a pure and good man have a direct influence on us for either evil or good. But there is no use of presenting these truths to you for I know that you believe them, and understand the philosophy that lies at the root of our Religion.

The difficulty, I think, with you, is the lack of faith in the Savior, as the specific agent in ~~th~~ freeing from sin and this change of life; you are not willing to take the prescriptions of this Divine Physician in perfect trust and confidence; and my Dear Father, there is no other way by which to become a Christian. We must come to Christ in perfect faith

in His ability and power to work
this change in us, - come in heart-
broken repentance for sin; and give
ourselves entirely into His hands for
helping and direction. Then will
the Holy Spirit begin that work in
the very depths of our Being which is
to be continued until we arrive at
"the full stature of man in Christ Jesus!"

And what a living joy it is, to be
able, from time to time, to see our
spiritual progress, to feel our con-
stantly nearing to God; - in the
comparative weakness of temptation,
in the quickening of our spiritual
perceptions to recognize Good and
condemn Evil, in the increasing
delight we feel in each successive
hour of communion with Christ, and
in a thousand tokens by which we
may gauge our advance toward Purity,

The life of the Christian is the
only one worth living! it presents
the grandest possible object for
which to strive - the advancement
of ourselves in holiness; - and ~~the~~
offers the sweetest pleasures and
the dearest hopes. - Can such a
system be a falsehood?

How I wish the Religion of Christ
could be made the life of each one of
our family; Then would disappear
all those difficulties and all that
disharmony which have caused you
so much sorrow. It would begin
a Reformation at the very root
of the evil, in our affections, and
what a happiness there would be
in all our lives, when we should
live not to ourselves but unto
Him who hath redeemed us,

It is a Consummation for which
I will ever continue to pray in
hope, and I am sure the time is
not far distant when it shall be
accomplished.

Did you read those fine ar-
ticles in this week's Independent,
on "the fruits of the Spirit," and
"Faith and Unbelief." I like
them very much; The Independent

is much taken here, and the whole tone of this place is in harmony with that of that good Radical old newspaper. As soon as I read mine I let Geo Christie have it and from him it goes to another room next to mine, so that several have the privilege of enjoying the good things in its columns;

Everything goes on in the usual routine of college life, study, Recitation, and Religious exercises, with what recreation we need. Besides the Baseball clubs, of which there are two in the institution, there is a foot ball game every day, in which there is lots of fun and exercise, and sometimes barked shins,

Then we have a Gymnastic Society, and practice Dec Lewis

System of Free Gymnastics every day, for a half hour after dinner,

Our teacher is a young fellow who will be in my class in college, the son of Mr Ford, who was a Missionary to the Syrians, and who died in his work. Young Ford has lived in Beyrout and Aleppo untill two years ago, and speaks Arabic like a Bedouin. The boys call him 'the little Arab.' We have all sorts of odd characters here, and it would surprise you to see the number of Scotch who are preparing for the Ministry. One man named Gillis—very ignorant as yet, but working like a hero, and of the true Christian spirit. He is, I think about 26 years of age, beginning at the rudiments of German Arithmetic & Latin, but with all that, a man of great power and force

of character, The college is full of men of the right stamp, gaining here the things necessary to make their powers for good in the world.

I went down to Mr. Foster's on Wednesday evening, for the second time since I came to Beloit, and got a scolding from Mrs. F. for staying away so long. Had a really pleasant time, and will have to call again soon. They are Episcopals, and Mrs. F. is a good Christian woman, of culture too.

In spite of my hard work on the Latin and Greek I am gaining fast physically, and am now in much better health than when I left you.

We get good food in our club, and I take plenty of exercise, so that my appetite is more satisfactory to me than to our housekeeper.

There have come four down from Madison this term, besides myself, and many have gone to Ann Arbor, Mich. from the University.

Write me a long letter again, like the last, for which I am very thankful.

Remember me in love to all, and may God have you in His holy keeping.
Your loving Son Thos. L. Christie.

Glynn. Oct 3 1866

My Dear Foss

Your of the 29th
Ult. to hand. on that day I was
55. 20 years ago I left Boston
on that day. As far as I can
judge the best move ever
I made. and I have had
a long time to think of it

When I cast my thoughts
back to the old time in
Europe. When it was a
continual struggle for
food. and all the prime
necessities of Bare Exis-
tence. I thank God for
his many blessings which
have come to me in this
Canaan of the West.

'By Faith are ye saved'
Like Abraham by unwavering
faith must have been
imputed to me for Right
covenant.

Sandy has taken a 4
month school. above where
Larah taught last winter
32 \$ per month. and
Larah is going to teach
in Candales district
a 5 month school -
wages not yet settled
probably near 30 \$ -

And like Plato
I think the world is good
in a way of becoming -

I trust things will
come even yet. ~~the~~

Your Paterosted
suggestion that they
two should go to College
"per se. was also right.
But the straitened condition
of our finances. would not
allow of it. Beside I gave
you other reasons against
it in reference to Larah
in a previous letter.

Now let me assure
you that your letters to
Alec do no good. He is in
no condition to receive any
good from you in relation
to a Christian life. They
always make ^{them} ~~it~~ plausible
in an Antisocial manner
and there is danger of his
acquiring a little dislike
~~to~~ you

I am happy to see that
you are on the right
path. and would and do
desire that all my Family
were under the influence
of the same Spirit.

But we must Obey
Gods Time. The Deceit and
Truthfulness of the World, the
Hollowness of its pleasures
and its unsteady
nature must do
their work on most men
before they can see even that
they are on the Wrong Road

Lenny has a very
strong passionate nature
difficult to regulate.

He is already I think
aware of it. but it has
not yet wrought him wise
enough to make him resolve
to subdue it.

indeed he told me
 he was not willing to carry
 any Cross. and did not mean
 to take it up. Now I believe
 all this was as much from
 the Head as the Heart. and
 Vice versa, also. He has
 a Clear and Acute Intellect
 and will know where all
 this tends. I believe the
 Spirit cannot operate
 unless in conjunction with
 the Will. But the result of
 the Operations of Gods Laws
 on the Natural Plane all
 ways tends to the subjection
 of the Human Will to Spiritual
 influences. And there is therefore
 a time to all men, sooner
 or later. As even the Emancipator
 cannot come back to the
 Law. so no man can escape

Still "now is the appointed
time, now is the day of
salvation" and ~~and~~
one disregards the warning
at his own peril.

Because we do not
know but we may go
into the outer blackness
of darkness for ever -

Let us believe and
pray, and hope, and trust
in God, that all, ourselves
and those we hear to us,
and all mankind may be
turned towards the right.
I cannot say that I believe
that such will be or even
in Eternity.

Our Special Business
is to do what we can today
for ourselves and nationally
for those that are dearest

to us - I thank God
often for your course
for I am satisfied you
know the right and the
wrong. But my dear
Johns you must be careful
Remember the natural
Laws must be obeyed -

Do not overwork your
nervous system, you
cannot do it with impunity
and will break down.
if you wish to live a
useful life, you must
not surrender your resources
nor draw too much on
the future, take my advice
and go more slowly towards
the goal. "Nothing too much"
Even Godliness has a
limit in the body. Vide
Enoch -

Neighbour buttons has
been sent in a suit
for 1500.8 with the Waterloo
Bank. Through the Tanageries
of Chasly Beckendorf.

a New Case on poor John
his special Idol states
from him. and as it is
God can reach every man
and the very Devil is made
to teach us ^{to} learn our Idol
We take it very bad. and
has put up a notice at
his gate. "This is our forlorn
Mutation is the only
Condition that is permanent
Here. Now Tom Kemp
Cool, and believe that God
will give you time to ^{do} all
the ~~intend~~ you to do.
Write again soon
Christie

Oct. 7. 1866
Beloit College
My Dear Father, [James Christen]
It is Sunday
afternoon, I have heard an excellent
sermon and received necessary
instruction in the Bible class; have
come home and had dinner, and now
take your letter of the 3^d from my drawer
to read again and answer.

The sermon this forenoon was by
Rev. Mr. Davis of Racine, on the 4th
Verse of 10th Romans. It was just
what a sermon on that text should be.

In our Bible class in Sunday
School we are engaged on the
Epistle to the Hebrews, in which
I am having a great deal of useful
instruction, so that I am able to see
into a great many things which before
were hard to be understood.

Our teacher is Mr. Helbert, the Principal of the High School; and last Sunday we had Prof. Emerson of the College in his stead; they both use the Greek Testament and make their own translation as they go along; In this way we get the words just as Paul wrote them, and it helps us a great deal.

Tonight we are to have addresses from those who went as delegates from here to the State Convention of Congregationalists held at Fort Atkinson last week, and will hear also from members of the A. B. F. M. who were at the regular meeting of the Board in Pittsfield Mass, of which you may see an account in ^{the} last Independent. I shall have my letter open to tell you of it.

How greatly I relish the great

intellectual and Religious privileges I enjoy here, and how thankful I am for them. I am determined to so use them that I shall be able to reflect their elevating influences upon others all through my life, and thus try to convert my five talents into ten. Truly, God always gives us that for which we earnestly strive and pray, no matter what it may be, whether of Good or Evil, whether we seek the gratification of any one, or of all, the desires and appetites of our natural plane; or "seek the King down of God and His Righteousness." Our prayer and aspiration are always most surely answered; Knowing this, and Common Experience teaches it, is it not desirable that we should, as sentient, rational beings, convinced of our own immortality and of the

sure

Effects upon ourselves of all our action, whatever it may be; ask ourselves what will be the best object to which our lives can be devoted, what action shall we persevere in which will the most surely work out for us the greatest ultimate good? So soon as we bring ourselves to this question we are driven to confess that in the life and mode of action which Christ enjoins upon His followers do we find the answer;— not only that which He enjoins upon us, but also that which He helps and enables us to live, if we but have faith in Him. Read the third Chapter of Colossians, and indeed the whole of that blessed Epistle, and see the objects of the Christian life set forth, and then let any one, who really is seeking for Truth and the Right; ask himself if there could be a nobler ambition than to live by the light of these Precepts and in

in that account, the Disciple
themselves, and forgive a great deal
that it was here which brought
the faith which alone can make
them power in his life.

5 P.M. - I have just come
back from the College Chapel, where
we have a lecture on some Relig-
ious subject every Tuesday after-
noon, by one of the Professors, and
we had the pleasure today of
hearing the Rev. Mr. Chapin,
brother of our President, on the
text in Luke where he is told
the repentance of the dying thief
on the Cross. If you remember,
I told you last Summer of hearing
the same minister in Mr. Boynton's
pulpit. He preached today a
very powerful sermon, which
brought tears to many an eye.

It was mainly addressed to those
who feel that they ought to become
Christians, but who keep putting

off to a more convenient season
the reconciliation of their souls
to God, though they feel the
need of that reconciliation, and
acknowledge its efficacy and
desireableness.

Monday morning!

We had a good
meeting last night in the Cong.
Church. There were addresses
from our President, who has but
recently returned from the East,
and who gave us an account
of the meeting at Pittsfield Mass.
at which ^{he} was present, from Mr.
Clary, - a venerable old minister,
now engaged in the Home Mission
work, and who is also the Secetary
of our College, from our Professors,
Emerson and Miner, and
from the Pastor of the Church,
Mr. Bushnell. All these

latter speakers have been
to the Convention in At Home
and had many interesting things
to tell to those who are interested
in the advance of Christ's Cause
in the world. What I
heard only deepened and
strengthened my conviction that
as Christians we are nothing
unless we are wholly devoted
to Him who hath redeemed
us, - Counting Every thing
but loss for the excellency of the
Knowledge of Christ Jesus;

God helping me, my whole
life, and all that I have with
I offer in His service, to do
whatever He may direct, convinced
that there is no higher Calling to
which any one can devote
himself.

Do not fear about my

health, my dear father, for I
never felt better, physically,
in my life, — my studies do
not harass me at all, they
are all Languages, and
I walk along in them with
ease ahead of all my class-
mates. They are nothing to
what I put through at
Madison, where I pitched
into the Mathematics so
savagely,

I am glad that Sarah and
Sandy are to teach, if they
are not common to school,
I appreciate the motives
which lead them to this, and
honor them the more for it.

Why do neither of them write
to me in answer to my letters,
I am sorry if I have offended
Sandy in any way by my words
to him, and I hope he will consider

Beloit College

Sat Evening, Oct. 13. 1866.

My Dear Sister: [Miss Sarah J. Christie]

You have not answered my letter, and I feel anxious to know why. I hope I have not offended you in any way, to make you neglect me thus, and if I have I hope you will forgive me. My dear Sarah, there are few enough joys in the world; too few to justify us in throwing away all those coming to us from our love and sympathy for each other. Let us live for better things, than we have ever lived for before, for a greater nearness to Christ, and greater love to each other.

I feel that I have been greatly to blame for my selfishness in the past, and for my neglect of the claims for my sympathy and Christian

love which you have upon me,

There has never been enough of
prudence in our intercourse; never
enough of confidence and fraternal
affection in our mutual relations,
and I blame myself for it.

I have not been to you the brother
that I should have been; my thoughts
and desires have all been too selfish,
and I feel conscience stricken now
as I think of my neglected duties
in this respect.

I know that
you have many difficulties to
contend against, and many things
bearing against you, to warp
your life from that which it
should be. I can realize exactly
your position, and how hard it
is for you to fight all that you
have to fight in your situation, and
I know that you have not had that
assistance from me, at least, which

you should have had, to help you
in concerning these things.

"The heart knoweth its own bitterness;"

But, my dear sister; if I have been
recrunt to my duty, in not helping
you by my counsels and loving sym-
pathy, you still know that there
is One who is mighty to save; One,
whose sympathy and strength are ever
ready to cheer the weary in heart, and
help forward all good purposes.

He is not fickle; nor is He
untouched by our infirmities, and
to Him we can go at all times and
under all circumstances, with the
assurance that if our hearts are
earnest in supplication for help,
we will receive.

I mean to be different in the
future, and to lend more of a helping
hand for your assistance;

Wought to be one in spirit - and in

purpose; one in the desire to serve Christ, and love each other more and more as the days go by that are so soon to bring us to the end of our life work.

There is but this one reason of Probation for us, and how important it is that in it we should live for Christ alone; for in that is comprehended every minor duty.

Let us realize our true position in this respect, and resolve to throw everything else behind us save what will advance us spiritually.

And, Sarah, I feel assured that a trust in the Saviour will give us cheerfulness, and even happiness, in whatever situation we may be placed; no matter how hard it may seem. If we are doing His work in the world, we will share His Peace, that will make our lives serene, and full of a secret, quiet joy that lifts ^{us} above the common griefs and harassments of our lot.

How foolish, how criminally foolish, is any one who neglects to renew his spiritual strength every day by the appliances of Prayer and all the other

means that are given us to keep
along our path and love.

Let us come every hour in our
hearts to Christ for help, and our
triumph, over not only the sin that
is in us, but also everything which
without hinders our advancement,
is as sure as His gracious promise,
"Come unto me, all ye that are weary
and heavy-laden, and I will give you
rest." And, my dear Sarah, I
hope that we will both strive from
henceforth to live nearer to God, in
spite of all discouragements, feeling
that He will help us to do so.

I wish I could see you and
father in the right-relations to
each other;— you love each other
I know, but there is still something
that makes a barrier between you,
and for which you are both to blame.
Now, I think it is your duty as
a Christian daughter, to take the
first-step in the work of reconcil-
iation;— go to father, put your

arms around his neck, and tell him you want his forgiveness for whatever you have done in the Past, that has been unchristian, and want him to restore you to his love. I know that he would willingly lay down his life to see you truly happy, and his heart is yearning for that sympathy and affection with which you should gladden it. Make this change, then, and be assured that you will not regret it when we no longer have him with us upon Earth.

You should forget everything in the light of Christ, and your duty both to him and to Christ, and lose no time in taking the one step necessary to restore harmony in our household.

What a change there would be in every thing, and how smoothly would your life then flow on, undisturbed by all that which now weighs upon your spirits. Better a dinner of herbs where love is, than a stalled ox and hatred

therewith." If I could only see every one of those so dear to me, living in love and harmony with each other, and with God through Christ Jesus; praying and reading the Bible daily, keeping as sacred the Sabbath, and in all things, "pressing forward toward the mark of the high calling in Christ Jesus," I would feel that my happiness would be full. Do what you can, Sarah, towards bringing about this blessed condition, and you can have no higher ambition.

I hope that you will write me fully as to all your troubles and difficulties, and make a confidant of me in everything. And above all things, keep alive all there is in you of good by frequent prayer to Him who is better than brother or father in times of trouble. I wish you would let Sandy to write to me for I am afraid that I have offended him some way.

All is going well here with me,
and I feel that I have the
blessing of God on all my
efforts. In Latin I am soon to
be promoted to another class still
in advance; and in this way I
am hauling steadily up the class
with which I will enter College next
Fall, though they were two years ahead
of me in study when I came.

I am not pushing the Greek any faster
than the class with which I began it; for
this term, but next term I shall walk
ahead in it. Am receiving lessons
extra in Latin from my friend George
Christie; and am in turn hearing recitation
in the same from my roommate, and also
teaching Mr. Ellis Arithmetic.

I declaimed before our class in Rhet-
oric today, and have to declaim before
our Society on Wednesday evening next.

In all these duties I am kept so busy
that I have not had time to see the
Pastor, for some time, though I like
much to go there.

Yours in Brotherly love
Thos D Christie

Notice

[Oct 20 1866]

Notice is hereby given, that on the 6th day of November 1866, at the house of Carl Gust in the election district composed of the Township of Rapidan in the County of Blue Earth Minnesota, an election will be opened at 9 o'clock in the morning, and will continue open until 5 o'clock in the afternoon of the same day.

The following officers will be voted for at said election: State Auditor, Clerk Supreme Court, Representative to Congress for 1st Congressional District, County Auditor, County Attorney, Judge Probate, State Senator and two Representatives for the 19th Senatorial and Representative District, and a County Commissioner for the 2nd Commissioner District.

Dated at Rapidan, this 20th day of October 1866.

R. K. Paine,
Town Clerk.

[Oct. 23, 1866]

Notice.

Notice is hereby given, that on the 1st day of November 1866 at the house of Carl. J. Mads The Town Board of Rapidan will meet to make all necessary corrections in the Poll List of said town. Dated Rapidan, Oct-23rd 1866.

Lucius Egers Chas
William, Jr. Stevens

Know it or not. Do not neglect
the frequent and regular reading of
the scriptures. Notice Good Church
the house on Hope Street

Beloit College
Oct. 24th 1866.

will soon write in answer
to Sarah & Sandy

My Dear Father,

I had a letter
started to write you when
I recd. this morning yours
of the 22^d, with Sandy's of same
date. I got Sarah's shortly
after I wrote to her, and will
write again as soon as I have
time, in answer; but I am
kept pretty busy now with one
thing and another, and all
the time there is to spare from
my duties I like to devote to
my gymnastics and Ball
playing. Every evening I
lay out all my work for the
next day, and it is all done
in the regular order, so that
it is difficult to slip in any

thing besides what is on the docket. I have not written home for some time, but will try to do better from henceforth and find a plan for letter writing regularly in my daily plan of Operations. I need not tell you that I was much pleased with your long letter. Such letters are good to read a dozen times over before putting away on file, and that is my plan with them. I only wish that I could have the time to spare from my other intellectual labors to answer it as it should be, but if I keep you posted on my general progress in every thing, and on the more important things of interest, I will have to be satisfied to leave the rest

to the time when we may talk at our leisure. I look forward to the coming vacation with a great deal of pleasure, and our term is now half gone.

I have some things of news to tell you. In the first place - Genl. Butler was here on his way to Trepoort - the other day, stopped an hour, and gave us a speech by moonlight, on the duties of the Republican Party. A very large crowd collected at the depot to receive him, and he spoke from the platform.

I stood quite close to him. You have no idea how Radical all the people around here are, and how closely they apply the great Principles of Right and Justice to their Politics.

Here is where you find the
regular Puritan stock, and
well do they carry out the
Principles of their fathers.
The Hutchinsons were here
last week, and I went to
hear them. Had some very
fine singing which I enjoyed
much. Among other pieces,
they sang "Auld Robin Gray"
in excellent style.

In our Society this evening,
The Philagorean - which contains
35 members and is conducted
with great spirit, they chose
me Secretary, to serve till the
end of term. In our Debates
of the past few weeks we have
dipped pretty deeply into some
interesting questions in Moral
Politics and Social Ethics.
Have formally decided

that - women should vote.
that - Johnson should be
impeached: that - the
Liberty of the Press should
sometimes be restrained,
and that several other things
should be done forthwith, all
to the great edification of each
of us. It is an Excellent
Society, and one in which
I am receiving much good.
We meet - Every Wed. Evening.

My studies, are still moving
along very satisfactorily, and
I am doing much better in
Greek than when I began.
What an enlarged view of
Language the study of this
language gives to me. Not only
letting me see the Derivations
of words in our own tongue, but
also opening my eyes to the
great Principles that underlie
all Language, and were un-

folded in their formations,
It will be a pleasure to
me to talk with you on this
subject - when we meet.
I used to think that Math-
ematics was my forte, but
I now see that it is Philology.
Every one here, both my teachers
and class mates, are astonished
at the rapidity with which
I master both Latin and
Greek. This without boasting,
for I have no desire to boast
of that which God has given
me. But in everything I
study I find the advantage
of my organization, in pre-
paring me for the quick and
true appreciation of the spirit
of whatever I am engaged in.
In Latin I am a regular
Roman, and catch without

difficulty the meanings of
the curious Idioms and for-
mations that so puzzle my
young American class-mates.
A good, broad foundation
of general intelligence gives
any one a kind of instinctive
recognition and appreciation
of any one of the various forms
of Truth, and makes those
things easy which to the more
superficial are dark mysteries,
or bare forms without life.
I thank God and my
Parents, that I have powers
so useful to me, and am de-
termined, since I am intrusted
with them, to so discipline &
cultivate them, that they may
be made useful in the ad-
vancement of all good here
in the world, - in the bringing

little nearer, perhaps, of
the final and sure triumphs
of the spirit of Christ over
Every thing which is opposed to
Him. Is not this a glorious
object, and a glorious Consum-
mation to look forward to!
Many a pleasant thought do I
have of the time when I may
go forth fully furnished and
equipped, to preach to my
fellow men, Christ - the end
of the Law unto all that believe.
I want to devote myself wholly
and unreservedly to the work of
Christ - to be nothing except what
I am in Him. I feel that there
is not an object in life, even those
which I may want to consider as
the most inviting, that could
draw me away from a complete
consecration to this purpose.
Your letters are a great comfort
to me, father, and I hope you
will continue to send them regularly.
I see you are all right - in your
heart, whether your intellect is
satisfied or not, or whether you

(Nov 1845)

List of articles of Commodore's property left in the charge of Able

1 Auger handle	5 00			8 00
2 Chisel handles	20		1 An. knife	20
2 Hand saws	5 00		1 Punch screw	60
2 Iron wedges	1 50		1 Wash Bush	60
1 Jack plane	1 20		1 Coffee pot	40
1 Tin pot	50		1 Tin pot	30
1 Brace	62		1 Sawed Iron Pot	20
3 Bells	1 20		1 W. Bit	30
1 Auger (No)	1 50		1 Pocket Rule	31
1 Hammer	62		2 Tindrops	10
1 Hatchet	1 10		11 Tin plates	50
5 Gunlets	50		1 Butcher Case	15
1 Bone knife	1 10		1 Tin Batten	2 50
2 Dr. Drills	36		1 Tape line	1 20
2 Driving Chisels	75		1 Ace and helon	2 10
1 Framing "	81		1 Patent Nail	40
1 Saw Set	62		1 Bone Label	30
1 Sled	1 50		1 Half Sash	40
1 Spade	1 27		7 Glass Glasses	70
1 Lantern	88		1 Butcher Knife	50
1 10 Butcher rings	50		2 One bar jugs	70
1 Iron Square	81		1 Lamp Glass on piston	1 00
1 Hand Lamp & Glass	1 10		1 Oil Glass	60
1 Half bushel Measure	80		1 Dice Box	1 00

List of above disposed of and how.

Sold to John Silversnail	1 Measure, trimmer	80
" " Jack Taylor	2 Iron wedges	1 50
	1 10 Butcher rings	50
	1 Sled	1 50
	1 Lamp Glass & Piston	2 50
	1 Scythe Cutting	1 00
To Harry the German	1 One bar jug	60
" "	1 Hatchet	1 10

Chymam. October 28th 1865

My Dear Brother, [Thomas]

I send you an

a statement of the Company's property. These articles
not otherwise accounted for are here.

I think we should square up our accounts and
if possible dispose of the Wagon etc. If William
had money to buy a team, he would come down
and take the wagon up, at least, but I do not
think it he can do so this fall. If he comes
in Spring, it will do equally well. That can
stand, but as far as we can let us square up acct.

You will see inside what I am each of you
in Company acct and. If you have a copy of
the acct kept on the down trip, it is most, and
to whom with which of you I am to settle.

I hope this report will prove satisfactory, but if
there is anything not fully explained, I can prob-
ably do so from memory. I write soon.

You can see by this what remains belonging
to the Co., and ~~you can see~~ the present cost.

Yours affectionately,

A. S. Christie,

asking of the Faculty, the Latin pencil and
pencil along, and always keeps tally.
She could not on the best of times, and I
am only sorry that my studies with her
allowing me to visit - from February, 1841, to
March 1842, when I was in the
college to study.

Beloit College

Sat Evening Nov 5. 1841

My Dear Sister; [Sarah Chichester]

I have been more
than usually busy the past week, or
your letter should have been answered
sooner, but Greek and Latin lessons
have been "just more than piled on to
us" during the whole week, so that I
have looked in vain for enough of
leisure to write.

And now, Sarah, as I read
your letter over again, I see much
in it; (as I saw on reading it the
first time), which pains me.

You speak of the dreams of future
usefulness which you sometimes
have; and I would not find fault
with them, or anything which will
serve to train your thought and
aspiration upward; but - why look

to write at intervals at night

to the future only as the time when these dreams shall be realized. If you could only have now that whole hearted devotion to Christ of which you speak, your life would be a continual round of usefulness in the very highest sense. Christ may be served at home, in the daily little duties that make up common life, just as effectively as in larger spheres of usefulness, and so long as we leave Him out of it, our daily life, it will be in vain that we look to better service in the future, for if the opportunity ^{now} came for us, we should not be able to improve it, from the lack of that which only slow building can secure.

We are too apt to think that at some indefinite period in the future we shall attain to something all at once, which, if we only knew, is only to be got by slow and steady continuous effort in the ever present

Now, and so we may go on dreaming until the precious moments, and the precious life given in which to improve them, are alike taken from us.

Let us, now, see what Christ would have us do, and do it, with all our might;—then the future will bring us new duties and greater work which it will be a joy for us to do continually, until the time comes when we may rest from our labors, with the clear conscience which only the remembrance of every duty attended to, and small time wasted, can give us. If we could only realize the paramount importance of life, and of Christ's work in it, and also realize something of the exceeding sinfulness of sin, we should all be more earnest in every good work.

What does it matter to us if, as you say, the majority of professing Christians attend

more to the demands of selfishness than to their duty; is that - any reason why you or I should commit the same sin, or will it be any mitigation of our crime to plead as an offset the lack of duty in others?

And I think you judge our Christian Churches too severely, for I know many a one who ~~are~~ truly devoted to Christ's work, and true partakers of His Spirit.

May we all strive to do our duty any how, no matter how many may be faithless.

I sent to our Church in Madison last week and obtained a Certificate of membership, in order to enable me to join the 1st Cong. Church in this place. I shall be admitted to membership tomorrow when we have Communion Service. I shall be here during the greater part of the year, and it is proper that I should devote myself to its

interest, particularly. We have, besides, our regular College daily Prayer meetings, a weekly Prayer meeting of the Church, which is very interesting. Very many of our college students belong to the Church. I am about to join, as also do four of our Professors. Its Pastor, Mr. Bushnell, is a brother of the celebrated Dr. Bushnell, and is a very good man.

Mr. Boynton was here the other day on business connected with the College, but I did not see him, as he staid but a short time. Mr. Fick saw him, and said he thanked him for persuading me to come to Beloit, - a little mark of Mr. F.'s appreciation of me.

A week ago our teacher gave notice that - to-day there would be a grand Spelling Match in our Dept. in which two of the best scholars were to choose sides, and I was to select words and put them out.

No all have writing books in which we write the words in all our spelling exercises, and these are looked over by St and the errors marked. My Commission the past week, has been to collect a list of words in common use, but in which there is some peculiarity in spelling, for this match that came off today. So I did so, and made a list of fifty words, which I put out to-day to the whole school, and they wrote their spelling of them in the books. I got some very difficult ones, I tell you, and we had a jolly time in spelling. Mr. St marching around the room, throwing in a remark here and there, and pinching his favorite boys on the arms and cheeks.

You never saw such a jovial, loving, energetic man, - it gives one a new faith in Heuman

nature to know him. One great feature of his school is, that one may contradict him without restraint, if you are right. In fact, he encourages the greatest freedom, and the most manly self reliance on the part of his Pupils, and likes nothing better than to have a boy look him fearlessly in the eye and say - it is not so Mr. St, when he is pretending that wrong is right, and Black, white, for the sake of the argument.

In our Milton class we have the greatest fun. "Come now," he will say, "Christie, you have the floor, - you say that Beneath is an Adverb in that connection, and I say that it is a Preposition; prove your case Sir," and he folds his arms over his great broad chest, shuts his lips hard, and puts on an air of the most impenetrable

stolidity and stubbornness, as if Locke himself could not budge him by his Logic. To all my arguments he will answer with the most specious reasoning, and every once in a while appeal to the Class, when the weak kneed ones will say that he is right, and then when I fairly corner him he surrenders at discretion, and turns the whole laughter of the class on the aforesaid weak kneed ones.

We gave in Compositions today, and had great amusement in reading them. The young fellow to whom Geo. Ehinger said he would give me a letter of introduction, is here from Beaver Dam. His name is Wheeler, and he is one of the smartest chaps we have, so that Quilgo Geo. is pretty well represented here.

I saw Mrs. Foster at a match game of Base Ball between our College Club, the Olympians, and the Badgers, of the city. She takes great interest in all of these kind of out-door sports, and her carriage is a regular in attendance on our Base Ball games.

Beloit College

Nov 14 1864

My Dear Father:

It is with the greatest reluctance that I write to ask you for another remittance. I am almost discouraged, in thinking over the expenses of this term, to see how much money I have used, and yet, on looking into my Account Book of Expenses, I can see where it has all gone to, and, with the exception of one or two items, - all gone strictly of necessity. There are so many little sums recorded there, - sums from a dime to a half dollar, that it is perfectly astonishing to see how they swell the Aggregate. There are but few of these, too, in which I could have reduced or

accounted, and my conscience
tells me that I have been very
saving since I came, denying
myself even of apples or other
fruit though you know how dearly
I love them, for the sake of keeping
my dinner. And still they are
all gone, and there are 6 cents
of school yet. In that 6 cents
there will be 1/3 for Board at
our economical Club; - the cheaper
one in college; - 2 for Washing Bill;
a dollar to my chum to square
wood expenses, and then to come
home on. I can't possibly think of
anything more, though there is no
telling what may come along in
the future with its "must be got."
I have been deceived so often in
making calculations of future
expenses, that I think I shall
give up the business entirely as
not my forte, and just attend

to the strict regulations of the
Brent, so as to cut every thing down
as low as possible.

I hate to ask you for this re-
mittance the more on account of
what you told me of your expenses
and how you are to meet them, in
a letter I got some two weeks ago,
I don't wish to have you think
of me as careless and imprudent
in spending the money which
has been so hardily earned, for
it is a matter of frequent thought
to me, how to economize, and I
do think, as I have said, that
I am conscientious in doing
my best to live up to my principles.

I voted yesterday in
the town, having registered
my name on the day before.
There was a majority for the
Republican ticket of 415 in
Beloit; all the Democratic

voters together amounting to
only 74. From all these
places in this vicinity we
hear of the same triumphs;
and when we speak of Repu-
licans here we mean the
most Radical kind of
Abolitionist, Negro Suffrage
Black Republicans - None
of the Milk & Water kind
I assure you,

and the Republican with
this and you will see how
the Election has gone all around.

I joined the 1st Cong
Church here on Sunday by letter.
Everything is going well with me
in my studies and in Latin
I will be reading Caesars
Commentaries next term.
In haste Yours Thos. S. Christie

Clyman Nov 9th 1866

My Dear Friend.

Yours of the
7th Received. I am not
a little surprised at
your demand for another
supply, it so far exceeds
all estimate you had
made. I had been thinking
there were or three weeks
past that you would need
some new clothes. But this
new leak runs it all out

I do not accuse you of
anything. it only shows
up that this Periculous
Learning is a very costly
affair, and after all
it is only buying

The Tools. I trust that
some day you may strike
a new vein of Truth
and make it pay in
the enlightened West of
the World -

I penic's back
and belly and send
you 40 dollars by Express
to day. Pay what you owe
and get some clothes
with the remainder.

Truly you need a
new Coat and Boots
and I want to say in
short a new suit
and must add 5
more.

Tell me in your next
how you cut it out
and write soon

Believe me soon

J. Christie

With Andy & David awaiting me
fellow, and you may like them that-
though I am a poor fellow, you are
existing better in that line of business

Beloit College

Nov. 15, 1846.

My Dear Father:

Your letter of the
9th awaited me this afternoon on
my return from Sunday School,
having been brought up by my
Chum from the P.O.

I shall get the money tomorrow when
the office will be open. I am thank-
ful for the kindness you have shown
in sacrificing as you have done
for me, and shall try from henceforth
to be more worthy of it. As to the
clothing, I shall spend nothing on
them, for the coat I have is very
good, the pants which I had
made at home are none the worse
for wear, and as to my feet, I have
a good pair of shoes which do me
very well, the only walking I

I do besides, going to excursions, being a three mile trap every morning at daylight to get a breath of Country air. So that I shall not use one half of the sum you have sent. And another thing, - I intend, from this time forth, to be earning something while attending College. There are many young men here who almost pay their way by the labor they do in spare hours, and I am going to add myself to the number. I began the new order of things yesterday by spending my half holiday, in company with 6 others of our students, in husking corn in the field of a rich old farmer two miles west of town, earning, at four cts per Bushel, and in three hours forty minutes, the snug little sum of SEVENTY 5 CENTS

Didn't we make the husks and ears rattle, though, and a jollier crowd you never saw. It did me good to have something in my hands again not so smooth as a Greek Grammar, to feel the rough Country wind in all its purity blowing upon me, and to feel the exultations that attend the conquest of material Nature by the work of our hands. It was the best holiday I have spent since coming to College, and at its close I felt almost like writing a Poem on the Charms of a Farmers Life. (If I should I think it would sell - its readers) I have heard before of the rapture with which the denizens of a city hail the beauties of the Country, but I never realized it until yesterday. If we could only idealize the farmers life, give it more of Intellect and soul

and ^{endow} ~~ornament~~ it ~~by~~ ^{with} some of
the social and religious privileges
which make the City so attractive
to the refined and aspiring, it
would be the most blessed of all
occupations, - in its glorious
freedom and independence, its
^{opportunities for} Communion with Nature as she
is, and the ruddy health it bestows
in the developement of the highest
Physical culture through Labor.

I know that such an Ideal will
yet be realized here, and that it
is already realized in places,
but as it is wherever I have seen
as yet, the farmer's life is as far
removed from it in almost every
particular, as are the Cities from
each other. In thinking of the
future, as I sometimes do, my
Chateaux en Espagne always
take the form of a pleasant quiet
Parsonage with large garden
attached - not only a flower, but
also a Kitchen garden, kept in

order and cultivated by my own hands in the intervals of professional labor; in which I could raise my fruits and flowers to satisfy a cultured taste as well as the demands of utility, and in which the spade and pruning knife at five in the morning would give renewed life and energy to the handling of the Pen whose achievements are to be all on the side of the highest Right.

Is not such a future worth looking forward to, and striving for by the cultivation of all the powers and tastes that shall fit me ~~for~~ to be worthy of it?

But I must come to the practical Present and its duties; from which I have wandered through the cornfield on top of the hill yonder, I do believe it gave me a new life and vitality, and the freshening up physically and mentally which will give an extra

just to Xenophon and Caesar.

Truly as the latter says, *Thom-
issim generi cultura agrorum
est salutaris.* - The cultivation of
the fields is healthful to a race
of men.

During the rest of my
College course I shall take all
the opportunities I can get to be
both exercising my muscles and
diminishing expenses, and then
I shall get rid of that ugly feeling
which always haunts me, no
matter how hard I may be work-
ing intellectually, that I am
eating my bread in idleness.

I know that this is not true,
but it will come at times, on
account, I suppose, of the very
active and adventurous, or
else hard working, life I have
always led before settling down
to books.

It is curious, but
last night's supper, after my after-

noon's hard work, was the first
meal eaten in college which I
felt that I had earned fairly
and was entitled to, so much for
the force of habit in making Con-
science. My Army life did me
harm in one thing, and that was
in making me think too lightly
of money.

The payments in
large sums, and the association
with men of loose habits in that
respect, made me too careless of
expense whenever I had it to spend.

I must now once more get back
to the spirit of economy which moved
my every action when I first went
to Minnesota. I can remember
how I used to save every cent then,
and eagerly look out for every
opportunity of adding to them, but
it required that a young man
of my temperament should have
hard work in earning money

in order to properly appreciate the five cent pieces and the dimes which so soon swell in the aggregate to Eagles. To bring this about, I am determined to turn my attention to hard labor in the intervals of study, by which I shall not only increase my funds, but also impress my mind so much with the importance of small sums which are so hard to earn, that I shall think twice before letting them go out of my hands.

I think, for one thing, that I shall get a horse to take care of, as some of the boys do, and then I shall saw wood at other times, so as to fill up my time profitably.

Such as strive in this way to get along meet with every encouragement from the faculty, and it is curious to observe that they are the ones who always stand the highest in their classes, as they are usually the very

brightest and kindest, and most earnest of any. All the teachings we receive here tend to create this spirit of true manliness - never to be ashamed of work or poverty or economy. As Mr. Fick said the other day in speaking of this subject - on one of the numerous occasions in which he gives us impromptu lectures on "Morale and Ethics," "Make up your minds to this, young men, and always act on it as a Principle - that whatever is right is honorable." I don't think there could be a better exposition of the much misunderstood subject of Honor.

We are having an interesting season of Religious influence here, the daily Prayer meetings are full of interest and Power, and one young man has, as the first-fruits of the work of the Spirit which is to do glorious things for us this coming Winter, made a profession of faith

in Christ; and a determination to serve him henceforth. To show the spirit of the institution, I may say, that in our Freshman class, numbering some 36, there are 18 who are looking forward to the Ministry, and in the class of next year, in which I shall enter college, there will be a much greater percentage.

Thus is God raising up men who in the spirit of self sacrifice are to go forth to spread the Gospel of gladness and Peace among their fellow men. What is it which still keeps our Race from the acceptance of that Truth which works Obedience to the highest Law; the Law which in its operation brings nothing but blessing and benefit to every department of our nature, by which all Good is increased and strengthened, and all Evil gradually but surely driven forth. It is because men do not

love Truth and Purity, for if they did, the question as to which life they should adopt in order to give force and purpose and efficacy to good Principle, would soon be very satisfactorily answered. Do they instinctively "hate the light," because their deeds are evil.

The Light of the Gospel of Christ, teaching as it does the infinite Purity of God, hates hatred of, and punishment of sin, and thus the personal responsibility, ^{the divine} condemns his deeds, and for this is hated by him. But the Spirit of God, working in the ways devised by Infinite Wisdom, shall surely overcome every obstacle in the way of the complete Reconstruction of the World to its pristine condition of holy Obedience; and that will be the Millennium. How great a privilege to be enrolled as the

bright array of the Heuman Agencies employed in this great and blessed work. Now I wish and pray, my dear Father, that you may, seeing and appreciating as you do, the beauties of the Gospel of Christ, make an offering of your whole affections to Him, and thus begin to share in those bright-hopes and pure spiritual joys found only in Him. It is where you ought to be, and you are aware of it. It is where every one who has a spark of love for the Good and the Higher in his heart, should be, for God know that the Devil has no half-hearted followers - they are all in dead earnest; - and all who wish to see him whipped in this Battle-field of the World should lose no time in planting themselves beneath that Banner on which is emblazoned the most unmingled hatred of him and his works. The same arguments that make you a Radical in Politics, should rally you to the side of Christ in the work of fighting evil. Yours in Hope. Thos. Abrahams.

The following is a list of names of persons
who are entitled to vote at the general
election to be held in the town of Rapidum
Nov. 6th 1866.

Bledorn M.
Ballard C.
Bloom C.P.
Bloom W.
Bisby N.
Bosine M.
Chamberlin C.P.
Cook C.P.
Cramer
Dyer L.
Herby Jos.
Leherty P.
Eberhart W.C.
Hooser J.D.
Just C.
Just W.
Jones John
Jones Jos.
Kenworthy S.
Lewellen H.C.
Mickel S.
Mickel
Misker C.
Myson
Maston
McDuffy J.
Nickerson T.
Posine P.
Payne E.C.

Paine R.K.
Palmer C.
Parker C.B.
Paff P.
Reider M.B.
Rivers L.
Rew R.
Rew.
Stevens W.L.
Stratton James
Stratton M.
Simmons B.H.
Stratton R.
Stratton A.
Schwan G.
Schroam J.B.
Sanger J.
Thompson V.H.
Thompson J.
~~Woodbridge C.B.~~
~~Yager H.~~
Yerow C.S.
Thompson A.H.
Woodbridge C.B.
Yager A.

Beloit College

Sunday Morning Nov 1884

My Dear Father,

I do not know that I am doing really right in leaving the study room for the purpose of writing letters, and yet it seems to me to be a good work, one which always makes me feel refreshed, and toned up spiritually, to have a chat with you, and if God thus bless this action to me I cannot but hope that it has His approval.

Your letter of the 15th is ^{of the kind} one which I am always glad to answer. It is one of my best privileges, that I have such opportunities of talking frequently to you even when absent in body, and it is one of those for which I am the most thankful. I feel, on reading your letters, that in all my efforts to advance myself, morally and intellectually, for the purpose of doing good in the world, I have your approval and sympathy; and

that is worth more to me than perhaps
you think. I recd yours yesterday
morning, and went immediately to the
Book store where finding that they had not
the book you wished for, I ordered it through
them from Chicago, and it will come on
Monday or Tuesday, so that you will
get by the end of the week any how.

It is a work I have heard of often, and
have often wished to read, for there
is nothing more interesting to me than
anything which bears upon the human
life of Christ. I love to think of Jesus
as He appeared to His Disciples, - the meek
and humble Friend, and Teacher, and still
the all powerful and authoritative Master.

Is it not true, in the highest sense, that
the highest Power must ever be coupled
with the lowest humility; our spiritual
instincts tell us so, and here we see God
Himself teaching this grand Truth to
men by the force of example; teaching that
not in selfish pride, not in arrogant display

of Power, not in repellent dignity, should
we find either the ~~true~~ accompaniment
or the origin of true Power; but rather in
constant self sacrifice for the sake of others,
in utter abnegation and crucifixion of self in
all the relations that bind us to our fellow
men, and in lowliness and submissiveness
in following the commands of God.

This is Heaven touching Earth, the union of
all Wisdom, all Power and all Love with
the very depths of Humility. When we, too,
make ourselves the least, God becomes more
in us, and God is all His attributes
too. It is the grand Truth of the Christian
Religion, and yet we can see how repugnant
it is to man in his natural state - he cannot
understand it, and his pride spurns it.

It is one of the cheering tokens that
I have of my Christian progress, that
I realize more and more the actual
indivisibility of Christ; that He is
becoming more and more a
personal Saviour, and less and

abstract personification merely,
of all goodness. My moments of
communion with Him are increasing
in all that makes Prayer blessed, and
thus, by these manifestations, to my own
Consciousness, of the Power and sweet
fruits of Christianity wrought in my
own soul, my faith in Christ is streng-
ened, for it is built up on the results
of experimental knowledge.

And, what is of the greatest practical
importance, the fierce temptations,
which must ever attack young
men of my temperament, have almost
lost their wonted power, as my
heart has been purified by the love
of Christ, the infinitely Pure and Holy
One. There have been times when it
seemed almost as if I were fighting
Satan himself and all his cursed
Legions, behind the promptings of
my own lower nature, but I have
always found that Prayer at
such times was all potent, and
that God does not desert those

Beloit College
Dec. 3rd 1846

My Dear Father: [your Christ's]

I should have

written sooner, in answer to your
last, but to tell the truth, I do not
feel the same interest in writing now
that the vacation is so nearly, and
then I am as busy at present in getting
ready for review in all my studies of
the Term as I can well be,

So expect but short letters from this
out. I have looked over carefully
the passage in Colossians, to which
you asked my attention, and have
what I think to be the true theory
in relation to it, it is too long, though
to spend time in writing, and I will
defer it to the time when I shall see
you.

Our religious interest in
the college is on the increase, and
the indications are that we are to
have a blessed time here the coming

winter. In our Preparatory Dept. especially, the work goes on with very encouraging success, to the Christians, who are laboring to bring their classmates and friends to the knowledge of Christ. It is a great pleasure to all of us who love our Master, to labor in his cause and see how signally the Spirit blesses our efforts. There is a noble field for Christian spirit and energy to be shown here, and they are shown in no limited degree. There are some of the most lovable characters in association with me in our college relations; men who are beautiful by their goodness, to whom one is attracted involuntarily and irresistably; whom to look upon, as their earnest loving, aspiring souls shine forth in their faces is, to have ~~some~~ visible demonstration of the "beauty of holiness".

They are living, visible testimonials to

the workings of the spirit of Christ in the soul. My dearest friend here is a young man named Smith, a Scotchman from Glasgow, studying for the ministry. He will be in my class in college, and I look forward to the prospect of being beside him as long with the greatest pleasure. He is indeed a Christ-like character so earnest, full of faith in everything that is right, and loving only the pure and lovely. The common love of sordid selfishness, and devotion to low desire, - how unutterably base they seem in comparison to my friend's nobleness of soul and loftiness of purpose.

He is such a man as our Saviour would be were he a Christian, and his heart filled with holy desires, all his great energies in this action harmonizing with his higher nature, full of tender affection for his fellow men and over all, a devoted love of God and His

work. My friendship with him
has helped me on greatly in my own
Christian life. Many a pleasant
long walk we have had together, and
many a prayer together, out in the
groves of the country to which our
evening walks are taken.

He served in the late war for three
years, and is as patriotic as he is
religious. Indeed, every noble sen-
timent finds a home in his breast,
for his devoted love of Christ guides
him into all truth and purity of
thought and action. I consider
myself thrice fortunate in being
able to call him a friend, in the
truest sense of the name.

Bro. Christie, by dint of hard
work, I have got persuaded to stop for
only a day at Clyman, as he goes up
to Berlin and so you will see him.
Come down with me. I know this will
be a pleasure to you all, for my friend.

George is well worth getting acquainted with, and I know that you will be struck by his resemblance to our Wilbur in many things. One thing I must warn you of in this connection; he is a little short sighted and wears glasses, in consequence, and, just like W. he is very sensitive on the point. So you will please avoid noticing it.

We had a high old time in College on Thanksgiving last Thursday.

No recitations or studies, and the different Boarding Clubs celebrated the day by a dinner in the orthodox style. At the North College club, they had it as a rule that ^{each} ~~every~~ one of the boys must have at least two lines of original poetry for the occasion, or he would lose his share of Chicken pie, and in this way, I was told, many really good poems were recited; besides which they had an oration and toasts with their responses, and a good time generally.

At the other large Club, also, there was an oration and all the usual accompaniments. At our club of twelve we had a large turkey which I carved, in my official capacity of President, Cranberry sauce to match, and many other good things too numerous to mention. When full justice had been done to the edibles, the toast "Our Country, and her future prosperity," was proposed, to which I was called on to respond, which I did, in considerable of a speech, inducing frequent rattling of the dishes on the table.

After this we had various toasts and sentiments to which different ones responded, and so well did we enjoy ourselves, that though we sat down to dinner at One P.M. the party did not break up until almost four.

Everybody made it a holiday in town, in the regular New England fashion, and the students, particularly, tired us

they were with this three months study, wished long life to the time honored custom.

I have written nothing for the Monthly as yet, and do not know when I will. I am so anxious to devote every spare moment to exercise, I am thus taking everything cool in the literary line, and waiting until I shall be in College and have more leisure for such pursuits, before trying my skill at the pen. I feel perfect confidence in my ability to use it well when I shall take it up in earnest, and until that time I shall content myself with thorough preparation.

I wonder how Sandy is getting along in his new charge; you did not mention him at all in your last, nor has he sent that long account of "first impressions" which he promised. I'll give Sarah a regular scolding when I see her for her neglect of me; she owes me two letters.

I was out the other evening to
hear a woman give a lecture on
Temperance. She is a Spiritualist,
and, it would, have disgusted you
with the whole thing to have heard
her ~~misuse~~ the King's English as
she went on in her interminably com-
plicated sentences, piling mountains
of words on and hills of "Ideas," until
she had completely smothered what
little intelligibility she set out with.
It was the most disconnected piece of
discourse I ever heard, without design
and full of a miserable canting hom-
oast which was sometimes ludicrous
to hear. She finished up by giving a
"poem" by the spirit of Edgar Allan Poe in
the style of the Raven. Such miserable
rubbish, unsatisfying piles of stuff and
rubbish to call Truth. Oh, Maam!
what a mess you make of it, when from the
deductions of a Revoltour rejecting Reason to
the wild vagaries of a credulous supersti-
tion, you attempt to form a "Philosophy" of
your own, in which neither the God of Sinai
nor of Calvary can have a place. — a fatal
lack, and one which nothing else in the system
can supply the place of.
Yours for the Truth Thomas.

Fremont. Winona County
[good letter] Minnesota.

Dear Father, December 7th / 66

Perhaps my last letter to you,
containing so much business, albeit as
clear as mud, to you, bothered you, but
this will likely trouble you more than the
other, not that it will contain much of
a business nature, but it will let you see
what a fix I am in, just because J. Blair
has not paid me. Neither will he before next
Fall, I was over to see him nearly two weeks
ago, and found him very hard up on account
of his poor crop, everything sold he could
sell, and not enough to pay up his interest
not even what little hired help he had in
harvest, was paid up, so he told me, what
could I do but believe him, there is no man,
trying to finish him, for he really has nothing
that is exempt from the homestead law,
that is, he has not got any more than eighty
acres of land, Now I am in a pretty hard
row, of stamps, for I was counting on that

money to help in the way of getting; I will
for fencing and part of my seed, but I can't
have it, so there is no use counting on it now.

The cheapest fence I can build is wire and
board, two wires and one board, to each rod.
The wire will cost in Winona twentyfive cents
per rod. The board for the panels will
cost in Winona twentythree cents, lumber
being twentyeight dollars per M. I will
need about two hundred and fifty pounds of
wire at twelve and a half cents per pound,
twelve hundred feet of lumber, will cost thirty
three and three fifths dollars. While the wire
will cost thirteen and one fourth dollars, making
in all sixtyfour dollars, and eightpence cents.

of money to be laid out, my own labor, to
do the hauling. It will take about 13, half
of mail besides, they are eight or nine cents
per bush. I have an idea in my head of
trying to get my seed wheat from John
Clarkson, I want seed for twentyfive
acres, thirty bushels. Oats for three acres.
I have nice corn seed, one bushel, that will

plant

twice as much corn ground as I have. I will have
four acres of corn. I will also break more so
that I can plant in the soil.

Now there has been a notion
working in my mind, that is for me to
go down your way about the end of Feb. and
get a yoke of oxen and the wagon, you can
tell me what you think of it. Blair not paying
me before next fall, will cramp me hard,
and I do not see what is best for me to just
get. But we are both in good health and
cheerful. Mary is hearty and happy, and will
soon be a Mother, probably before new year.
She has got all the neat little duds ready,
and so we are both expectant, so can be.

I have about thirty dollars in the house and twenty
six I can have at any time for writing for.
I have not had a letter from Tom, in over so long.
I should say, in fact we can't do without a stove,
it takes Mary a day to do the baking, whether
the Woolly, brooms: cooking with no just now,
there, no boiler, the Kettles, are not the ones
that were bought with the stove, and worst

I all the oven is burned out, it is a wonder
that the Holys got along with it, and if they
had been going to keep house they would have
had a new stove it rains. Tonight
I have fifteen dollars and a half worth of flour in
the house. I bought ten bushel of wheat at
at one dollar and forty cents per bushel. it was
mill number one wheat, very dry and blanch.
I had money for grinding rather than hog
mooter. The butter I bought is with calf
and will come in ^{very} scarce. I feel as though it
will come out all right. Love to all.

and believe us ever

Yours loving Son and daughter

Mr. J. H. Christie;

P.S. This morning there is about two inches of snow.