



James C. Christie and Family Papers

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Beloit College,

Jan. 3^d 1861.

Thurs. Eve.

My Dear Father. [James Christie]

I got to Watertown all right yesterday forenoon, and called at Mr. Ford's, found Mrs. F. at home, but did not see John, as he was at his office. I was very glad that I went, afterwards, and think that perhaps I may have done some good in an imperfect way. I know the visit did me good, anyhow.

I think you ought to call there yourself, father, and give your note of human sympathy and a word of consolation; for it was a sad blow to both father and mother, and whatever any of us can do to comfort or cheer them should be done willingly. Imagine yourself in their place, and how you would

love to have the expression of friendly sympathy from those who are as able to give it as your self.

I got into Madison at 5.30 P.M. and happening very luckily to fall in with one of my College Chums of the Spring Term on the street, went with him up to the University, where I spent a very pleasant evening with the boys. I found many of my acquaintances, and enjoyed my stay very much. Packed my books into my little trunk, which was there, made arrangements with Smith for the sale of the other traps, and left on the 8 AM train this forenoon on the direct Chicago R.R.

Arrived in B. at ten! and on going up to my old lodging found that I was about the first one in. There are only four in our club of twelve on hand yet.

But the term opened yesterday and within an hour or two after my reporting to Mr. Felt, we had a recitation in Caesar.

A long one is to be mastered tonight yet for tomorrow, and a Greek lesson also, so that you will have to excuse me from writing at any length.

I am all alone in my new room and can study very pleasantly. The old Routine is begun again, and I look forward to it with great pleasure.

The boys come straggling in by ones and twos, the most of them as glad as myself to settle down to work again. Good Night, Thos. D. Christie

Montrose Quebec Can. Jan 14th 1867
My Dear Brother [W. L. Stevens]

I feel to praise the all-wise giver
that, I am permitted to address you & feel
to sympathise with you, with all my heart. I
know how lonely you must feel, and the
long hours you must pass, as you journey
in life with your dear little ones. I was
at Edwards when your first letter came to
hand of James being sick. And also when
your letter came of James death. Oh how sad
and unexpected the tidings came we little
thought that she was to be the first one
to be called on the other shore. She was the
picture of health three years ago when she
was with us we little thought we never
should see her again. She was far from
us but we had hope of seeing her again
should we all live. I had entertained
a hope of visiting ^{you} some time but
I had not fixed on any particular

time as gets I hope you will soon
as you can come and bring the
Children all of them and visit
us we shall very much ^{like} to see you all
You spoke of not having any likeness
of Jane I ^{the} one that you sent me
on a tin plate should you not get
any other and wish a copy or photograph
of that I will get them taken for you
and send to you. Father and Mother
has gone back to Ohio where they come
from they got unhappy here and went back
the first of Sept. Father could not use
his left hand at all, he could walk with
a cane a short distance he is no better now
he can do any thing at all, what they
will do I know not. They will have to hire
all done out off doors I should not be
disappointed to hear Father was gone any day
Dollie wrote them in regard to the
likeness you spoke off we did not hear
them speak of the likeness when they was here
but they may have it. If so you may get it.

I am in usual health, hoping this
will find you all enjoying this same
blessing. Edward and family is well
and also Eli's family and Edwina's
families far as we know he lives in
(Berksire Hoag's Mts.) Edward
has built a new house this summer
a very pretty house, cost some two
thousand dollars I see by the letter
you wrote Edward you have a fine
improvement and good crops and I
expect, a good home and farm. Will
you now live where you are, or will
you return to live with your friends
I hope you will get some good house
keeper that will take good care of your
Children. Then they will not miss their
mother as much. May the Lord strengthen
and bless you all. Kiss the Children for me
write me soon.

Yours with the kindest regards.

Lydia Puller.

for the express purpose of pleasing ^{him} and his for myself and the world.

We have had a grand waking up here during the past week.

Mr. Potter, the Evangelist was here, & preached twice a day to vast audiences, for five days. About 175 persons have been converted, but I think the chief good he did was in the waking up of Christians. If he didn't preach some scathing sermons, for the benefit of those who profess the name of Christ, I never heard any. He is the most powerful and forcible preacher I ever heard, and like Whitfield and Wesley and Paul, he holds up the whole truth of the Bible.

It would make your ears stand on end, almost, to hear him set forth the terrors of Hell. The most wonderful revivals attend him wherever he goes.

He is entirely consecrated to his work, draws no pay, preaches 15 times a week, and seldom stays in one place more than a week. The happiest man I

ever saw, and no wonder, for no more glorious mission is there than his; to be altogether given up to God and His work, just as Paul and Peter were in old times. He makes no excitement, is cool, clear and forcible, preaching the very facts and marrow of the Gospel, in which is the secret of his power. The Spirit of God goes with him, as it must with every earnest, loving minister.

It was affecting, when those went forward, who dreamed, prayers, in each meeting, to see how every age and class of people were touched, from the gray haired man to the little school girl, and from the women of the best circles of society to the poor negro who crows wood in the streets; no distinctions there, all sinners needing the pardon of God.

I have been as busy as I could be all this week, so that I have not had time to write. The recitations in the college were suspended, and every

one devoted himself to religion.

Many of our classmates were converted, and many more will be, for the work goes on yet, though Mr. Potter has left us. The two Congregational and the Presbyterian Churches are carrying it on in concert, and there is a delightful harmony and love in all their endeavor.

We in College are settled down to our studies again now, and they are going on finely. I am in my regular Greek, Latin, and in Cassar's Commentaries and Virgil in Latin.

These are all the studies I have taken besides the general exercises of the Dept. I love both Cassar and Virgil very much. Am teaching a private class of beginners in Greek, the pay for which will meet my tuition to Rev. Christie in Virgil. Phoebe is with me, and we get on well together.

He broke our store the other day in purchasing up the furs, and when we

were thinking that either we or the people
of the house would have to get a new
one, I hit upon a plan to mend it which
I did with nine cents worth of wire,
so that it is just as good as it was
before the breakage, (because then it was
badly cracked.) Wheeler thinks I'm
a genius. We have a little alarm
clock, (costing 4,25) and it wakes us up
at whatever time we wish, usually at
half past five. Bed at ten,

I have not been to see Mrs Foster yet,
but will next week. Am crowded
for time, as I have an Essay to
get up for our next S. S. Concert, on
"Christmas." Will keep it for you.

Wrote to Mr Ford a day or two
ago, as I did not see him in town,
rather should go and see them,
and say what will do good.

He must excuse me for not writing,
and I will try to get a letter off for
him before Sunday.

Your loving Brother Thos. D. Christie.
write soon, at full length

Clyman January 26th 1867.

My Dear Thomas.

It is natural that I should feel troubled and out of patience, at not receiving a letter from you in so long a time. Only once a few lines since you left Home, in the first week of your absence, it may have been that a letter was lost in transmission. But I rather think not, and am inclined to suppose that it is owing altogether to the preoccupation of your time and energies in the religious excitement which prevails about College and Town. I trust you are still in health although I am sure you are engaged in no business which is promotive of it.

We here are all as usual, with the exception of myself. I have had a Cold for some 3 weeks. Mainly in the Head however, not as yet reaching the Lungs. It is but since I began to think that the protection I have experienced for so many years had been withdrawn, it is now more than 14 years since I have been affected with that chronic weakness of my pulmonary apparatus. At that date I was most miraculously cured of a long complaint which I had suffered from for more than 36 years. Clinging to me all that time close as my skin.

in close sympathy (through Faith) with the invisible world. On my own plane of being my Friends, and Loved ones could speak to me and Guide me and perform Good Office for me.

Your Mother I think was the immediate
agent under God. Because I felt her proximity
and was addressed. (Showing the words in
my vision of spirit) in the old familiar way
of "Lament you are very ill to night", let me
cure you". And my hand moved up to my
eye, the right hand being the seat of the trouble
and magnetizing upwards, at that time I was
sitting with one leg over a rail fence, scarce
able to walk or to get over the fence from a
want of breath and pain in my side, the whole
body labouring in difficulty from a want of oxygen.
The first few passes of my hand relieved the
pain, my hand moving without my volition,
as it were floating. Still magnetizing upwards
in the space of a very few minutes. All pain
and difficulty of breathing disappeared, and I
became conscious of the most delicious sensa-
tions in the act of inhaling, as if I had been
breathing a stimulating spirit. I moved
the force my hand still moving. I found
I could walk without effort, scarce feeling
my feet touch the ground. I did not
do these things. But I believed and it could
be done for me. That I call a miracle. It was
an experience, which no amount of talk against
the possibility of such things, could ever move
me from. For I know, and a fact is worth more
than any amount of reasoning. That was the
act of a Loving Father who had entered the
eternal world, and it was in accordance
with the Highest, it was to me the Holy Spirit
I understand our English word "Holy" in the
old Saxon means "Healing" and I know that
the Spirit of Christ is Health Brings, Mentally and
Spiritually. Because it is the Spirit of the Highest.

and is in congruity with a National and
Orderly development of the whole mass -
But your Principles are
not it seems to me in accordance with the
true limitations of Health. I have never but
once witnessed any thing of the kind, in Boston
some 35 years ago, a General Mr. I forget
the name now, however went to Palestine and I think
died there, a Great Papist, at the time I was in the
Church was in the highest degree dispirited, a stimulus
of passion, hysterical and convulsed Women, weeping
and screaming, and preaching, preaching, preaching.
Oh it was a scene to make the angels weep
and I think it was a Great Power, and in some
cases ended in confirmed insanity. I believe
such things commence generally by one or more Men
and Women, inciting and exciting one another
to a more exalted life, and by appeal to God in
prayer to assist them in their efforts towards a
Holy life. If not Hypocrites their own Moral
and spiritual faculties become excited to an intense
activity, these throwing off from them an atmosphere
of Great Magnetism, which touching others excites
them in the same manner, in the case of the un-
converted multitude around, who also have magnetic
atmospheres around them, more or less passionate
and not in Union with Christ, they are affected
by this Holy Magnetism in such a manner
as produces a ferment or tumult in their own
magnetic spheres. These fermentation, fear, and if
the individual is highly impressionable, with little
resisting force. Convulsions, sometimes permanent
in some cases to violent is the perturbation
that it permanently disarranges the functions
of the Brain. Now I believe in all this the Originator
of such things, are assisted by the invisible world
and with Great Power, because the spiritual

man is the Magnetic Mass. and can operate with a force in itself, even beyond any in the body. Let this be right so long as it is controlled and guided by Men and Spirits who are tutored and cultivated. But when by too long continuance it produces prostration of the Nervous System, by the dispersion of the Vital Magnetism of the Multitude it becomes unholy. Or when by the Low Order of those engaged in it their Magnetism contains much of the aura from the Passional Organs of the Brain, Emanations constituting (when not dominated by the afflux of the Higher faculties) the Elements of Hell - Thus again it becomes unholy. Or, when not guided by the Rational forces, it becomes puerile, foolish, disorderly and sometimes Satanic, as witness those manifestations of the Spirit preceding, during and succeeding what is called the Reformation.

But indeed you have only to look into the New Testament to see partially the Absurd and foolish conduct which took place in some of the Churches in the days of Paul. While in his Epistles he tries to correct and guide, it is easy to see the Spirit acting in many of the cases he alludes to could not have been the Holy Spirit. Do you believe he would have dared to dictate in what manner the spirit should manifest, if he had thought it was the Spirit of God the Creator? Nay, Paul was no fool, but a Big Headed, Cultivated Man who knew both when he heard it -

Now I will say to you let this alone for a while. Step out of it and look at it for a little, Beware you get too far into these things whether they be orderly or disorderly. For Execution as a rule is the Condition of just such Disorders and you are in the midst of. and they are just so far Unholy.

Do You think no one can enter the Kingdom of God unless he goes in by the Door of a Congregationalist Revival? Do You not think that Christ works on the Hearts of Men in a more natural manner by a gradual development of his spirit within them, must the Good seed be always planted in this spasmodic way? Dangerous always. it is not in Calmness. It is not the "Still small voice" But a Tempest of Words, in Appeals to the selfish fears and personal interests.

Did Jesus convert in this way? Did He not rather go about doing Good? Healing the Sick, Mildly reasoning and instructing the Multitude. And only rises into Heat and intensity when he addresses the Established instructors of the people. But it is all talk, talk, talk. With our Modern Apostles, When do they show forth the power of him whom they say sent them only in the pulpit in exciting the rancours?

Did He not say that all of his followers should have just such power as he exhibited for the Conversion of men? is a Christian Man or Woman Sick? They are sent to a Medically instructed Doctor. He suffers of them. Many things instead of being healed by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. But indeed Tom, I am getting angry and must forbear.

All these unlike the Silent Operations of the Divinity are all these exercising efforts of the Revivalists. and how unlike the same Operation in the Olden Time. in those days the spirit could be Communicated by the laying on of hands, or by Breathing upon the subject operated on.

Then and now, it is Communicated
in voice and Symbols of Word and Passion

It is really a Magnetic Action
Understand me, Spiritual Magnetism, a substance
Generated of God the spirit Universal, its treasure
Governed by Law as much so as if you were.
Making a Magnet by induction, then can be
Magnetized by ^{the} ~~through~~ eye, by the Will, and Jesus
actually did so. His disciples did the same.
Pardon me for not citing the passages, you
must be familiar with them. Or even it can
be Communicated through the Medium of an
Old Coat, or Apron, or Handkerchief.
It is really a substance spiritual and can
be imparted in many ways.

I presume you are wearied
of all this and are probably thinking by
this time I really know but little about it
and that my manner of treating of the whole
thing is blasphemous and wicked.

The difference between you and me
is your Affections have been acted on by
The Holy Spirit, and I believe mine has not.
But I say, you believe, and I rejoice
to think that you have received the "Holy
Spirit" through Faith unto Salvation
and my continual prayer is that you may grow
in Grace, and in the Knowledge of the True God.

But however you may be affected
by this Epistle, please to get angry or any
thing else, and write me a letter, assuring me
that you have come out unscathed through
the behavior of a Revival.

Let us hear from you if you are well
Yours in Dear Love, J. Christen

Beloit College

Jan. 27 1867

My Dear Father, (James Christie)

You must have thought my long silence very strange, though you will of course have considered that I have had some reason for it. When I came here this term, the whole attention of every Christian in the college and in the community was being given to the work of bringing our companions to accept of Christ. For more than a week all my energies and time, with the exception of what very little was devoted to the acquirement of the short lessons assigned us, was occupied either in attendance upon the three daily services conducted by the evangelist, Mr. Potter, in the college daily prayer meeting, or in conversation with my impatient classmates. I am glad to say that the Spirit of God crowned our efforts, and that very many, in the college

and in the town were led to begin the new life, among them one or two of the best minds in our upper classes in the Southwestern. The work is still going on, with encouraging results. Thus you have one reason for my not writing, and there is one other of great weight. I started, both in Virgil and Caesar at the beginning of the term, and have been carrying them both on successfully. Now the usual way is to study Latin a year before taking up Caesar, and two years before Virgil, so you see that I have been at work. Besides this I have, of course, kept up in my regular Greek class, and have been teaching a class of beginners in that language (an hour per day).

Whitler and I have worked steadily our regular thirteen hours per day, for he is making up, as well as myself to enter college next Fall. I see my way plainly now toward that object. I am already in the Senior Preparatory Class, in Rhetoric and Latin prose Composition, will go into

Virgil with them in a day or two from George Christie class, and enter the Analysis of Xenophon next term, so that all I shall have to do in order to enter next fall is, just to keep up with the regular class, and read one lesson per day in Caesar besides. This will not be hard, but the hard work of the past two weeks, and which is not yet over, has been necessary in order to advance me to that point from which I can change classes. I need not say that the Professors and the students wonder a good deal at my rapid advance from the lower benches of the Junior Prep, up to the middle and from thence, now, to the exalted front seats of the Senior Class, in the short time of ~~four~~ months from the time I began the Classics. Some of the Seniors, themselves, are the most astonished, and some of them a little piqued at my accomplishment in so short a time, what has taken them two years, and more, but I am welcomed

by the great majority of the Class with which
I am to be associated during my whole college
course, in a most cordial manner.

I perhaps, should not take up your time
with all this talk about myself, but to tell
the truth, I do feel a little proud of my
rapid promotion, and thought you would
most likely share my feelings.

My essay on Christmas, which I read
^{today,} yesterday, at the 1st Concert. I shall save
you. It is short. I went down to see there.

Fortin on Saturday evening, taking Wheeler along.
Intended to stay only an hour, but couldn't
get away till nearly ten. Had a most
pleasant visit. Harriet laughed so much
for a long time. Wheeler is charmed with
Mrs F. and is looking forward to many a
recreation of the same kind in the future.

I wrote a long letter to M^r a week ago.
I hope you appreciate the new found sig-
nificance of your position as a Grandfather!

How strange it seems; you must have
some pleasant thoughts in relation to it, my
dear father, and no doubt, a long letter has
before this gone to the happy couple, William
and Mary, full of advice and congratulation.

I hope so at least. It is Monday morning at
five o'clock, and my Caesar calls me to hear what
new scraps he has got into with those indomitable
mountain men, the Helvetians. I shall take the

Belmont College.

Friday afternoon.

My dear Father [Thos. Jones Christie] Feb. 1-1866

Yours of the double postage stamp the tone exhortatory, and the drift metaphysical is at hand, and almost takes away my breath. - It shows such a waste of energy in the rather unprofitable work of setting up magnificent looking men of straw in order to have the pleasure of knocking them down again. You say I will perhaps be angry at your attacks on ^{our} revivals. No. I am not at all angry because I know you are laboring under an entire misconception of the whole subject. but I am considerably amused at the passion you have looked yourself into in your denunciation of evils that have scarcely an existence at all except in your imagination. - certainly not associated in the least degree with any of my religious or other experience.

If you could only have been here to witness

the workings and effects of that which you
so ignorantly condemn you might have added
another chapter to your philosophy.

I notice you talk a great deal about ~~animal~~
animal magnetism, &c. I wonder if it was
animal magnetism or sympathetic excitement
that converted the three thousand, at once under
Peter's preaching on the day of Pentecost, or that
made Paul so successful. I wonder if it is
animal magnetism that works such wonderful
changes here today in the town of Beloit, opens
the eyes of men to a recognition of God, and thus
draws to him; reforms the hardened reprobate
into a penitent, Christ-loving, prayer-loving man;
lifts the miserable drunkard from his degradation
with a supernatural power that snaps like those
the chains by which the Devil was dragging him
down, down, down to Hell; and infuses into
all hearts such love and tenderness toward
God and Man. Oh, Father, you do not
know what you have been talking about or you could
never have said what you did.

I want to let you know my belief, now, in what

I consider to be vital points, in order to show
my reasons for devoting all my energies to the
work of making men think of their eternal
interests. In the first place, I believe in the
God of the Bible; a God holy, loving and just,
requiring the perfect obedience of his creatures,
and hating sin with a hatred commensurate to
his own purity. I believe he has given
to the world the Scriptures, as the written
declaration of what he is, and of what our
duties are toward him, and, consequently
I believe all the doctrines of those Scriptures
to be eternal truths. I believe also in the
free will of every man, and that each one is
responsible to God for the least action of his
commission. Now, I turn to my Bible, and I
read such words as these: "He that believeth
on the Son of God hath eternal life, but he
that believeth not shall not see life, but the
wraths of God abide on him."

I ask you what the consequence would be were
this truth accepted by all mankind. Can you con-
ceive of anything that would be better for the race?

If Hell with all its horrors, were suddenly to open
before our eyes, it would not produce more of

a change in our conceptions of these things than if we were to believe our bibles.

Now I believe every word of it, and can you ask me in view of my realization of these eternal truths, to do anything less than give all that I have and aim to the work of persuading men to believe in Jesus Christ.

No half and half doctrine will do. God is not to be deceived as men may be. There are only two classes of people in this world, those who believe in Christ as their only hope of salvation, give their hearts to Him, and strive humbly to follow Him, and those who do not believe, do not recognize God as He is, and live as if there were no God.

And do you object to the work of Christians, in striving to convert men, why; if we know in our hearts that the grand truths of the Gospel are realities, to which every soul will awaken some time, if not now, when it will be too late, what would be our characters if we did not sacrifice everything to the work of bringing men to open their eyes to their highest interests.

And as to excitement, and stir, and the troublesome breaking in upon common duties, my opinion is, that a little of all these are no more out of place in a revival of religion than they are in a time of great national emergency, such as, called out every one with a soul, five years

ago, and bid them sacrifice everything for the sake of patriotism. There are times when lower interests must give way for the sake of the higher, - in fact that should always be the case, and it is nothing short of the most sordid selfishness that could prompt a man who knows what is right, - has the conviction of a grand and important truth, - to withhold his energies from the task of bringing all within the sphere of his influence to its recognition.

What are we here for, if not to help carry on the work that Christ died to inaugurate? for my part, I believe that every other consideration on earth should give way to the great work of saving men from what surely awaits them if they have not an interest in Christ. My Christ is no abstract idea, father, nor ~~is~~^{is} the life He requires of me one of passive faith merely.

He calls me to work for Him, to fight for Him, to sacrifice and bear the Cross for His sake. Are the forces of the Evil in this world so quiet and inert, so passive, so harmless, that they who profess to carry the only flag that gave victory over these forces, can afford to sleep on duty. Out upon this milk and water religion!

this neutrality in affairs of such moment.

It is not the spirit that actuated Paul or Peter or Luther or Whitfield, or our great exemplar.

"He that is not for me is against me" says the leader in this awful conflict that is being carried on between the Powers of Light and Darkness.

For my part I realize the truth of Schenck's teaching too much, and feel too much love and gratitude toward Him for what He has done and is doing for me, ever, I hope, to shrink from His service, on account of the paltry sacrifice I may have to make in that service, - of time, of trouble, of perhaps life itself. He God gives me strength, from henceforth all that I am is to be devoted to the work of winning souls to Christ. Wherever I may be called, in His good and all-wise Providence, to labor for Him I hope to go cheerfully, joyfully. I thank God that my eyes are at length open to the true object of life, and that, in the view of eternal and supremely important interests I can look far above the common objects of pursuit and desire that at one time so blinded

and deceived me.

Excitement forewith. There is no excitement at all in comparison to what there should be, would that I could - that every Christian could - send these Gospel truths among men with such force as to create absolute convictions, instead of excitement, like the falling of a mighty bomb in the great camp of a tyrant. Ah the bang up of a mine at this very spot. I tell you, men need to be waked up, and you may deprecate the waking up process, as much as you like, it is far better that it should come now than at some future time when snow will see for a truth that God is no trifler.

The truth is continually before them, in all its persuasiveness, the eternal wrath of God on the one hand, on the other the love of Christ; and yet they persistently shut their eyes in self-satisfied complacency until their sometime comes to them an experience like that of the jailer in Philippi, and they are brought with fear and trembling to repentance. - "Now what must I do to be saved." Read that 16th chapter of Acts. Now isn't necessary that we should all

get such a fearful awakening as that must have been. Your danger and mine is just the same as was that of the poor father if we harvest the germ of this new life planted in our souls.

Would that I could prevail on you, my dear father, to make your peace with God through a humble repentance for sin - throwing aside any false philosophies that have hitherto dressed it up in other than the sterner that God sets on it; and a loving faith in Jesus Christ, as the Being appointed by God's all wise plan to draw back the affections of the human heart to Himself by His offering as a sacrifice for our sins. Would that you would resolve from henceforth to preach Christ crucified to those dear souls that are around you, and strive with all your powers to set their feet on the eternal Rock of Truth, instead of letting them go on from day to day hardening their hearts against God, under the influence of a false Philosophy.

There will come a time when you will look back with scorn and contempt at the paltry excuses you offer now to pacify a conscience that tells you to do your duty as a man and a father. You must realize the far reaching effects on those who are so dear to you, of a radical reformation in their hearts. Why can you not make that the grand object of your prayers and efforts. Set up the family altar, recognize God and the Bible in the household, devote the Sabbath to the contemplation and discussion of spiritual things, and you know how beneficent will be the results. Why will you not carry this cross, if it be for the sake of such grand interests.

Surat, 22nd March 1869

[James Christie] Minn Feb. 4th 1869

Dear Father your letter of the fifteenth
th. I received one week ago Saturday.
Glad to learn you are all well, and
that you are pleased to have the name
of the Boy changed. I had the very same
objections to the name of James. You
speak of having seen the signification
in a list of Bible names. Mary is
highly pleased to have you call him
William, Alexander for she did not
like James even before she knew
the meaning of it.

So you see we are all
content to have the name. William

As for my buying a team it
was the best thing I could do under
the circumstances, for I could not get
any one of my old, or new acquaintances
to give me any definite answer of any
kind about putting in my crops.
it is not tolerated at either

for every man has generally about thirty
or forty acres more than he can work,
easily. besides I could not get along with
the Woolly, for when I wanted their
team, they were sure to need it. so
The best part of the winter is gone, and
not much if any work done yet.

for we have such deep snow, it very
inconvenient to move round. I paid
for Beer in pork hog, \$, 50. 00
for Hay ^{Timothy} 1/2 Tons 20. 00
Lard and milkfeed 10. 50
Bedstead, Chairs and Table 12. 00
Shovel, Ox Chain Spade & other 47. 00
making in all, \$141. 50

I have let go since I received money
from you. besides catatles we had
to have in the house. After Mary
was taken sick Sam. Woody made
a row, with me set on as I take it
by his Mother and Brother, so I had
to act dumb and bear it, untill Mary
was fit to move, in the mean time

I was busy at work, getting a house ready to
move into. it was a very slow process,
on account of the cold weather we had at
the time. But thank God, we got so
that we are living by ourselves, if not on
our own place, and if work will fetch
it, we will move into our place in the
spring. Mary and Willie are both in
good health, and he is growing very finely,
and makes great demands on the commis-
-ariat. We were both glad to hear from
Sarah, and Mary is highly pleased with
her letter. I am certainly much indebted
to Tom for his disinterested proposal,
about coming up here, but the question
is would it pay him. I will surely try
but it must needs be a Loghouse, 12x12
inside, with a chamber, but I do not see
where lumber will come from, only for
one floor, and roof, unless it fall in price
much below the present rates.

Off Alexander came up here, and he did
not need to go home again, untill fall

I think he would do well, even better
than if he went to Colleges but perhaps
home, is after all the best place for him

As for your advice, I like it,
and I need it, but still do not deal
so much in metaphor, speak plain
and to the point. When you wish to do
so, and will not be offended,

Love to all, and believe us
ever your loving & old Daughter
William + Mary.

We are having more snow,
that is the reason I write today

Beloit College, Feb. 10th /67.

My Dear Father. [James Christie]

I recd your last letter on Monday and send off answers to both it and Sandy's together. I hope that there is no reason why all my letters should not be common property at home. Sandy complains that he seldom sees them. I hope it will be different hereafter. To be honest with you, father, your last two letters have not had the charm for me that your letters usually do. I am glad you are searching the Scriptures, but I would like you not to look through them so much for the sake of building up a system of Philosophy as for the purpose of learning individual duty. Our theories are apt to have so much of human imperfection in them, while our duty is laid out so plainly that they who run may read. Now do not charge me with a self-sufficient bigotry. I shall now probably think as you do on some points, but

there is one vital point on which I hope to see perfect harmony between us, and as to everything else you may hold what opinions you like. That point is in the recognition and acceptance of Christ as a personal Saviour.

I am afraid that in your reading of the Bible you are more inclined to look up than down. Matters of less importance than to see, as you may on every page, the call to repentance and faith in Jesus. I am afraid, as I have told you, that too much of all this with which you have filled, these letters tends to distract the attention from the grand, patent, saving doctrine of the Scriptures. - I say "patent," because they are actually not to be erred about in interpretation.

Read the first ten verses of the 3^d Chapter of Colossians, especially the 3^d, 8th, 9th and 10th.

Now my position is simply this, - I know there are great and hidden mysteries connected with everything around us as well as with the world beyond the grave. There are hidden meanings in the most unimportant of the common operations

of Nature which it will delight me to see at some future day when I shall be so far advanced as to take in far more of the glory and harmony and universal plan of God's works than it is possible for me in this life to do. But the knowledge of these things now would turn my head. - I am not strong enough to bear them; they would only confuse and daze me. I am in the very A B C as yet, and to try to dig out an intricate problem in the higher Mathematics before I am how to perform a sum in Addition would only lead me into the most foolish mistakes and blunders. I shall not amplify on this for I am sure you perfectly appreciate me without. And so, when you speak of arcane

and intricate relations of things; I tell you that I feel my feet at present on very firm ground, sure and steadfast, and that I am afraid if I should seek to be too curious concerning matters so far above me, I might soon find myself drifting helplessly about with neither oar or

reveler on a dismal sea of doubt and conjecture. I could point you to men in that condition now, who are carrying their little tallow dip of human reason to light them in the darkness instead of accepting the illuminating beams of the Sun of Righteousness. "If any man lack wisdom, let him ask of God, who giveth liberally, and upbraideth not."

But there are things which I do know, and which relate to present duty, about which there is no need of brain puzzling conjecture. I love Christ; I love to be taught by Him. I feel as if I could, in the deepest humility sit forever at His feet and learn of Him all things necessary.

I feel that I have that privilege now, and I love it above all things else. I would like to speak to you of the preciousness of Jesus to me; how I can feel that He is always with me; how conscious I am of His approval of all my plans and purposes in life; what a comfort it is to go to Him in prayer and open my heart to Him; and what a blessedness there is in knowing, that, sinful and imperfect as I am I am accepted by Him as a loving child, who only seeks to know and to do what will please God.

And I feel assured, such ~~is~~ God's great mercy and love as revealed in His promise, that I shall be carried on and on in ever increasing progress, in ever closer harmony

All you need is to will a choice of
Jesus Christ for your Saviour, Teacher
and Friend, If you will do this, and
pray for help, in a humble penitent spirit
God will not suffer the new life to die
out, and you will find rest in believing.

I would that all whom I love were
with me in looking forward to a glorious
immortality through the Redemption
that is by faith in Christ, - there is
no other, - Please write me on this
subject in your next.

I feel so deeply on this point that
I cannot bring myself to speak of
anything else in this letter, and
so you will please forgive me for
stopping here, by signing myself
in great hope
Your loving Son
Thomas.

with the Being whom my soul loves, and to greater and greater joys in communion with Him.

I have the most perfect confidence in God as One who will lead me on only in those ways that lead to my highest good, and I trust alone to Christ for my salvation, both from the future punishment of sin, and from its ~~sinners~~ power in the present.

And now, I love Jesus so, and realize how blessed it is to give up to Him, that I cannot help wanting you to taste and see with me that the Lord is good.

I will send with this a book, that my Pastor gave me the other day to give to some one who would be benefitted by it. I hope you will read it carefully, and, Oh, how much pleasure it would give me if you would only be able to tell me in your next, that you had determined to serve Christ. if it were only three words long, and those were of this purport, I would rather see them than the most elaborate discourse on less important themes.

There is no difficulty in the matter,

Direct to Atlanta, Ga. Box 344 - and the
and with you & we send you a specimen of
the book I took in last fall & wish you should find
the game fiction in Nature & I would have been "Glad."

Letter to Phyllis, Dec 24 - and the other

Sparta Wis. Feb. 61

My Dear [Donna]

Comerod & Brothers

It is now nearly a year ago since I heard from you I answered your last letter and you one last fall from Vicksburg Directed both to Madison and I thank the Lord for his goodness that he has spared me to write still another, now soon I will come where I left of 9 months ago as you may know last spring I joined the Congregational Church I have been among ever since and am still I have just arrived here in time to take part in a great revival with Commencement here this week our church has been all fixed up and remodelled painted so it looks beautiful we also have a new minister a young man but a smart man, and a good man he was only married last Thursday his name is Rev. Mr. Charinichas he has no

improvement I can assure you I wish you
were here to take part in our meetings with
us and help us to convert sinners to God
Dear Sam I am a changed man Sam there
is only one thing that troubles my conscience
that is my families affairs I have been some
what to blame my self but now it was not
my fault I was driven to by ill usage by
one who I loved most dearly and always
shall all though she may say I love her
not that person is my wife. I never have
heard or word from home for the last 10
months and have not seen my wife since
I saw you last nor I never want to see
her again either Sam I will apply for
a divorce this fall Sam this I tell you
confidentially and please say nothing about
it to no one I say I can trust you Sam well
Sam I am much older then when you last saw
me my troubles weigh heavy upon me but
with gods help and with his salvation I
can stand it all well now I will go back
and give you a short history of my travels

and movements as you will remember I
had a station last spring I stood him
for mares at this place till the 28 of June
1866 then I sold him on account of my foot
which was getting worse I tended him myself
made about 450 of four hundred fifty dollars
with him in 2 months sold him for three
hundred and 25 dollars and a revolver to
boot and on the 29 of June I had my foot
cut open by Drs Beebe & Gage of this place
took Chloroform at 8 o'clock A.M. and
by 10 A.M. they were done but I did not
wake up till 4:30 P.M. so you see I had a
narrow escape they cut it my foot open
on both sides and took out all the broken
bone that was in my foot they done a good
job for me and only think they only charge
me 35, as they said I suffered enough with
out paying for it and that I needed
all I had so they only made me pay for
the material used may the Lord bless
them is my daily prayer for their good
ness well that layed me up till the 9 of

July when I took my cane and started to
Minnesota stayed at Minnerisha over
there to Plainview from there to St. Charles
city & from there to Rochester then to Onatona
and to Babachaw & Redwing and back to
Wynona and back to Sharps then drove a
harsh team & drawing lumber from the pinery
down to Linn City, worked at Head Hills
stacking commenced then got 3 dollars per day
for stacking built 63 stacks on an emery
from 7 to 20 loads took them on the first
of September bought a picture gallery here
for 500 dollars in Partnership with a artist
of great reputation my stenographer brother to
Capt. Steneger of the 16. Miss. Regt. learned
the trade in 3 weeks stayed in the business
till November 15, /66 sold out to my
partner for 500 dollars then I started
for the land of stripes went to St. Louis from
there to Cairo from there to Paducah & then
then to Ft. Donnellson and from there
to the Battle Field of Shiloh as Pittsburg
ending at Tom I wish you could have been
with me it looked kind a natural from there
to Caruth and Holly Springs and on to
Greensboro & Jackson Miss. then to Bogalusa
from there we used to go to dance from Redbone then
Vicksburg & Natchez Port Hudson and back
to Lake Providence stayed at Greenville come
with me & get my shot at that place by a
rebel but I was to work and draw my bullets

Lowell, Feb 16th 1867.

My Dear Cousin.

Please excuse my
negligence for not writing sooner. I have
been very busy this week. had two weeks
washing to do, besides ironing & baking.
Sant Matilda is grunting. says she dont
know what is the matter (think I know)
havent seen Ella since I came home
have seen "Charley" twice. went to Lodge
wednesday night & had a very good
Lodge - Uncle David is going to New Dan-
overight to the Masonic Lodge & I will
have to stay in the store a few hours
(There I declare it is raining) Sarah
I wish you would send me "Minnie"

Post Office address. I have not received
any answer to the letter I sent last.
I hope she will get it. for I sent
my picture in it. also a watch case
pattern, which I will send to you
cut the paste-board exactly like the
pattern, for the outside. allow a seam
you will have to draw another pattern
because you have got to buste one
on the cloth and cut it out so you will
be obliged to have another to cut
it out the right shape after
marking the beads on. for the gups
you want first three and then four
and another three which will make
them just right size. the leaves
you ought to sent the outside over
on first. that is the way I did when
I made mine. guess you will succeed
in making one. If you cant come
up and I will be very happy to
show you. Haven't had a chance
to get the Shepherd Pattern

I will send it to you when I get
it. I will also send you my photo graphs
expecting yours when you get them
taken. I wish you would have yours
taken and I also wish "Sandy"
would and send me one now
dont you forget to answer this
and be sure to come up when
"Thomas" comes home. if Mr George
Christie comes me would like to
see him also now dont fail to come
up all of you love to Mother and
all the Children and a share
for yourself I will have to close
as it is near mail time

Jessie

P. S. haven't had any valentines
yet have you. hope I will have
a nice one.

Jessie Smith Himes

2 all and 17th
of help you will receive soon and of length. Give my love
to all and 17th father. I will send him a letter and a book
soon.

Beloit College

February 17th 1867.

My Dear Sister: [Sarah Christie]

I recd. your letter yesterday morning, and father's last night, with one from John Schaller, Sparta; now called at Chyman. John has been south it seems, all over the old campaigning grounds of the 17th Corps, from Genoa to Sumnerak. He tells me a wonderful story of travels through those old places of interest. Is now in Sparta, having just come from the South.

I am going to write him a letter, and give him my views ~~of~~ as to the consistency of some of his action with his profession of Religion.

And now as to the first thing you mentioned, - The Little Corporal - I sent a subscription for both papers, and said I would, at the same time, and supposed they had both gone all right. However, a letter went ^{to} the

1
Luphis her yesterday, with the first
mail after getting your letter, and
I will soon see where the fault lies.

I am really sorry for the disappoint-
ment it must have been to Janie, and
will see that she gets her paper regularly
after this, if I should have to go to Chicago
myself to start it.

I have not had any chat with
Mr B. lately because he has been out of
town, — indeed, I believe he is yet, but
I shall take the earliest opportunity
to see him, and then I will write
that letter to Chicago. I think it is
an excellent plan. I will probably
see Mr B. tomorrow, so you may expect
the other letter within two days after
this one. I wish to help you in
any way by which your own best in-
terests will be advanced, and the only
trouble heretofore with me has been that
I have been diffident in sitting before
you that which I honestly thought

would lead to your highest happiness,
because I was afraid you would not
be willing. I saw by your letter that you
do earnestly aspire for a better life, and
are willing to come up into the blessedness
of consecration to a noble object.
I think, with you, that you are not
fulfilling the design of your creation
in staying under Chymam influences,
and I shall help you to come out of it.

There are so many glorious opportu-
nities for work in the world, that no
one who is willing should remain idle.
And now that I am assured you
only lack opportunity I shall most
accurately help you all I can!

And now my dear Sarah, there are
many things we can all do, in whatever
position we are placed, to serve God.

Do not wait until you get out of Chymam
before giving up whatever there is in you
contrary to the Spirit of Christ. Begin
with your own heart, examine it, and

2a whether its impulses are in
accordance with what they should be
and if not, begin anew to sue Christ,
Determine to stop doing everything which
your conscience, enlightened by the word
of God, tells you is directly contrary to
His will, and to diligently perform every
thing that comes before you as duty.
Ask for the help of the Holy Spirit in
frequent prayer, read those precious
promises of the Bible to those who turn
in penitence to the Lord, no matter how
great their sin may be and take them
to yourself in faith and confidence.

Now I do not speak of what is dif-
ficult or impossible with any one; it
is in the power of every soul to make
this surrender to Christ at any time, if
they but will to do so. You can do it
if you wish to, or you ^{may} can not, - just
as you will concerning it, - and now
are there not inducements enough offered
to influence you to make the right choice.

Oh that you would once more rise to
the level of your opportunities and your
duties and begin living a genuine life
of consecration to Him who alone is able
to give joy and peace in this life, and

an assurance of eternal happiness beyond that grave to which we are all inevitably tending. Do think and act in this great matter, and secure the great blessings from this time forth which wait only on your own willingness to receive them.

I am truly delighted to hear of the change in Mr. Ford. I hope it will be permanent, and will effect a radical change in his whole belief and life. In the letter he wrote to me in reply to mine he said that though he "knew" three things were true, yet he could derive no comfort from them: all was dark in the present and in the future. He said he had found skepticism a very pleasant thing in times of prosperity and happiness, but when death came into his family and took his very idol away, he felt as if he could curse the unbeliever that shut him out from all comfort or consolation.

Why should all of us ²⁰ persistently neglect these grand realities until the time comes when every other prop is knocked out from under us?

I often think of Ann, myself, and the more I think of her, the more do I feel certain that there was a deep undercurrent of true piety and love of God running through her whole character. As you say, her influence for good was more than any one would have thought.

And that influence, which we all feel in thinking of her, let it impel us to live so that we shall constantly tend to make better, all those with whom we come in contact. There is nothing else worth living for; nothing that will give us so great satisfaction and joy not only in the far future, but also now, every day of our lives.

What do you suppose Ann would take now in exchange for the memories she has of a pure life? We are making every hour the record that will, through all the future either fill us with joy or sorrow, and how important that it should be what we will wish it had

been when the scales of the flesh shall fall from our eyes, and we shall stand in the presence of the All seeing One.

Would that we could realize now the truth that has such an immense import to us, set in accordance with it, and thus save ourselves from eternal and unavailing regrets.

I am glad that both I and Willie are coming with me in the Spring, for I feel certain that they will see so much here in accordance with their higher nature that they will, I hope, begin to strive for higher and better things themselves.

I wish they could have been here this term, on account of the course of lectures, and other privileges they would have had. I have heard this winter, Horace Greely, Fred Douglass, and Prof. Blissdell, and Carl Schurz, all splendid lectures, - and on Tuesday night Theodore Tilton will

gives his lecture on Reconstruction.
And then the next lecture will be by
Genl. Hanninger, a Hungarian exile.
He is in town now, addressed our S.S.
Concert this evening, giving, by request, a
history of his life. He was 12 years old
when the revolution of '48 broke out in Hun-
gary, and he went to Roesuth at once for a
soldier. Roesuth did not want to take him
on account of his youth, so he went to the
Austrian Camps, and brought back much good
information to the Patriots. Roesuth then made
him one of his body guard, and he was with
him until they both came to America.

He told many of his adventures both in
Hungary and Turkey, where Roesuth was
in prison for two years. In this country
he began at school at the A.B.S. in Con-
cord and worked himself up into college.

Became a Christian at Hartford, where he
belonged to the Church of Rev Mr. Bushnell, the
celebrated Divine and brother of our Pastor here.

Was all ready to go back to Turkey as a mis-
sionary when our war broke out, and he at once
enlisted as a Private in Burnside's Regiment.
From that he fought all through the war, and
won his way up to the rank of Brig. Genl.

Is now preparing to go abroad, as a missionary,
with the ultimate intention to help his Country-
men gain their liberties. I was introduced to
him by our pastor and had a short chat. He spoke
ten different languages, and is a man of far more
than ordinary intelligence.

Beloit College.

Jan 15 1867

My Dear Sister: [Sarah Christie]

I got your letter on Saturday, and meeting Mr Benson by chance on the sidewalk soon after, he told me he had written to Mr Boynton, mentioning your name in connection with the object in hand. I do not think that you should count too much on it though. I shall see Mr B. again soon, and find out more of the ways & means by which your services might be made available without this local effort plan.

If you are settled in the determination to make yourself useful in this way there will soon be an opening in some direction: all you need to do is to keep yourself ready, and prepare yourself to the best of your ability for whatever duties may come.

I shall do what I can to help you in this, for I feel that it would be a pleasant life for you, and one in which you could feel as if you were doing something to advance the interests of Humanity.

You spoke of so many disappointments as you have endured.

I know you have never been as happy as you should have been, and that you are not now truly enjoying yourself. I know that in looking at the Past and the Future you must sometimes feel sad, and perhaps melancholy.

I deeply sympathize with you, for I appreciate your situation exactly, and I would do anything in my power to help you.

And, speaking in all kindness, I think you could have far more real happiness in your life, even in your present circumstances, if you only

could begin a reform at home, in your own soul. If you would but renew your Christian life and spirit, cultivate everything in your character which is Christ like, and strive to subdue everything else; keeping close to Christ by maintaining always the right attitude and spirit toward Him; praying often and reading the Scriptures, working for the Cause of the Master by winning souls to Him, and reflecting the light and warmth of His love in your heart upon all around you; if you could only turn your life in this direction it would not matter where you were or what were your surroundings. You would begin at once to taste something of the realities of Religion, and they are compensation for everything in this world. Oh, my dear Sister, if you could but devote yourself

anew and entirely to the service of Christ. actually live for Him, and begin in our own neighborhood, and above all, in our own home, to work for Him, you would not need to complain of want of happiness.

Won't you begin this now, Sarah, by kneeling and asking God for forgiveness, and for strength to carry out a resolution to serve Him from henceforth to the end of life. Oh, if you would but shake off the lethargy of soul that keeps you & fear, too far from your duty, and rise into that better, that satisfying life which it is your privilege to live.

Begin by putting things right with God, through repentance, and, that will of itself put things to rights with yourself and with all the outside world.

I hope you have read the little tract I sent with Sandy's, mine. It is just what you need, and what all of us need. I hope I have more thoroughly consecrated myself to my dear Saviour within the last week. It is my purpose to live from henceforth with more of Eternity in prospect, and to do more and more

Chicago, Ill., Feb 18 1867

Thos. D. Christie

Dear Sir

I think that you
are at-fault. In your letter you directed
one paper sent to Clymer & one to Lane,
Wis., & I find them so entered on my books.
I have changed it to Clymer & I trust
that Miss Emmons will receive her
paper correctly in future. To-day I
again send the Jan & Feb. numbers to her.

Yours Truly

Alfred L. Sewell
per K.

Wrote this morning and
from any I am sure
will read this I have nothing to send
Devoil College

Wed. Oct. 20. 1847

My Dear Sister, [Sarah Christie]

I have found a better
way than any yet proposed to give you
the opportunity you seek, of going south.

I must tell you the whole story:-

Mr. Benson is from home, as I found out
on Monday and so I got the address of
Mr. Shepherd from young Benson of
my Greek class, intending to use it as
you proposed should, the plan I had
already formed not be available.

This other plan was simply this:-
To see Mr. Theodore Tilton on the subject
when he should come to lecture, and get
what advice and assistance was nec-
essary from him.

The thing has been wholly successful,
and I have not the least doubt but
that your hopes will all be realized
in consequence of Mr. Tilton's kindness.

He came last evening, and gave me a perfectly splendid lecture on "The Corner Stone of Reconstruction." I wish I could remember half the brilliant and soul stirring things he uttered.

He is a most effective speaker, and one of the most graceful I ever saw on the platform, - tall and lithe, dark hair curling a little, hazel eyes full and brilliant, high wide forehead, and face smooth as a girl's - all that keeps it from being feminine is the ^{agile} large, wide nostrilled nose. He is my Ideal Tiltor to a hair. Well, my plan was all made up beforehand, and I waited patiently for the time to come in which to put it in operation.

On expressing a desire to see Mr T. to our Prof. Blaisdell, he offered at once to introduce me after the lecture, but I told him that Mr T. would be tired with his two hours speaking, and I would not intrude on his rest at

that time. But this morning I fixed up and went down to the hotel, where I was told that he was at breakfast. Sending in the card I enclose, by one of the servants, I was told that Mr T. would see me there. I went into the dining room where he was eating breakfast alone, where he very kindly placed a chair for me beside him, shook hands cordially, and in answer to my apologies for the interruption assured me that it was no inconvenience at all, "for," said he, "I'm very hungry, and will just go on eating as before, while you do the talking." I should think he was hungry, by the way he was handling the pancakes; "nothing like your Western air," he says, "for the appetite." "Mr. Tiltor," I said, taking the offered chair, "as you are, no doubt, interested in knowing who I am and what I want, I will begin by saying in general terms that I am

at present a student of the College,
preparing for the ministry, that I had
the pleasure for nearly four years, of
wearing a blue coat with brass buttons,
and, lastly, that I am a constant reader
of the Independent. If you are sat-
isfied with these Credentials of my
radicalism, Mr. T. I will go on to state
why I wished to see you. The smiling
Thodore returned, between large bites of
pancake, that if the first two Consider-
ations were not sufficient to prove my
general soundness, the last one must
certainly was, alone. At last, he
said, laughing, if you are not a Radical
Mr. Christie, you can't blame the In-
dependent for not doing its best to con-
vert you. I replied by expressing my
obligations to him for the many trumpet-
toned utterances that had cheered and
encouraged me, and thousands others
of our soldiers, ringing from the
Editorials of that staunch old paper.
And then I introduced the subject
concerning which I had come to see
him, and saying that, familiar as he
must be with the workings of the

various great Associations having
the Education of the Freedmen as
their object, he could probably give
me advice that would be of value
to you; He listened with interest
to my statements in relation to you,
your motives, and your capabilities,
and then drawing the card to him
which I had sent in by the waiter,
he took my pencil and wrote the
two addresses you see on it.

(Keep that card, - I would not lose
it for anything.) "There," said he,
"send to either one of those a statement
of your sister's wish for employment,
together with a certificate from some
lawyer or clergyman of the neigh-
borhood in relation to her abilities and
character, and add that you have
seen me on the subject and that
I endorse the application most heartily.
Could you ask anything more?"
After a little more conversation, as
his pancakes were about finished,

I took leave, thanking him in
your name for his kindness.

I never saw a more pleasant-tem-
pered man, or one with whom it was
easier to feel at ease in conversation.
And yet he is a born nobleman,
as his grand face and head, and
noble utterances prove.

I assure you, I shall not forget
in a hurry my interview with
Theodore Tilton.

And now, as to the use to be
made of this advice, — I shall write
by next mail to Mr. Boynton asking
him for an indorsement of your
application; he will give it cheerfully,
I know; this I shall ask him to send
by mail to you at Chyman. By the
time you get it you will also receive
a letter from me to Bro. Mr. Whipple,
making application for the position
for you, — you will not copy any
of these documents, as it is not

necessary that you write at all in
the matter. My application with
the Recommendation of Mr. Boynton
will be all that will be necessary,
Mr. T. told me. So you can take
the certificate of Mr. B. and put it in
the same envelope with my letter, and
mail it at Chyman or Watertown, —
better the latter. And thus, if you
keep up your courage and determin-
ation, there will be a way opened to
make you happy; for I know that
if you were engaged in this work
it would be meat and drink to you.
I almost envy you; indeed I would,
were I not looking forward to kindred
employment, in making my fellow
men better and thus happier.
May God grant that you may
know the joy there is in consecration
to a noble object.

I shall tell you all about the
lectures, and the further particulars

of the interview when I come home, I shall ask Mr. Whipple to communicate directly with you in reply to the application, and I trust you will at once send the letter to me, as it will depend on the answer whether or not I visit Clyman before the term is out,

I enclose the letter of Mr. Sewall from Chicago. The mistake arose in this way, I see, — I wrote Eliza James address in full, and then told him to send James's to "Same" P.O.

This they mistook for "Lane", and thus all the trouble. Of course she is getting her paper regularly now.

I send today a book to father with which I know he will be delighted. I read only a part of it, and it seemed to me that there never was a clearer, more philosophical exposition of Louthe. He must excuse me for not writing promptly, for I will have my hands full on your account. Of course, all the family

Chas. D. Christie,

MADISON, WIS.

Can I have a word with
Mr. Sifton?

James Miller M^r Kim, Esq
Office Notation

Am. Freedmen's Union Commission N.Y.C.

Rev. George Whipple,
Am. Miss. Assⁿ
61 Main St.

N.Y.C.

Watertown Feb 25/64

Dear Friend Christé [Miss S. J. Christie]

Mr. Gilton in giving you advice overlooked the fact that the A. M. A. had a Secretary in Chicago for the North West and, all communications for the Society from this region should be directed to him. If you apply as he directs to N. B. they would refer you to their Chicago Secretary. This you see would only result in delay. Apply to Rev J. M. Shepherd

11/5 29 Lombard St, Block this
case. You had better get one of
the professors Emerson or Blair, or
Bro Clary to write you a letter
to Bro Shipward. If they are ac-
quainted with him, it will be of
advantage to you. You can
apply in your sisters behalf just

It is a great deal better to send to N.Y. than to Chicago.

as well as to have the application
come directly, and you could say in
substance what you say in your
letter to me, which it would not be
as easy for her to write respecting
herself & further it would save time.
It will save traveling expense to ap-
ply to the Shipboard. She could stop and
see him on her way to the field of
labor selected. She will need to see
one of the Secretaries before receiving
her outfit.

I send you the certificate you
wish me to forward to your sister
under the impression that you will
wish to enclose it with a letter from
one of the brethren named & make
the application yourself to our Ship-
board in your sister's behalf. Should
you prefer to send it to her you can
do so. I am glad to hear of your suc-
cess in studies. Do not attempt too
many hours study in a day. Yours &c. C. B. Boynton

Clyman, Wis.

March - 1847.

Rev. J. R. Shepherd,

Sec. A. M. A. Chicago

Sir:

The letter from your Office enclosing Circular with questions for applicants is received. ~~Many thanks for the promptness with which my application was attended to.~~ I shall proceed to answer in their order your printed inquiries. 1. My name is Sarah Jane Christie. 2. Age. 22.

3. I am not married. 4. I am a member of the First Baptist Church of Fox Lake, Wis. 5. P. O. Address - Clyman, Dodge Co. Wis.

6. I desire employment for as long a time as you will contract for, ~~as I wish to give my life to this work.~~
At the best, I would like an

engagement for three years.

7- As to my health, I can say with sincerity that I have never for a day known what it is to be sick, ~~except~~ with the exception of a trifling attack of ^{an} contagious fever to which I was subjected some two years ago.

I am a country girl, and am not ashamed to confess a decided predilection for out door exercise, to which I ascribe my uniformly good health.

8- In speaking of my experience in teaching I would say that I have taught all the common English branches in the different schools of the neighboring County School Districts for nine terms - Winter and Summer, - with an attendance varying from twenty to ninety.

9- I am ready to go into any part of the South you may select, although my preference would be Northern Georgia

or Alabama. 10- As to skill in vocal music, I would say that in all my schools I have made a practice of teaching the little ones to sing, considering this an important element of Education.

11- I beg leave to refer you to Mr. A. E. Goldthwait, Mayor of Macon, Ga. formerly Principal of the State Seminary, which I attended at the time he had charge; and also to Mr. Ches. Boynton, Watertown, Wis., Pastor of the Cong. Church in that town.

And now, Sir, having given the statement you ask for, allow me to add that I hope you will find room for me somewhere in your extended field of operations. I know that I do not have very much of talent or ability to offer, but I wish most earnestly to give all that I ~~am~~ ^{possess} and have to the missionary work, and my highest ambition is to be enabled to do what little I can in any humble way, to help,

the great and noble work in which
you are engaged. I feel that I
~~can say, without overstepping the bounds~~
~~of modesty, that I should~~ would take
an enthusiastic interest in the per-
formance of my duties, and I know
that I can, if permitted, give satisfac-
tion to the Officers of the Association,
~~and do considerable in advancing the~~
~~best interests of such of the Freedmen~~
as may be placed under my charge.

But I shall not weary you
by dwelling longer on the subject.
All I wish is that you could know
how deeply and earnestly I feel in
^{affair} relation to it, and then I am sure
you would be able to find some
corner for me, in which I would
have the opportunity I so much
desire.

I remain, Sir,
With respect,
Yours sincerely

SUGGESTIONS TO APPLICANTS.

1. A very large number of applications are constantly received; many more than can be favorably considered.

2. It is therefore quite unnecessary for persons to apply who are not FULLY qualified according to the standard hereinafter indicated.

3. The sole endeavor in the selection of Teachers and Missionaries is to secure the most VALUABLE LABORERS.

This is not a Society for the employment of persons not otherwise provided for; nor is it a Society for the reward of abstract virtue; it is NOT maintained for the SUPPORT of its EMPLOYEES. On the contrary, it is maintained for the relief and education of its BENEFICIARIES, the Emancipated Slaves of the South.

We are constantly applied to by the friends of unquestionably innocent men and women, who are invalids, and who desire to spend a season at the South; or who have succeeded in nothing else, and infer by some unique logical process that they must therefore succeed among the Freedmen.

4. The supply of EXCELLENT laborers is abundant, and so long as it is abundant, we have employment for none others.

5. EXCELLENT laborers are ALWAYS WANTED, although we have not always the money to send them. We have hundreds in the field, and are entreated to send hundreds more.

6. We want

1. A few competent preachers;
2. A few professional male teachers;
3. A few female missionaries;
4. A great many professional female teachers;

7. To employees of the third and fourth classes we pay \$15 per month, and provide for all travelling and current living expenses. To the second class, \$25 per month, with provision as for the fourth class. To the first class, the full value of individual services, making a special contract in each case.

8. Our standard EXCLUDES in all ordinary cases:

1. Invalids:
2. Novices:
3. Persons of marked eccentricities:
4. The unconverted in heart:

It approves:

1. Sincere christianity:
2. Superior common sense:
3. Sound bodily health:
4. A genuine missionary spirit:
5. A cheerful and patient temper:
6. The very highest professional skill. For preachers, we do not desire men who wish they could preach; nor for teachers, persons who hope to learn how to teach.

9. Applicants should always send a statement showing:

1. The full name:
2. Age:
3. Whether married or not:
4. Church relation:
5. Home post-office:
6. Length of time for which employment is desired:
7. Past and present state of health:
8. Amount and kind of experience in the work applied for:
9. Preference for field, if any:
10. Skill in vocal music:
11. The names of at least two persons, thoroughly acquainted with the applicant in the premises, and, if possible, known at this office, with whom correspondence can be opened.

Applications not answered within fifteen days, are declined.

JACOB R. SHIPHERD,

SECRETARY.

AMERICAN MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION,

29, Lombard Block,

CHICAGO, ILL.

Belmont College

March 3^d 1867.

My Dear Brother, [Alexander]

Your short letter with the enclosure came along safely. - I had expected a longer one from you, but suppose you must be like myself in having ~~words~~ of letter writing zeal alternating with those of the opposite character. I am glad that you are coming here.

I will secure a room for us both, and also a room with a good room mate for Willie, if he wishes.

You and I will room together and board ourselves. I find it better not only for my pocket but also for my health, - they use a great deal of meat at the clubs, while I like light food for studying on.

My health has been excellent this winter, with the exception of a cold which is now broken up, and I ascribe this health and my general clearness of mind, so necessary

to one who has so much mental labor as I have had, to my frugal diet and occasional fasts together with regular dumb bell exercise and cold baths every morning.

The milk man comes around four times a week and gave me a quart of milk, and this with Boston Crackers and Boston Brown Bread (Rye and Indian meal) from the Scotch Baker - a Dundee man, by the way, and nice golden syrup - no butter - constitutes my daily diet. When you come we can have delicious Indian Roasty Pulding, Rice, and once in a while a little mutton or steak to vary this, and thus get on first rate. There will be plenty of chance for Miller in the Club, if he wants to board there, which would, on the whole, be the best for him. But I know that you will enjoy yourself the best with me.

I spoke to Mr. Fisk about your coming and he said, he would welcome heartily any one with the name of Christie. There is to be a grammar class next term, and a class

of beginners in Latin, and as to the Greek, - I will bring you up on that.

I am greatly delighted at your taking up the Classics, for I know from experience how essential they are to a broad, comprehensive, Complete Education.

You will be delighted with the thorough and philosophical insight they will give you of all the great principles that lie at the very foundations of all Language and your reading in them will introduce you into a new world of thought and sentiment, to the enlargement of the whole scope of your mind's action, and especially to the increase of a true appreciation of Man, as he has been in the ages past - his history, character, and modes of thought and action. When you build your education on such a broad and thorough foundation, in the laying of which all the powers of your mind are so symmetrically trained by the very processes through which alone you can acquire

any knowledge of those two great languages, you will be thoroughly equipped and furnished to extend your researches with ease and facility into any of the special departments of Truth you may wish. For the general training of the mind to habits of thought the study of the Classics is most admirable. Why - the very process of digging out the meaning of a Latin sentence, determining the exact relations of its parts to each other according to the fixed and universal laws of the language as embodied in its Grammar, is the very best discipline in the world to train the analyzing powers of the mind - to learn you to take note of differences however slight, to exercise your powers of combination - the "putting of two and two together," - and in fine, to make you a thorough student in anything that comes before your mind. You will appreciate all this when you learn something of what I am speaking of. I merely give you the results of my observations and experience as to the results naturally flowing from certain methods of action.

I had the pleasure of hearing Wendell Phillips last Thursday night, and

Beloit College

March 24th. 67.

My Dear Brother, [Alexander]

Both your letter and father's of yesterday are just recd. I am surprised at your questions. I hold that it is your first duty to get the start in the education of yourself which a term here will give you. I appreciate brother William's position as you do; I know it is a hard one, and yet I do not see how, possibly, he can fail. His trials will, I am confident, only serve to make him a stronger and better man. I know he is strong enough to conquer them all, and that with a cheerful spirit.

On the other hand, - I look upon this as a very important crisis in your life. There is far more dependent on

your action in this matter than you
can estimate. - Sandy - you must
come with me for these next three months.
After that you can do what seems best.
But I want you not to rashly throw
away the opportunity that is now open
to you. I tell you, I see consequences
of the greatest and most glorious import-
ance to your future, and to the world,
that will be sure to result from these
next few months, if you use them
aright. There are ^{in the life of every man} times ^{and} which are
very hinges on which turn the whole
after destiny of the man. Such a time
in my life was the hour when on that
winter day near Trimpel and made
up my mind to go to Madison. I shall
remember that resolution to this day, through
all eternity. And now, my dear brother,
most affectionately and earnestly, I don't
urge you not to give up your purpose
of joining me here next term. We will
be very economical - I think it a pity
in the condition of our family to spend

a single cent on mere selfish indulgence.
We shall get along very cheaply, and as
hard as we can to improve our time.
We can be earning something, too. Prof.
Emerson wants me to take care of his
garden this spring, and also has a
piece of ground on which he offers to
have me raise things for market.
There will be plenty of just the
right kind of work for both of us,
work in which we, with our native
fresh country taste will delight in
coming as it will in the intervals
of mental labor. Sandy, I can
not give up the prospect of having you
here. I have looked forward to it
so long, ever since I first went to college,
and have founded such precious hopes
upon it, that it would be the very worst
disappointment of my life if you do
not study with me next term. I want
you here for many reasons - I want
now to begin that systematic course
of mental training which will alone fit

you to do the work for God and
your fellow men, which, with your
powers, you ought to do. I want you
to come here in order to see Christianity in
its workings for yourself, to come into
contact with the many good men who
are here living exemplars of its truths,
to really see what its spirit and pur-
poses are; and, if it be not too much
of a blessing to ask of God, I want to see
you soon by the love of Christ to his voice.

These are my reasons for desiring so
earnestly to see you in Beloit College.
I only wish they came to your mind,
with something of the force they carry
to mine.

This is my advice, then,
for which you ask, that you hold firmly
to your purpose of coming here for sometime
at least. When it is over with you might
give yourself to the assistance of brother
Will. I am confident that he would not
ask that the whole tenor of your life should
be changed for the worse for the sake of what
you could do for him during the next three
months.

The Providence of God is
calling to you now - "Come up higher," and
it is your first duty to obey. I care
nothing now for those social and political
highlights to which I once aspired, but my mark
is the shining mount of holiness, without which
no man shall see God. Do not give up
your former plan, I beseech you. Wait
until I come down, and we will have
a talk about everything.

Nepeuskun March 3. 67

Mr ^{Fryman} Stevens Dear Sir
you will see by this that I
know how to Sympathize with
you in your affliction with you
I am Cald to mourn the loss of
my beloved Companion on the 9
day of last month She bade us
Ad & took her departure from Earth
to the paredice of god to be forever
at rest, Dear friendd what what
a Consolation it is to have a hope
that our Companions are now
participating in the enjoyments
of heaven yet we mourn their
absence there is none that knows
the Sorrow of the heart but those
that have had the same trial
but we must Submit to the
providences of god & I hope we shall
be prepar'd to meet them in heaven

I am inclined to believe that
your wife and mine have
renewed their acquaintance in the
Spirit world they were warm friends
my wife often spoke of you and
your wife she often said she
wished she could see you and
enjoy another social visit, but they
cannot here in this life, but hope
they will enjoy each others society round
the throne of God forever and forever,
now friend Stevens I must
change the subject and how to
approach you I am at a loss for
I have trespassed on your rites
after my wife died I went to see
your friends about getting your
lot in our burying ground they
said they had no controul of it
but they thought perhaps you
would sell it to me so I
concluded to venture to-day
my wife beside your little child

with the understanding that
if you were not satisfied I
would remove it this Spring
now if you are willing to
sell me the lot I would like
to purchase it I will promise
to see to that little grave of
yours that it is well cared for
I like the spot very much and will
take some pains to make it pleasant
but if you are not disposed to
let me have it I have no fault
to find I want you to write
me as soon as you get this so
that I may know what to do
I hope you will not be offended
at what I have done
if you conclude to sell me the
lot please set the price then I
can send you the money
we are all well as usual
and we hope this will find you
and yours the same yours truly
Stephen Starks

DIED.

In Nepruskia, Wis., at 5 P. M., Saturday, Feb. 2, 1867, of Congestive Fever and Heart Disease, Mrs. LUCYLLA wife of Stephen Starks, aged 46 years and 2 months.

Mrs. Starks was a native of Franklin Co., N. Y., and with her family emigrated to Wisconsin in June, 1838, where she has since resided.

She was a woman of industrious habits, decided integrity, humble reservation and modest manner. At an early age she embraced Christianity, and her subsequent life was a happy illustration of the religion she professed. As a daughter, a wife, and a mother, every day was a volume in her praise. Her aged parents survive her, and weep that one so lovely could not have followed them to their grave. Her bereaved husband and five children daily gather around the family altar and covenant anew to meet her, whose memory they so fondly cherish.

Where "all tears are wiped away."

Rev. N. J. Apple, of Berlin City, preached an affecting sermon from 2 Cor. 4, 11.

Beloit College, Wis.
March 24. 67.
My Dear Sister: [Sarah Christie]

Your short note came duly to hand, the next day after you wrote. I am sorry now that I spoke of getting you a school out of Clyman. I do not think it can be done.

I think you should either secure our school or one in the vicinity as soon as possible, in case the application fail. . . You see the difficulty is, that while that is pending I could make no definite arrangement with any school board. I see no other way for it but for you to teach this summer in Clyman if you do not get a position from Mr. S.

And now, Sarah, although the may fail, and although you should have to teach in Clyman this summer, there is no cause for despondency. Our chief happiness is to be formed, not in

either favorable position or circumstances,
but in the progress of our own souls.

If you will apply yourself diligently
to self culture, with the chances you
have, you will derive more pleasure
from it than from anything else.

Why do I say this? because I know
that it is just what you need.

I am afraid you are ashamed to what
is your duty and greatest privilege.

I have been thinking much about
you lately, and I have been more
and more impressed with the Con-
viction that you are not at all right,
with yourself, with others or with
your God. Now, do subject your-
self to a rigid self-examination,
find out your faults and your
wants, and go to Christ with them.

You think it strange that I write
thus, I know, but I do it urgently
an impression that you need just
such words at this time. Oh, my

dear sister, awake to your
condition. Draw near to God, and
He will draw near to you.

Put away those sins that keep
you cold and indifferent to Christ,
and become childlike and teachable,
opening your heart all the time
to let the Holy Spirit do His work
there. I tell you, this will give
you more joy than anything
else in the world, and you can
do it at any time. Why will
you persistently shut yourself
out from all the joy and peace
you might have in your life,
and choose rather to live on and
on toward the grave in your
own weak and wayward and
miserable way, instead of having
every day made glorious by the
presence of Christ in your soul.
I tell you, the time is fast com-
ing when you will be nothing if you

are not Christs. It is worth
fighting and struggling for, is
the Eternal Life only to be obtained
by those who have given up the
world and chosen Christ and
His Cross here on earth. This is
a prize that ought to make us
zealous workers for our Master.
Not given up to sloth and idleness
but cheerful, industrious, growing,
loving laborers. Oh, that we
could, as in the light of Eternity,
realize our position, our swiftly
gliding opportunities, and something
of that love with which Christ so
loved us as to give Himself in
tears and blood for our sins,
that we might become again
the Sons of God. Sarah, we
will see all these things sometime
and may God grant that neither
you nor I in that dread hour
may only see them rising in crushing
condemnation of us, - see them only
to cry forever "too late."
Let us take counsel of wisdom

Belmont, Mar. 25th 1871.

My Dear Sister, [Sarah Christy]

I enclose a note from Mrs. G. recd. this moment. I think you should write to her - a good long letter - it will do you good. I am sorry you have engaged to teach in Chymam this summer in the event of your application failing, for I had intended to see to the business during this next vacation of getting you a school in some locality where you would have church privileges on the Sabbath. I know you would be far better satisfied, and that it would be far better for you.

However, I hope there will be an opening in this direction you wish.

I think you should renew by letter all your Seminary associations, write to your old friends, and keep up a correspondence with all of them whom you really love. - It will do you much good.

I know you must feel dissatisfied
with the present plane of your life.

It is in your power to begin a
higher. You understand that when
I speak of a higher and better life,
I do not mean a higher social life.
You can live a blissed life in the
midst of all your present associa-
tions, if you will only give up to
Christ. He is able to support you
and give you joy and peace in
the midst of apparent discourag-
ements.

All these other things
to the want of which you ascribe
your coldness are only helps - they
are not necessary. The true source
of strength and inspiration to the
faithful Christian is not his
Church privileges or his social
privileges, but something far higher,
and subject to no change or loss of
power. - It is the direct action of the
Spirit on his soul, secured by his keeping
himself in the right attitude toward God.

A man in a desert may have as
sweet religious experiences as if he
were surrounded by all the helps and prop-
er good associations would give him.
Refuse of love and come continually to Christ for help and you
can come off more than a conqueror through His love.
There is no love that is Christ.

and will send you a letter.

Beloit, March 12th 1887.

My Dear Sister: [Sarah Christie]

Yours and father's letter

came this morning. As you see, I have written the letter you ask for. I hope you will copy it in your very best hand, - write with little ink, and form each letter with care.

And I also hope that you will thoroughly review all your studies, for there will not doubt be an examination.

Now see I have mentioned Mr. B. as one of the references. It would be a good idea for you to visit him in town, and have a chat. I know you would have a pleasant time.

As to the other reference, Mr. C. I shall write him a letter very soon with reference to this subject.

Of course, he will be glad to hear from you and help you in any way he can. If you think any

other would be better than Mr. D.

You can change. — They will ask for good Christian men as reformers.

I have not written a long letter for you, for such applications should not be too long. What they require is definite statements only as to practical matters, and any thing more they would scarcely read.

I believe your chances of success are still good, and see no reason for discouragement. The great thing is to be prepared to take up any duty, and the opportunities will soon enough come.

I wish I had time to write you a long letter, but I am just scratching this off to save the mail. Send your letter as soon as you can to Chicago, and await the result in patience. If the application does not succeed, my dear Sister, accept it cheerfully — there are still ways for you in other directions, and all that is necessary is courage and unflinching determination. Yours as ever, F. D.

Watertown March 25th
Miss Sarah J. Christie

Dear Madam

I received
a letter sometime since from your
brother requesting testimonial to se-
cure you a position as teacher in
the service of the American Mission-
ary Association, among the freedmen
South. Another letter more re-
cently stated that you might call
upon me, but I conclude not to
wait longer for the call, before
writing. I have no doubt that
you will be wanted in that work,
and I trust that the little delay
occasioned by applying at N.Y.
instead of Chicago, will not dis-
courage you. Mr. Shipard at
Chicago is Secretary for the
North West, and it would

have been an intrenchment
upon his field had the Secreta-
ries at A. S. given you an appoint-
ment without consulting him.
I trust you will be pleased with
the work.

Miss H. Allen, sister of our
Secretary of State, who was a long
time a parishioner of mine, went
to Mobile in January, sent by
the A. M. A. She wrote Bro
Shepherd of Chicago, then packed
her trunk for a long absence from
home, went to Chicago, saw Bro
Shepherd, took her appointment
for a school in Mobile, and
went on. She says in a recent
letter that she likes the work,
is in good spirits and happy.
If you should have occasion
to come into town we should
be glad to receive a visit from
you. Yours truly C. Boynton