



James C. Christie and Family Papers

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from again become a perfect one
 also written in the same style.
 It is now the signature and name of the
 mystic's words. The mystery of the book is the
 the promise of a happy home in the land
 an effect prophetic to men of the future
 Life. "When Love comes the World Begins"
 all things shall be like the very things
 or things which are things of new - Harris
 finish up your piece with this triplet. Above
 "Harris" "There ends the tale I have to tell
 As about as I can understand it
 When things are more it begins to tell"
 And there are other things in all my little books
 spreading freely on all ground, understood on
 the other side of the coast, the sea being
 clotted on its top and the water of the sea of the
 with which the rude winds battle it
 There too the home built with the white, white
 colors a wonderful beauty beside the black and
 gray, while the weather clothes the mountains
 in a purple glow, the rich purple and deep
 violet blue with under the white thorn tree
 seen to the tops of the spires; the orchids
 and the ferns, and in the dark wood land
 "Lands up its many colored spikes of many colored
 purple, but in the world of the green -

Thursday, morning, in a rest from
 crop planting, and say a few words to you. You know
 that self development is the true object of life. Now
 it is very doubtful if there is the world to follow
 in to it that you make these little hints of your
 own, and to keep from my little labors by adding
 your own, and then make it all your own.
 I enclose a few flowers from the south, which
 you had in a book here.

Good day.

Beloit College.

June 2^d 1867

My Dear Sister, [Dear Sister]

I got yours of Monday or Wednesday, and as I'm sending a letter home today I will give the afternoon to you exclusively. It gives both of us much pleasure to hear from you, and to think that you are really doing so well. I trust this Summer will prove a blessing in its work to all of us - the beginning of truly better things! I do not aspire to those things which the world generally calls good when I long to see all of us advanced, - I would not care whether the world ever heard of us or not, whether we acquired higher social standing or not - but I do rejoice particularly on your account, my Sister when I think of your past and thus of the promising future. I rejoice that you are finding opportunity to use your mental energies in enlarging, enlarging, enlarging thought, in study that each day makes you more and more of a thinker, more and more of a perfect woman. I am glad above all that you are having opportunities, opportunities for spiritual growth, you enjoy ^{all} the advantages that spring from intelligent and Christian society, you are able to see examples of true Christian growth in those with whom you daily come into contact, and all this helps, for it strengthens your faith in the reality of those blessed gospel truths which can bear such fruit in the lives which you see before you. We are poor doubters all of us when compared with what we ought to be in the faith that has so abundantly proved itself to be truth, and we continually need just the kind of ocular demonstration of the living truth and power of Christian principle which you are

and such women as Mrs. Ford. Doctrines and music so new
 on them may be hard to understand, but the power of a true
 Christian life is a kind of evidence not to be misunderstood.
 Let us strive for nothing so much as the attainment of such a
 life by opening our hearts wide for the reception of those holy
 influences by which the Spirit is enabled to transform our
 very nature, as this Summer law is now changing the cloths of the
 fields into waving, golden grain. I am glad to hear of your
 taking charge of that Sunday School. It might be a proud
 and delightful task to you to strive to lead some of those young
 souls in the ways of life everlasting. There may be much that
 will tend to discourage you in them and in your work at first
 but if you take hold of it in the right spirit there will be more
 joy and blessing in it than you now dream of. Why, if by
 your teachings only one young soul shall be redeemed from
 sin and death, it will be reward abundant. And even
 though you may see at once no immediate return for your
 labor, there is yet the assurance that no good effort can
 ever be put forth in vain - it is sure to bear fruit sometime.
 Why I would not take anything for the memories I have of
 my Sd. Teachers - Mrs. Randall and Mr. Baird, especially the
 former. And yet perhaps they thought in those past days
 that the seed they were sowing amid such discouragements
 would never bear any fruit. Oh that we could all walk more
 by all considering faith in these eternal truths, and not seek
 for so much sight. He that sows faith with weeping,
shall also reap with joy.

He that goeth forth with weeping,
bearing poisonous seed in love,
He will bring never sleeping
sinners into peace above.

I wish you would look up that hymn and read it - there is a sublime truth in it. If you can, by taking this little school and doing your duty, not get yourself for similar work here after in any place you may happen to be. It will be a very great part of your education. Go into the work in a spirit of love that will banish all conventionalities, all meanness, show that you take an interest in it by preparation during the week to make each meeting interesting, and above all, go into it with full reliance not on your own strength, but on Him who will never desert the soul that puts its trust in Him.

I have thought seriously of going out into the country in this season every Sunday to teach the farmer's children who can't come to our city S.S. There are some of the College boys who are doing this some of them walking out five miles for the purpose every Sabbath afternoon. I would have to give up the privilege of our own S.S. and Prof Emersons Public Class by so doing, but I feel somehow as if it were my duty. I think I shall act upon it before the term is out. I shall be in Madison the most of the coming vacation as I will have the agency of a Book that will sell well there, but shall be home for a short time if possible. I would like to be at your Examinations very much but don't think it possible. While I am talking about myself now I will say that I have read all the Greek necessary to enter College and have therefore got rid of one study, that I have had hitherto and will not have to work so hard. Surely and I am hoarding ourselves now to save expenses, so that we get along on (\$50) perhaps for us both. Do a great deal of cooking too, and live quite well - Potatoes, Eggs, Rice, Milk, Beef, &c. and nice Boston Brown Bread, ~~except~~ what we have to alternate on. It is both far better to think that we are sacrificing

something of our own ease for the sake of giving all of us a chance to enjoy the precious advantages of Education;

And so long as we feel assured that you are doing well, we shall always be ready - both of us - to make sacrifices that you may have help in the upward path. Just go on in the way you have begun, make the most of your opportunities and there are glorious possibilities before you. There will be a good deal of regular drudgery work at first in your studies, hard labor with but small accompanying reward except the approval of conscience for tasks well done. But when you get along farther the work will be easier and easier, and what is more, it will bring more direct pleasure.

Do not neglect your Algebra, as I am afraid you will be tempted to do for the sake of the Latin. You must make up your mind that you can and will master it, that there is nothing mysterious or hard about it as you have sometimes thought, and the work will be easy. There is one thing that I wish I could thunder in your ears, so that you would never forget it and that is - in all your studies review frequently all that you have been over. There is absolutely nothing like it to make a thorough scholar - I give my Saturdays to the review of the week's Classics - especially in the Grammar, and by no other plan could I get on as I do.

You should review every lesson before beginning the advance one. It will make it twice as easy. Sandy understands this to perfection, and he can begin at the commencement of Harkness Latin Grammar now and give it word for word clear through the Declensions of Nouns, Pronouns and Adjectives and through all the four Conjugations of the Verb. This includes all the Coarse part of the text besides the more paradigms. Of course, he holds the head of every class, he is in, and will stay as he is in the College. He is to push his Latin this summer and next winter (when he hopes to teach our school) and will be ready to enter College, I hope, next year, in Latin making up his back in the Freshman year. There are no obstacles that I perceive and

Dear Mother - I have just received your letter of the 11th inst. - I am glad to hear from you and hope you are well. I am well and hope you are the same. I am glad to hear from you and hope you are well. I am well and hope you are the same. I am well and hope you are the same.

Belmont College, June 24. 47

My Dear Father: [James Christie]

I wrote to Sarah this afternoon, and Sunday wrote to Dear, but I could not bear to think that you should be without a letter from either of us this week, and so write.

I got your remittance all right on Friday. It was larger than we had expected, but you may rest assured that not a cent more than necessary of it will be laid out. We will both get on at about 2.75 per week for board, and will cut down every other expense as low as possible.

Better of us feel like being careless of our means when we realize how hardly they are earned and how many things are sacrificed that we may have them. I have reason to take shame to myself for not having formed the only right and true habits in this respect before. I feel bitterly that I have wasted in the past many a dollar that would now be of good service to myself or to those for whose true advancement I am solicitous. I hope God will forgive me but I shall never forgive myself. In this as in everything else I see more and more how little real good there is in me of myself. I tell you, there are times when God so shows my own character to me that I almost hate myself. A poor miserable hypocrite have I been in more ways than one, with all my vaunted good qualities, - as if God did not see right down through all my shams to the corrupt heart beneath. I do not know how you may feel, or how the rest of this world may feel, but I know my need

of some mighty, eternal Power to raise me, to cleanse me, to cure me from the horrible effects of sin. That is, I need a Saviour, and I thank God for a mighty one in Jesus Christ. I thank Him that the influence that Christ brings to bear on my soul through the change of my affections, through the progressive growth of Himself in me, fights a victorious conflict with the powers of sin and death. And as this grows on, as I feel its development within me, more and more do I feel that it is all of the infinite grace of God. He opens my spiritual eyes to show me how helpless I am of myself, and thus, how little warrant there is for the indulgence of self-righteousness, or spiritual pride.

And thus, as I go on are the truths of the Gospel, which I accepted by faith when I first resolved to be a Christian, made evident to me in my own individual experience.

So, I am confident, will they all be made manifest in the successive stages of my Christian progress. In view of this am I not justified by the highest Reason, in the exercise of unbounded faith in all Gospel Doctrines?

We heard two splendid sermons today. The first by Rev. Mr. Coit of Mass on the text in Philippians - "To me to live is Christ, and to die is gain." It was a trumpet call to the devotedness of Christian life which allowed Paul to use the expressions. If you could have heard it you would no longer blame Orthodoxy as having lost the original strength and power of the early Christian Church.

The second sermon was this afternoon in our College Chapel by Dr. Gould, President of the Auburn ^{N.Y.} Theological Seminary, and was on the

"I am fearfully and wonderfully made." He took up the Moral nature of Man, his immortality, and the way in which character is formed by the various influences that are brought to bear on it. It was a masterly discourse + one that Sandy relished exceedingly.

Father I do not like the tone of that letter about Swedenborg to S. You would have no such ideas about him if you could read his works. - Philosophy - Inspiration - there is not a line in them that is calculated to make the world better or wiser, and such being the case they are worse than useless. Compare Swedenborg with St Paul and then talk about "inspiration". It is the inspiration that prompts the incoherent, rambling, senseless utterings of the mandrake-tripper as he staggers home alone by midnight unpaired with that which fills the good man's soul as he warns his children of the paths of evil. And now I want to tell you this - Sandy goes too much in the wrong way of thought already, - there is just the one thing needful with him as with all, and is it not madness, if you have his true welfare at heart as I know you have, to say anything to him that will encourage him in his false philosophy. If you wish to see your son a humble follower of Christ, and thus beginning a true work of progress in himself, you will never accomplish anything toward it by this kind of letters, for he will only take that part as truth which chimes with his own philosophy, and let the rest go. I don't want to dictate what you should write to anyone - it is not my place. But I feel assured that these things will win a convert

a single soul, especially one in Sandy's condition.
There are things that are necessary as a remedy for
all evils, and these things this philosophy so-called only
skims very lightly over. These are Repentance and
Faith. They are altogether beyond and above all your
philosophies. A man may appreciate the Religion of our
Divine Master, he may have good knowledge of the philo-
sophy of its workings, but without complying with that im-
mutable Law - "ye must be born again" he can never
worship in the inner Sanctuary. What have the un-
meaning babbings of a Swedenborg or an A. J. Davis to do
in leading men to recognize and act on this grand truth?
All this kind of thing looks too much to me of the ^{sandy} character
as the conduct of the soldier who in the heat of the conflict,
when every man was needed at the front, should mount a
stump somewhere in the rear & give the skulkers a political
speech. The world does not need any of this miserable
Philosophy - it wants men who will throw themselves,
heart and soul, into the grand earnest labor that has
for its object the regeneration of the Race, - anything
that does not bear directly on this is at the best but ~~trivial~~.
Go to the Five Points or to Brattin's and try how much
real heart reformation can be produced by anything short
of plain Gospel doctrine preached and acted on in the
spirit of Christ's Gospel. Why are these latter successful?
Because they are God's plan, not men's, and carry with
them the power of God. But I must stop, for
I am getting worked up, I sometimes wish I had a thousand
engines & a thousand tongues instead of one, when I think on these
eternal realities. Yours in the Hope of Christian Love, Thos. D. Christie

Rapides June 11th Sept. 1867
then served the within warrant
upon the within named Samuel
Nichols by arresting him, and
now have him in Court.

Coast

My dear mother & sister
I am writing to you from
my wife's room & I am
very happy to hear from you

Watertown Wis -

Saturday June 2nd / 82

My dear father, [Mrs. James Christie]

I received your letter

Thursday night - and I think what you
have written is "perfectly splendid" as
Mrs. Medding says; it suits me exactly but
I have not arranged it yet, nor written
any myself - I have taken some short ex-
tracts though from Bourns to fill in
and from a Sunday Magazine John
Hill brought up last night his father
is the prize gardener of the town in
which he lives in Scotland, so I found out
last night - and John knows all about
flowers. He has quite a garden of his
own, and a splendid assortment of
green house plants and flowers - He
can give me the Botanical name as well
as the common one for any plant almost
speaking of flowers, reminds me of a friend

I got - day before yesterday, Little Julie Ford picked a nice bunch of flowers for me on Tuesday morning, wild ones, and I put some labels with them, and took them down to the College with me, I met Prof. Reinsch's wife in the hall and gave them to her, she seemed greatly delighted with them, so the next morning Prof. Reinsch and her met me in the hall and invited me into their room to see their collection of plants and flowers - and I never saw anything so beautiful, they have such a variety of German plants and flowers, trailing plants too, and hanging vines, up at the ceiling in pots and drooping down to the floor - They can speak very little English, not so much even as Sigler could, when he was at Uncle Wm's, but he got his German and English dictionary and told me about them all as well as he could. Prof. Martin came in after a while and told me about them, When I was going out into the schoolroom

Prof. Reinsch made me a present of a splendid plant in a pot - I have it - at our Ford's, It has 47 blossoms on it - They told me the Latin name for it, but I have forgotten it, I must get it again and write it down - Prof. Martin told me that it was an imported plant, and very rare. The one I have is about 18 inches high and just loaded with blossoms. It is an odd looking flower too. The blossoms hang in clusters of about 7 or 8 in a bunch, I will send one of them in this if I can - You will see it is hollow but you can blow it out, and will then see how it looks somewhat - Prof. Martin got back on Wednesday, and he told me yesterday when I had got through meeting in Latin to him that he was to have a new Professor next term a splendid teacher - I spoke to him about organizing a Bible class, and he liked the idea very much, he said for me to bring in as many names as I could get of persons who

would take an interest in keeping the
clais clean, and next week we would
arrange about it; when we would meet
and so on. - Mrs Ford and Fannie is
to attend and Mrs Molding, and Sarah
Calhoun, a girl who boards there and
works in a milliner shop also her sister
Milly a dressmaker Miss Hoyt a
school-ma'am, and John Hill, and Willie
White, who clerks in Peterson's store -
how many more I will get before
Monday I don't know, but I feel
glad to think we are to have such
a thing. - I know Lizzie White will join
too when she comes home. - I was over
at Mr Molding's last night after I came
from school and I had quite a talk with
him, his father is superintendant of a cotton
factory in England. - Mr Molding showed
me a lot of splendid books and told me
if I cared about reading any of them to
come over and help myself; he has a
prayer book of that one belonged to the
Duke of Suffolk who gave it to his father.
What a difference there is between people
who are raised and educated in the old
Country and the Americans. - The people here
are so shallow and narrow in their views
compared with those of the old country. -
Mr Molding was in the employ of the British
Government for a couple of years, keeping a
daily record of the weather and all such things
and reporting to the British Museum in London.
I wish you could have a talk with him, I know you
would like him. He is a splendid singer, sings in the choir
of the Episcopal Church; he told me that there is a Dr. M. Carpenter
in Milwaukee, a very famous man, from Nazareth, Ontario, on the road. -
I wish you could meet him, and all the rest of it.

The book that Tom has got is entitled "Handwriting of God in Egypt Sinai & the Holy Land". The author is Mr. Randall. Tom and I are thinking about what you said in regard to becoming agent for some book during vacation and will enquire about it. I have no doubt but it would infuriate if you had the proper book. The next book is at Waterbury at Examination if it comes late enough to allow of it. Our last day here will be our birthday or the next at farthest. Don't be in the least discouraged over either Algebra or Latin. I opposed to the latter I must say that it is very well calculated to discourage anyone for whom so much to learn. I have worked hard for two months and can hardly say that I have found ground. But we must not be discouraged. Thousands have gone over the same ground before us just as fast as we, yet succeeded in mastering the language. What right have we to murmur?

Do plenty of reviewing in all your studies. That is the only way - hold all that is once learned. Now I would have advised you to recite only one Latin lesson a day allowing more time for review in all your studies, and indeed I would say now that you should drop all but the one recitation. Do as I am doing - go back to the first sentence word in the Reader and begin reading out the lesson however simple. Continue the recitation from day to day and you will make more than to read in advance. At the same time take up the corresponding Grammar. I make it a

point to get the Grammar verbatim. I look over the lesson then lay aside the book and go over it all word for word in regular order. This I believe to be the only ~~own~~ right way, and I hope that it is your plan. If not my advice is drop some of your advances and review.

So in Algebra. Reviewing is well be a change that will do you good. among other things it encourages by showing how simple the once dark enigmas have become. To me this is very pleasant and gives me hope for future lessons.

Our class has gone much faster than ordinary classes and yet we have done very little. are only in Syntax of nouns. One good feature of our progress is the mastery of plenty of Grammar. The mere fact that everything does not doetail in to suit our plans or our wishes does not discourage me in the least. All that is necessary to ensure a glorious triumph is patient persevering effort. I will not be able to come here again till next spring when all the boys that I am now with will have gone forward yet I don't care a cent. I can't help it and I don't want to. What I say is that I ought to do my part and be thankful. I wish not to be downhearted. The whole world is before us and we are all blith with abundant health and plenty while many are falling around us let us be thankful and happy.

Until end of term now I will have less time for visiting and although we like to hear from you often yet Sarah don't write too much to anyone. Rather than that you

should rob yourself of an hour's work & write short letters. He will have plenty of time to talk everything over in a month hence. I will begin a thorough review of all my studies and will have my hands full.

Tom will have all he can do day and night to prepare for examination preparatory to entering College. Once a Freshman and he will cut his way through everything no fear. = The Whitewater Base Ball

Club got another defeat at the hands of the College "Olympians" last Wednesday. The record stood 29 for "Olymps" to 33 for Whitewaters. The game came off southwest of this town, on the prairie, and was well worth witnessing.

By the way Sarah is fast working to the end of the sheet. I want you to tell me whether Father has paid John Ford anything yet. Also, when you last heard from Wm and Harry for Wm has not written to either of us since we came here. I hope that he is not "out" about anything. Am glad to hear that Uncle Wm is so well satisfied with his new place. I look forward to a visit there at the end of time when I expect he will be popping all the quotations in Latin to me that he can find and will probably take some time to prove to him that one term hardly begins the Latin language. = I am hurried just now so excuse this mixed up arrangement which I wish to palm off for a letter, and believe me Your Affct. Brother

Alex. S. Christie

Weymouth, June 18th 1867

My Dear Sarah, [Christie]

Yours of the 15th

to hand. I perceive by Sandy's to you
that you feel oppressed by your studies
at least I gather some such meaning
from Sandy's. Now I do not, nor ever
did, think that such studies are
of any utility for you. it is a draining
out of the nervous system for no
benefit. Because they require
such a degree of application and continuous
exertion of the brain, that unless
the nervous system is in a highly
positive condition. they improve it.
It does not even to me that
ever for any length of time, ^{you} are in
a state positive to external impressions
in fact your nervous system is
weak. in women generally the
condition of their bodies are such that
their nervous power is drained off

by their social conditions, often by
Disobedience to the Laws of their
Nature. A Woman, to succeed in these
departments, of Learning requires to have
a Cold and unexcitable Temperament
or a vast preponderance of the Moral
and Spiritual Faculties, to keep in
check, and completely dominate the
Feminine impulses. But after
marriage, when all the wants of
their Nature are supplied, then
by the support that they thus
receive they become capable of a
great deal of both Bodily and Mental
effort. Who ever heard of a man
becoming famous for anything
but his superlatives? All Ladies of
Mental Cultures, with but a very
few exceptions have been married.
I know much more on these topics
than I care to speak of to you now
and therefore, do I need to tell
you what to do? or what not

to do? Believe me stuff. The
True Condition of Woman is the Moral
for this only is she constituted -
I believe there is a more exalted
Object in Life even than that. But
Who can attain to it? Not one in
thousand of thousands. I shall not
say more to you on these Affairs
but that it is wrong to do so. But
what need? You ought to know
the right way, and should follow
it. Let us now Algebra will even
advise you in the true path.
and you need not give yourself a
sore head with them. I know thyself
and know the course that leads
to peace. Celibacy knows no peace
and does not necessarily lead to
the Service of God. With that in
possession, nothing more is wanted
here or hereafter. But how few ever
in this life attain to it. Strive often
that. Get turn not away from those

necessary supplements of your mortal
condition. You see I have told
a little truth. do not forget it.

About Your Dreams.

I cannot resist. But I do not think
you interpret it rightly. That is for
them who should it you. They are not
at all times permitted to do. They however
do not be anxious about the future
But do right to day. God will guide
if your desires are towards Good
and you may safely leave to tomorrow
in his hands. His Ministers are
your friends in this and in the unseen
world. They who are invisible I
believe have most power. and conduct
and guide where we know it not.
earnest and lively faith in the
everlasting Goodness of God. in
his all seeing eye. and the necessity
for Obedience to his will. are the
feelings which should rule in our hearts
Fear no tomorrow. nor no anything
But doing evil. Believe me you
ever offend against God. Johnstone

You have improved so
much in writing that I
should never have recognized
it - as the handwriting of
my old correspondent.

Flower, Portage Co. Wisconsin,
Thursday noon, June 26th, 1867.

My darling friend, [Miss Sarah Christie]

I can't tell you
how surprised and delighted I was at
receiving your letter about a week ago.

I had hoped, but without faith, that
I should receive an answer to my letter.

And so you have been at home
all this long time. Now do you know
I have a good mind to scold you
very very hard for your long silence.
But upon second thought - guess I will
postpone it - untill I have less to write
about. O how I do wish I could spend
this afternoon with you. I have more to
say than I can possibly write.

First I will answer some of your

questions. You wish to know what I. at Bladenville.

have been doing since we parted.

Spike yourself I have been teaching most of the time. Think I was teaching at Rural when I wrote you last. I remained there three terms, and had a very pleasant school. After that I taught two four months term in a lonely forsaken looking place about six miles from home. Did not enjoy my school there as it was a very back-ward school, and the place was so lonely, no society except the family with whom I was boarding; which family consisted of the gentleman and lady of the house (the wife's sister & a maiden lady) and the two boys, (a young man - and a scolding boy) may have seen his name in the State Journal. J. K. M^cGregor. Our old, dyt, Mr. Hunt, of whom you have heard me speak, is teaching in the normal school

It's school time and I must go.

Will try to finish my letter this evening.

Thursday after school. I have just a few moments more, before my music teacher comes, which I will improve by talking with you. You see I am obliged to put letter writing in the best I can at present, being very busy. Sent me see - guess I have wandered from my text. Was giving you an account of my proceedings, and will try to finish.

After closing my summer term last Sep. I went to Anzelle, near Berlin, with the intention of attending the normal institute there, which was to continue two months. I had been there but four weeks when I had the offer of my present situation as teacher in the Intermediate Department of the Plover school. It being just what a situation as I was looking out for I at once accepted, left school - went home, spent

two days, and came here and engaged for one year i.e. nine months, a school year.

Am now on the last term of the year, have six weeks to teach after this.

Perhaps you would like to know something of the school, the place, &c.

The school consists of about one hundred and thirty pupils the present term. We had about one hundred and fifty during the fall and winter. It is divided into three departments, and three teachers are employed. The Principal is our former co. Supt. Mr. M. C. Gregor, and I think one of the best principals I ever knew. He has the charge of the whole school, and does all in his power to make the work of the other teachers as easy as possible.

I have forty five scholars in my room and also assist the principal by hearing some of his classes. I have quite enough to keep me employed from 9 o'clock till 4. But find it much pleasanter and easier than teaching as I have formerly done, where I had charge of the whole school.

In fact I never enjoyed teaching as I do here, and this term is passing more pleasantly than either of the previous ones.

I have one of the best of roommates. Help kindly the teacher in the Primary Department.

We have boarded and roomed together since we first came here. Although we met as strangers we soon became acquainted.

I find her one of the most agreeable companions
 I ever had. She is very lively and cheerful.
 Always happy herself, and trying to make
 every body else so. We are just opposites
 in many things, and for that very reason
 enjoy each others society. She has just
 life and animation enough to counter-
 act my old formal nature which you will
 remember of old. I wonder if we are just
 the same as when we parted. No! it can-
 not be. Doubtless four years have caused
 changes in both. My friends tell me I
 am more lively than I used to be, and
 I know it is so. I enjoy company so
 much more than I used to. You no
 doubt remember how much we both dreaded
 to go out into company, when we were together
 and how much more we enjoyed a quiet chat
 in our cozy little room than going into a

crowd. My surroundings here are very pleasant. The village of Haver is quite a small, quiet town - the County Seat of Putnam, but I think the people are among the most social I ever met.

There are two churches here, Methodist and Presbyterian. I am attending the latter. I feel quite at home there now, but yet I often think I would enjoy being with my own people. Tell me, Chas., are you still enjoying the love of God? And are you still strong in the faith. I am at present a member of the church in Hauppasa, but have not met with the church in covenant meeting or communion for more than a year, having been from home so much.

Elder Fish was in Hauppasa and assisted Elder Post in the revival there last spring. I did want to go home while he was there so much. It would do me so much

good to hear one of his most excellent sermons. He had gone when I went home so I did not hear him.

As I am about twenty miles from home I do not visit there very often. Have been but three times since I came here last Oct. I am hoping to make a short visit home the week of the 4th, but may be disappointed. I have letters from home nearly every week, and you know how much I prize them.

The last brought me the good news that they were all well. Mother was quite poorly when I was at home during spring vacation but is much better now. Father's health is very good. He is deeply engaged in hop culture. Has a yard of five acres, three acres of which we shall pick next fall. Shall employ about twenty girls for two or three weeks. Hope I shall be at home. It will be quite new to me.

Georgie is well and attending school at home. He is growing to be a large boy. I can see a change every time I go home.

No, I am not married yet, I am none other than "Van". I am keeping you company and will, I doubt not, as long as you wish company in the blissful state of "single blessedness". John Chamberlain is living with his parents at Eureka, a small town on Wolf River, and, for aught I know, is keeping us both company in the state of bliss.

I correspond with Perry yet. Of course you know that she is married to a ^{printer and editor} and is living at Keokuk. Her husband is the Editor of the Clark Co. Advocate. She wrote me a long list of marriages last winter, among our school girls and acquaintances at Fox Lake. As you are living in the same County - you have probably heard of them. Matthie Dze and Tommy Lindsay have committed matrimony, and removed to Minn.

My room-mate and I are both taking music lessons this summer. I have my melodeon here and am trying to improve that feeble musical talent I have. My teacher did not come to night so I have had a splendid time to finish my letter - but I guess you will like reading it. Why, Christie, it really seems as though I had just found a long-lost friend and my pen would not fly half fast enough for my

Saratoga June 23^d 1867

Dear Father

I find time once more to let you know we are all in good ^{health} and about as happy as people generally are. We would have written to you sooner had it not been work prevented me from doing the right thing by you.

Our weather here has been very wet excessively so, and also uncommonly warm for the past two weeks making very hard on me getting out my fencing out of the woods but I have hauled out and built eighty rods of stake and rail fence. Besides parts for twentyfour rods of wire fence the same being set ready to bore for the wire. besides ^{helping} more about seventy rods of wire and rail fence for Charles Abbot onto his west line saving me the trouble of building about fifty rods of fence on my north line which is a great item. seeing I would have to haul the stake about

five miles. I have got eighty rods
of fence to build, about fifty of that
will be wire, which I take off my ^{part}
line, and put on my last line,
said wire being C. ~~ten~~ for this I have
got to have the stuff for twenty-five
rods of wire, that is fifty Posts, and
thirty rods of rails, or about one
hundred and fifty rails, besides
crotches, and stakes. We have been
living in our own house for the
last three weeks, and that has also
engaged some of my time and these
two ^{or} three things, besides planting
corn and potatoes. They have all
kept me from finding time to
write to ^{you} or any one else, in fact
this is the ^{first} day I have rested in several
weeks, and was so used up with work
I could not write. My wheat looks
tip-top, my corn, what the Lepers
left will be good, but I had to sow
about two or two and a half ^{acres} of corn
and to buck wheat, leaving me a little

over an acre to corn. The potatoes
look good, and my prospects at present
are good, for clearing myself of all
debts, in the fall. Except the prime
pile on my land, it has been raining
for nearly three hours, and looks as
though it would rain all day, and
night. Baby is growing very stout
he is rugged and healthy, has six teeth
and two more coming, his eyes are
a very bright blue, and he is very
dear to us. I wish you could see
him. He makes his mamma
attend him up to the top notch.
His face is a very nice brown he is
out doors so much. He is delighted to
be out, and leaves me little time
when in to do anything but just
him up and down on my hands.
Write soon, it may be there is
a letter from you to us, at the office
I have not been there, today. Send your
next to St Charles, and all mail
untill told to change again,

tell Tom and Sandy I rec'd
a letter from each of them about a
month ago. I have not had time
to write to either of them, and I wish
they would come and see us. When they
come home on furlough

May would
like it too, Love to all, and believe
us ever your loving son and
daughter

William & Mary,
write soon,

Belfast, June 23rd 1867.

[James Christie]

My Dear Friend,

I sit down to write you probably the last time this time for it is near its close and its last days will be given over. We have had no letter from you for some days but do not grow impatient with you that you are employed constantly with the other duties of life. In you if your feet tell us you speak as if you concerned yourself far more so much thought to the affairs of this world. The more I look at the situation the more I perceive that you are not residing upon life without just cause. I know that it comes down in all hands as much as you any and yet has much time for anything else than to prepare to meet the demands of the world must be an extraordinary individual. You will have one

for the gaudy-colored garments with which
they cover up their diseased passions
& thus try to hide their disfigured faces.
I honestly believe that no man can be rich
and honest at the same time. By what means
means can a man come by more than
his rightful share - his equal share of
this world's goods? And it may be said
with truth, some men have greater
ability to acquire, and also they save
what they gain. Under such circumstances
there is an excuse, however slight but com-
mon there is no excuse for retaining
wealth while the world lies in misery
at their feet. I do not know a man who
has done his part well to this world, how-
ever he has not time to spare to do in this
world other than for personal aggrandizement
who has left no monument of noble deeds
however small, to mark his path through
life. For we do not live to wish to
be rich, we live to get through life honestly.
I shall be satisfied, - it is my pickings
little points that bear on that question only in
a while. I only wish, that you understood the
tyranny, and had the heart. Don't know
what I shall write again. Yours
J. L. Carter

Albany June 28th 1867

[Christie]

Sarah. My apology is, that
I have not been able to send you any
thing. Not doing well, I was talking to many
ideas. The subject you give is not very
well fitted to your Character, it is impossible
that I could write on it to any purpose without
betraying to Martin that I could not have
been you that I wrote it. Besides this makes
me again ask myself if this is the way in which
to educate you. These things are done in order
to find out the status of people and exercise
them in thinking, but nothing could be so
well fitted for drawing out the true condition
of the mind. I would indeed wish to suggest
a few ideas to you however, for I know
well that you in relation to real things
unconnected with personal feelings
are really at home. Abstract intellectual
pursuits are not fitted for you
certainly you want them as a political
intriguer. But not long at that

as your Policy wants from the
Part of people. Wealth according to the
Political Economist is the Accumulated
Surplus Labour of Society, it is unequally
divided. There are many sorts of Wealth
the Products of the Hands and the Head,
it is used Multitudinously, some Good and
some Bad, What is the right use of Wealth
is it the personal decoration, a personal
illustration, before the World in any of its
Forms, the Abuse of Wealth the most
Common Fault of Society, inherited
Wealth not in General so Good ^{for us} as that
acquired by our own efforts. But which
of all the kinds of Wealth is the most
desirable, Material Wealth, Mental
or Moral? We can inherit either
from our Parents, if our Parents have
spent their Energies in the Acquisition
of Gold and Silver, Houses and Land
and leave us them, they may leave us
Moral Wealth quite free. But if in
their Lives they have Cultivated

the Powers of the Mind, and transmitted
it in our Organization, then indeed
We are heirs of some thing that has
Value. Or Part of all of this have
Cultivated their Moral and Spiritual
Natures, and have become rich
towards God, if they have succeeded
to lay up Treasures in Heaven, then
will they be likely to confer on us
that True riches which fade not
away, an Organization in conformity
with the Will of God, a Constitutional
tendency to Live Christian Lives.

I included I wish this is a large
Subject but I have not time to
write on it, but it must be left
to you. What kind of riches is to be
sought after, Look for the Kingdom of
God and his righteousness and all
these other shall be added unto you.
"The thief steals my silver, steals
my cloak, but he that steals me of my
Good Name, takes that from me

which not enriches him. But
leaves me poor indeed".

(Shakespeare's
Merchant of Venice, Shylock)

By the way where
are you to spend your 4th? Some
of Dave and I came in to see you
on Thurs day? Yet I believe I can't
not stand the trouble of it.

By the way
are you to be? and who with?

Have you said John Ford? -
I must be in the little of write him
myself. Very soon. Write me a
letter to Morris as to night as
I can receive it by tomorrow mail

Why do you not send
me the letter you got from the boys
I must take away for Louis and
Go and home. Believe me always

Yours for good. See that you
write. Your Father / Oliver

Saratoga, June 23th
Dear Father [James Christie] 1867

I write in haste to let
you know we are well,
and that Mrs Ford called
on us last Thursday, and will
be able to tell you just how
we are. My principle reason
for writing to you now is to
suggest to you that John Ford,
may be of use to me by helping
you in some way to send
my Wagon along. Excuse
haste. Write soon

Direct to St Charles,
and believe us

Yours in Love,

W + M. Christie
✓ Grogs look tip top

I am very sorry to hear of your
illness and hope you are now
better. I have been thinking of
writing you for some time but
have been so busy that I could not
find time. I am now in
the city of New York.

My Dear Sister [SARAH J. CHURCH,
Watertown, Wis.] I have recd. no letter
from you yet in relation to the book
I sent for, and the money I sent you
last week. I sent ten dollars in a
P.O. Order, and would like to know
whether or not you have recd. it for
if not, I shall take steps to get another or-
der. In regard to the book, I recd. a
letter from the Publishers lately telling me
that Mr. Greening has the agency in
Watertown, and that they would hold
the money until further order.

I have written to them to keep it till
I write, as I have another and better
project for you. There is another book
recently out of which you may have
heard. Professor Stone on the Bible.
It is the most excellent work of its kind
I ever saw, - sells with wonderful
rapidity both among Christians and

Infidels, and pays the apt better than
my book. I have seen the work, as some
of our boys have got agencies here.

Now the book would suit you better
in Watertown than the other, and
so if you wish, I will get it for you.

Now let me tell you what to do.
If you have sent for the other book,
and have got it, just express it to
me with the prospectus, Circulars &c.
Do not prepay expressage. Then as to the work, this vacation, and I feel
some of the boys here who are to get
agencies for my book, and to one of
them I can sell it, and then with
the money I will send on for Prof
Storrs work for you. If you have
not sent for your book yet just
write to me to that effect, and I
will send for it to Chicago for the same
purpose. If you have made any
arrangement with Mr. Grumbley, by
which he is to let you canvass the
town for Randall's work, you can
see him again and tell him of the

change in your intentions.
And even if they have an agent for
Storrs work in Watertown, it is
one which you can sell in Lowell
or Oak Grove far better than Ran-
dall's. Indeed, I intend to canvass
Madison thoroughly for Randall's book
and then get a new field for Storrs
for the rest of the vacation.

I am determined to bend every energy
to the work this vacation, and I feel
confident of good success. And I
hope you will do the same in order
that you may attend school next
term. If you are determined to
do all you can there is every prospect
of success before you.

Now I hope you will carry out the
directions I have given you in this
matter, and let me hear from you soon.
I am anxious to see you doing well,
and will help you all I can. We must
keep up courage and hope, and God will
bless all well meant endeavors put
forth in faith and love.

Sandy says he will start home on Thursday, the 11th, this day after our Commencement and will walk home sending his trunk by rail.

So he is not going to Madison with me, and says he shall not be present at your Examination. However, there is no telling how his mind may change before that time. I am sorry that I cannot be there, but you see the way the matter stands. I will be pinched for means, so that at Madison I will have to board myself, and I do not think I ought to spend any more money in riding on the cars than I can help, until I earn some. I borrowed that fifteen dollars for you from Geo Christie, and want to pay it just as soon as possible.

This can only be done by my going to work immediately. We must sacri-

fice something if we aspire to that which naturally is beyond our reach. Let us make these sacrifices cheerfully, knowing that there are better things in store for us. You do your duty well in your position, and I will try to in mine, and then it will matter little whether we ever meet again on this side, the grass

Yours, heartily, Thos D Christie

Watertown Wis -
Mon Even, July 1st 1867,
[James Christie]

Dear Father, I write in
great haste, as I have not much time,
to let you know that the cost of
Willie's wagon to Lea Croise will be
\$11.25 - Willie Kelly found out today
from Mr Molding and told me
this evening - so I thought I would
let you know immediately - I will
stay here the 4th - I have had some letters
from different chaps in Glynn, with
invitations for the 4th - I have written among
declining - so I shall stay here, thinking
it best to keep out of limpsations away
the Molding's Whites, Fords and Willys,
from across the river are to have
a picnic together in the woods here
and Willie Kelly and I are invited to
stay to it - which we both are to do.

I got your letter the night you left -
and you know I would like you
and Sam to come in, and I am sure
you would be real welcome to
the picnic, but I have no right to
invite you for I am invited myself -
and if I did invite you folks, the
Gibbs would think queer that they
were not invited - And after all
I do not know as you would care
to stand the heat and fatigue for
it among so many strangers to you
too. - But - rather, I will tell you what -
I would like, I wish you would
come into the Examination, a
week from Saturday - and you
would have a chance to see
Prof. Martin too - Couldn't you?
I will expect a letter from
you some time this week - I have
not time for more now. Good Night -

From Yours -
Sarah

Beloit College July 3rd 1877.

My Dear Sister, [SARAH J. Christie]
Worcesters, Wm. J. I will try to be
home in time for your Examination
and Commencement. I will be exam-
ined in my studies on the 5th and 6th.
Think I am all right.

You will be examined on Monday
8th September to be coming to Fresh-
man. I am studying hard today
and hope of it will be good tomorrow.
Do not know whether I will stay to
Commencement exercises or not.
I am in a hurry to get home and
get to work.

Remember me, I am not sure
of being in Watertown at the right
time, but expect to be.

Yours truly

Ans. J. Christie

Cal.	46	66
Tu.	45	65
Th.	44	64
Fri.	43	63
Mon.	42	62
Tue.	41	61
Wed.	40	60
Thurs.	39	59
Wed.	38	58
Thurs.	37	57
Mon.	36	56
Sat.	35	55
Tue.	34	54
Thurs.	33	53
Wed.	32	52
Mon.	31	51
Tue.	30	50
Sat.	29	49
Tu.	28	48
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Th.	26	46
Mon.	25	45
Tue.	24	44
Th.	23	43
Thurs.	22	42
Wed.	21	41
Thurs.	20	40
Tue.	19	39
Sat.	18	38
Fri.	17	37
Thurs.	16	36

Tue.	15	35
Mon.	14	34
Sun.	13	33
Sat.	12	32
Thurs.	11	31
Wed.	10	30
Tue.	9	29
Mon.	8	28
Sat.	7	27
Fri.	6	26
Thurs.	5	25
Wed.	4	24
Mon.	3	23
Sun.	2	22
Sat.	1	21
Fri.		20

Thora, Portage Co. Wisconsin,

Monday eve - July 8, 1887.

My dear dear friend, David Christie

Yours delightfully

long, and very interesting letter was rec'd, and perused with great interest last Wednesday evening. To say that I enjoyed it, does not express half. Is it possible, Christie, that you have taken a course of study and intend to graduate? O. Dear! you are leaving me way behind, with no hope of overtaking you. Do I think it possible for you to graduate? Why, yes indeed. Why not, with the present bright prospects before you. To be sure it might have been better to have continued school after you left Fox Lake, but even now I know that with your energy and perseverance you will overcome all difficulties.

and come off victorious — if —
you do not captivate the heart of some
of those German Students (then you win).
^{is right}

Do you have begun the study of Latin.
How do you like it? As for Algebra —
particularly in particular, I have by no
means finished them, or Milton either.

(By the way, I must tell you that Milton is
the name of a certain young man who
was quite partial to my friend Miss Kinkley
during the winter and spring, but of late
seems to have been superseded.)

No, Christie, I have finished none of
my studies. I have attended school but
four months since I left Fox Lake, and
as for studying alone I never could succeed
in that. I think I lack perseverance.

Miss K- and I studied Geometry last
winter. Went through three books, and
excited nights after school to Mr. McGowan.

As we have both been practicing this
summer we have neglected study, but I
am going to begin again soon and
review and try to obtain a First-Grade
this fall. Do you suppose I shall succeed.

The Supt of this Co. is not very severe
at least, not half as much as either of
the Co. Supt's we have had in Waupaca Co.
so I think there is a little more hope for
me than there would otherwise be.

If I only can succeed, just think that for
two whole years I shall not have to dread
teachers examinations.

You ask when I became the owner of a
melodeon. I bought it two years ago this
summer. It was second-hand, but still
I think a fine toned instrument. It is
five octave, and piano case, and cost me
one hundred dollars. I never expect to become
an accomplished musician, because I know, that

in the first place my musical talent is quite small, and in the second, I began about ten years too late, and lastly, I can not now devote the time necessary to perfect myself in the art. But the enjoyment to myself has already repaid me to price of my melodeon. Previous to this summer I have taken only about one term of lessons, and those at irregular times but just when it was convenient, for my teacher Mrs. Ashmun, of whom you have often heard me speak, and also for myself when I could be home from school. So you will readily see that I have not made very rapid advancement. I am taking lessons now of a lady in town, quite a good teacher I think, and shall try to continue now for some time to come. My lesson to night was a song and accompaniment, called "My Father's Fireside," composed and published by H. R. Palmer of Chicago. It is quite simple but I think very sweet. I am so glad you are going to begin music soon. I know you will enjoy it so much.

Prof. Hawley has a musical academy at Beaver Dam. How much I would like to spend a year under his instruction, with nothing else to distract my mind.

Did you know that Etta Hawley, she that was, was dead! How sad it made me feel to hear of Maria Knapp's death. It is late, I'll finish in the morning.

Thursday morning July 1st 1867.

O, such a beautiful, bright, summer morning. I do wonder what you are doing to enjoy it. I suppose you are pouring over your books trying to conquer some hard lesson, Latin perhaps, or Algebra.

I almost wish I could have this whole day to myself, without a thought of school. And yet, I always enjoy such days in school. The bright cheerful weather has such an enlivening influence upon my pupils. I have but four weeks longer to teach. I begin to feel that school is drawing near a close. On some accounts I am very glad, and on others quite as sorry. When I think of going home I can hardly wait even four weeks. But again when I think of leaving my scholars, to whom I have become much attached, and the many pleasant associations

Here, I really feel sad. Have not been home this term. Last Saturday and Sunday I was almost homesick. I heard direct from home Friday night and they urged me to come home for a day or two at least; but as we had no vacation I could not leave school.

Mr. No. Christie, you are quite wrong in your surmise about Mr. McGregor.

I have by no means found my Isaac. He is indeed very kind, and it is through his influence that I have the present pleasant situation I am enjoying. But notwithstanding this he is only a friend; simply this and nothing more. He is, at present, paying his attentions to Miss Hinkley.

I have not heard from Perry, otherwise Mrs. Manly, for some time. She visited Fox Lake last fall and after her return home wrote me of quite a no. of marriages which I will send you just as she wrote me.

Lizzie Smith, H.C. Smith's sister, to Jimmie Armstrong, Robert Smith to Leticia Merwin, Roderie Evans to Maggie Trisnall, Ed Evans to Bettie McConnel Washington Cleveland to Georgia Eggleston & last, They are living at Rio. He is in a store. Charles Eggleston married a young lady from Nauvoo, and Kelly a gentleman from Milwaukee, who was soon after killed. Frank Eggleston married a Mrs. Price and is living at Columbus. Phil Lindsay married Mary Belton, and George was teaching last winter. C. J. Lindsay is still living in town, also his mother.

No doubt these are some of the above mentioned persons with whom you were not acquainted.

There are some whom I can not recall. The name sounds familiar, but I can not situate them.

I know nothing of L. J. Reed. Do you remember how he used to play and sing

"There is Music in the air". I have learned
to play it - just in remembrance of "him".
'Tis only a few nights since I was giving
Miss H. a description of him and to complete
my description played and sang this just as
he did. Lillie Robinson is teaching
in LaCrosse, and is Lillie R. yet. Do you
know I am rather surprised at this. I
always thought she was one who would marry
young. What do you suppose has become
of Harrington. Ellen Corbit married
a Mr. Olmstead from Wausau and is living
in Fond du Lac. I heard from her last &
fall through my friend Maggie Ashmun
who was acquainted with her husband and
visited them. I have heard nothing from
Mattie Abbott for a long time Perry does
not correspond with her now. I have
often thought it very strange that Mattie
and I never corresponded; you remember
we were particular friends. And Jennie
Webster I often wonder where she is. I think
she attended Prof. Howells's musical academy
at Beaver Dam the next year after we
left school. How much I would like
to know the present situation of each of those
old school mates. Did you know that Seymour
Himes and Miss Sarah Cook made a match
married and together with Mr. & Mrs. Parker and the
girls, his sisters, had moved to Iowa? Quite romantic
was it not. You remember the awful time she and
Perry had about going out to Mr. Parker. Well here I
am at the bottom of the second chest and must stop.
So please write soon to ever your loving friend, Sam.

Beloit College, July 9th 1867.

My Dear Sarah: [Christie,
WATERBURY, Vt.] Our examinations
are all all over! — Yours is a fresh-
man having passed the 1st examination
with credit. My standing was good,
making an average mark on all my stud-
ies of 8.25. Perry and Redford were
ahead of me — the former having lost
the prep. dept for the last four terms.
However, I did well enough for the first
term. I met both Prof. Townsend and Mr.
Boydton, but have had no talk with either.
Had the Baccalaureate on Sunday by Prof.
Chapin. Lecture before the A. S. Chalmers Union
last night by Prof. Fiske of Chicago.
Ceremony of laying Cornerstone occur-
red today, presided over by Educating Chas.
also prize declamations, one of which will be

for George Christie. Tomorrow will
have Oaking of Graduating Class and
on Thursday will take train for Chicago.
I intend to go straight home and return
to Utah on next day - Friday -

If you wish it, if you have time, I
would like you to be at the Station
when the train arrives - the afternoon
train - but don't if it will be
anywise crowded. You will go to
Madison.

Write tell you all about everything when
I get home.

Yours truly,
Alex. S. Christie

R E P O R T

For Term Ending July 13 1869, For Miss Sarah P. Christie

Of the numbers employed to indicate the Student's scholarship, general attention and diligence, 10 stands for Perfect, 9 for Excellent; to 7½ is considered of the first rate of scholarship; below 7½ to 5½ second rate; 5½ to 4 third rate. What falls below 4 is undeserving of any position. In Deportment 100 stands for perfect, and every mark for misbehavior is deducted therefrom.

SCHOLARSHIP.	General Attention.	Diligence.	Deportment.	Attendance.
Latin, <i>8.5</i>				
Cæsar,				
Virgil.				
Greek,				
Xenophon's Anabasis,				<i>absent</i>
English Grammar,				<i>three days</i>
German,				<i>excused on</i>
French,				<i>account</i>
Italian,				<i>of sickness</i>
Arithmetic, <i>8.5</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>100</i>	
Algebra,				
Geometry,				
Trigonometry,				
Surveying,				
Astronomy,				
Natural Philosophy,				
Chemistry,				
History,				
Geography,				
Physical Geography,				
Natural History,				
Botany,				
Rhetoric,				
Elocution,				
English Composition, <i>8.5</i>				
Declamation,				
Dictation,				
Reading,				
Writing,				
Spelling,				
Book-Keeping,				
Average Scholarship. <i>8.5</i>				

Madison, Saturday,

July 20, 67

My Dear Sister. [Josephine Christie]

Yours of Thursday must have been delayed, for I got it only a moment ago. I did not think you would have got to work so soon, or I should have written to you.

Let me tell you some of my own experiences in the Book selling line. I find Madison a more difficult place than I anticipated, as they have three large public libraries here besides those of the College, & so the people are not ^{so} keen for a new Book as they would be were there fewer or books accessible. I have worked every day except Thursday, when I suspended operations to attend a S. S. Convention held here, and at which Mr. Goldthwait was present, although I did not know it till too late to see him. When I go out to Mazamania soon I shall call on him.

My excellent success on Saturday forenoon did not follow me any farther: on three days I did not get a single name, though working as hard as on the other days. However: I have now on my list 18 names, which is not so bad for a week's work by one inexperienced as I am.

One of these, though, goes to the Editor for a commendatory notice, - a thing I might as well have dispensed with for all the good it has done.

I have had some of the funniest experiences of my life during the past week, and have had a splendid chance to study Human nature in all its aspects.

Although I should barely get a living at this work, yet it would pay me in the exercise it gives, and in the opportunity to study human nature.

When I first began canvassing I could only walk a short distance before getting tired, but now I can tramp all day without tiring. I have about got through with the city now, and shall march out into the Country west of here on Monday, keeping straight on to Mazomanie, some 26 miles out, pulling all the way. Won't the trip be glorious?

Now for some directions. You can do much better in R.D. than I in Mr. as it is a smaller place, with none of the jostling, pushing habits of business, and with not near so many advantages in the way of Libraries. Resident one half of this town is the lowest class of uneducated Germans, with whom it is impossible to do anything. (You will find your best customers among the Carpenters and machinists, reading men of moderate ability. The book does not sell well among the higher classes of educated men. You want a carpet sack in which to carry things, and the way you spoke of in making a bag is the right one. Before this reaches you, you will have got good experience in the business.

The first thing you want to cultivate is a good

share of Self respect. Don't go about the business with any feeling of cheapness, for there is no occasion for it. Selling a good book is just as good and honorable a business as the best of them, and you must cultivate the habit of feeling so. Above all, don't be discouraged by repeated failures. You must not be disheartened if on some days you do not get a single name, though you have walked miles in trying.

On the next you may get a half dozen with half the trouble. The walking will be splendid exercise for you, - make your sleep soundly & eat heartily, and thus restore health and vigor. And then you know that if you only get on an average two names per day you are doing well for profit.

The way I do is this. - Walk up boldly to a man & accost him in the usual way, in "good times & days" as Mother has it. Then open my business in various ways, one of them this: Have you leisure, Sir, to look at a work which I am introducing into the neighborhood, a very interesting book of Travels &c. Put the book into his hands without waiting for a refusal, tell him to open anywhere & read enough to show the style &c. Go on to indicate, in the meanwhile, the excellent points of the work, its absorbing interest, its vivid descriptions &c. the estimation in which it is held by the Press & people generally as indicated by your testimonials. Have him turn to some passage then which you deem specially interesting & read it. You must be familiar with the work

yourself in order to be able to convey your own estimation of it honestly & frankly. Now take out the map & point out places of interest on it.

Then the Paper, & lastly your Subscription Book with pencil ready for him to use, showing him the list of subscribers at the same time.

You will find men far more courteous to you & willing to oblige you than they would be to a man.

I have no doubt at all but what you have already done excellently; and you must not relax effort in the least, no matter how well you do. Look at the shortness of the time you have to earn money in with which to prosecute your studies, & press forward courageously & perseveringly. As to the money to be sent, I know that they do send books without it, for they did so for Lee Christian. Just go on with the canvassing, and write them a letter once a week telling how you get on, & when you want the books they will send them on without any trouble, when you can collect & forward. I shall probably borrow the money I need here.

I want you to send me a letter as soon as you get this, telling me how you have succeeded. I find plenty of time to study here, and improve it so that I am reviewing my Greek most thoroughly in preparation for next year. Tell me all you omitted in your letter, how you got through Examinations, whether I attended them or not, how father is doing, &c. I have had nothing from home for a long time.

My Regards to Mr. & Mrs. Hemple. Your loving Brother,
Thomas.

Saratoga July 28th 1867

Dear Brother [Thomas Christie]

It is now two weeks nearly since I received your last letter to us, we are both in good health, and our Boy is not to be beat in some respects, indeed he is as vigorous as can be and out grows any baby I have seen in this section of country. We are both happy to hear of your doing such great business at College and I hope you will be able to attain the highest flight of your ambitions.

My only excuse for not writing to you long ago, is that I was so hard worked that I could not. For even Sundays I could not stop seeing my crops where often to some twenty head of Cattle and horses. I had just closed my field in one week before Mrs Ford called to see us. I had to haul my rails and stakes, crocks and posts about five miles making one trip aday, having very muddy roads

to hand
and had two loads of ~~me~~ out of the
woods, ^{for on the 10th} getting home about two or three
o'clock, in the afternoon I would watch
cattle and horses off my wheat and bind
fence until after sundown. Tom if it
had not been for Mary, I would not
have done so well she is very like her
father in many respects and has
been tack lone to me in many ways.
She watched cattle a great deal, while
I would be off after my fencing and
her and Will's are both tanner a min
not brown, besides building fence I
have paid up some labor debts on my
house, and some on board we had at
a neighbors ~~matron~~. While we were getting ready to
live in our own house and having it
built, our trials have been many since last
fall, to many to tell of in a letter, but
I hope next winter or at farthest next
summer you will be here with us
and learn much of our trials, in our
start on this farm. Suffice it to say

Tom, Worley was in many ways
the cause of much trouble, seeing
we did not live there last winter
as long as we should have done, just
on account of his meanness, but all
has probably turned out for the best.
I have twenty or twenty one acres
of excellent ^{quality} wheat, which if it yields
as it looks, will give me over four
hundred bushels, besides I have one
third of five acres, for the use of the house.
We have one third of an acre planted
to potatoes, and about one and a half
acres in corn. I had about ~~three~~ ^{four} more
in corn, but the Jephers ate it out
and that is now and a heavy looking
crop of buckwheat. We have quite a
large patch of white beans. a melon
patch, besides other garden truck,
and the prospects, are at present
a beautiful harvest, of every thing,
and should God so bless us Dear Tom
we will be all right. My liabilities
are many and I will mind all we can

to pay our way, and have something
to start with next spring. In the first
place I am in debt for my seed wheat
and paid for my team ^{sixty} ~~sixty~~ dollars
at twelve per cent, then there is about
sixty for lumber for my house, and fencing
besides one hundred and fifteen on
my teams, my store bill will very
likely be forty more making a round
sum of two hundred and 76 dollars
to counter balance that I have a
note against James Black of eight^{ty} nine
dollars, at ten per cent, due last
Feb^r, besides, my crop, which may
prove a failure yet, but let's hope not,
trusting in God, to give according to
present promise. We had a serious accident
in this Township, just three weeks ago,
today, a very nice good man was drown-
ed in a pond, about three miles from here,
he was from New Hampshire, had served three
years, in the army of the Potomac,
had a letter last night from Sarah, in
which he tells me Sarah is in Beaver
dam, agent for the Book you are selling
in Meadison, you ask me about the
Battery Boys, I Wooly, is married,
has been crazy two or three times
since last spring, so he says.

Marcus and him do at home as they
did with Uncle Pans horses, and
they are very poor hands with other stock.
M W Watson, is also married, he
lives east and ^{says} of me, and is getting
along well. Russel Salsbury is
doing well. Bill White is doing
well, is not married yet. has been
Courtin Miss Mattie Maine. for
the last two years he is deep in
debt, and will probably swing out.
John L Blair is doing well, has many
reasons too. Sylvester Fry is living
M and C of W Charles. I hear, and
is doing well. The Plain View Boys
are all getting along well. the last
I heard, Capt. Clayton is in Maine.
West Malison is in a house of
ill fame in Chicago. Dan Whisk
I know nothing about. Charles Rogers,
had a little daughter scalded to
death at Hornes this last summer.
Sam Frothingham is living on the

road between this and I crescent
near Cooper's Tavern, and looks
healthy and happy. I saw him
^{when} on the road to La X, for the
haggam. I would have written
to you one week ago, only I
was on the road going for the
haggam. Trusting you are well
and having a jolly time on the
book, besides a good time all round.
I will have to close this letter
by wishing you good day for the
present.

Mary sends her love to
you, and will perhaps ^{see} you at
Father's in winter, when you
are at home for the holidays.

P.S. There is only one thing
in your letter to me, ^{that I don't like} and
that is to think I am envious
of your present and future pro-
spects, in life.

Good Day, and believe us
ever your loving
Brother & Sister
Wm & Mary.
White Plains,
Direct to H Charles

Saratoga July 28th 1857.

Dear Brother [Alexander Christie]

I received Jones of the 18 ulto last night and we are both glad to know you are all well. I am happy to think, and know you knew the only motive we had in not writing to you College Chaps. This season, Tom was afraid I was envious of his ~~position~~ as compared with my own in times past, & at first, but no I am not, for if I am ill tempered, and the worst chap out in many ways, am not envious.

The three in one are well, and the one is a most lively fellow, and will, I have no doubt if God spares him do his Dominion Uncle, much credit, as he learns of him, his Mathematical lore, besides his Greek and Latin, for I suppose you will go through

the mill and come out a brain
new aspirant for some overstated
professions and let such as ~~me~~
dig and delve to support you.

Possibly you will be a very
ardent Individual and want to
go out to New Zealand or some other
far away place, to preach to the
Hoe heathens, and let the poor
at home take care of themselves
while some loving pair of cannibals
are eating their dinners off ^{one} ~~some~~ of
your hams.

All joking aside, Sandy
if you are going to College to come out
either a Minister or a Lawyer,
you had better stay at home
but if you are going to be a
Teacher, (not of any particular
Sect, or Creed) but a thorough
going civilizer of today, then go
ahead, and God speed you.

Now I think you could do better

in the Normal School, at Winona
than at the College at Beloit
but perhaps I have said more than
I have any business to say,

Since Spring opens
I have been fighting against
muddy roads, rainy weather,
Cattle, and many other things
too numerous to mention, but by
the Grace of God, I have overcome
all, and am in good health and
spirits. Mary is also well. Tell her
Mother, she was never so fleshy in
her life and has life like health, altho
gh, the boy is heavy to carry.

As for the crops if they come in as
they look Minnesota will beat any
State in the Union, or any County
of the same extent in the West,
for the abundance of her grain,
especially in her South Eastern
portion. In your next tell me
all about the Shah, or let Dare

Write to us all about the farm and
how there arent, so that I may
^{know} just to an acre how much Wheat
oats potatoes, and corn there is,
for if I can make a readers of the
means I am going to send the
little Boy and his mother among
you next winter and I want
him to have enough to eat,
I will try next winter to make
a sheep pasture, and get into such
stock as fast as, possible, I have
not had any breaking done this
summer, for the reason I was
handing fencing, my place I intend
to break next summer my self,
can do it with one yoke of cattle
and a twelve inch plow,
I thought Sarah was at school
in town untill your letter came
what capital there Tom and her
invested in that Book, It seems
to me they must either be making
money, or loosing there self respect
or both, how does your boy feel,
there has been much over flowed lands
in this state, I think they will be

dear, Now I will try to let you
see just how my accounts will
balance this fall,

at 100 lbs Seed wheat	\$ 52..12 ^{cts}
— Lumber 1000 ft ^{fining}	28..00
No interest Lumber - for horse	28..00
at ten per cent. One Yoke Oxen	115..00
— feed —	11..50,
Probable amount of store ^{Bills} and 100 lbs	000..00
including one pair boots ^{flat}	40..00
	\$ 795, 92 ¹ / ₂

To Father	50..
Making in all	325, 92 ¹ / ₂

Credit One promissory note \$89
This has been due a year and
a half at ten per cent,
making if I mistake not \$13..35,
Total 102..35

Probable yield in cash
from Wheat, Clear of expenses \$300—
Making a grand Total 402..35
Subtract 325
Balance 77..35

I expect to have so much besides
my seed and bread, perhaps I may
have a little more, or less. My
threshing bill I think I can pay
in plover, so much will be
gained to add to the above balance
if my team is in good health I
think I can do my own plovering
and the threshing easily.

I will have to fit the house for winter
and do some other things needful
and get some clothing for family
so you see just what my needs
are and my prospects to meet them
my reckoning maybe wide of the mark
but there is every probability of being
just as I write. Show this to Sister.

Make Dave write to
me. Your present has not come
to hand. He has my last week's paper
but I think the poem and the
Greek will come soon and then
the ancient and the modern

can be compared, but enough
so good bye for the present
and believe us ever
Yours in Love

Wm & Mary
Christie