



James C. Christie and Family Papers

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Camp on Lake Koshkumong -

April 7th 1899 -

Dear Sister: [Sarah Christine]

I snatch a pencil to

tell you of our adventures since
writing - Wilder is going to St. Albans
& I must hurry to send this to him -

On Monday morning we broke camp, &
rowed up river past the mouth of Catfish,
up to Indian Ferry by noon. Portaged
there & came up to foot of Lake by 3 P.M.
Wind very strong, waves in lake tremen-
dous - pulled through them for 2
miles - water dashing over us - wet
as drowned rats - Camped that
evening here - Have been hunting
ducks & pigeons & spearing pickerel
yesterday & today - Splendid success,
Charlie & I took boat last night, with
light, pushed out into streams, &
speared in an hour 16 fish, from
2 to 4 pounds each. Never had such

sport. Burrall + I. while out
yesterday on the lake, tipped over
but saved everything - Got some out
though. This is glorious sport.

I must close, am well
& growing fat. Sent you a
letter on Sunday. Hope you
got it. -

Yours affectionately
Thos. D. Christie

Chapman, Wis.

Wednesday, April 14th 1869.

[Gales Christee]

My Dear Father. It is a long time now since I
have written to you, and a still longer while since
I have had any letters from any of you. I wrote
a long letter in pencil to Sandy, immediately on
getting back from Babine. I have been to
Milwaukee since then, I got back Monday
night on the 12 o'clock train. I went with
Mary Trainer, to take charge of her to St Mary
Hospital there, kept by the Sisters of Charity.
Her mother sent her by the advice of Dr. Cady
and Father Roche. Her mother could not leave
her little ones to go, so she desired me to
take her there, paying my expenses, of course.
Father Roche, Dr. Cady and Ed. Johnson of Wauke-
town gave me letters of introduction to the
Sisters. My school closed on Saturday, and we
started the next Thursday on the noon train.
I have seen some pretty places since then, as
we had to go to Waukegan and Geneva

stopping to see some of Mary's relatives there. Had Mary stay there a few weeks before
We got tickets at Watertown and to Brookfield going in to the Hospital. You will likely see
Junction on the Milwaukee and LaCrosse an account of the spring in some of the
papers. The junction is 12 miles this side of Milwaukee. We changed cars there to the
Prairie du Chien road getting tickets south the evening. I hired a carriage at the depot
and on the road to Waukegan. We stopped to take care to the Hospital which is situated
there and at Geneseo over night and out some distance from the business part of
till the next afternoon. When we went into Milwaukee on the evening train. It is a large brick building very large
Waukegan and the country lying around in exactly the same style as Fox Lake College.
is. It is about the most beautiful place I ever only it is a much larger building. You
know Alex North is the principal of the well remember how that looked on the
Academy there. So I heard. if I had stayed longer, I would have called to see him.
There has been a Mineral Spring discovered there a month or two ago. They say it is perhaps
the most wonderful cure. The place is crowded with invalids who have come to
drink the water. I am sceptical about it. I think it a humbug. just go up to fill
the bottle and enrich the place. As I had thought it amounted to anything. I would have
a black dress made of course looking stuff.

with a high starched affair on her head.
Looking a good deal like a white sun
bonnet. I see they wear those on their
heads all the time. She had delicate white
hands, and there was a large piano on
the room with a book of chants and
Masses lying open on it. There are only 4
sisters in the building, but then they have some
girls. Still they all work. They all have very
sweet-looking faces. But still, there is something
in it all that I don't like. There are a great
many patients, some dying others very ill and
a great many recovering and going around
both men and women. They all have quiet,
good care and attention, and everything done
in good style. They all live the same as
at a first-class hotel. The sisters were extremely
attentive to me, taking me around and showing
me everything and so very sociable and kind.
Sister Mary Vincent seemed to take an especial
interest in me always, addressed me as "Mother"
wanted me to stay a few days and she would
take me to see the Orphan Asylum, and the
Convent and the Seminary where Tom Donagan
is. Of course I would have liked all that, and
to see the Cathedral, but I had other business to
attend to and could not stop. And besides I
knew I felt they didn't like me, or take
such especial interest in me, for myself. But
for what they make make of me. But I am
as sharp as any of them. I know they had
received instructions from Father Roche. Perhaps
I misjudge them in speaking so it may possibly
be that I am, but I don't think so. I am a

great deal to admire and love about them, and I felt that if I stayed only a few days, even, I would become greatly attached to them, for they were certainly the most lovable women I ever saw. They had all the education and refinement that makes, or helps to make women attractive, and then they were all heart. You could see love in every look and word and act in their treatment of each other, and all around them. But when Father Roche sent me the letter of recommendation to take to the Sisters he wrote a few words to myself, and told me that, if I found the place agreeable I had better stay some days with Mary there, as it might be she would feel very homesick till she got accustomed if I left her immediately. Of course I knew why he wanted me to stay a few days, and I felt sure that he wrote instructions to them. So I was laughing in my own sleeve all the time I was there. And what confirmed my suspicions was, that when I came back, Mrs Dempsey was much surprised I came so soon. Said that Father Roche was speaking of it on Sunday,

and was saying how glad he was that my experiences among them for 10 long years
Mrs. Trainor had got one to take charge of Mary, and that he thought I would stay a week at least. He said he was sure we would meet with a good reception as he had written to Sister Mary Vincent himself, in regard to me. So my suspicions were correct so far. She would have been far from telling me what he said, had she known my thoughts. And he would have told her if he had known that she would have told me. I like Father Eski though, for all that. I know he is good. What a great many of the priests are out, and of course, he is simply doing his duty I suppose in trying to get me converted. But I dislike being "trapped". Ah, Father, my heart's been sore. I have done me good service sometimes she has had no gift for 3 or 4 weeks. In Goshute in my dealings with the Catholics. They never think they are entirely broken up. But her can get any nearer to me than just so far. They don't know me yet. For as long as I have been among them. But I know them, and all around them I can see. I wouldn't give my experiences among them for 10 long years of happy life. I don't need to be told now, I know for myself. Oh, it's a wonderful thing this Catholic system. It will live a long time yet for all the holes are on the national heart but it will die out in the end, so some we the world is educated about it. I stayed with them all night and the next day for Pioneer, where I stayed all night and till Mary went. I went that way by promise and to please poor Mary so as to let her know and Cousin Sam how she was. She looks now just as Aunt Lempy did a year ago last summer when she came down to Pioneer and Wankasha. So pale and thin and weak. She can walk round some, and get well this summer. I came home by means of Father's permission from Pioneer. When I got to St. Louis I brought a ticket to Fort Alton. I had written

to Tom that I would be there. And he came
there to meet me. The train got in there at-
3 o'clock P.M. and I stayed there with him till
the night-passenger went up, leaving there
at 10.30. I had a boat-ride with him and
a long talk. He is looking splendidly. I never
saw him look better. I was so surprised to
see him. His face all tanned, and as
broad and fat as when he came from
Minn. that time. I am really not exaggerating.
I told him to have an anti-styptic taken and
send it up or you would not believe me that
he was so stout. I am so glad he took
that trip with the boys. It has done him so
much good in every way. He says he feels
so much stronger and healthier. He promised
the next term. I bid him good bye when the
night train came up, and got to St. Clyman Station
again a little after midnight. I went up to Anne-
Glad's room for her trip, got into bed with the
girls and slept till morning. Then started off
early to Mrs. Lamm's stayed with her till after
noon, telling her about Mary, and her people
in Seneca and Wankuska. Came down in
the afternoon to Mrs. Dempsey's to tell her
about her folks in Seneca, and after supper
last night came over here to Uncle Tom's, where
I am now sitting alone in that little east room
writing to you. And every one in my lovely
ache, after my writing labor teaching school and
sitting up nights, and going to Beloit and
Milwaukee and traveling there and back to
there. I feel just tired out. My things are all here
at Uncle Tom's. Mrs. Dempsey cried like anything
when I came away last night. She wanted me

to still make my home with her, but I felt
it would be an imposition, for she would not
take but \$34. for all the time I have been
there, it was with a regular groom I made
her take even that. She wanted only \$1. a
week, but I would not stand that. So she
took the \$34. for 25 weeks board. I felt
sorry to leave there. It has been a pleasant
comfortable home for me all winter, I never
can be grateful enough. They have all
been so kind. The boys all like brothers
to me. Grandmother Reid is as usual.
Uncle Tom's family are all well. Uncle
Wallace's folks all the same as usual.
I have seen none of them since coming
home, but I hear from Aunt Jessie that
they are as usual. April 15th Got a long
letter from you last night dated 26th March.
I will try to answer it some day soon. Am
sorry to hear that you are not exactly well.
Now father, don't bother your head about me, or
about Tom. don't grieve about us, or about any
thing. God will take care of us all. I hope the
time will soon come when Tom and I can

be with you again. I long for the day.

George Churton is dead, died of Typhoid fever and his wife and all the rest of the family are down with it. Poor George didn't stay long after his sister he was buried last week. I will write again to Sandy in a couple of days if possible. I do wish Dene would write to me again. Willie Reid got a letter from him the other day, a good one. Tell me if Sandy was elected. I hope Mother is well. Give her my love, also the boys. The spring has come here at last: people are all sowing wheat today. The boys up there must have worked very hard this winter to get out so many rails. And now father, do not read and study and write and think and fret till you make yourself sick. You are always preaching to us about such things and still you don't give us a good example. Just take as good care of yourself as you possibly can father, for our sakes if not for your own. We all need you yet and will need you for many years yet. Write soon again to Nell and believe me ever your loving daughter, Jane.

Sacramento Minn
Monday Evening April 19th 69

Dear Cousin Sarah [Christie]

I received your
letter one week ago this morning, and would
have answered it at once but I was up all
the night before consequently did not feel
very much like writing. I sat up with
one of our neighbors (a Mrs. Hornum) who
is very ill. She has a little "fever" some three
or four weeks old and has been sick
ever since, I have sat up with her & night
within the last week, so you will pardon
me for my seeming neglect.

Now hear when you answer this I
want you to tell me when you are coming
out here. I am very anxious to know
when and how long you think you
can stay. I am making great calculation

for a good long visit, and will be awfully disappointed if you don't come.

Read a letter from Jim the other day. He tells me he was elected Town Clerk by a majority of 11 over his opponent. He is getting good times, I hope so. I think he along very rapidly in his studies. Will undoubtedly be very interesting to you. So I had better talk of something else.

Well back I haven't a particle of news to write you. I am now waiting up here the summer. I want you to at a Mrs Blair came here yesterday and will stay this week. Mary and Will are coming over here next Sunday and will go home with them if I don't before then. Mr Blair brought me over here and agreed to take me back whenever I want to go. I had a letter from Mother and one from Abigail and from the boys. I got none but one from Mary Eliza and another from Jim. I had

you I was pleased to get them all. It does me so much good to get letters from Wisconsin.

I suppose Tom is having a good time. I hope so. I think he made out from his studies.

Mary and Will are both well and happy I think. Both of the little ones are well also.

And now back if you come. And now back if you come. I want you to have me all the pieces like your trunk, and bring me what you can spare. I have commenced picking out of all colors and would like pieces of your dress in it. I won't fail to send them. I will ask you to examine the board stitching. See the children make so much noise that I can't hear it. I went up to the school to have my letters taken, but

on account of the exigencies
of the day could not have them
taken but will the first chance

And now dear Lemmie I will bid
you "good night" and I hope you
will answer just as soon as you
can with much love I remain

your Affectionate Lemmie
Fannie

Waterbury Wis.

Monday Morning April 19th 1869.

Dear Ann

I want you to come in tomorrow, for certain. I am to have the house cleaned tomorrow, and Uncle Tom is to bring in my bed and trunks, and I am to have the stove moved in, and our furniture, and there will be so much to do, that I cannot possibly get along without you coming in. If Tom wont bring in your things tomorrow, come in yourself on the early morning train, it leaves the station about 8 o'clock I think. Bring in with you just what will do you for a week. and then when we get fairly settled you can go out again, and have him bring them in. We will get along nicely Ann. But be sure to come in tomorrow. I have

get a woman to clean and white-wash for
us. I will be at the house all day tomorrow
seeing to things and we will stay there tomorrow
night and commence house-keeping right away.
for Uncle is to bring on my things and we will
have to stay there of course, we couldn't leave them
in the house and go away and I couldn't stay
alone in the house. Ann you know, so that is the
reason, or one of them, that you must be sure
to come in. You can leave sometime with Bati
to see to any business that you want attended to,
and you know you can go out again in a
day or two. If you come in with the cart, skip
and get my basket which I left there ^{at Ann's place} and some
clothes that Aunt Jessie gave to wash for me. But
there is no hurry with them. Don't put yourself out of
the way to get them, as it is about matter if I don't
get them for a month. I will enclose enough in this
to bring you in on the cart, for fear you wouldn't
have it. I hope you got that money Ann and that
you have sent it in today. But come anyway, whether
you got the money or not, and I hope you have seen

Spency about that other. I heard this morning that Mrs.
Callow's brother, James Solon, died on Saturday night.
His funeral is to be at 10 A.M. today. There are but
few cases of small-pox in Town now Ann, and they
are entirely among the Germans in the eastern part
of the Town. There is no danger whatever of taking
it. There isn't anyone here afraid of it. They are
10 times as frightened about it in German as they are
right here. Now, I must direct you to the house.
It is on the east side of 1st street, that is, the
first street east of the bridge. Turn South on
that street past Dr. Cook's office. His office is
in the same block with the jewellers. There is a
stair running up our side at the east end. Keep
down that street a good ways. It is a little from
home on a corner at the east side, remember at
your left hand going down. The house is a
good way down. I will be there all day, on the
watch for you and for Uncle Tom. Be sure and
come. You cannot miss the house. There is a door
at the west end and one at the north, steps running up
to both I think. There is no fence between it
and the street. Now, I shall depend on you, if you
and the street. Now, I shall depend on you, if you
Give my love to Bati. Remember me to Tom. Ever your friend

Rapids April 20th 1869.

My Dear Sarah,

it is quite a long time since I received a letter from you, and I long for one. I still feel sometimes of fear for your well-being, a kind of impression that you are not free from danger. Not morally but Moral and Spiritual, is it so? are you not deceiving and being deceived? We are denied the power, or probably I would make it impossible that any of my Children should err. Now He is finding fault with God's plan. He has thought fit to place us all here with a liability to error around us every day, and on Reflection we see that otherwise we should be diverted of all Liberty. This World then is a place of probation, of discipline, where we are given a certain liberty to make choice, and to manifest what kind of Spirit we are of. However these things may be, whether or not, I yet feel as if you somehow were in danger. I feel as if you were not taking heed to your Way. I should be so happy if you made haste to assure me that I am mistaken! Write now to us by next post. David had a letter from W. Beebe, who told us your school was over where do you propose to Board while you teach in the Old District, I shall not say to you, go and Board in some Protestant family, for I would much rather you should live with a Good pious Catholic family, than in a nominally Protestant one where there is no true piety, no culture, no other restraints than the mere Expediency of the day. But wherever you are my Dear Sarah without the Fear and the Love of God is your West. You are in continual Danger. I feel somehow as if you have not been quite satisfying yourself in the Conduct of your Life. let me hear from you. I observe you write oftener to the Boys than to me. When you live nearest to God, you feel you are very near me also. Not otherwise than those ^{that} ^{that}

Where you love your Heavenly Father most you know your earthly Father also will be pleased, and you draw nearer to
me than in the disclosure of the feelings of your heart. Is it not so my dear Sarah? Do you not know that if I had the
power I would place you forever beyond all danger? and Guard you in Love forever, all that is left me is to commend
you to the Infinite Father, to implore you to look to your ways, lest your foot should slip.

We are as usual in good health. Contented with a very late spring. only 5 acres of wheat in yet. here is it in Ceylan?
I have written to Uncle William to lend me 100 dollars, as we need to much and so many things. The boys need boots and
we need over 30 dollar for mail, &c. &c. I am a poor Dominican where my pocket book is empty if we do not get our
attempted loan we must beg of Went and Luff and here patience waits to be torn to pieces. I do not feel in any wise downcast
or helpless at our difficulties. It would be highly unreasonable besides. I am quite easy in mind in reference to these things
what of Aunt Jessie's people? I sent a letter to Mr. Ramsey last week. What of them? Did Father Roche send me the
Catholic World, if so I am much obliged to him. That is a very talented Magazine. With much perseverance of ability to a real
cause, The Catholic Church holds all Christian Truth in her bosom. But side by side with every truth she holds, she
also has some dreadful per versions of it. Theoretically Right. practically Wrong in many things.
If the Priest sent them to me, I feel like writing a letter of thanks to him. Give him my respects. for I do respect him. I believe
he is a good man and a good priest, and more just as my shirt is done it seems to me to say to you. Remember of Colly, of his proffer of
medical knowledge. He is a bad man. and no good can come of any association with him. Believe me, Your Father, Johnstone

Old Reem, Beloit, Colo.

April 21st 69.

My dear Sister: [Sarah Christie]

I recd. your two letters from
Clyman & Watertown in due season and
am glad to hear of your success in the
preliminaries. I wrote quite a long letter
to Mr. Knox shortly after seeing yours which
I think would be satisfactory to you -

In regard to that money I have deter-
mined not to go to Minn. next summer,
but to work out down here somewhere &
pay it up. You need not think of doing
it - Mrs. Trainers will not pay you at
the time promised, because times are
hard - you must not depend on her.

Then, you will find much expense coming
on you this summer, more than you

participate, and I shall not allow you to
borrow any more than the best possible
from Miss Sweeney - certainly not a
cent to pay Mr. V. I am full now of
health and strength, this trip has done
as much for me as would Minnesota, and
has cost only two dollars. Minn. would cost
fifty. I could earn nothing there, & I must
become a producer this next summer, in
the present state of family finances -
It is imperative -

Our most pleasant trip is ended. Here is a resume of our doings after I saw you. On Thursday Morgan Hilder & I took our guns & went to hunt up A. J. Smith, living in Lima some seven miles East of the lake. Found him - had pleasant times - he started back with us next day in a two horse light wagon. It was rainy weather - when about two miles on our journey the iron traces of the pole broke & the horses - a fine young team - taking fright started. We were all in the wagon, with blankets & umbrellas

over our heads, singing the collecting chor-
us of one of our college songs - "Three black
crosses" &c. In a moment we were left sitting
in the middle of the road, & looking up,
saw the horses' tails as they vanished
over the next hill with the pole dragging
& the whips & lines flying about their heels -
To use the very last expressions - we felt
Chap - Smith & I started in pursuit.
Ran over a mile through rain & mud,
encased in heavy overcoat belonging to
Smith's father weighed down by several
pounds of ammunition hanging to my
picking up fragments of wood & iron in
places - finally met a man bringing
back the caught run aways - not a word
a word - Patched up traps with
rope &c, & sent D back home, while we went
on afoot - The whole scene was one of the
most laughable I ever witnessed - not omit-
ting the race, which, in my present alterma-
ic proportions, & cumbrous as I was made me
puff like an engine -

That afternoon Hale came to us & stayed until we came down. Not to prolong the story - on Saturday evening we broke up camp on Black Hawk Island, & with lanterns at the bows, pulled down six miles on the lake, Morgan & I in our little boat beating the Argo. Lay over Sunday in our old camp at Point Libeau, and essayed to start on Monday, but the wind had lashed the lake into a terrible state, & on attempting to launch the Argo, empty - she swamped & filled full of water within a rod of shore - Another laughable scene here - Morgan & I standing knee deep in water attempting to tip the boat over & empty her, every time we stooped for that purpose a tremendous wave hitting us in the rear, dashing over us & almost pitching us on our faces, - the other fellows on shore laughing at us - But we managed it at last & pulled the Argo on the beach. Charlie & I were determined not to let the thing pass in that way - so we jumped into our little boat, pushed her out through the surf & steered for the middle of the lake, our blood was up, we were all drenched anyhow & didn't care much whether we capized or not - the others stood aghast at our recklessness & expected every minute to see a wave sweep clear over our heads; but the Rescue rode like a feather, dancing up & down, she let the highest waves pass under her keel.

Not one broke over her. We tried her in every way, bow on, beam on, & quarter on, toward the wind but she rode triumphantly over every thing - It was exhilarating, & L & I feel more proud than ever of our brave little Rescue.

That afternoon the wind moderated & by anchoring the Argo near shore we managed to load her. At half past three we started down the lake, pulled steadily till 8 in the evening, made one portage & took supper on the way, & reached our old Camp Sunshine seven miles above Janesville, having rowed twenty miles. That night Charlie & Russell sat up very late baking our last little of beans for breakfast. Yesterday morning we were up early, got a good start, & passing Janesville where we had to portage three times, rowed swiftly down, arriving in Beloit at five O'clock. Everybody was in the quiver to see us - Mr. Duncan's household especially, including Mary, who is at home yet, was thrown into the wildest excitement.

But we are all settled down quietly now.

I have gained fifteen pounds, weighing now 153 pounds. Have seen my place at Gouness's & shall move up tomorrow. -

Visited Louise this evening. Studies begin

tomorrow. I shall have plenty to do,
but will take care of my health better
than heretofore -

Got your picture tonight & have or-
dered another from Chicago - I think
you will like them - Shall send
them on by express next week -

Write regularly, please, & tell me
how you are getting on in the new
surroundings - I must close; wish
I had time to write longer, but I am
barged up with duties -

Your affectionate brother

Thos. D. Christie,

Rapidan Minnesota

Thursday April 28th 1869.

My dear Sister; [Sarah Christie]

I acknowledge the receipt of the music and three letters, the last bearing date of the 18th instant from Watertown. I could not write sooner than this since receiving the letter from Watertown as we have but a weekly mail, and we are so crowded with work that I could not go to Mandato. But to the point.

I heartily agree with you that there is no use of teaching school at \$25 per month, but here you might have \$30 in the summer and more in winter.

Now I fear that you will soon tire of sitting all day sewing, and long for the schoolroom with its severe toils a day. Before the summer is ended you will be able to judge, and if you conclude that your present move is out of the frying pan into the fire, give it up and come

here and teach for a season till the times are more propitious. However, do nothing to injure Anna's interests. You see, Sarah,

I have always looked forward to better things, nor am I without hope yet of seeing them accomplished facts. The babe a stimmer to whom to think about it, and in the meanwhile you are learning something that you should long ago have known - how to use the ~~seam~~ ^{sewing} needle and needle, something that every woman ought to know.

I know that many will tell you that this is a prime move, and some there are who long since should have thrown you a tow-line, and will try to make themselves as well as you believe that there is nothing better for you than to put back

to port and fit out for a shorter voyage. How
likely they would pursue their way toward Pacific
seas and Isles of Balm, leaving you alone on the
pirate infested main! There is a most ex-
cellent way, which shall well become apparent ere
the leaves fall. Learn all that you can about
Millinery, and if all else fail you can car-
ry out your present plan.

Don't borrow money till it is time to do.
The spring is unusually backward, and there
is as yet no improvement on the clouds.
Cold weather of the last three weeks. The
people will not be able to sow half as much
to wheat as they expected, the land is so wet.
We have put in 15 acres, and I am busy ditch-
ing for more. I did the hardest day's work
yesterday of my life - dug 30 rods of ditch be-
sides sowing 12 acres of wheat. We are not
a bit discouraged and are all in good
health. Grandfather's case is very ap-
proaching. I hope that it has ended well with him. I dream-
ed last night that he could see.

The schools here are small, ~~but~~ the scholars are well-
disposed and generally small. Teachers that
have ability are held in high esteem and well
paid. You cannot do better than teach
here. Mankato, like any other place, is over-
stocked with Milliners. I have no time to write
a long letter, nor is a multiplication of words
necessary. Don't stick too close to Mrs. Parker
and so get sick.

Yours affectionately
Ans. S. Christy.

Deloit College.

April 29. '69

Dear Sister: [Sarah "Trustie"]

I got your letter this morning on coming down to prayers - I send you all I have in my pocket - wish there was more - Have the agency for the advance & will make some money on it this term -

Wrote to father last night a long letter telling him of my intention to work this summer.

Was ploughing all afternoon yesterday, felt happy. Am enjoying my self better than ever before though very busy - sometimes not getting to bed till 3 in the morning - Wrote article for Monthly which I shall send you when it comes out -

Can write no more now as I must catch the mail, but

will write at length soon,

Glad you enjoy yourselves
so much. Give my respects to
Ann, & tell her I am glad to
think of her being so happy. —

Yours in haste & affection
Thos. D. Christie

any of the work, but have had no
time to find the summer since. Maggie
goes down home tomorrow afternoon and
will carry this along. Grandmother is
better if any thing, but grandfather
is not improving rapidly. I'll be
near me as usual. Our school trouble
ended in Maggie's declining to present
her contract for Mr. Drake's refusal.
I had then chosen up the Clerkship
Robert appointed. Mr. Vernon and
Emeline is engaged! And Rose
lives in Harvard. I keep good friends
with all of them. If you correspond
with Emeline, take, and don't say
anything she can't trust - I would
- Emma told me she heard that
you were, you haven't been long

you were going to study medicine. I told her the medicine plan was very back much further than she was now going into business. Things get twisted unaccountably. As for her agony. I guess she hopes to get into school there again under Dr Stearns and follow his plan for the healing of the Kingdom. One must sympathize with any one who longs to give oneself for Christ and his cause, but she is not this rather as it were she affects of impatience, a reaching off from the deadly sin into some ring of the other extremes. Is it not rather showing the affection; since we see clearly enough that a certain amount (most glorious comparatively) of spiritual perfection is caused and in one state than in the more stagnant state. One feels the inadequacy of the world and so much sooner and sooner, that they are

apt to go off at a tangent. The middle was to be the best one and for that she has not found it. It has made me think of what you say about our friends. Christians should constantly pray for one another, for Heaven is always tempting even those who do not and do not recognize his temptations. and I have often thought that these people, if they had the strongest motives in the world for storing up the best life. "to scold them where for the sake of their souls. God has given them grace and they have also the strongest motives in the world for being worldly. Christ be near us and presence as well. Let us not judge but hope, for truly we live by hope". Your remark about being in our much pleasure for it and we think that for ourselves a thing from which is an enriching experience for our friends. Yes I can remember well the time when

Black to me. I want to say "well, that
kind of picture is in the world here before
me" yes, but it is certainly beyond me
I could not get more than, and there
is no use of trying. I do remember that
state of mind which occurred here, since
I have come at last to believe Him who
said "to him who will it shall begin"
and after all it was not shown to
me how that Christ came after, at
last those who were "bitten, bitten"
Let us look upon Christ and his,
Looking unceasingly upon ^{him} in glory
we shall be changed from glory to
glory. I do not doubt it any more.

No doubt would be is by all.

No father would be is. Oh

Let us thank God, for Christ in me the
hope of glory (lightness) I have really
been to work about - the father is
very putting in a heart. When I do
get in, which will not be for a long
while I will look you up and

My respects to Ann - your affectionate brother Thomas
date - May 12th 1869
Beloit College -
but I know that I am too far
from all things I wish to be perfect
The

My dear Sister: [Sarah Christie]

I recd your letter with the
money all right. was surprised to get it
back, you would have been most heartily
welcome to it - My expenses this term will
be very small, as there is nothing for
board, room or washing. I like my place
very well - It is a good Christian family
& I have every privilege I could ask -

The word is only enough for exercise -
I have been making garden at odd times
for a week. Keen pot in & scratched all
to pieces a fine bed of lettuce which
I had sown in the name of our little
girl here - our pet Bertie - Enraged
me exceedingly - feel like wringing
every feathered pirate's neck that I
see. Have a wondrous full of plants of
my own - a Fuschia, a red rose in
bloom, a scarlet Geranium ditto -

What time of the year did you come to camp?

a Coreteranium - a Pelargonium - a
Verbena, a Four Tow, an Iceplant, a
Jerusalem Cherry & a whole pot full of
"Money" - These with my picture set off
my room very prettily -

I have the appointment for Prize
Declamation again at Commencement,
along with Wilder, Adams, & Morgan.
So you must surely come down.

I tried to get off beforehand by speaking
to Prof. Bondland about it, & tried to
get Heale appointed, but the Faculty
want me very much to go on, & as you
are coming down I have assented.
I think he will get the prize - he came
near taking it from Smith last year.

The contest will be a stern one, for both
Lechevie & Adams are first class speakers.
I shall get my reward in the
drill of voice & action preliminary -

I know you must be expecting

those two pictures. But by an oversight
of Kobart's Clerk, one was not sent for to
Chicago until I called to get it, & so only
came very recently - It is a very fine
steel engraving. I wish I could frame
it here & send it, but the glass would
break. Hope you will get a good frame
for it - not showy, but in keeping with
the picture - I consider it the nicest
present I ever made to any one, and
trust that it may long be a souvenir
to remind you of Brother Don -

Frame it so that the words at the bottom
may be seen - In regard to Minnie,
I have made up my mind that if father
writes urgently for me to come up I shall
do so, & then I can attend to all your
business there, but I must earn
something this summer to pay up
things & get fairly afloat for another
year - This term will leave me a little
in debt - say \$15.00; although I
may clear it all by my Advance

would have won the prize. Said the Com. Bd. that I
agency - The new organ in our
Church is in full blast, & is a great help to
the music - It led the children in the
Sabbath School singing on Sunday, and
helped to make some of the finest music
I ever heard - It will be played at the
Commencement exercises -

Mary Duncan is not to teach this
summer; I saw her lately & she wished
as did Mrs. D. to be remembered to you.
The fine club of last term is all broken up.
None there now but Sed. of all whom you
saw that night. The net in the College
Club. Morgan & Smith room in the same
old No. 4. & I stay there during the day,
taking my dinner in a basket.

Apr - I feel very happy this Spring -
My health is so good, my studies so inter-
esting - my situation here so pleasant -
I owe much to others for their kindness, &
first among them, to you for what you
have done for me; and I owe much
more to God for His goodness in giving
me such friends & such opportunities -

Dear Mother - one of Com. Bd. of Sabbath School in a letter says to say that I have
been very busy with my pen - I have been very busy with my pen - I have been very busy with my pen -

Napuden, May 12th 1869.

My Dear Sarah (Christie)

Your letter of the 18th ult. I received long ago. Sandy has written to you since then. We are all in the possession of the usual health. Since Spring came I have been in better condition and now get outside and assist with the work a little. We have been in great monetary straits, and are now yet immeasurably relieved by Sandy taking a school and so enabling us to go into debt a little, as by this means we see how it can be paid. (Debt is a terrible thing, any obligation such as no one who is not compelled by the most stern necessity ought to bind themselves to go into debt makes me shudder. at all times, if it is unsafe, it is a loss of liberty, and who should sell their freedom unless dire necessity compels?)

I believe I have not written to you since you announced your intention of studying medicine with Cody. I am most heartily glad that you have now given up that idea as unwise, and therefore I need not say anything to you in the way of dissuasion from it. I had many objections to it. But now in relation to the other course which you have adopted, instead I must say something, and

Give you my opinions in reference to it. I think it all well enough to learn the art of the Dress Maker, to be able to get up clothes in a proper manner, and qualify yourself in that manner to earn a living if necessary. But do not form any child dreams of being disporting an El Dorado. Now my Dear Sarah, let me question you (whether it compels me to "warn" you that this also is a dream or I would not be so learning ungracious as to pour cold water on your new brood in this project) You will find disappointment must be your lot if you expect to make money in this business, now believe me before it is too late, and above all things avoid as you would the pestilence any obligations in a monetary way to be paid out of the profits of your new enterprise. You will never realize a cent from it. I give no reason for what I say, for if I did you would not receive them. But I tell you that I know it is so. My Dear Sarah, It is "bad" to "hang in there doing" you have the means as a school teacher of earning an honest living for yourself, and of doing untold good to hundreds of being useful to yourself and others in a degree which you do not apparently appreciate

Now I perceive myself from necessity Compelled to fill
my letter to you with advice on such worldly matters
where I would like to fill it with that which should
be more agreeable both to you and me. Be wise my dear
Sarah. You throw yourself from one perplexity into
another continually, and me along with you. My remembrance
such a profession as you propose. Honourable and
Honour to adopt another which is neither Honourable
nor Honest, a pandering to the silly and ignorant of
your Quiver in the more trifling of life. Where
you might devote yourself to their greatest Good
Teaching and instilling into the hearts of the young
in the budding of their lives. Thoughts and feelings
of a Superior Order, nor do evil that Good may
come of it. Nor will any Good ever come to you of this
Business. You need not listen to the speaker in relation
to this Business. There is an interested party, desiring
first of all to fill you and such as you with some
sort of enthusiasm for this, mainly to profit by
your zealous labour for her. While you leave
the profession, do not be blinded either by her
or by the new feelings stirred up in yourself in reference
to this new scheme of

finding either Wealth or Happiness or Health in
this Business. Monsoon my dear Sarah I mean
you to be wiser above all things, if using one Cent
of Anne's money, or any ones else in this
Affair, the moment your sweet Cash is done leave
that instant and come home you can get a school here
and Good Wages, and besides just such as you
is much wanted here. I can see much Good
you could do around here, by your influence
your daily life of usefulness amongst the young
here. Now if you shall neglect this by
you will do that which you will regret for
ever. This again is a Crisis in your life. Choose
to go up my dear Sarah instead of going down.
All of your other friends may have encouraged you
in this affair. They do not see as I see, nor do they
care as I care. I mean you. Now again I consider
your position as dangerous. I do not like this total
isolation of being by yourself, it is dangerous, believe
me, tell your Associates that your Father is not
pleased with this thing, and draw out of it in time
Oh Sarah, Sarah. Now you trouble me. Write to me soon
and believe this opposition of mine is well considered. I Christ

W H W

Sanatoga Mines
Saturday Evening May 18th 69

Dear Sarah [Christie]

I have been sleeping
com all day for Will and have only come
to the house a little while ago, and
thought I would try & write you a
few lines at least. Will is going down
to Troy tonight to the Masonic Lodge
& I thought it would be a good
chance to mail a letter to you.

Yours of May 4th was received yester-
day & I at once hasten to reply. I
wish I was with you learning the
trade I know I would like it
very much, but there is no man
wishing for what I cannot do.
I think now that I will comin-

in Minnesota untill fall, I know of
nothing at present to the contrary.
I had a letter from Jim yesterday
and he thinks he will be here about
the 1st of July. (His Brother in law, Mr. Boney,
is very anxious to have him take a trip
through Northern Iowa & Southern Min-
nesota & he thinks he will if he can
have home long enough. About my
getting married in the fall, I can not
tell certainly whether I will or not.
I will of course tell you Sarah when
and all about it. I would trust
you with anything for I never know
you to betray me. depend on it - I will
let you know all the particulars.
I have been away from home all
last week sewing for Mrs. Blair. She
pays me 3 shillings and sixpence
a day. I expect to be there next
week, or the most of the week.
I am now making a very pretty

thread Tidy, it is made of whale
for the center with a very nice
border. I think I will make some
to sell, and should not wonder
if I could get \$2.50 cts a piece
for them and furnish thread myself
the thread don't cost but 60 cts
for one Tidy, so you see I will
have \$2.00 "Clear gain" I am sure
I can sell them in St. Charles,
I mean to have all I possibly
can this summer. I am glad you
like your work so well and I
would like to be with you so
much. I see Will is coming and
will have to hurry up for he is
ready to go to Iowa. he says to
tell you that he will write as
soon as he is done planting
I dropped Potatoes yesterday
for him. we will be another
day planting corn.

O'well, dear I will have to stop,
please excuse this haste. I would
wait and take more time to
write to you but don't know
when I could have another
chance to send to the P. O.
I would have written last night
but I answered Jim's letter and
was so tired that I couldn't.
I will give you leave to write
to Jim to congratulate him
(and I good to let you) send me
your picture in the next letter
I will have one taken for you
just as soon as I can. Give
Ann Murphy my love & the
Howling girls if they have come
and write soon as you can
I will have to bid you
"good night" excuse this hastily
written letter.

And believe me to be your
loving Cousin
Jessie.

Chymond May 17th 1888

Dear Sarah [Christie]

I forgot to leave the money to pay for the making of my 'sagui' but if it should be done do you please pay for it, and we will settle when you come out. I continue in the same mind, so please say Mrs. Parker for me. If you believe me I feel humble at having staid so much of my time away. Tell Mrs. P. she will find me quite steady but not smart - for you know ~~that~~ ^{that} my mind has been so constantly running away among many old books, that it really cannot come back all at once. I mean to end it now though you may believe or it will ~~end~~ end me. I am seriously in earnest. - I got scared a little, before I got home that night, and I am off. I am sick a little. I remain truly yours Helen Christie (Love to Mrs Ford and Mary)

Waterbury, Wis.

Monday Evening, May 17th 1869.

Dear Lady,

I received your letter of April 26th the very evening of the day on which I posted that long gossipy letter to father. I have not had time to answer since, as this is a very busy time for William and domestic affairs. We have to stay after hours at the shop very often now, and Sundays one don't feel like writing, when they go to church time. I am quite anxious to know if you got the money out from Uncle Elmer. I was out in Ephraim Cassock went out Monday and didn't get back till Wednesday, as it stormed all the time. I went out to take some articles of clothing to Mrs. Tragon, which we had been making for Mary. I went first to her and then across to Uncle William. I stayed from noon till evening. Willie looks well, drove up and down from Oak Grove every day on his buggy board at home. One likes his dinner at the tavern and has his horse stabled there, he says.

\$1.50 per week for all. How it's children on his
regular at present has no advantage. Hele
William was sorry he couldn't let father have the
money, but he said. Hele said he would try
to get it for him. I found Grandmother even as well
better. She has been sitting up some; and she looks
so much improved. Grandmother is going to Chicago again
in about a week he thinks. The inflammation has
almost entirely gone from his eyes. Helen and Fanny
are as usual. Helen drove me down to Mrs
Clompie's that evening. I intended to go, in on the street
train the next day but it is so stormy as I couldn't. I
had to wait till Wednesday noon. Thursday afternoon
the train stopped some, and Ben took me over to
Knox Farm in the buggy. I stayed about two hours.
All in good health. Grandmother as strong and
hearty as ever. Monday they were in town again. I
left and brought in a bagful of nice potatoes and
a great chunk of nice smoked side-meats on, and
on Friday Mrs Clompie came in loaded down with
a basketful of eggs, a great pile of butter and a
jug of new milk. She is so good to me and so
kind and gentle that I really don't know what to do.
She does it all in such a way that I cannot refuse. Friday

I try to. But there is no one. It seems to hurt her
so for me to refuse anything. She always says that it
is always as if I were nearer to her now than anyone, and
that when she does anything for me, it seems to her
that she is doing it for Ann. The whole family are
the same. I feel ashamed of it. My make as much gone
when I am out there. When they saw me walking up
from the gate every evening, the whole family were
out to meet me. They were so delighted to see me, that
it was like getting home, to be among them. They have
the two frames up at the church enclosed now, there and
the monument with a new picket-fence and flowers and
some bushes planted within. It looks nice. I am going
to get a creeping willow to plant there.
I wish I could get a letter from father to let me know
what he thinks of this plan of mine. You seem to think
that I will live of this before the monument over, but
as far I have with me and I do not think I will be
have to work very hard just now, still it is better
than school-teaching after all, so far as the work is
concerned. It is the same and free on the mind,
that I cannot stand in school-teaching. And Oh, this
kind and gentle that I really don't know what to do.
is such a relief I can stand it to work with my
fingers all day and to work hard and when night

comes, we sit down to our books, and very much
in great care, and sometimes, and we are just as
happy as any three possibly can be. I will send
on the magazine the last of this week, we are
very reading them yet. Hattie Griffiths is Mrs
Parkers Milliner this summer. She used to come
to school to me and now she is teaching one the
mysteries of Millinery. She just came April Tuesday.
She has worked at it three years now. Mrs Parker
pays her \$4 per week. Her father lives on a large farm. Parake is
small of Waterbury now on a large farm. Parake is
very good with the small for just now, some is like
it will go through the family with the exception of Hattie
into stage in town. There lives one German who died
with it last week, but it is dying away now, very
few cases in town. Mrs Parker's father and mother
live just on the edge of town and the old man here
is very well, he is 77 years old and has been lame.
The old Mrs Parker on Saturday. As a general thing
they have it very lightly here. I hope you have all the
which we tell me all about your work when you
write. Just tell Martin Lane to write, and tell me something
about Primrose Arnold and his affairs for Aunt Jane is
continually asking me about him and I always have to tell
her that you did nothing about him. Would you like to
see some correspondence in the Episcopal Church. I would
and Aunt Jane and the boys were here yesterday. I would
see once more. I would for Aunt Jane. For the afternoon
and her just 34 cents, as I had most all the morning
stuff to make it looked splendid and well provided, I
just moved out of \$6.50 in the shop. Well, I must close
and hurry to the shop. I am surprised to hear
of you sticking to your wheel till one about it.
I send you all my love, how I long to see you
all. You don't know. Good bye again -

Your Affectionate Sister
S. J. Christie

Give my love to Mother
and to Dave and Andy.
We are having sailing
weather here now.
Everything is in full
glorious bloom.
more than a week
since I got - change
letter. Love & think.

Waterloo, Wisconsin
Monday May 24th 1892

My Dear Father,

I got a letter from Sandy
about a week ago dated the 21st April, and
on Friday I got one from you bearing date of
May 18th. I don't see why it is that your letters
are always so long in coming. Your letter to Uncle
William was about three weeks on the road he
said. This is a busy season in the ship piles
of work to do. we have often to stay evenings to
see. I don't get but little time to write. Kate
took my place today in the shop, so I can write
easier and will get some time to write this
afternoon. Helen is over and she came in on
Saturday and stayed over Sunday to attend church.
She is reading while I write. You home on the
4.30 train this afternoon. She looks and
feels well. They are all well out there. Grand-
father is still going to Chicago again till June.

Nuncle Dave will go with him. Grandmother
is as well as much better than she has been all
winter. getting up again is able to sit up
considerable. Speaking of Nuncle Dave reminds
me. Nuncle William told me last week that he
couldn't - and you the \$100. but that he had
spoken to Nuncle Dave about it - and that he
wondered - sure yet whether he could get it in or
not - to lend to you. I felt very anxious and
troubled about it. So I wrote a note to Nuncle
Dave to have him tell me whether he could
lend it to you or not. I couldn't wait till I
would hear it from you or Nuncle William
yet. I had a letter from him Friday night
he said there was a man owing him \$100.
and that he was to pay him in June and
then he said you would be welcome to it.
if it wouldn't be too late for you. So father to all of you. There's no place like home. If
you better take it - even if Sandy has a notion. Now Tom feels it - and is planning to go.
you will need it - before the crop comes off. but it is afraid of the expense. Now, I tell him
and besides I wish you would send about \$25 or \$26 of it to Tom before the summer
time closes. I wish I could help him, but

I can't. I wrote to him some time ago, just
to know how his affairs stood. He said he
would come through the term and be just
about \$15. in debt. You see he is working
for his board and covering this term. Don't
tell him that I have said anything about his
affairs to you, but I would like you to get
that money from Uncle in June for your
own sake, and also to help Tom a little. He
said to me in his last, that if you really wanted
him to go home in the long vacation, and
urged him to do so that he would go, but
if not, that he would stay round Beloit and
work during harvest. He says it would cost
so much to go to Minn. I've father, I want
him to go to Minn. it will do him good
and do you good and it will be refreshing
to all of you. There's no place like home. If
you better take it - even if Sandy has a notion. Now Tom feels it - and is planning to go.
you will need it - before the crop comes off. but it is afraid of the expense. Now, I tell him
and besides I wish you would send about \$25 or \$26 of it to Tom before the summer
time closes. I wish I could help him, but

middle of fall term. The poor fellow is
hard worked and needs it. There will be a
over provided. Do have him go home & then
get that money of Uncle Dave and send him
about \$25 of it to pay little expenses and take
him up, away from his horrid books for
a while. It will do you a world of good
to have him there a month or two. I expect
to go up in October. Henry Sandy will write
till me about his school. I suppose though you
are all so busy it is hard to find time to write.
I wish Dave would write again to me. How
is your Sunday school prospering. I am getting
much interested in Sunday-schools. Have taken
a class in the School here. Have decided
further to join the Congregational Church here.
I need it. I feel it to be an imperative duty
to be delayed no longer. I have said nothing as
yet about it to Mr. Boynton as I have not been
quite decided till the last day or two. I am
well in health. Better than for a long while.
Am quite stout. The sewing agrees better with
me so far than teaching. I will send on the
Magazines with this. There is a telling article in
the World for April, against Protestantism. The
Comparative Morality of Catholic and Protestant
Countries. Read it, and I believe every word
of it is true. There is a terrible state of things
in the world, going wrong everywhere, especially at the
present time. For the Church too. Sometime I think
the world ought to sink. But there is a day of
evening coming. There is nothing really makes me so
anxious as I think I that. Read Emily Stander all
in both numbers. Father Acker is a smart man.
He knows just what to say, and how to say it.
I will write to Sandy this evening, and believe
further, I am trying harder than I ever did to do just
what is right. I hope to see you soon. God willing.
P. M. H.

Know all men by these presents
 That I Thomas G. Stevens of Cerro Gordo
 County & State of Iowa do hereby
 constitute & appoint William G. Stevens
 of Blue Earth County State of Minnesota
 my Attorney for me & in my stead
 to acknowledge satisfactions & cancel
 all Mortgages made out to me or
 assigned over to me for lands lying
 in the State of Minnesota & in the
 Co of Blue Earth which are now
 on record & giving to my said
 Attorney as full power for
 said purpose as I have myself
 hereby ratify and approving all
 his acts for that purpose
 Witness my hand this 6th day of May
 A.D. 1869

his
 Thomas G. Stevens
 mark.



State of Iowa }
 Cerro Gordo } S.D. On this 6th day of May
 A.D. 1869 before me a Notary Public in & for
 Cerro Gordo Co Iowa personally appeared the
 above mentioned Tho. G. Stevens who acknowledged
 the execution of the above Power of Attorney
 to be his free & voluntary act for all the purposes
 therein specified & signed the same

Charles W. Tinsley
 Notary Public

Power of Attorney
Thomas G. Stevens
To
Wm. G. Stevens.

May 20. 1869 - 2 Pm

Filed & Recorded
May 20. 1869. at 2 o'clock
Pm. in Book A. of
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pages 423 & 424

W. H. Smith
E. W. of Lewis

Paid 423