



James C. Christie and Family Papers

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Wm. R. R. R.

M. Robinson



Wm. R. R. R.

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STANDARD BANK OF CANADA

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Oak Grove March 4 1860

Dear Cousin Thomas [Christie]

I write this morning
to request a favor of you.
The happy idea struck me that
you could help me, and just
the one too. We are getting up an
exhibition here. The benefit of
which goes to the removal of
our old debt which is hanging on
the Church and hampering it.
It is to be held in the Church
and nearly all the participants
are Church members. We are to have
Music, Tableaux and both Dialogues
and single declamations. I am
taking charge of the speaking
department, and they expect me
to open the exhibition. So here we are
at the point. I want you to help

me say something. My idea is
that a few remarks occupying
a minute or two would be sufficient
touching upon the object the good
effect that. but I will not
dilate. I want you to write
out a few introductory remarks
just to suit yourself and I am
sure they will suit me

~~In response~~ I should have written
sooner to you and told you
of my recent change of action.
We presume though you have
heard. I speak plainly I
have become converted and I
joined the church last
Sunday. I will speak of this
hereafter suffice it to say
that I have got Christ. had
a hard time for a day or two
you know what that means.
But now I believe and all

I ask is Christ's love. I know
your prayers are with me and
so are mine with you.

Give my love to Sumner Morgan
and all the College boys.
I am with you now. I
feel what your earnestness
meant in my behalf. Thank
Sumner especially for me.

We that are getting up this
exhibition, all mostly all new
converts. 40 of us and mostly
all going. We expect to get
ready about the end of next
week. We are to have a revival
or come but nothing will be
spoken that is not in proper
keeping with the house of God.
If you could send me ^{the} ~~the~~ ^{beginning}
sermons about the ^{beginning} ~~the~~ ^{of}
the week I would be very much
obliged. Love to Sarah and the

girls, and to all my
friends. I remain Yours truly

Wm Christie Esq.

Excuse
this
Sarah
Sarah
write
soon
we all
Love
our
Love
from
Dave

Rapidan Minn
Monday March 14th 1870

Dear Sister

Sarah I hope you will
forgive me for not writing to
you before but I have not had
much time, well I suppose
I have had time but I
did not feel like it. but
I got such a good long
letter from you Oh how
glad I was, it was just what
I wanted so much good advice
in it. you wanted to know how
I felt Sarah I feel that there
is something better in this
Life than the way I have
always lived, Sarah I
feel that I have been a
great sinner in the sight
of God But I Believe that

that God will forgive
all my sins if I will
only have faith and
Believe and try to do
right. it is very hard

Sometimes to do right but
I am trying to and I pray to God
to help and strengthen me
and I feel that he does
there has been quite a revival
here and it has done a great
deal of good. I also got a
good long letter from Tom
I will write to him soon you
can let him see this, that must
have been an awfull hard
School you took in France
they must have been
an awfull Set. Sandy got
a letter from you last night
saying that you had given
up your School and I think
you did right I am glad

to hear of arms turning
in to the right way
but I am afraid her
folks will be awfully
down on her now does
Kate seem to think of it
I Believe it will cause
a great deal of trouble.
Cousin Tom is here now he
wants me to say that he has
written you a letter and directed
it to Jamesville he has changed
a good deal since we saw
him last he looks more like
a man than he did he looks
as though he had gone through
a good Deal but he has a
great many good qualities
in him yet he is quite
willing to take hold and
help do chores. he expects to
get work here somewhere
this Summer it is a full

hard times out here
there is no money in this
country wheat is low 57 and 60
cents and every body is
hard up and we among
the rest we owe Culber
\$450 and we have got it
to pay this Spring Sandy
wrote to him last week and
got an answer last night
saying that he had to have
the money so we are in a
pretty hard fix but I guess
we will wriggle through I
am going off tomorrow
to try and sell the colts
and if we can do that
we will get through one
learns many a hard
lesson out here on the
Frontier but then if ^{we} trust in
God it will all come out right

Chicago & North-Western Railway Co.,

Chicago Station, March 14 1870

My dear sister: [Sarah Christie]
 I send a line
 to say that we will be down
 on Wednesday. There is a
 prayer meeting tomorrow
 night at the home, and
 I am invited to attend.

We had a hard time
 of it in getting home. Had to
 go to Juneau, at 3 in the
 morning got off cars.

I took a road over to O's
 next morning. Snow terrible.
 Saw Millie, came down
 to Uncle William's. All well
 but Jessie's family also
 I write in haste.

Yours Thos. S. Christie.

Jamestown Nov. 22nd 1860

My dear Miss Christie [Sarah]

I have been waiting for Mr. Parker to get the money due you & hand it to me so I could settle your bills & send you the remainder as several days ago he told me the order was drawn & only waited his attention.

But I have concluded that if I wait much longer you will get no letter as I shall soon appear in Beirut to represent myself. Our school closes next week Friday & I shall probably reach home on Sat. We have only a week's vacation. One day Mr. Parker spoke to me of you & said he was sure you could

much better than many & he
much but that in taking a
place in a graded school you
would need to take a position
as assistant. For a little while
these pupils behaved some better
under Miss Mason but lately
they have been perfectly reason-
less. Mr. Wallace has
left no. I met him on the
street yesterday & he told me
he was going to Beloit today.
They have obtained a very
efficient lady to take the
place he left but they pay
her only \$40. a month while
they gave him \$50. I would
have let these hunt awhile.

I suppose you are enjoying
being at home. Are your
seatings. I have finished
yesterday today, & tomorrow like

the first part better than
the last. I have just shipped
into The Queen of the Air.
What is the news at Beloit?
I went to hear Mrs. Stanton
lecture last week, - liked
her well although there
was not the magnetic &
logical strength there was
to Mrs. Livermore's address
I heard last summer. Ole
Bull is coming next Friday
evening. I am going to see
a swath of gold & silver pre-
sented to him & worth \$5,000.
It is here on exhibition. I am
back in the front room with
Libbie. Miss Sturgis & Miss
Jewell have the other room.
Mr. Hojor is Lucinda's not
Libbie's place. I was asked
tonight when they were to be

married. Emma says it is
improving & that it is an
intimation of long standing.
I have just seen him. He is
not handsome nor particu-
larly intelligent-looking, but is
reputed as honorable & well-bred.

I guess one of Libbie's strings
pulled tonight. She has dressed
up & gone down stairs to the
parlor. I understand Miss How-
ell is going back to straighten
out the 2nd Ward. Libbie &
the rest send love. They often
speak of you. You must come
& see me when I get home.
Remember me to yo. & brother
with love.

Truly your friend

Libbie Simmons

Bellevue, Wisconsin

Sunday, April 8th 1877.

My dear father, [James Christie]

Your letter I received a couple of days ago and would have answered immediately. But that I had so much to do, and the close of the term at hand, and Tom taken up with his examinations, so that he could not help. I had a house to look up, and a summer school for myself, and a situation for Annie, and now it is all settled for the summer. Next Tuesday is the last of the college term. In the evening comes off the prize debate, in which George Christie takes part; then on Wednesday morning, Tom, with 7 other fellows of ^{his} ~~this~~ class start off on an expedition down the river with three boats, fishing traps, big lines, and guns. I feel in great trouble about it, for the river is very high. But they are all in great glee about it. They

have only two weeks vacation, and they expect to be gone all the time. Tom has his novel made up to go to Minneapolis next July to spend vacation with you. Annie is engaged to work for a dress-maker down town all the season. She receives 75¢ a day. She thought she would rather do that for the present than to teach school for she feels more competent. I finished the bargain for Monday about my school. I am to teach in a district three miles out of town - a four-month term - \$20. per month and to commence the first Monday in May. I shall have no vacation in Maying or harvesting. The clerk tells me I shall not have an average attendance of more than 12 scholars. One of the students taught there this winter - Mr. Sinclair - and he paid but 18¢ an average. I shall board at home. The school is up the river, and sometimes Tom will go for me with his boat.

About our home. We have had to pay three dollars a week rent since we came here. It is an outrageous price. But Tom

bargained with Mr. Howe that we would stay till the first of April at that rent. And now we have taken a house, or half of one where I could have got a place as cheap across the river, at the same price and had it all to ourselves. But Tom didn't like the idea of going over there - neither did Annie or I only on that account of cheaper rent. But we are to occupy a house along with a Miss Borchard - an old maid. She is about 50 I suppose. She is a good woman. Surely will know the house I think it is the first house north of Dunham on the east side of the street facing the college grounds. Tom will only have to cross the street and up a little way through the grounds to the college. Miss Borchard is to have the front parlor and sitting room and a large room up stairs. We have one large room up stairs and a smaller one - and down stairs we have a sitting room kitchen and back kitchen. Bedroom and parlor. We pay twelve shillings per week or also about \$

Wife Burdard - Her Tom went up for Grand-
mother Reid. Tom and Annie went up to
Chymam on the 12th of March and brought
Grandmother down here on the 17th. - Annie
went up to Chymam because she rec'd a letter
from home, telling her that her father was
dangerously ill, and that they didn't expect him
to live but a day or two - and that he want-
ed her to see her before he died - She rec'd the
letter Saturday morn. and Tom and she started
up on the night train - Tom didn't intend
to have gone until Monday but as Ann had
to go, he went with her. She got home on
Sunday morning, and found her father sitting
by the stove smoking, well as he usually is. I
don't seem father. Broke had some correspondence
in Beloit - and the Sunday before Annie went
home he told her brother Tom to send for his
casket and bring her home from Beloit - if he
didn't want her last - and that is the way
they sent for her. She had a little trouble in
getting back. But she came. She said she felt
it would be impossible for her ever to leave
in Chymam again. Feeling, and knowing some-
thing of the truth, as she does now. She is a
noble girl - the truest and best I ever knew -
I wish we could be beside you. Annie and
I - have often we wish for it, and have wish-
ed for it these past months - but as things are
it is impossible unless you come down to
see us sometime - We have responsibilities now
that we cannot shrink - We have no hope
or aim for ourselves - All that these hard
years of that is done away with - not that
we care so much. It had been our own
doing - and we accept our place in part.
cheerfully I hope - It is inevitable that what is
done must be accepted - I don't regret the

bringing of Grandmother here - that and the thought
of Ann is the only comfort I have - All that
we care for now - and the most we hope
for, Ann and myself, is to keep Grandmother
comfortable and to live to pay our debts -
All I was wanting for now in not writing
to you was to get a letter from you to
let me know that you really cared to hear
from me - You say you do not see the
letters - for myself I have not written one
word to either Sandy or Dave, that I did
not wish you to see - I expected that you
would, and that you had seen all I had
written - I have nothing to hide now. I have
lived long enough to see my own folly. But
I have yet to suffer the consequences - If
I were the only one it would not matter.
As for Tom, he is to be depended on, no
more than I am nor as much. he has
neither the experience nor the judgment that
I have. he is no more than a foolish
impulsive boy. He can talk well, and his
intentions are thoroughly good. But it is all
as nothing if one don't use judgment - and
if one is not practical in doing what is
right in all the real duties - Ann is the

only true and joyful one here - Always the same - and always does exactly what is right - I don't want you to think from anything I have said, that we don't live happily together here - for it is quite the contrary - but only I see things clearly, as they are - Grandmother is not the woman she used to be at all - Her spirit is quite broken - she is very quiet and subdued - I never saw anyone more thankful for the change in her condition - After she came down I wrote to Uncle Wm and Uncle Robert - and told them about the her being here, and that I had done all in my power for her in the way of fixing up her clothes, and told them what she needed - and that I felt it to be their duty to do the rest - I counted the exact cost - near as I could of what she needed that she might be comfortable and go to Church - I found I could do it all for \$24. I told them they might either send me \$24. apiece, or what would be better and cheaper, buy what was necessary themselves and express to Beloit - I heard from them both

this last week - and they are to express what is necessary - and Uncle William sent \$5. to her brother - We expect her things tomorrow - then I can make up her clothes before my school opens - We move out of this house tomorrow into the other one - and then the next day I must work all day for the boys to take on the expectations and Wednesday morning they start - Tell cousin Tom I have had a great deal to do and to see to, or I would have written to him - but these days more of hard work, and I will take time to write to both him and Dave - Give my love to Mother and Sandy - I wish I could be up there with you all, that is where my heart is - If, sometimes within a year or so, just when you can if you and the boys would collect an abolition, or a shanty of some kind for Grandmother, and Annie and I, and give it as a generous offer to work, we would be glad to go there - Annie and I could earn just about as much there as here nearly I think, and the cost of living would not be

half. But - I cannot go up there to leave either
if there is no matter how much I might desire it
for myself - you can think it all over you
and the boys - there is plenty of time - If
you don't think it would do for any reason
we can get along here well if we keep our
health. But we cannot come as much here to
pay debt. We are not to spend a cent on our-
selves this summer Annie or I. And we
are not to attend church all summer - We
will go ^{to the} thursday evening prayer-meeting. But
that is all - If we must go to Church, it should
take \$50. at the least - to make me look any
where near like the rest - and we have made
up our minds not to go. In a place like
Belvidere one must possess great courage to
go out among the people we associate with and
look shabby - We haven't arrived at that yet -
so we will lay away - But after all what
matter if we are feeling in the right condition
at home - and I believe I really get as
much good if not more by staying at
home and reading and talking with Annie
as I do by going to Church. Write to me
soon your father. There is no one in the
world I love as I do you. and I know
you are my best friend - I would feel
perfectly at rest if I could be beside
you! I have seen enough of the world
with its heart of sin - I have seen and
experienced a great deal since I saw you
last - and I have gleaned a little useful
knowledge from it all I hope - I have seen
many noble Christian people here in Belvidere
I have seen many shame - But there are a few
especially those I wish you could meet and know
I must stop I am true to all your affectionate daughter
Sarah D. Christie

Dear Cousin my dear
I have just a few minutes
to spare this morning, and write here
in the store to you, standing up ~~and~~
to make the counter my desk. I go
over every other evening, about four o'clock
in the week to the School to learn
Bookkeeping, and hope to be able before
next winter to keep books, in the mean
while I am indebted to Jennie for my
living. She is expecting her tea party
to come off in June, and we have
much hope in the winter season.

Daddy is a good kind considerate
husband, and they are really a very
happy comfortable couple. Comfort
seems to come naturally to them, and
they seem to take it naturally. Aunt
is the only one here that feels more all
the while, in some way or another

because of her want of faith in Christ. She always wishes to be giving me ^{something} and then thinks that she can speak as much as she pleased against the Church to me. It happens so many times that on Sabbath evenings I go over there to supper, and she will have oysters and everything once for me, and then spend all the while in ~~talking~~ ^{uttering} railing talk, thinking as it were, that she has a licence to do so, since she has been kind to me. I shall stay in my own room, for her and tell her so. It is very hard to know what is the best to be done for those poor people who are in this way opposing themselves. I deem all the while to feel that the sorrow of the cross must come to my soon. Every Christian feels this presentiment of the cross.

before them, you know what I mean dear cousin. What a great joy to me it is that you urged me into communion, and how often I think of poor Maggie, and am so full of sorrow because she unfortunately was missed of bringing her in then with us. I have much to thank you for, more perhaps than I rightly understand. I greatly pity Maggie, being there among those Christless people, for I know the danger of it. I am very sure, that if I could have had Christian Communion and help, none of those possible temptations would have come so near overcoming me, and it was Mrs. Fordes Christian sympathy that saved me. If you have any chance give it to Maggie for she is in great danger. I know though she does not know it herself.

I am still sometimes fretting myself about
the desire of becoming a city missionary
and if it were only right - nothing in
the world could hinder me from giving
up my life at once. My dear good
friend Miss Thayer who has been
one for twenty years, will not advise
in any way - except - by telling me
to wait and see. She loves everyone
who loves the work of God - but
she trouble is to be able to know
just what the dear Lord wishes
^{me} to do. I think just now I
am right. My little blind girls
have become my blessing. I felt -
Mr Burnham was a little hard
on me at first by asking me to
take them, but he could not
have guessed that it was just them
I needed. My little Anna Chapin!
Her presence is a perfect and
continual benediction. The heart
of Peace the perfect heart of peace
in believing! You understand!
If you only knew her, you would be
astonished all the while, and thank
God for His kindness. Imagine
how pleased I was, when our good
Mrs Alden came up to me last

not some
of the girls of whom I speak
I have written to Mr. Alden
Sabbath and told one that

she understood that I had a beautiful
little girl in my class, about whom
Mr. Alden had received an ^{expressed} letter
from a Rev. Mrs. Todd of Connec-
-ticut! and that Mr. Alden was
going up to the Asylum to call upon
her! Bless him. I speak to you
Sarah about her because you will
know what I mean, and because
if you had had these children
I know you would have immediately
recognized her as I did as the
beloved Lamb of Christ; I never
before ^{perfectly} understood the meaning of
the words, "He that believeth shall
not make haste" ^{perfectly} until
I knew little Anna Chapin
and I am learning more from
her than I can ever give back to
her in any way, but my class get it
for we are so happy together. You see, I

know you feel in sympathy with
me - as I should not talk so
much about these things - but
they are my daily joy and motive
of thankfulness to God! Dear Sarah
the Great Compensation has come
to me. Through every thing and
in every thing I feel the continual
presence of Christ - In sickness and
poverty and the humiliation of mistakes
I feel the continual and abiding
comfort of Christ's presence. I know
now that He will never leave me nor
forsake ^{me} because "He cannot deny
Himself" - I think if we were together
we could understand each other
better than we need to. What I ^{not} deeply
used to understand was this, that
suffering is the sign of God's love
to us and trust in us, counting us
worthy to help bear with Christ
the effect of sin. The afflictions
and ^{and the test} seasons of suffering Christ ^{are}
with closer and stronger action at other
times. This is the truth that has at
last made me "free" from all doubt
or distrust of God and His providences
I must close, hoping you remember me
in love Love Tom my best regards
Karl. Helen

The promise
is the last one
of the twenty
third letter
to, and contain
upon you and
yours.

I will write
to father soon
and tell him
you are longing
to hear from him.
He was very much
sore last week
for leaving home
but he will hope
to come shortly.
I am thankful
Christian friends
helped in their
work for me. God
will send good

I send a few lines

in reply to your welcome note of the
last but. The same plane flying
just now as that will have gone off
to look for a place for himself in
Kansas, and the most joyful news
to me was that he has become
a member of the church!

Tom and Leah I do not have
from but suppose they are going
on in the right road working
and waiting. Indeed I would not
like Tom to spend time writing
to me. He is so much needed in other
directions, and it is so necessary that
he should be where he is needed
for the harvest truly is ripe, and
the laborers few. I am tell me
to moderate myself - this is the

last fruit of the Spirit and I have
no doubt but that it will come to
me. To sanctify the Lord God
in our heart; and keep our own souls
in the end — I did pass through
something close in Glycerin which
seemed a terrible trial, but it is
surely and happily past. Now
no chastening for the present
separate joyous, but grievous
remembrance of ^{present} gradual the present
fruit of righteousness. Everyone of
God's promises I believe now
in my heart, and am willing
to rest my life upon them.

This Gift of God our Father is
the only thing which connects
the world, and most surely it
doth. I do hope you keep up
some little writing there, where
the name of Christ is known to
be the only Name under heaven
by which men can be saved.

How do I think the All
merciful every day of my life.
For turning Will once more to see
the Truth. We know he first
had some revelation of st. in B. and
then it darkened, and he
but God has saved him. Our good
Sandy too. by and by all in
the good time, the Fragments of his
mother in heaven, and her loved
one upon the earth will bring him
to us. He is sealed sure and firm
in the faith, the living faith of the
Living Christ. Please give my
best love and remembrance to him
and David and Aunt Peril. Perhaps
we ^{may} meet again in the world
but how much comfort have we in
each other knowing that we can trust
each other to the end, and feeling
sure that He who hath begun the
good work in us, will perform it
unto the day of the Lord Jesus.

There is no comfort in the world like that which Christians have in the knowledge of each other — I ought to tell you some thing about this great city but I have little time for sight-seeing. Everything is here, and you know all about it. One sees the bad everywhere, but can find the good ^{too} if they look for it. Our church in South Boston supports three city missionaries and we have a good Sabbath School and a good Pastor, and Sunday is the pleasant day for everyone, and how they all enjoy it here. Cousin John we have a Mechanist; he is a very quiet kind of a young man and seems to speak with a sort of effort generally. I think, for one thing he is to be almost avoided, by us restless truth seekers. He seems to have the faith that rests, not the kind that seeks. Otherwise there is nothing remarkable about him. Good by dear uncle. — I remain always, in much love and gratitude your affectionate niece

Helen

To the School District Clerks
OF THE
THIRD COMMISSIONER DISTRICT,
Blue Earth County, Minnesota.

You are hereby notified that I will conduct a public examination of the Teachers of the Third Commissioner District,—said District comprising the towns of South Bend, Judson, Butternut Valley, Cambria, Rapidat., at the School House in School District No. 75..... in the town of..... in said Commissioner District, on the 29..... day of April, 1880 commencing at 9 o'clock, A. M.

HENRY S. GOFF,

Superintendent of Common Schools.

Maple River mine

May 8th 1870

Dear Cousin Sarah Christy

I recd your

letter dated the 7 on the 16 and
I was glad to hear that you were
all well now Sarah I am going to
work Monday morning for a
man nam Tyler fixing a dam
for his mill the ice carided
off his old dam and Paue and
me was to work on Satday I
have ben to work^{at} a man
nam Clark for 11 days for one

dollar A day times are very their their was fifteen their that
hard hear the farmers ar A day he has got the same
grade to hie anyone crops have school that he had last winter
been so poor ^{and} price has been so at \$30 dollars A month now
low Gaci has got all his gran Sarah you spoke about talking
in and Gunday has comanded goverment land I cant get
touching school I went after A bit of goverment land around
the mail last friday and hear that is good for emthing
I was caught in the rain I have seen men that has got
and I got as far as the school goverment land hear that
house and I stoped their till has to go three day after A
the rain was over and came lod off wood they have no
home with Gunday he said fence they have what could
that olloff his ~~the~~ Scholors wasant

A dog

A dog fence they have about
A do dogging off dogs now
Tomah you talk about governing
land to me it would take
over four hundred dollars
to commence with you can
as you please about sending
for Robert but would not
for he wont like this place
I dont like it my self I am
going to get out of it as
soon as I can I going down
to Wisconsin and from there

writte soon and tell
me all the news dont
be so long as you
was befor

I dont think I stop their
long their one thing if
times are not any beter than
theare head I wont any this
is a poor man that got
nothing to start with
Sanday is wrtting to William-
Reid I cant think of anything
mor to but Jimmy Arnit is
the ^{old} sam thing he is keeping
back yet he going to see a
young wido lady I guss she
dont think much of him O
yes I dont think off tobacco
any more I feel a gradel beter
for it

I cant think off any thing
mor to say only that Dave
that he would writte as soon
as he had time so now good
by from your Cousin

Thomas P Reid

rember me to Granmother
Jany and Anne and all
inquiring friends

T P R

[204]

I thought I would write you
a line this morning. I felt sorry I had
sent so much about Helen in that
letter. Poor Helen. I beg of you
to not say a word of anything I
wrote you in regard to her. No more
things will come out all right by and
by. Fannie Arnold is what she is
suffering at. I had another letter from
her last night and she told me she
is coming over. will be with us
here in Beloit. The first week in July.
she says - she wishes no one to know
except the Chapman folks. till after
Commencement when she wishes to take
them by surprise. She will go up with
Sam and Charlie Morgan to Byron.

they stop there a day or two, on their
way to Birmingham - Charlie goes on up the
river to Birmingham for fishing with Tom
at Florence - But it may be that
Charlie will come down and meet with
Tom in Naples on their way back -
Now I wish to talk with you about this -
Tom has insisted him to be as much
against any will - I don't know whether
he will be content or not - By any of
you - and I want you to tell me - I
know there cannot any of you help
taking Charlie Morgan - he is a jewel of
the first water - A noble boy in every way -
A thorough up and down good fellow -
But he has always been used to the
best society - and to carpets, books and
pictures - to everything in taste and
culture that is best - But with it all
he is so generously good - not a particle
of harm about him - he shares with
Goulden little though - and so you folks
up there ought to think you are the first

little minds that he was something of
a life giver - but there is nothing of that
about him - Now I would like father
to know him - and you especially you
I know you would be congenial spirit
at once - when you came to know such
other hearts - But I know how you
are living up there - some enough and
in poverty - not having even perfect clean-
liness - neither which even plenty is
much better and helpful - I think I
know how it is up there but I may
be mistaken - If the case be so I
would like Charlie Morgan to go there
and I don't believe you would - But
do tell me what you think and
how you feel about it - After all I
don't know that it matters anywhere the
it is the truth anyway no matter
how disagreeable it may be some times
remember this is only for yourself and
I beg of you say nothing to Tom about
having visited Morgan for he and I had

some words about it - already. I, you
really can't think it would be possible to have
him go there - let me know, and I can
manage it. I think - but if you think
it would be all right - and he would re-
ceive a warm welcome. I should feel
thankful, for you really must know him
somewhere - He is very much like you in
many of his characteristics - Mrs. Conner
just says that - there is a consciousness
of uprightness even in the quilt of Mr
Morgan - Of course you will say
nothing to Jimmie's friend about Helen.
Aunt will come over all right - I
don't wonder indeed I think she will
go up to Minerva this summer or fall.
She has struck her colors after holding out
as long, and I am very glad. I hope it
will be all right in the end - They are to
have a quilt time in Belvidere - so I
must stop as there is so much to do. You
and Jane are going and little Annie -

But Anne and I have to stay at home as
we always do - All the invitation of the day
and week before are coming here, or are
excursions for the Deacons. A picnic - There
have a reception for them up our church.
Pam Phillips is to welcome them. My sister
came - there is to be a grand annual concert there
about Sept 12 - and there there is to be a
picnic like the one in the month of August.
I mean up till the celebration last night - and in
there also young the girls clothes and talks they
will be very early by 10 o'clock - there is nothing off
a time and enough for the day at home below
the ground at home below the ground at home below

of her schemes. At least Uncle Wm told me
so. But it wouldn't do. They are too much
alike for that - both looking out for No one.
I have never told her yet, but I hold a
good opinion of her, and I don't suppose
she ever did. And now I have told
you all I know in that direction and
I hope you will enlighten me in return
of what I have asked you, and anything
more you please. - And another thing
I wish to ask about. - Dave and Bet-
ty. is there anything to that, or has
it all died away again? I really feel
much concerned about it, and trust
you will not consider it beneath your
dignity to inform me. - And there is
one thing I wish to warn you about,
and I shall take the privilege due me as
your sister to do it. - Don't let yourself
drift into the self-satisfied egotist. Look
into your heart, and see if there is any
danger of it. - You were always more
that way, and I can see by your
letters, that the feeling is strengthened
in you. There is nothing so offensive
to the world as that, and it is contempt-
ible, no matter what the powers of the man

may be - the brilliancy of his talents or the
goldenness of his learning - I do not say,
this, for the sake of flattery - but in
love - I wish you to be what you are
sure to be - no matter what stands in
your way - but the best are far from
perfection - and so I say - Beware - Of
conceit - you feel your own superiority
over those around you in many ways -
and surely you will scarcely find your
superior in all your life journey - but
don't let that - deliver you up to the mind's
weakness of being "puffed up" in conceit -
I don't say anything I have said with the
desire of flattery you - that is too mischievous
and ridiculous - But it is so. You are
enveloped with the grandest - problems - I have
ever seen met together in one person -
and see to it - that you make the right
use of them - I have a great many grand
projects in my head for you, and some of
them mean or ignoble - But all will come
in good time - You cannot avoid your
electing, if you try - Meanwhile you are

doing your duty nobly - I can appreciate
all the sacrifice you have made, and are
making, each day of your existence of more
than I can - but I suppose they do - And
in such sacrifice is the grandeur, and
the greatness - Surely, there are some
great and deep things to be made clear
yet in the science and practice of Medicine -
I can't refrain from just mentioning
that - I depend on you to help me
on in some investigation of the thing
sometimes in our lives - I wish you would
think about that some - I believe Dr
Hammerman just got hold of the end of
the thread with his "Similia Similibus Cu-
rentur". There are deep and clear, and even
deep things underlying that, which once
discovered to the world, will with the gov-
erning laws, all the science pertaining to it,
will be almost equivalent to an elixir -
I want you to take a hand in that when
the time comes around - but there is no
one in pushing - things will help them-

selves in good time - I have faith - No
Lansky - I think I have got entirely over
the caring for appearance - If you knew
one as I am now, you would think I was
getting quite sensible, so far as that - is
concerned - I have had some hard lessons
and I thank God for them, if they save me
above the world - I aspire to that - and so
far, I think my efforts have been - blessed -
And Annie, dear good, faithful Annie.
She is a jewel - one of the first-rate -
She is too good, and true to remain long
upon the earth - I do not expect to have
her many years, and what I will do
when she is gone - God knows - Kate is
at home - taking Cod Liver oil, and having her
weak spells in the morning, regularly - John
is not as strong as usual either (Tom Murphy)
I made Annie commence taking the oil about
a month ago - she is the same as usual. But
I made up mind, the sooner she began the
better - Dr Cook told me last summer, there
would be none of the family alive in a
dozen years, he didn't think I he said Annie
was the strongest - Consumption is a terrible
thing - We are all well - I was quite ill for
a while but - am better entirely - There was a
terrible accident - here last night - two children
crossing the mill-dam fell over and were
drowned - they had two brothers drowned a
year or two ago - they lived not far from the dam
and this morning evening up I saw an immense
crowd all about the house near the west end
of the dam - the house full and there all kneeling
outside - so I knew they must be Catholic - When I went
over at the spot - I could not help observing, and the water
was gliding on the same as if nothing had happened - I was
told there were some children who I still look after for Tom Cook.

and where at home thinking of every-
thing else but - that of taking care of Grand-
mother - and thinking she owed her duty if
she carried her victuals into the woods to
her, and combed her hair once or twice a
week - Wallie boarding at Oak Grove all
winter - Uncle Warr lonely and unhappy,
and Grandfather vexed with his eyes - Well
it is a queer world - Helen away from
all that in Boston - enjoying religion and
her fine opportunities with a clear conscience.
Now this latter of last week - the same
she made for writing, or, ⁱⁿ the very first
line, she told me the reason she had for
writing, was to tell me, that they had
a baby in the house. Cousin Jennie
had a young daughter - But before
I finished the letter - I made up my mind
that reason was only one of the secondary
ones - She talked very lovingly to me,
and about all of you - Said how much
she would like to see you all up there -
was much interested to know when I was
going up there - asked if I thought I was
going up this summer - Said for me to

tell her of my plans - the spoke of coming
west soon - couldn't live away from
us all - the bother of carmine things
and finally towards the close, reminded
of it - making her duty to go up to Minn
and "Help Jimmie Smith home where"
I made up my mind that she had an
office in view - for I know Helen of
it - I saw at once that it was neither
love for one, nor love for father
that led her to write to either of us -
(She mentioned in her last of having
received a letter from him) - there
was something else in mind and I
determined to meet and see - I talked
it over with Tom - It may be she
mentioned Jimmie to throw me off the
track she is on - and perhaps she
really is honest in that - I hope so if
it would be best for both of them -
I took it ^{in that light} up, and wrote immediately
to her, asking what connection there was
in her mind when she asked if I were

going to Minn and in the same letter
spoke of Jimmie in the way she did.
I advised her in plain words, that
whether I went to Minnesota or not - I
should not stand in her way in that
direction - I wrote her a straightforward
letter about it, and now I await her
answer - I advised her to marry him
if she thought it would be better and
so, I should not wonder but that is
her aim - but it is hard telling - re-
member Sandy, this is only for you
and I - It would be a shame to
expose the weaknesses of a woman
to every one - I want you to tell
me, if you think Jimmie is free yet
or if that wicked lady is giving him
encouragement - I found out that Tom
had sent a letter to be posted, to Helen the
same day I did - a person casually
remarked, that Tom had sent it - by then
that day - Tom and I had been talking
of Helen after he had sent the letter and

he never told me he had written, so
I knew that - for some reason he did
not wish me to know he had sent it -
I asked him the first time we were alone
what he had said to Helen in his letter -
He saw the laugh in my eye when he
looked up and he reddened up and asked
one who told me that - he had written - he
finally told me in a guilty like way - for I
suppose he thought - I would not approve of
it - that he had written to Helen to invite
her to come over in time for Commence-
ment - and to take the trip west with Charlie
Morgan and him - Of course she won't
come so soon as that - that is she is more
crazy than I take her to be, if she does - and
now you can make what you like
of it - Now I tell you Sandy if you are
in the habit of giving harsh judgments
or that is not I think - I mean exactly I don't
speak your mind freely to other about -
anyone. We may be mistaken very often and
it is not right - We can form our own
judgments of people and things and keep
still about it - when it can do no good to
talk - That is a part of the little lesson
I have been learning - Let us take the
best out of everything and apply the lessons
- to ourselves - I will now proceed to answer
your questions - Helen has had the opportunity to
obtain letters of yours to my knowledge - I don't
know how certain Willis regards you - the
same as ever I should judge - He loves all his
friends and relatives with an exception - when
his own interests - I don't think Willie and
Helen and Willie would work together in any
thing - there is not a great deal of affection or
sympathy - And they quarrelled outrageously before
Helen left - I don't think they correspond - Helen
tried to make a fool of Willie in some

Bellevue College.

June 14th 1870.

My dear father: [James Christie]

What shall I talk

about to you this morning - I am at a
loss to know, for we have been silent so
long that the thread of conversation between
us is hard to find. perhaps by a little groping
around in a desultory way I may find it, or
at least find some thread of sympathy that
by its vibrations may stir both our hearts.

What I lament the most, as perhaps both a
cause & a consequence of our non-intercourse,
is the instinctive recognition, on my part, at least,
of some estrangement in our sympathies. I feel
as I read your letters that you & I are not in reality
so near each other in heart now as we were before
you professed faith in Christ. Nominally &
externally nearer, we are I fear going away
from each other in spirit. I blame myself

believe papers, and indicate only to do so in it. I have the papers and many say that I have in it.

And - When has written to me, saying the matter to you & your
have not answered. In my response, the is coming pretty the
last July. I think of going to Moscow. I tell her what I thought an
duty was to Chapman. There is something wrong with her, & I do
not understand her. However, let us trust in God's wisdom and strength.
will say, in love, to her that I wish to see her. I am sure I shall be
not to think of it. I am sure you will be glad to see her. I am sure
but to think of it. I am sure you will be glad to see her. I am sure

in great measure for this. I feel that I have not acted the part of a dutiful and loving son in thus suffering our correspondence to cease. and yet I am conscious of no change in my feeling towards you, & in my heart of hearts you are still my own loved and honored father, and it is carelessness alone to which my neglect of writing can be charged. I need not tell you how affairs engross more and more my time and energies, leaving opportunity for little of quiet thought or sweet intercourse with friends.

I am, practically, the pastor of a large district at a distance too, from where I live, am responsible for the spiritual interests of its people, am carrying on, with much of labor and thought the work of evangelization among them. Our work has grown on our hands. It is no longer only a Sabbath school - it is a congregation to which we minister. There is a large body of Christian believers, and so there must be prayer meetings during the week, and all the instrumentalities by which the spiritual life is cherished and expanded.

Add to this the claims of my studies, of my position as teacher in college, and of ^{the} social and literary culture needful to perfect my preparations for ministerial life, and you will see that I am by no means a gentleman of leisure.

To speak truth, father, were it not that I see something being done by all this toil, were it not that I draw a joyous inspiration from my work, were it not that I have the presence of a great, loving, sympathizing, personal friend in all of it, for whose blessed sake it all is, and to whom be all the glory, - were it not for this I ^{should} ~~would~~ be in despair. As it is, I am often very tired.

I look forward with great joy to the thought of being away from it all for a season of rest with you this summer. Oh the fine cool air of those Minnesota prairie and the solitudes of those deep woods, where I can rest.

In four weeks, I say to myself, I shall be on my way home. I shall see all of you again; renew those blessed ties of love and sympathy, that in the bygone days of march and battle in distant lands

always bound my heart to the old home.
I can scarcely contain myself for joy
as I think of it, - and after we have
seen each other again there must
never more be this estrangement.

Contrary to my intention when
beginning this letter, I will leave without
mention those great questions so near the
heart of both of us. We can talk them
over when we meet much better. I am so
anxious to see how you all look, to see what
changes time has wrought in your faces -
you and Mother, and that stalwart Dan,
and that sturdy ("little fellow"?) Sandy.

Many a squible will have I am to
take up some of my books and chase with
you my treasures, accumulating now for
so long.

But I must stop, for
the bell will soon ring to call me to Mineralogy
- a most interesting study. - The household is
in good health. Sarah teaching today - the little
girls at school. Annie M. sewing at a neighbor's,
and Grandmother taking her usual march up
& down our little yard. She says particularly
to send her love to all of you. ^{Love} Yours truly son
Dan.

The Advance.

James Christie

CHICAGO, Ill. June

1870

Maple River, Minn.

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Monday June 1840

My Dear Sarah. E. J. Christie, Beloit, Wisc.

Yours of May 24th received.

I should with pity that you have been unwell. Yet trust that now
you are as usual and at your school. My Dear Sarah it is
impossible but that you must think I have said harsh things to you
because the truth itself is and must be always harsh. in such cases
you indeed may accuse me of misjudging you in your purposes
of moving to this country. But whether you intend to do those
things of which I accuse you or not, if nevertheless you think
of leaving such a step, the result would be as I say. You yourself
I hope will always be acceptable in my house while I live
but I protest in all sincerity against the establishment of a
charitable institution in it. We do not have the means
let me repeat to you again my view of the Moral Law in all cases
which is simply this. First, we must be honest. We may be
merciful, charitable and love our neighbors. But first and
last and always we must be just. You misconceive the
true Christian idea. it is impossible to base charity upon
dishonesty. Let everyone see to it for himself that all just
obligations are first discharged and then if there is a surplus
that may be laid up in Heaven's treasury. Your plans would
run not only the earth but the Heavens also upside down
the born in the Cor is Love. That is the full fruition of the Moral Life
how you know that you cannot have that until by the subjugation
of the flesh. You see the flesh short forth to deny the Cor. So the stone
upon which all true Christ grows is the upright Column of
Honor and Universal Justice. But my Dear Sarah your
mother's result from a Blinded infidelity to do good, and let
me again repeat to you. You have only mist the method
of doing it. There is certainly the most charitable construction I can
put upon your conduct of your own affairs.

As we now speak practically to you, if you feel that you
have taken in hand too much for your means, lay down the
load. If God does not give you the means to support it, let it
down as a burden that He does not mean that you should carry it
and burden both you & your not think that to leave themselves
and to support yourself is going to relieve things. If
Heavy burdens that you have laid on to them, it will relieve
them & have the light before God and man & carry in other
proper burden. Besides, he attempts to put it. God can be
weak, if you mistakenly have tried to do such things, He will
forgive. But while forgiving He also will punish.
Bear patiently the punishment if you suffer any, for there is
prometh to us to fulfill all righteousness. There are the appointed
means for trying us back to the right path. These things are
the Word's spirit and testimony guide. The change of small cords
and my dear brother, they require us with repentance, and we
are turned back again into the right path. Christendom is always
two weeks late, that is, misarranged in the evidence,
in the very nature of things it is the work of the Love, the kindness
my dear daughter see in this kind of work held in the Word that
shows us, it becomes annually, when the cycle of the months of ministers
of Repentance and Contrition have passed the Word of hope breaks
forth and expands into the glorious, glorious of Love and mercy
Now therefore let us hope, and found on this suffering the
very strongest proof of the goodness of God our Father,
and you charge me with weakness. Your heart tells you it is
not so. My dear brother, if I had the means to cancel all your
obligations, to relieve you of all your cross and suffering,
I am afraid of would do it. But it is beyond my power.
I would indeed bring back the promise to the Church and restore to
the light in the eyes, and it would be foolish to do it. It is my
dear daughter necessary that we should suffer. That is, and even
may be pardoned that of us, if we do not wish to be persecuted
like Cain and Abel and Ishmael and last case that is (persecuted)
let us take with patience the chastisement that is laid upon us
In while we wait for healing us, and keep while we wait us
may be as to work the manipulations of his Love. The time of the
labour will yet come. The Golden rule will yet fulfill
the liberating purpose, the Pass and British West from the rough
ways in which we have tried will yet be covered, and we shall
walk in the glorious garden with the beauty of the
God's Father. If we may more it is the spirit of the Father.

But what mean you when you say that you must come to me
or I must come to Detroit? I have a very small means to come
to, and I doubt if my means is a true prophet. You know
that you are always welcome to me by sea or land.
But the impossibility of I cannot tolerate. Besides I really
have nothing but my love to bestow upon you. David is
creating new relations for himself, and I as first to tell you
if I live that winter 6 months He shall be taking care of a people.
He has received his education but how to work and earn his
bread by the sweat of his brow. He has never shown from the
worldly power one cent. But by his labours until this day has
been keeping it Republican, and in justice he must be paid
for, while many have been the constant. But I would like to see
that can do it. If you want me I shall come it for you all
But I am anxious to be that I must do justice while I mean
it to you. But my dear son, I answer you the disorder where
I must hear if I do not discharge my obligations to him, in
relation to family, I must do justice if in my power and
trust all the rest to God. But what do you mean
by such talk? it is very absurd, if in any thing you think you have
changed me you have no more right to forgiveness, and that
is whole soul. If in any thing I have wronged you constitutionally
let me hear of it, for intentionally you know I never did.
I am your son-in-law. Does not time in Newark let once since
I saw you in June two years ago. I am not able to before I
can leave you. I wish you must learn to look things
straight in the eye with a common sense view. It is a
my dear guide. Every one of them, even the best of them need
a bit in these months, and the under, traveling with a good
group of the reins, or they will come off with us and make
shipwreck of the Regard. They are in the (I think) London
and Unfulfill as they are Christ.

You again write of Love, Peace. I shall
I said all to you in my last about this, it is the whole matter
just at once, and a first trial. I have never said one thing
to him calculated to offend him, or to cause any harsh feeling
He is a terrible creature, but what use is it to do all to
foundations of his character. He is a very good man, and
able to take out the rollers apart, and if you try to play up, he looks
at one spot is broken out at another. I tell you candidly that
although he is a very good man it is not good for him. The very best
position for one of his kind is to keep in the shadows, or to be
this putting off. While he can get his interests for doing

He will never take his legs to God's work further than will sustain
his present need. I have two May Ceres I lay over to be troubled
with such as this. it is not Christ to keep such as him around
and if I was able to make saints. I want Joseph more
hopefull raw material. We must take his chance under the
providence of God or others. It is nonsense. it needs men good
to keep such a camp from being sandy even while he sits at your
table. All the children of here are threatened to toss him to Genoa
Italy and my own in the right way. He has been made into a son
of Belial and I am not able to put the right twist on him again
I do not wish to say anymore about it. I wait with patience until
I know what to do. I want many enough to carry him home or here
into permanent employment. I wish Henry Ward Beecher and
all those rich in all congregations or I Love and where each would
take such a Chapin as he and suffer for them. and where those
who here to suffer as much for themselves. God send the good time
where children unite to be converted in the best way by the best folks
and not need so much Repression. it is up hill work as the
best. and I am exceedingly weak in the knees. and let me tell you
since you sent that letter to him. Almy with mine to feel quite fully
improved. now he is sure that he has got two things to his miserable
fiddle bow. and is off this morning with a team. to think any little thing
that may be in the way. Use your lens on encouraging such
people. Well take the burden. and do not load abler in
my opinion that I shall not be able to assist you in it.
What do you mean anyway? Luck tomorrow has smiled
on me. if you will take your own way in these things. Why
thou do it and suffer for it. But you also make me suffer
and I am not able to bear it. I am now weak in body
and my mind is weakened also. I am not able to sustain
such a load of care as I once was. for I have had much
in my time. God bless us all. All your troubles
are reflected back on me. and if I did not take refuge
under the canopy of Eternal Love I would fail.

My sheet is done and I am
glad of it. for I feel an anguish of which you cannot
dream. But this also I presume is just.

Good bye my dear Sarah. I do not wish you to write often
to order. But I wish there were such a change in you. a decided
franchise of the more operable to reflect on. Be courageous
and explain. Remember me to your Grandmother. Yours Horatio

Rapidan June 3d 1876.

My dear Sister, [S. S. Christie, Beloit, Wis.]

Your letters to Father and Fanny of the 20th & 24th ult. arrived today. Although I shall not attempt to write a letter, many things forbidding, yet I wish to drop a few lines into the Post Office at Man-Rate tomorrow to let you know that I still succumb to the ground; pass under the familiar designation of "Sandy Christie", which has become a synonym for the "Knowledge of this world" and want of faith; carry a soft heart, protected by very strong ribs, live by Bread alone; and walk the path of duty in patched pants.

The path of duty leads to the schoolhouse, and the patched pants daily traverse it. That is indeed a triumphal march! We shall measure its importance, or appreciate for a moment the lofty dignity of the Dramatis Personae - The Monarch and the Patched Pants! It is a great thing to love the children of others and seek after their welfare; to be to them better than a friend and just less than a parent; to see in the lowliest those elements which find expression in the Good and the Great, and attempt to lead them out in glorious actions.

Such it is my constant endeavor to be to those who attend my school. I think that I will teach school all my days - I love to be with the young; they make all seasons Spring.

And now Sarah, of ourselves. Do not think because I set my face against what is ruinous and not right in your conduct, that I do not love you as I should. But I cannot let my regard for you blind me to things that demand attention, nor take from me ~~my~~ the benefit of my arithmetic. I hope that you have high and undeviating motives of action; yet in your practical wisdom I have no faith. You will ever see, till you adopt other axioms. I have had too much experience to have faith in many of your methods. So long as you are not able to pay your own

may in the world, God will not require you to pay that of any other body. I still fear, too, that you live for appearance too much, that you write letters to everybody and everything — a most dingy crowd thing. Recent developments have shown me that there is too much of that going on in the world. Tom quarrelled with me at Beirut in the spring of 1867 and abused me too, because I denounced Helen as an enemy to me and a dark plotter against us. Had the little fellow paid more attention to the me than, an unpleasant chapter in his history might have remained unwritten. Now I am the object of her machinations. Before I can know much definitely of the extent of my danger, I must be informed on several subjects. Perhaps you, or Tom, can give me a little information on one or two of them. How Helen had an opportunity for obtaining surreptitious specimens of my handwriting from your or his letter box? Do you know how Cousin Nellie regards me? Have either of you ever told her that I don't hold to a good opinion of her? Are either you carrying on a correspondence with her or her sister? And if you are, does she ever mention me? Most assuredly she has caught a Tartar this time, and no doubt will find it out ere long unless her "dear Dord" takes her home as being too good for this sinful world. "On Religion! what crimes are committed in thy name!"

We are all in the usual health and strength. I hope you are as well as usual now. Don't fret about the Past. Press on with hope; there is a better day ahead — not linsel, but golden. It is in the near future: — He of the good judgment and patched pants hath said it.

Would that I could be in your schoolroom for one day! Shouldn't I enjoy it? Sarah, I really believe that I will present Arithmetic in a far better form than it is to be found in any book, and before long. If I were not so poor a penman I would send you an article or two from the book that is yet to be. I give great attention to Reading in my school, and think my scholars improve. — It is now quite late and all are in bed. I will write to Tom soon. The Monthly came to hand to torment me but I wouldn't be tormented,

Good Night, Sister Dear,

~~Love~~

Sandy.

Saratoga Winona County
Minn. June 12th 1901

Dear Father

It is so long since I have written to you,
that I am heartily ashamed of myself.
It is no easy task just now to scribble
to you, with both my stupid, lively legs,
making considerable trouble, round me
being so anxious to know what I am
doing, and who I am writing to, well, ^{how} are
phrasing, for I am really anxious to know
how the world uses you, as for ourselves,
here we are having a tough time yet,
owing to poor prices least fall for grain
but I have not the least doubt yet, all
will yet turn out well with us. God
willing my crops at present look well,
our family are in excellent health,
and we have done all we possibly could
to keep ~~off~~ of debts for this year, and have
done very well so far, but why trouble you
with my concerns of debt, or credit.
I have not the least doubt you are

worried enough with such matters of your
own, Jessie has had a letter from
Sarah in which we are told, to look out
for Tom about the fifteenth of next month
he is going to stop on his way to you.
I shall be very happy to see him, and
hear him patter Greek and Latin. I
intend to let all religious subjects slush
while he is here. I hope he will do the
same. I have been very busy since spring
works commenced. Mary to has had her
hands full, in making gardens. Jessie
dropped the most of the corn. I have
worked it both ways once.

July 6th 1870.

Each day after day has slipped by, and
once more I take time to scribble a few
more lines to you, we continue in good
health and like this will find ^{you} as well,
or better than when Harry last wrote
to us, Thank God we have had some
rain, although my first crop of tame
grass has low, having been cut today,
there is about 4 acres of it. I have worked
my corn and potatoes out both ways

last week, and had a very warm
time of it.

Now don't be so long of writing
to us again, as you have been, and I
will try to give you some scribbled paper
often than I have done. I will soon
have to commence harvest, and will
have my hands full, I trust I will not
be put to so much cost, by others failing
me, this season as I was last,
I have need for a span of horses (but do
see how to get them) and save myself
from much trouble in harvest and
in fact through the working season.
What more can I say, only that I
wish you all well, in every way.

Mary and the children are in
tip top health, and I only wish you
see us, it would do you good!

Good night,

Love from all to all

Yours ever,
Willie

Sunday July 10th / 70

have been round with Mary
and the Children, looking at my
crops. Wheat looks first rate
and in a week I will have
to begin harvest, on a piece
of 200. I will write to Sandy
soon, I expect to stack my
hay tomorrow I will have about
five or six loads, it is not mowed
over a month since my oxen
were grazing on it. has David
been splined yet, how he enjoys
himself Good evening,

Write soon and
believe me ever your
Affectionate Son,
Wm G Christie

Rapidan June 2nd 1870

My dear Sister: [Sarah J. Cheshire, Beloit, Wis.]

Yours of the 8th and 11th were received a day or two since. Under the circumstances I deemed it best ~~to~~ write to Tom first, to arrest fully a little more its fountainhead. Dave carries two letters ^{addressed} to him today to Man Rato, and of course he will get them in advance of this; although I would rather that ~~you~~ ^{you} this went with them. I do not feel bound, in response to your letter, to tell you all I know about Helen. The developments of every hour show me that women are curious creatures, and so I cannot be very confiding if I would like to ever so much; — this reticence all for Helen's sake. You think it all fair I presume to write to Anne under a disguised hand without letting me know anything about it, at a most critical moment of the campaign too, — a gross error it was truly. I saw it all, when "in vigils of the night" deep sleep fell ^{on} upon men, but the mistake was irreparable then. The handwriting deceived Dave but it could not me. I carried the letter to Anne without opening it, (I might have easily done so) but it was a terrible trial to me. Late that night I requested him to open it, urging that I recognized the writing, and that after

due reflection he should inform me of what its contents were so far as he deemed best. Anne treated me like a gentleman, under such unique circumstances, but the following evening told me it was impossible to let me know anything further than that it related to a "mutual friend" and that I would know all about it in a few weeks. That told me all. Anne has probably sent her proposals of marriage. I did not know what to say; - silence is a crime against Anne, and yet I dared not speak. I will probably say nothing.

You must know then that Helen has fooled you, in this matter. She has written to me, trying to draw me or drive me into marrying her; and I dare not write out to her the first measure of indignation for fear that she, or she and her sister would forge from my handwriting thus furnished the very evidence or what not that she claims to have in her possession, and so reach Father through me. It may be that she is crazy, - but crazy or not crazy, she is dangerous - every inch the Machiavelian genius I long since pronounced her. She has not a single scrap of my pen, thanks be to my Guardian Angel; and so far as I am myself concerned I only pity her. But she might reach Father, as I said above, and then Tom needs his eyes opened for his own good. So, I have furnished him with the

more important documents (copies) as a desperate measure to cure - I feel like saying folly incurable.

Helen wrote first to Father from Boston, but which wrote first - who after he left Chybaun I cannot say certainly. Her letters to him were strange medleys of piety and high intellectualism through which ran a broken thread of this recently full fledged spirit - strong terms only can characterize it.

Well, let charity throw over it a merciful silence, now that I have revealed what is necessary to the exigencies of the hour. I could give you many reasons why I should not give my wrath - but there are better ones which claim silence and a tax. We are all flesh; - we are all hastening to that land of fuller revelations - it becomes us to be charitable; without charity, we are as sounding brass and a tinkling cymbal." Be then my merciful to Helen. Yet must further attempt in the same direction with firmness. Forgiving her, as I do, without even knowing the extent of her villainy, yet I am no fit subject for further experiments. It is the highest wisdom to meet such attempts as the rock meets the wave. Anne is so reticent, and I lack too curiosity to such an extent, that I don't know how he

stands related to any other woman.

A word in relation to Dave. He and Emma Stratton will most certainly be married, how soon I know not - sometime in the near future.

I give my full consent, for my views have been greatly modified since I first wrote of her to you. Of course Dave couldn't pick a wife for anyone else and I presume no one could for him.

You may know that it is all right, when I say so.

My egotism will make itself prominent, in spite of all you have said. The fact of the matter is, if my judgment is worth anything, I am endowed with a fair share of sense, and although I have not been subjected to a college training, I can "see into a millstone as far as the man that picks it" and you know, he seems to see a good way in if he don't say so. I will write out a short treatise on Arithmetic this week and send it to you. I pretend to ability in that department, and in no other.

We are all well. Hoping that you are ^{all} in good health, and gaining a little wisdom by experience every day. I sign myself Your brother Sandy.

Give my best respects to all

Belmont College

June 27th 1870

Brother Sandy:

I have recd your two enclosures and after reading have thrown them into Rock river. I should not wish to see them in my correspondence. Helen is a strange girl, and those letters of hers are quite beyond anything I ever could have suspected from her. She wrote me six weeks ago, giving some strange hints as to her feelings toward you, and wishing me to suggest to you the answering of her letter. I thought it nothing but some strange freak of her fancy. She spoke also of J. A. and since that there has been some correspondence between her and Sarah, and between S. & J. A. by which it appears that you are out of danger. I do nothing in reference to any of it. Shall give her some good advice when she comes - we expect her tonight - and try to get her to do what is right. I think it likely that she will marry James; and if they are pleased with each other I have no objections although it is

not my ideal of such a union.

Thus much in reference to Helen, and now in reference to yourself -

Henceforth when I have read one of your ~~many~~ letters I have resisted the impulse to answer in hot blood & have waited until I could write without resentment; but I see that this forbearance has not much effect in making you treat me as you ought and that time I am answering within the hour. I shall express the feelings that come first on reading your letter. I know I shall be over them tomorrow and shall then perhaps be sorry for giving them permanent expression, but yet I think that perhaps it may do you some good, in showing you that though I may be silent I am not insensible.

It is not chance or single expressions in your letters that hurt me in themselves, it is rather the whole spirit and tone of your expressions towards me and my course. I protest against it and unless you change in this direction all intercourse between us must cease. Although I am a Christian, I am not necessarily bound to sacrifice my self respect, even to preserve friendly relations with a brother, and you may rest assured that I shall do hence-

forth what is impartially and in the highest sense right. Throwing Christianity and brotherhood out of the question, I have always treated you as one man, one gentleman in the best sense, should treat another. Such has not been your course towards me. On the other hand, several of your letters - this last not more than others are full of arrogance, self conceit, and an ill concealed contempt of me and my principles. I have borne with it long enough, and now I have to say to you, that while you are at liberty to have your own opinions in reference to me and my conduct, - opinions which, probably, no defense on my part would have the slightest power to change - yet you have not the right, nor should I permit you, to express these peculiar views in the very offensive manner you have become accustomed to employ.

Let me assure you that I am not at all sensible of the inferiority in regard to myself which your utterances imply. While conscious of imperfection in many points, I am yet well assured that in my faith, and in my conduct in the main, I see nothing which would merit the approbation of God and of good men. I do not desire the gratuitous judgment of any other conscience than my own as to myself, especially if that purgates

casts harsh and prejudiced imputations upon my
claims to be a man in my own right.

This is all I shall say on this point.

It is a shame that I should have been compelled
to say so much, I trust it is all that shall need
to be said.

I am going to start for Minnesota
on Thursday the 14th July - Shall go on foot for various
reasons. It will take me until some time in the first
week of August to reach you; via Madison, Baraboo,

La Crosse, Millie's, Elba &c. I shall correspond with
some paper to make the trip pay pecuniarily. - Have
written to Gilson with proposition - am not ranging
into results with him.

Intend seeing Minneap-
olis before coming down, and shall descend the

Minnesota & Mississippi by canoe. One class-
mate goes with me - Ritchie.

There is absolutely
nothing to do here for the summer. We have had

no rain of any account since crops were put in,
grass all dead, wheat & oats headed out while only

six or eight inches high - Corn little better. Today the
thermometer at 105° in shade. This drought affects only

a small region however, I suppose you have good crops
in Minnesota. My love unchanged to all at home. We are
all well - Yours for the highest - P. D. Christie.

Literary at Miss Brainerd's -
July 7 1870

Members absent. Miss Hale.

Fun, Hale & Deitcher; Music from
just back 7c. Sentiments very good.
all except Miss Brainerd's.

Minutes absent. Reading by Miss

Merrill - The Brothers - a sermon.

Bad conduct of Dr & fellow conspir-

ators, pantomime on sofa. Buston

behind Charlie's chair. Reading inter-

rupted; penitence, for Mr. Jean

Ingelow, a most touching extract.

Morgan's reading, "Dr. Weddiger's

experiment". Hawthorne, Peculiar

tone & Character. Description.

Miss Watson's Good Bye - Report on

picture. Report accepted. Preference

for group picture expressed; Moved

to see about group picture. Music

piano. Capt. Jukes. Orchestra W. D. & M.

Miss Merrill president, Mr. M.
Sec. Meet at Miss Howell's, Miss H. to
read, Mr. W. Miss D. Mr. P. Miss
Merrill to write poem. Moved that
we have letters; Carried. Moved to
adj. Sober Mrs. Hale to pres. Moved
that his greeting follow & be of equal
length with ~~that~~ that of the ladies. ^{then} Carried.
Christie account. Adj. Discussion
on class letter. Singing Little Bp.
& others. D. R. of L.

Rapids, July 10th / 70

My dear sister: E. S. and J. Channing
Bellevue, W.D.

I write without
having heard from you since Helen's
arrival which you expected on the 2nd
ult. What has taken place with
you all, and especially with her
since that date I know not; nor
can I surmise with any certainty.

The situation here is just this:
Arnott is desperately in love with
her and impatiently looking for
a letter containing something
definite from you. You may tell
him, if he will with you, that
I have had a confidential talk
with him Jimmy and it is "all
right" as far as ^{Jimmy} he is concerned
and as far as I am concerned also.

I am in Amos's confidence, and
can say with certainty that he
wishes Helen to come west. Her
intention to marry him is unchanged.
Of course, she ought to write to him
first, letting him know how she
feels about it. Remember, I am
in his confidence and he in mine
to a great extent. If Helen be
with you, or indeed, wherever she
is, lose no time in letting her know
how Amos regards her. Now, as to
myself: You will probably
not fully understand, but Helen
will. When I say that as far as
I am concerned, there are no hard
feelings. I have taken nothing
offensively to heart. B. Thim
Manuscripts are at her disposal
on her arrival. I know that I
am Amos's friend, and I desire
to be Helen's also.

Jimmy has never been keeping
company with any woman in
this country, only in the im-
agination of Mrs Drury.
She will post this in Macon
to this sunny morning.

Hoping that it will all turn
out right I remain

Your affectionate brother
Aug. S. Christie

Dissuade Tom from canoe project.
He will be drowned if he undertakes
it. Show good reasons for thinking
so.

Now remember, Amos is devoted
to Helen; and more, he is a gentle
man, if there are any such.
He is highly pleased with your part
in this affair.

[To: Sarah Charlotte,
Babette, Wm.]

mn, Minnesota

Night. July 13th 1870

N.B. Take care that all
first persons come to
New or old spot
every hundred or 200

you are to be alone, as

not mine, not having I come with you at least. I will
try to write you a longer letter than is usual with
me. For there are a great many things which may be
and ought to be written about, and not least
among these is - Dave's marriage. David D. Chris-
tie and Mary Emma Stratton were married ~~on~~
July 4th at 1.15 P.M. at the residence of the
bride's mother. etc. etc. Outwardly enough
Dave was sick at the time, but as all things
had been arranged to have it come off that day
he determined to make the best of it. You know
Dave has great force of will. Still he made good
use of it that day making the most of the folks
present. Think that there was nothing the matter
with him. But to go back a little. Winter before
last he worked too hard getting out rails, etc. and
caught cold several times by exposure to the cold
wind and snow when sweating. The following sum-
mer had a very severe cold. Last winter took it

Again in an aggravated form and apparently
much slighter with asthma. Still we were slow
to believe that Dave could be laboring under an
attack of something serious as asthma, and so no
medical aid was called in. He got over it in a
few days and seemed as well as usual, excepting
that he seemed to be failing all along this Spring
and Summer - growing thinner and less healthy
colored, yet quite strong, so much so that he was
able to lift 50 lbs with his bare hands with-
out much effort. About a week before the 21st
it was evident to me that he was to have an attack
of some kind, and so I counseled prudence, but
without avail. On the 30th June he and Sam Reid
went into the Blue Earth River and staid in over half
an hour. Dave came out looking quite bad. The
night of the 1st he was taken with an attack of his
last winter's complaint - difficulty of breathing
etc. The next night he was still worse and, being
at Mrs Strattons, Emma sat up with him the most
of the night. On the evening of the 3^d he went to
bed feeling quite well, but about 11 o'clock
began to feel quite ~~bad~~ ill. I sat up with him
till 2 in the morning, when, the paroxysm being over,
I went to bed but with sad misgivings. He felt

a little pain in the right lung, etc.
The morning dawned clear and bright, and
Dave looked passably well. Everything went
off nice at the wedding, but I easily saw that
Dave was not as he should be. He was so weak
that he found it necessary to lie down a while
before coming down to the parlor to be married.
The pain in his right lung continued to grow worse
steadily, and at noon of the 5th I insisted on letting
out school and getting a doctor, but he would
not listen to it. However at 25 minutes to 4 PM
Father came into my school and told me that Dave
was worse. I hurried home, jumped on a horse
and rode to Garden City, 6 miles west, for doctor
Hillcome. Both saddles were put and so I went
without one, but yet I went fast. Hillcome
was away many miles, but was to be back at 7 o'clock.
I left the necessary instructions and started to look
up another doctor. None were to be found except
one in the drug store, who would not go with
me, but pronounced it asthma and gave
me medicine accordingly. Hurried home.
Dave was in a terrible condition. Fearful that
Hillcome should fail to appear, I hurried off to
Mankato, ten miles. No doctor cared about -

coming out in the night - told me W. was
sure to be there, etc, and gave me more med-
icine for Asthma. I started to return home.
And now I was in a terrible state. Did not know
what to do - stopped in the outskirts of town to con-
sider. Made up my mind to go back and have
a physician at all events. Just then I was
impressed that W. was there and I must hurry
home. I was enough when I got back the doctor
was there before me, and Dave was growing
worse at a fearful rate. The medicine I got
at Garden City was worse than useless - this
danger lay in the lower lobe of the right lung -
it was Pleura Pneumonia. Just at dawn I
despaired of his life. Never saw anything to
equal it. Gasping for breath, suffering intense
pain, bathed in a cold sweat, his eyes glaring
and surrounded by deep black rings, fingers nose
quite black - Oh, it was horrible! And then the
circumstances! I could not believe it possible that
he should die - and he did not.
He had a dreadfully hard time of it, but got
through. Today was able to come out as far
as the kitchen door. It will be a few weeks
before he gets very strong; but then there
is good reason to be thankful that he is alive
at all. But I must turn to another sub-
ject before I quit. You have been very
unfortunate in being duped by Helms.
But Arnold feels that you were acting the part
of a friend. I risked everything and attempted
to open his eyes before the receipt of your letter.

Westport Wis.

9 miles North of Madison

Monday, July 18, '70

My dear Sister: [Susan D.]
[One - same, Beloit, Wisc.] I write a
note this evening to tell you of
our health and good success so
far. I left B. that Thursday night,
getting a ride to Millett's through
the kindness of Dr. M. Daisy
did not know me at first, but took
me for a peddler. Had a pleasant
time at Iron End: & next morning
Daw, Daisy & Sam. accompan-
ied me with the team to
within 6 miles of Haver-
Junct. I walked then to the
Junct., very fortunately finding
the boys there, - they having walked
up to Iron, & laid over night there,
& from thence to H. next morning.

Putting a bowl of bread and milk, we pushed on up the RR through Fortville. Sun very hot. We sweat tremendously. Stopped for night with farmer, having made 6 miles from Hanover. On Saturday we started about 7 - Rpt the RR to Brooklyn - 14 miles - and then struck off across country to the west in search of my Madison Chums - Smith. After various adventures arising from being misdirected, we arrived, tired, wet, hot, and dripping with perspiration at the little village of Dayton, where we put up, having made 23 miles of hard walking. We were then 3 miles from Smiths. Felt proud of our achievement, but sadly out of patience with the man who had misdirected us & sent us so far out of the way. The night was most comical. Bob couldn't sleep for mosquitoes, and

undertook to smoke them out with tobacco - Smoked himself stupid, but produced no effect on the mosquitoes. I was made an exile from my bed & took to the floor on account of the b - b's. They were awful.

Sunday morning we marched up to Smiths, & stayed there all day. A very pleasant family.

This morning more of at 3.30 & started soon after 4. Got to Madison - 18 miles - before 11 - magnificent scenery - Found old University Chums, bathed in the lake, visited the Capitol, and at 5.30 took the boat across 4th Lake to the Insane asylum. Saw another old chum there; and then came out on the Lodi road some 5 miles from the lake, to the farmhouse where we stop tonight.

We are standing it excellently, the best of appetite and sleep; and

Keenest enjoyment of all the incidents of the trip. I have given you only a skeleton account of these incidents - some of them very ludicrous - all interesting - My diary is well posted, & I shall begin soon to write my first letter to the Independent. Shall get to Devil's Lake day after tomorrow, ~~reach~~ Ribbourn City on Friday.

Then to Tomah & so on.

I am in haste & must stop; send mail to K. C. We are doing gloriously -

Good Night.

My love to Grandmother
& regards to Annie.

Your loving Brother
Thos. D. Christie.

A little from David
Kilbourn City
little one of David's marriage
& wedding - I shall hurry on to R.
I think - I shall hurry on to R.

Devil's Lake.

3 miles from Saratoga

Wednesday July 20, 1891

My dear Father: [James Christie]

I am on the way to Rapidan. Have walked up from Beloit with two comrades - one of whom is to go through with me to the top - since 7 P.M. last Thursday. Shall push on to Kilbourn City tomorrow; reach the Falls of the Wisconsin; take the train on Friday for Tomah. Lie over there till Monday - with Bedford - & then proceed partly by rail & the rest afoot to Willie's place. I have written him to expect me about the middle of next week.

As to the time of my arrival at Rapidan - that is somewhat uncertain. Shall stay with Willie 4 or 5 days; and then, whether I shall go to R. by rail or more pedestre will depend on circumstances. - If it were not harvest time I would ask Dave or Sandy to meet me at Willie's with the team, & we could renew old camping out association again. But of the feasibility of this I leave you to judge. I am to see you all

Do not let this matter of communications trouble you: we are told used to writing it and
a couple of hundred under the pen they tell us - as they often have before - and
I am sure

before very long, - of that I feel assured.

A letter to Willie's would reach me, if sent within
eight days of this date.

We have walked very hard, and the
cather has been extremely hot but all have stood
it excellently - you will see me looking somewhat
rough, but hearty and well. I hope to find you
much the same as of old. We shall enjoy the
few weeks of my stay very much - I know. Look
forward to seeing you all with a longing I cannot
express. It will be like the return from the war.

Sarah was well when I started; the little
girls and Helen went to Chymam the day I came
away. All other news & incidents of this most
interesting trip to wait till I see you.

Yours as of old

Thos. G. Christie

P.S. Bob Ritchie - my comrade & classmate - is
young, an Episcopalian, enthusiastic, and a great
hunter. Let Dan have a gun all clean & ready for
him with information in regard to game - and you will

Do not let this matter of communications trouble you: we are told used to writing it and
a couple of hundred under the pen they tell us - as they often have before - and
I am sure

[illegible]

[I]me Glucose

[illegible]

such admissions as that. But our whole day was most interesting, & when I came away this morning I made up my mind that it was not my last visit to the Lake. We tramped 17 miles today through the sand,

passing through Baraboo sand next to Baraboo.

If you have not sent trout, do so, as soon as possible, sending to Utica, as I want some of the clothes to give friends about Will's in.

Sid says he has a white coat in New Brunswick which he would like to have sent in the train.

Put in all my history, Novace, Facies, Be. Offic.

oids, Memoirs, bilia, Ep. Sect.

Nat. Phil. & Pat. Mundie.

I shall be longer at home than I thought & so

I shall send them

I say nothing of the other things you children bring

it would be too good to let it all go

it would be too good to let it all go

Kilbourn City.
Thursday, July 21-70

My dear Sister: [SARAH]
CHRISTIE, BELLEVILLE, I was very glad,

on coming into town tonight from Baraboo, to get your long and very interesting letter of yesterday. The news it contains is certainly startling. Our Dan married, and so sick! it is all very strange! I am glad I am going up so soon. Note to Wm & father from Devil's Lake, telling the former I should be with ^{him} by the middle of next week.

We are to see the Dalles tomorrow, and shall take the evening train west, going by rail to Omaha at least and perhaps

Can't see you. My love to your mother & father. I hope to hear from you soon.

char through to La X. It will
take us two days from La X to
Willis. Shall stay there only
a few days, & then push on, ^{perhaps}
afrot, to Rapidan. The Superior trip
is abandoned. I wrote you from this side
Madison. Since then we have
had the greatest good fortune in
everything. On Tuesday we
were on the road at 7 - day very
hot; after marching six miles
came to top of a ridge from which
we had a most magnificent view.
Madison 15 miles distant, the dome
of the Capitol & the University glit-
tering in the sun; Fourth Lake
stretching west from the city, ten
miles long; and then a noble
valley, five or six miles wide, and
15 miles long; sweeping around
from the end of the lake away
toward the North West from where
we stood. - this valley dotted with

groves and farmhouses, and most
beautifully variegated in color by
the mingling of corn, wheat and
meadow lands. Away to the South
East the blue crown of the Blue
Mounts 40 miles distant, showed
over the intervening hills. Sed &
I fairly danced around for joy, ex-
claiming & gesturing to express our
delight. It was worth the toil of
the whole campaign to get that one
view, - You must see it sometime.

Resuming the road, we
passed through Lodi, 17 miles from
Starting place, and pushed on to
the Merrimac Ferry on the
Wisconsin - 6 1/2 miles further, where
we stopped for the night - a march
of 23 1/2 miles - Ther. 100° in the
shade. It was a miserable raft-
man's tavern where we stopped, &
I shall only allude to our adven-
tures there during the night.

it is all I can do in decency.
Sed lay on two chairs all night, toss-
ing & turning, & not getting a
mink of sleep from the tortures of
the b- s. Bob & I with clothes on,
lying on a coverlet ^{on the floor}, knapsacks under
our heads tried to sleep. It was the
most terrible night we ever passed;
I would rather stand picket within
ten rods of the enemy than fight
such a battle over again.

Yesterday morning at six we
crossed the Wisconsin in a boat,
and walked to the lower end of
Devil's Lake - 7 miles - the most of
the way being up a rugged gorge
overhung by precipitous rocks.

The lake is one of the curiosities of
Wisconsin. Fancy a sheet of the
clearest & purest water - only a
mile & a half long & less than a
half mile in breadth - no inlet or
outlet, shut in on all sides by sheer

cliffs of Fildspar rock rising to
a measured height of 500 feet
perpendicular, - the ~~foot~~^{lower part} of the
precipice made sloping by the fallen
masses of rock, in all sorts of reg-
ular shapes, immense, and piled
on each other as if they were the
ammunition piles of the Titans.

I cannot describe it to you; but
some stereoscopic views which
I got will give you some idea
of its grandeur. As soon as
we reached the lake we pushed
in to cool our feet, and while in
the water, what was our surprise to
hear the good old college song "Sitoria",
raise the echoes of the opposite cliff.
We waited till there was a pause, &
then struck up "Bingo": a cheer
answered us, & we hastened to meet
Bedford, Lathrop & Michaelian,
as they came down the rocks to
greet us. Such a handshaking!

They had left Madison on Friday, and we had overtaken them, starting from Beloit on Thursday evening.

Getting into a boat we all pulled up the lake to the hotel, where we stayed till this morning. In the afternoon, yesterday, we went back down the lake on the little steamer attached to the hotel, & while it went back we climbed the rocks to the "Devil's Arch," where the boys were sitting singing when we heard them. This is a natural arch at the top & brink of a giddy precipice overlooking the whole valley - I should rather say overhanging it. It is reached only by dint of skillful & laborious climbing. About the arch grow bushels of huckleberries & blueberries - all ripe. We picked and ate - well, I am afraid to say how much, represent it by x. I am carrying in my valise

now a fine specimen of the rock, containing numerous quartz crystals, procured near the arch.

In the descent I came near breaking my neck. We took another route, and coming to a cliff in the precipice that looked feasible, I went down a considerable distance to see if we could descend by it. Before going far I saw it was very difficult, & shouted up to the boys to try another place, which they did successfully. But I thought I could get down myself when I was & so pushed on, ^{cautiously} knocking the loose payments from the cliff & seeing them dash away down into the valley below. I must have been half crazy or I never would have attempted such a place. As it was, I got down to a position from which I could not have climbed back if I had tried, and on looking down saw a sheer precipice

thence but I was compelled to make the attempt
below me of 25 feet, naked rock
without a crevice, then a little ledge,
and another descent more steeping
of 50 feet. If I fell on the ledge I
would go down the second descent
like a shot. The trouble was that
my position was very insecure. Not to
describe fully, - it was such that I
had to cling with both hands to little
clefts in the rock in order to keep
from falling. My hands got tired &
began to tremble. I felt sure I could
hang on but a few minutes longer, &
yet could see no way of getting either
up or down: thought of the Ambitious
Youth in the Nat. Bridge; looked down
for the boys, but they were out of sight.
Wished I hadn't got into such a
place without seeing first how to get
out of it, and then saw what seemed
the only way of saving my neck.
A tree grew up the side of the cliff
without branches, & coming up to within
a few feet of me. It was rather dis-

Bedford, Mass. -
July 25th 1879.

My Dear Brother, [Alexander]

Yours of the 21st inst. I rec'd. Com-
mencement week at Salem Reg. I told her all
that you told me to - She bid, "very well and
satisfactorily," putting on an air, as if she were great
conscientious on her part, to listen. Ah, she is a
very strange girl. George and wife getting and
settling with all her religion. I don't understand
her. She can be as very pious and yet as she
does - Well, Garrison is her, she has written me
such a good letter since going up to Byron.
She gives another scrap of my pen given to her.
She is unbearable - I can't stand it. What she is
up to now or where she is, I don't know, only
as I guess. My thought is that she has made
up her mind some going there (just from the
fact in her letter) to marry Robert Glover or
Byron Fuller. I don't doubt - But she will be suc-

reproach - all will be expell from her. Attention
 to Abraham again - Not enough of her other dir. to
 But you have just told me is send a copy of
 her last letter to you - I hope you will do it. My
 curiosity is great to see what I have read - I'll
 give James a letter - drawing one to see him
 her time to send which I will as soon as he
 have time to write him a letter - He writes a
 good letter about his - later it like a philosopher
 takes a straight forward practical view of the sit-
 uation - Says he would marry her yet if he
 were any brother I would advise him straightly again
 it - He could never be happy with her as I was
 about her work. She would either make him sad
 or break if she would do either by any of the
 many methods she would not like she would not
 live with him - But I shall not go - I am
 now more and more convinced that there is a Right
 God in such things - All our planning is
 all - We decide that that have gone forth all
 things are all outside Love - Be the path a
 rough - a smooth one it is infinitely the best
 for us - I am very firmly think I am
 wise enough to act as a spy upon myself -
 For James one to keep him quiet of his man
 in Egypt - I shall know nothing of them - and I

[illegible]

all through every word - whether you like it or not
find you are able to please me. Won't you do it,
Will you. I wonder if there is a letter about
more of your coming down here. I never wish so
much for you here as now. I know the Puritans
and the Whittles - I want you to know them and
you must - it does seem as if you must. I
could wish about here as well as there and yet sit
in a cage - this point - If you only would get out
seldom for air. I get a little from Tom every
as I write father - he gives you interesting account of
himself to the whole lot. Tom looks like this
I hope he will pick up some more money
such as before. But I must stop now. Sorry
as I have to write you to come home. I want
to see a lot. I suppose you are busy in the
house. My love to Mother and all the rest.
Your loving sister.

Sarah J. Chubb.

Bethel, Me.

July 23rd 1870.

(James Chester
Castle Harbor, Me.)

My Dear Father,
This is the first day that
I could say I had leisure to write for months
to I am going to write a good many today.
Your surprise has taken me quite by sur-
prise. - I think it was a little cruel of all
of you to so shut me out of the family as
to keep it from me till it was all over
- Well, perhaps I deserve it, so I will
try to think no more of it; Elsie always
was a more affliction - Of the anxiety for her
has not made you sick, or the worse for it -
It is well. - I am very glad for another step
for nothing else that Elsie is married. - It
will take some of the burden off her. - How
do you all live, do you all live together, or do
you live as separate families? It seems all so
very strange. The red checked, blue eyed baby one

mother said: I remember him as well as his wife.
pink dresses - I think they may have a happy life.
I would so much like to see them and tell
you. But it is not possible at least not probable
for some time. "Pete will be done" in a few
days, I think I understand that - and
I want to remember it in every act. Helen
has been with us you know and has met you
up to Chymers after commencement; also the
little girl with her. They went a week ago
last ^{14th inst} Wednesday, about 11 o'clock and at 6 P.M. of
the same day Tom started in coach for Minn-
so. Annie and Grandmother and I are alone. I
will send one letter from Tom since leaving. He
wrote last Monday the 11th and they were then
1 miles beyond Madison. He said they were
enjoying themselves finely and standing as well. His
companions are Ludwig P. Nelson, who stops
at Cass Adams House and Robert Ritchie of the
Classmate. Peter is going through with him.
Tom wrote that they would be in Kellogg
City yesterday, and expected letter from one there
to write giving him all the particulars. -
They are to make for Willits first - stay a few
days, board among the old 1st Union Baptist friends
and then on to "Mankato" and home. - Now

please after that is to go up to Minneapolis and
Hale Morgan and Milder joining them there. -
go north to the mining regions of Lake Superior.
perhaps he has told you that he has entered into a
half engagement with Tilton of the Independent. - He
is to write a specimen letter and is to Tilton and
if they like it will publish and pay him - he
continues to write while on the trip. Tom thinks
he can make a good thing of it and I have no
doubt he can. - Hale and Morgan started for
Minneapolis by rail, day after commencement -
accompanied by Johnnie's sister, Mrs. Kitty
Plant - Wife Plant - were going to visit an
Uncle there and Milder's sister was going to see
friends. - Soon as Milder has seen his mother
and friends in Cass Adams he goes on to Min-
neapolis by rail. - Robert Ritchie the only one of them
upon whom I suppose is not at all as talented
or aware as the rest: he is not at all brilliant
in our accounts for anything, only being a paper
gentleman in the heart and manner and for
being a very good boy so gentle and good
his mother just I believe. He is a Catholic
son of Dr. Ritchie a stylish family. Episcopalian
strong church people. They ^{the wife} ~~are~~ a small circle
each with church I should think at the handschoep.

troub. and work - comb and soap - a walking-
stick each wear a light - suit of cheap clothes and
and cheap straw hat: - Their goods clothes seem
to be exposed to Manakato, on a small trunk of some
in about another week. - I will notify you when
so you can get it: - Gowns Communion - neck
Tally - out school. But: considered again last Monday
I have more just saw weeks early in March -
if will take me up. Through the very narrow streets
I don't know what I would have done, or what I
wanted do more sure it was. For some of the best
people I ever knew. - For that are just. The best
people I ever saw in some ways. Their kindness
to others myself among the number could not be
expressed. - I speak of Doctor Morrison and his
wife - they are Episcopalian. - He was the home for
them in the way we came. But to know them. The
last time any of our on the other side of the church
I used to go by there on my walk out to my school
I think it was only a month ago. The good Dr. Morrison
met me out on the side walk in front of the gate
and told me his wife would like to see me. He was a
real old father like Uncle Williams. - I couldn't think
what she wanted to see me for unless it was about
the rent. For we had met only once or twice about
the house business and were strangers. I went up to
the door however and rang the bell. Mrs. Morrison came
to the door, invited me in and asked if I had seen
the doctor. I told her yes, and that he had told me she
wanted to see me. - Why does she think an old man
like it. Then she went to the door to see where he was
and looking down across the street. Why yes. Why didn't
you tell Miss Plunkett. The English wife said he was
so anxious he was afraid of getting the clothes - and
so I couldn't, they had planted it. - That the doctor
is taking me up to my school this morning in his dog.
Mrs. Morrison, went up for me at eight o'clock
and continued till I began to feel alarmed. I could
stand it. It seemed so strange and odd for them.
We all kind to a perfect stranger. - But it was
no more they would watch for me every morning
leaving down the long street, over the gate as I passed
the gate up. I could see Mrs. Morrison at intervals
looking over the gate and down the street. Then
I was coming - and when I got near enough
would go out and stop me. I tried to get
stop to it by going up a back lane. I did not

two mornings - the third morning after I had caused
the slave and started along to go ~~down~~ up the lane.
What should I see but - the Doctor there and Fanny
kitchen in the cave and he coming along laughing
towards me - his eyes twinkling. "Paha; bye he. I
was too cunning for you this morning. You
ought to try any such tricks as that - for me - and
as it has got to be a regular thing. He usually
takes me in the morning, although take sometimes
even - and in the afternoon take goes for one
drives one down to their home then she gets out
and he spins over here with one. - Along about
the time I tried to elude them, I did not like it
at all. I was suspicious - supposed there must
be some important motive - told Tom about it -
and asked him to find out what sort of character
Dr Merriman was, and I imagined differently my
self of everyone I thought - would know. All I could
get - was that he was good as he could be and
then Merriman these conditions - be a better woman
and I have found it out - to be true. They are Quakers
- The doctor has been a steady man for
many years and takes an active part in church
affairs - and Mrs Merriman - I cannot say all I
think of her. I really love her as I much loved my
other one out of the family aside from Ann Humphrey
and Annie Murphy. She is so pure and good - Her
Christian character is almost perfect - sanctified through
suffering I think. She has been an invalid from
childhood almost - heart disease. She has such violent
attacks come on her so suddenly. She has suffered
awfully. For some of these attacks several times
she has been told by physicians that she could not
live but a few months longer. The spells come
usually about 3 o'clock in the morning. She says
she never lies down on bed a single night but
often she tells that it may be for the last time.
It is a state of continual palpitation with her. She
has not no religious conviction and talks very little of
religion in a direct way, but somehow it is in
her life continually and for all she says it is the
world, the flesh, the devil. She is a tall, thin woman
very tall with very long clear eyebrows. Her hair
is black and she is Scotch her father English. She
was born in Canada. Lived there
till the last 11 years - which time she has lived in
Detroit. She is near fifty I should think at least 45
years. The doctor is much older. He was born in 1808.

the hair and beard and eyes which: his people
are from New England. But compared to Canada
where he was quite young. He has certainly
an teacher - He is a real old fellow in his way
and such a job - they have three sons. He has
three - He I should think in the present - I should think
in College - He second about 16 in the high school
and the general - 10 in the public school - He
now in vacation long he has commenced going
up to my school - The doctor has two daughters
of former marriage who have both been married
years - The doctor is a follower of the Anti-
slavery school - a former slave - I am very
much interested in it. I wish I could see you
to talk about it - I cannot say anything of this
getting out - but I will at some future time
I have commenced a course of reading in
Medicine with the doctor - that is he reads me the
works and I read and I will deliver a course
of lectures on the subject - and am now
reading and taking notes. (There I feel) a course
lectures by Bichat - a celebrated French Physi-
cian and member of the French Academy. The lec-
ture is not on Pathological Anatomy - but I am
at it, and committing to memory or trying to
do it (I can) The cell which I am studying of Brown-
ian - another amazing phenomenon - There are 4/4
of these and really they are in perfect in their
way as anything probably could be. - Oh Joseph, I
could see you. You could pick me so much -
But enough of that - I have letters now to write about
this family because they have been as very kind to me
and I have I feel them as much as I would like
you to know them - Through their kindness also I
have become acquainted with the most interesting
family in some ways - I ever knew - They have
one, but a half mile north of my school - I have
not a little to do to send to school, but if I had not but
the German, I would never have known
him - He is a widow lady with her son and daughter
- The name is McCallister. Some pronounce the
name according to the last syllable, but that sounds
strange, he says - of this name, I am of English descent
of the name syllable and then it is English example
They are C. & S. & S. - He is the oldest of the
family - a young & bold - He will up the
Episcopal church here, and have the building under

[illegible]

determined to make it and go ahead - he had farming
The youngest son - Charley - I have not seen he is
at Spring College an Episcopal institution preparing for
the Ministry - he is quite a young man - you get-thinks of him
15 I think - Then the daughter - Daisy - about 11. Elmer
Dana and Charley is one of the finest girls in some
ways I have ever seen - so happy and cheerful
always and perfectly healthy and natural - She is in
Tom and I her it blossoming time - We had then a good
deal of them lately - I stuck them over night - once before
Helen came - Then I wanted her to see them so we
went up together from my school and stayed one
night - with them - Helen was charmed by them
Day before Commencement - they were all down to some
of the exercises, so they came down to supper with
us and spent a good space of the evening - After we
went to bed - Helen was with them and he liked them very
much - The next day, Commencement - day - Dan and
Daisy were down, and Tommy Ball a boy of 14 or 15
years old is spending a few weeks vacation with
them - so they spent the afternoon and evening with
us - One evening before that while Helen was here
when Mrs. Merriam brought me down from school
she said the doctor wanted I should stay for her and
spend the evening and have Tom and Helen over.
So the doctor spoke the buggy and went after Tom
and Helen - Mrs. Merriam happened along and stay
ed by - The doctor and Tom and Dan were all in
their seat - and I think we were enjoying a delight-
fully pleasant time - The day Tom left me for Portland
he called on me on until 6 P.M. Wells and Arthur left
at 1 P.M. taking the rail-road track for Portland - After leaving us
Tom called at Mr. Merriam's - The doctor gave a man going
that direction with a team and got Tom a ride up to
Mr. Bullitt's with him - Tom stayed there all night - had
a pleasant home - Dan hitched up in the morning and
he and Daisy and Tommy went six miles or the road
with him - They were sorry they couldn't go farther but
as it was not time and the team was needed - They have
a good farm of 400 acres; and have in a large and
spacious stone house - It is just delightful up there - I
should give anything of fairly only from them - He
could be sure to like them - I have written so much
about them because I want to get you interested in them
- just what you know - Mrs. Bullitt - I saw Dan twice in
Portland and he told me to be sure and go up to say all night
before I received a letter from Tom - Dan is back with
Tom - I have written to the good Mrs. Bullitt and Daisy telling me of
them and how they are and how they are and how they are and how they are

Bellevue, Wisconsin

July 23rd 1876

My Dear Brother,
[Dennis B. Clouston]

Rec'd your letter from Red

Woods City this afternoon. I was expecting
another before Sunday and feel glad not to be
disappointed. Your account of the drive and of
your visit to Devil Lake is very interesting.
I shall have to read "choice extracts" to the Millite
and Mornimane. They all seem as much concerned
as myself. - I am not sorry of the abandonment
of the Superior trip. But I wish you had not
appeared over so shortly without explanation.
I feel somehow that there is another plan afoot.
I was thinking this evening rather wildly perhaps
that it might possibly be the Wisconsin. Still
tell me everything on your visit. And return about
the letter to the Independent. Please tell me in
your corner. Your book is down being ordered.
And we cannot have it till Monday night or so.

[illegible]

coming home - Mrs Whitmore came over one week
talking of prospects for getting a home in the fall. She
began telling of some friend's house who had just come
to town from St. Charles, Ill. - and had taken a home
on Broad St. paying \$5.00 a week - Now on is say
they were extraordinary people - got very large ovens,
and spent it all in their living - said they worked in
the shoe factory - that Mrs. Lobbie was forewoman
over the home and Mrs. Lobbie over the oven - Then
it was again the same thing, before me - I went out
and told Annie all about it - told her I felt unhappy
that she could get a place there - Mrs. Whitmore and
Mrs. Whitmore, didn't - I don't speak of it in my hearing
the same way for nothing - It was all settled -
Then I spoke of Mrs. Whitmore about it - she was
so kind, and they were intimate friends of hers and
that she had no doubt but Annie could get a place
on their recommendation - Mrs. Lobbie spoke to the girls
about it - last night - She sent word for Annie
if go down this afternoon - which she did - For told
her they were to take some girls on trial, Monday -
and that she could come - It is a large machine
for work and shoes to be shipped - it is not a local
supply - The girls work in it from sewing machines for
the purpose of stitching cloth and feet shoes - he told
Annie that it was hard to get employees to suit them
and took about a week for them to learn - For told Annie
if she would come and try they could soon tell if she
suited - Mrs. Lobbie told Annie, there was no trouble
about it - the total per \$5 - that an expert range could
make a temper oven at all - they are paid by the
hour - We are not so sanguine but we hope it will
be all right - my way - My Annie likes it - I will
take a machine visible per soon as my school is
out - or as soon as Aunt Mary leaves - And
to bring her a little basket when she comes
out - How soon can you go to Miller with when you
go home I like to see what I want you to go for the
you know I see it is probably all things are more
not even a possibility of seeing any of them in this
And I want you to find some one to go with them
in your letter - but we are sure and then see
anxious to see you are there - So I would do for
you now - I have said you here - your first experience
of a comfortable living place. Tell us about this
time - how it looks - I think it is better out a lot
than - About Paris and Mary and the children home

Wednesday Evening July 27/77.
Bellevue, N.Y.

My Dear Father [Alexander]

I thought I would sit
down and write you a few lines this evening.
I hope you will write to me soon for I miss
you and the girls very much and since I
was not at all well. - Don't neglect please if
you have any leisure hours. - I sent every Sunday
book this morning per express to Wrentham.
I suppose that is a station near Willist. I
found in some books of some according to his
directions and because I have sent for you and
father to read (for you especially) eight numbers
of a Quarterly Homeopathic Medical Journal. I
think, without doubt, that both you and father
will enjoy some of the articles very much. -
I sent also Henssleman's Organon. You will
find a good deal of competition in the same
arguments, and illustrations and so on and over

again. He wants to make some that even
Grimé is clearly seen and understood before
he stops it. But I think you will like it.
I want you to read it at least to please
me. I send also an allopathic book on dis-
ease for the sake of the Reposition of Bone-
s. I think you will find at the end of
course, you know the two schools as well as I
in this land. Will they go to Homeopathy or
the practice and there they are directly opposed.
Do think about it just a little. Surely it helps me.
I am entirely convinced of one thing and that
is this - the Homeopathy is the only practice
in which there is any system. The other is al-
together "kill or cure". And when they do cure
it is on Homeopathic principles. The females
with the two columns are to be read, and
sent back, sometimes when there is opportunity.
They are valuable and belong to good old Dr.
Maximilian. He told me to send them along
if I thought you or father would enjoy reading
them in the land. In the trunk I send

also, a book each for you. From the books
I had, "Hymen" for you Schindler, for Dave
Lips and letters of Frederica Bremer, for one more
series - "Crayon Miscellany" for Annie Tom. Little
on Palestine for John and the "Love story" for
you. I couldn't resist the impulse to send
something when there was opportunity and I had
something else. Tell Dave I want him to read
the Schindler family carefully, from Virginia
to end. It will be good in some ways and
I think it will help him. Tell him to read it alone
to Emma. Surely he has got to be a family
man. He should get into the very pleasant
and very consoling habit of reading alone to
himself everything that interests himself. Dave
always over himself anyway, and therefore I
know he will make a good husband.
I have not written to Jimmie yet. But hope
to, tomorrow evening. I will send him some
little too. My love to all, if I get well I
would like to write more. But the very much
written and all things put together make me feel
all wrong, unable for anything. With my love

Gloucester Farm, July 28, 1871.

My dear Miss Christi, (Sarah)

We were sorry to hear you had been ill this week, we have not heard since, but trust you are entirely recovered.

Will you allow me to alter the arrangements we you kindly proposed for next Sunday, and instead permit me to call for you some day the coming week, at your school-house, and we will call upon my friend Miss Key, whose name I mentioned to you, a native of England, you would be pleased to know her and a more excellent person it would be difficult to find,

Sally & I will take an early tea before leaving here & then wait long enough for you to take a bite, because we shall have to make the most of our time in order to get back before dark, would your Grandmother be able to ride with

us? I have been hoping you would
come after school to day & spend the
night with us. Do you hear any
news from the "Noelens"?

yours aff,

S. A. Millth.

Thursday Evening,

Bellevue, Wis.

Thursday Eve July 26th 1850

Dear Mom, [Christie]

I have just finished packing
trunk, preparatory to sailing off tomorrow.
I would have sent this morning, but found to
my dismay that your shirt had been neglected
and not packed. and I thought I would like
to send them to you. So the good faithful boys
did them up today and your cuffs also. I wish
the more rather unlucky in doing the cuffs they
are not nice but will do perhaps. I could not
find sleeve buttons, so suppose you have them
with you - and could find but two shirts. You
say one is now in the boys room so you must
have three with you. and I thought you had
only two. I send three light ones. You will
send one yourself and I thought you might find
the boys perhaps, making it better something of
the kind from you - I send the large old shirt

heart- partly as a little protection to the
the two and also thought it was not- good
me to you and perhaps Willie or some one
of the boys would like it:- I send your
light pants for a change. I will think of having
them mended but did not like to risk spoiling
them without orders:- But I would have them
mended and mended nicely if I were you. Long
would do it for you? know:- All of these
pinnels, and withers on Medicine, are for long
and father to read. They are Dr. Merriam's pen
book- and he told me to send them along if
I thought they would enjoy reading them. By
course, come will be taken of them, and they
will be sent back. I could not find the
Merrill, but the rest I packed. I send a book
each from any store to the folks at home:-
Perryman for Sarah, The One Year for mother,
Lenther on Sabbath, for father, Rudinow know
for our sister Emma and the Schoenberg for
Dave. I felt as if I must send something when
there was opportunity. I send also George Wagon
"Gisellang" for Cousin Tom. You know the dog
I want to do Tom - give everything away and they

when I needed or imagined I did. Buy a new
supply. A neckless with may. I'll tell you
how I feel now. You know I dropped my
entirely while the girls were here of clothing and
everything else. I gave them my only book the
last thing my hand was and value. Learning
except nothing but one of these fine books to put
my things in. I lost more these books. They are
about all I have left and I am just glad
of an opportunity to give them and especially when
I can send my hearty love with them as I can
when I send them there. What I am saying
all this for is this. I don't feel as I used to do
same as if my whole nature and character had
underwent a thorough, radical change and so
is now. I feel it more and more every day
growing into my heart:- I want now to get
rid of all these things and these books every-
thing that I purchased so recklessly with money
of them. Yes, I want to send the bond of purity
and hand labor for it. It is the only thing
that will save me, or that will save you either

We have got to come to it. If you will not
take the lesson from my errors. Then you
will be brought to it: though perhaps you are
suffering than mine has been. If such could be
God knows what - one each need, as individuals
to bring us into the path of truth. nearer to Him.
And He will bring us if it has to be through fire.
Bless God for it. He does not leave us to
ourselves. He dealings with us, makes one home
that He loves me - even me. I wish I had
something to send Willie and Mary and Jessie.
But have nothing at present. But my love to send
them. They have kept their thoughts in the book
since you were here. I sent when Jessie went up.
Don't let Jessie know I tell you anything about
her marriage. They will probably tell you there and
more when she leaves them. Won't there be a change
for Jane and Annie going up there. I wish you
would talk with Willie about it. I have it very
much at heart. This next winter, Pyman will be
a dangerous place for those two girls, particularly
by Annie Jane. Don't forget about it please.
Won't come again. Al. Proctor and Dave
Shenell are to start for Lake Superior next week.
Go with them, I believe. Show for Miss Keene
and the rest go with you. Annie and Prudence
are with me. Give my love to Jessie, to Willie and Mary
and tell me about the children. Yours affectionately
Father.

Dear Brother,

4th

over again - I would like to see Jennie - Does she
look thin and delicate as ever, or is she healthy
and happy-looking? Your good, faithful Mary will
always be the same like our Bonnie here, only
with more strength physically and less generous in
impulses. - Willie surely must be happy with
such a healthy natural atmosphere in his home.
I spoke of Jane and Annie in my last. Don't
forget that mother as Willie says. It would be so
what he might like to. Don't force it upon them.
Simply suggest the thing and if Mary and he
think they can have the girls there they will
most assuredly do so. I have sent two letters
to Lucretia and a paper with the key of the house
inside. I sent the trunk from here Wednesday as you
will not get it as Alice probably before Thursday
night. I am very sorry you could not get it
either. But I did not think you would be in
Willie so soon. I did not think of putting in
the money. But I will tell you what I can do.
I thought you came to me. I can express it to
Lucretia and I will do as it seems con-
venient. More than \$6.00 if it does I will not send
it. I am very happy to know that you
are well & happy.

What is the fare up to the
agent to think I bought the money.
I have drawn \$36.00 of my school money again.
I sent it yesterday. We held out as long as we
could. Dinner on bread and coffee and tea for
some of your days - without butter or gelatin or
sauce; or anything else. So finally I had to ask
for some money for I was getting down right
and sick. Had no anything to take to school for my
dinner. Barely lived a stunning headache.
I came up in the morning and about ten felt so
weak and sick and ill that I couldn't go on with
my school. I looked to the school to be good they
all promised me, and I left them in charge of them
written with directions to her to begin school the
next morning if I did not come and I would either
be up through the way or send Lucretia if I was
too ill. But Lucretia goes to school with me
and so I go to school taking her with me. I feel
better now but I get down. Mr. Carter sent me
a box of some white cloth sent on down hill

[illegible]

Rapids, July 31/70

My dear Sisters: [SARAH J.
CHRISTIE, BELoit, WIS.] Tom &
Ritchie arrived last night
in good health & Spirits -
Tom a little lame, if any-
thing. Dave is getting
better. Has to be very cautious.
Harvest - just about - done.
Half a day's cutting to do
yet for ourselves and one
day for a neighbor; then
stacking, etc. Tom and
Ritchie talk of working.
The former will write
in full in a day or
two, but I know that
you will be thankful
for the earliest - news -

however meager.

Keep up your courage
Sarah, Everything will
come out as it should
in the end. Glad to
know that the Evil dream
is gone.

Yours

Sandy.