James C. Christie and Family Papers

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Raqueden, June 1st 1872

Alexanderen,

I hope you are in health. The all are as usual. Vacillating up and down between comfort and heavenly discomfort. falling and rising with the tides of the natural and spiritual "Jonesmo". Yours of the 19th ult. Received. I had written to Uncle Williams stating to him that you would have visited him on your way to Mecklenburg. only that finances were low and you took the Shortest Course I said what was true did I not? And that will satisfy him.

I have read your letter with Great pleasure. Great satisfaction to heart and mind. Many Good and true things well said. And am pleased to see that you and Tom. Come nearer together on the common Ground.

I am indeed surprised at what you say of Helen and still more Grieved and pained with pity for her. God help us, how Terrible when a passion bears down before it all nature, modesty and moral strength. if it is as you indicate. it must proceed from either Hallucination or Guile, and I can say nothing in the matter

Heyward Brown. Address not to Alexanderen but to Elizabeth. In Mr Hooke's Box

Passing. My dear Sis & Cousin. as Mr Moore has a Chance to go to Charleston. Mr Hooke's Box Express. Ship as soon thereafter the highest Price. as the little Sprouts is so uncomfortably the highest Price. Ship much Love & kiss all

Your Pappy

that this is the way to be happy. We enter this world in this confiding frame of blissful confidence. But the hard realities of external things and the thoughts generated of them in time destroy that feeling in a older that self reliance may be born within us and self responsibility may be ~~born~~ begotten of self experience, that the individual character may be developed.

Then we must and should pass further, and come back to the simple faith in the Beneficence of the unseen heavens. and to enter again into that peace which was the inheritance of our Childhood. this you will see is really to be Born again, again to become a Child through faith. which is but the product of the deeper and inner soul reason and repose again in the bosom of the Father God. the Mother the Father the helpfull Brother. the inspiser of all our inner joy, this it is to become a Child of God. to rest in this conservative confidence rest and peace. hope and trust, and Love for God and man generated in us by the Crucial Experience acquired in Life. by the discovery of our nature unworthiness. and that All Good must flow to us from the Eternal Care and Love of God. Who loves us as seeing us free and perfect and not as we are. Who discerns the perfect stature in the rude block of our present being. and uses All things to Chisel out the stature of the perfect man.

Believe me always. Your Father J. Christie

Pray for strength to resist a state in consequence of giving way to it. Son just have been back. My name for the future is Jno. A. Hume Smith Esq. Remember & Address the letter.

Ripidan June 1st 72

[Sarah]

I have looked for long for a letter from You, and am in doubt to what to assign as the Cause of Your Silence. Have I said any thing displeasing to You? Will Give me the Cause. I anticipated Something from You in Reference to Your Brothers Marriage. how it all looked to You And how You were pleased with it. And indeed I also expected You to tele me You had recieved My letter. I travel With Great Expectation Across the prairie to the post office saying to Myself, surely I will Get a letter Today from Sarah. Plenty of papers However, and I am thankfull to You. I particularly like H. Ward's. I like his Theology. and particularly do I like His Brothers Article Thomas R. Although in reading their Writings I feel all the time as if they were drifting away upon thoughts that lead to New Interpretations of Scripture. At times this does not suit me as I long for rest. at other times I delight in it. the free Glimpses of a more Human Being of the Unseen Father, from Whom and in Whom the Glorious and Glorified Brother arises before us. as the Ever helping, to Whom has been Given All Power in Heaven and Earth. the Leader of Humanity to the Heavens, the Inaugurator of the New possibility, All this has indeed been set forth before. But the Preachers have Great power of Illustration and that is the way in which truth finds the easiest way to me, it also is specially in accord With Scripture as All the Teachings of Jesus to the people were Akin to this Method,

The Churchman is ~~the~~ a Tory proper. Yet of a very different type. It is more nearly allied to the Antique Ecclesiasticism, savoring a little of Symbol and drapery. Yet very pleasing to me from its treatment of all Churchly things. Quite as Logical as the Modern Aspects of Puritanism. And more agreeable to Religious feeling in that it throws around Christianity a more sacred Halo of Veneration. And I decide like Episcopacy for its Order, its settled forms. in short it is Concrete. While all these ~~this~~ other systems ~~Modern~~ Evangelicism are ~~is~~ still to me in a fluid and fluent state. so that I cannot tell what they may be tomorrow. As I become old I see more love old forms. so I also know that even these are capable of indefinite Expansion in their inner love. Every man can for himself fill these ~~that~~ ancient and venerable forms with a Life derived from the same fountain from which they first had their Original Inspiration. X I believe I promised to write more to you on that subject of Phrenology. But I do not feel that I can this morning. Wait untill we can speak of it when you come up here. Jane came upon us this morning in a thunder cloud and rain. it is very gloomy looking now with clouds and wet ground, and my paper and Bible and Hans Christian Andersen have all that this morning, with the driving storm through the roof. I like Hans Christian's letters more than I did on first reading the story of his life. But I would much like to see some of his little wonder stories. I cannot guess from his life & what he is as an Author,

David and Emma are in health, and James is also well a cunning fellow full of life. He and I are great friends and always mutually salute one another with a Laugh and a Kiss. He laughs all over. Gathers together his shoulders, doubles himself up and shoot a flame of fire from the centre of his eye and which being and I return his volley in the same style. Wrapped with a Blessing from my heart. While my whole soul prays He may be watched from above, and Guarded from the perils of this to him new and Evil world. What a Mystery is Childhood. In the time I had Children of my own I had no time to do more than look at them, besides I was a Child myself in all that should be in a Father, with the Exception of providing for their Bodily wants. for which cause they lost and I lost much of that which would have been a Blessing to us all.

How easily we see when we have passed over a trail and know it, that we might have made it more pleasant in the passage by selecting the way. And how terrible to think we can pass only once over our life in time and in space, and while conscious of all this. I feel and know that without Unseen Guidance I would get so hardened on

How necessary my Dear Sarah is Faith and Prayer. While the winged days fly over us and carry away in record the thoughtless word and the poor deed. how necessary that we ~~ask~~ for help, to send before us something that shall not torment us. that will be pleasant for evermore, May God protect and shield us from the consequences of our thoughtless and Evil Lives –

Mother is as usual. Busy and careful in ordinary health. Myself — Well I am I think rapidly failing in the centre of my bodily strength the nervous system, to write a page or two of a letter wearies me for a day. I have used my body up by over stimulating it. too long continued high pressure of steam has worn out the valves and reduced the strength of the whole mechanism. a single cup of Tea will move that old machine a whirring with such velocity. that it wont stop for a long time. The heart thump thumps, and forces up the blood to the brain until I think enough in an hour to have lasted me a day when younger. and at night rattles, from 4 to 5 hours sleep is all I can get out of a long night, I tell you these things not so much to complain as to let you see the necessity there is for taking care. All are guilty in some form of "Dr Cockle" and, it is true that life is given to us to give away. yet let us take care that it is given away with the approbation of the whole moral and spiritual man. that is the whole gist of Christianity in so far as the conduct of life is concerned, self sacrifice in this way is self preservation, if, (and it is an important if.) the sacrifice of self is first in the series, and not preservation, "let not your left hand know what your right hand doeth" Now my dear Sarah write me a letter and tell me of yourself. Candidly on what you think, what you do, and what you intend doing. Cultivate Impenetrousness, My letter proper is done, and I am tired, the day is also misty and dull, and I write entirely on the strength of half a cup of Tea. and a mere mouthful of food. I will now take a turn on the prairie and try and get an appetite for a little dinner. Your Father

J Christie

Madison. June 2nd 72.

My Dear Father: [Mr. James Christie]

I rec^d yours of 29th on the 31st, just two days from home, and was glad that you are all so well and everything going on right.

As to ourselves, here we are as usual. Tom, Carmelite and I were out on Fourth Lake yesterday taking our first day's explore since being here. We crossed to the other side and pulled round the rocky coast, examining the sandstone formation in a lazy way and very industriously scaring the swallows out of their nests in the overhanging rocks. We could not help wishing that you were with us: I know that you would have renewed your youth like the Eagle."

(I think I have read that somewhere in scripture)

I shall so manage that you and Mother shall have a trip to this State before many years, and that you may enjoy a ramble about Madison, and a trip to the Baraboo Valley, which abounds in striking scenery. What way is it for you, who once was so free to roam, to be kept the remainder of your days under a shingle roof and inside four barswood walls on an open prairie? That alone is enough to kill you in a year, and if you had not a good constitution it would have done so long ago. You shall see the mountains and lakes of your native land inside of five years, or Saul is not among the Prophets. And speaking of that, I must not omit mention of seeing two genuine Glasgow clergymen – Revs. Jabez Walker and Robert Simson, and having a handshake with the former. They were in attendance on the World's Good Templars Convention held in this city last week. Walker represented the Order in Ireland (where he established it) the latter their own land. They were the men of the Convention, and were appreciated as such; and you may believe I was proud of them. The Americans as a rule did not speak well. They indulged in bombast about the State or territory they represented, and almost invariably made a pull for the National Capital. Even the man from Idaho was quite certain they would yet have it there! The Canadian delegate was an Eng. dandy and amounted to

less than nothing. The English delegate acted like a fool at first, but toward the end of his 5 minutes said a few sensible things. The Americans of Madison were delighted with all that "Sandy" had to say. Walker preached in the Congregational Church on Sunday morning. Simpson, and Baine of Kentucky, both did well in the afternoons, and in the evening Walker made a glorious speech on Temperance. There were two other speakers, but the people were glad to have them sit down and let Sandy talk. There is no use of my trying to be or feel like an American:- if I am not Scotch, I'm nothing. I mean to study Scotland's history geography and literature and be no more an alien.
As I said before, you and I will behold his mountains and lakes inside of 5 years. I shall work toward that and it will be. I know it would be worth ten years to you.
I am glad you get oatmeal so

cheap in Mankato; here it is somewhat dearer, but Tom gets it and we have porridge once in a while.

As to my vacation, which comes on apace; I wish to see the folks in Clyman and the old place first thing. I will stop at Sun Prairie as I go. After that I will look round for work and earn what I can. Whether I will attend College in the Fall I do not know. If I can get a good place to teach, I will go into that.

Tom and Carmelite have been very kind to me; but I can not be a burden to them. I will pay Tom for his money outlay for me this term instead soon as I can raise it. He is a true man and a real brother. I had a long talk last night with

him about religion, - prayer in particular. He seemed to put more of value on what I said than is usual. Tom is not deep on these questions, but he is so good and child like that it is better. I think he will grow broader in his views, as he has been growing since I saw him last.

My view of prayer - articulate prayer, - may be an erroneous one; but so long as I believe it the correct view, what can they expect me to do?

There is just this in my case Father; I know what a renunciation of the world means, and I have not the heroism to make it. If I have anything to deplore, it is that, and not that I do not pray. My judgment tho assures me that I could not live a life-martyrdom. There is that in me which I fear can never be eradicated - selfishness in every form and in its worst forms. And no end to unbelief. I know that did I come to believe in Jesus Christ by some magical process (for it would require no less in my case) the firmest ~~tho~~ belief of the morning would pass away before evening. I think there is nothing for me but to attempt to live a healthy life as a natural man, and if I can do that I will do well. Tom will write the next page. I have had the Blues several times, so he may mention the fact. My love to all in the far off Home. I will write to Dave next Sunday. Yours

Sandy.

My Dear Father: Do not think I am in-
touched by your letters - so long and so good - because
of my meager answers. Both Carmelite and
myself have enjoyed all you have written,
and only wish there were opportunity to
give you as much pleasure in return.

We are all very happy and going on with
our work in love and harmony.

I saw Sarah in Beloit on Tuesday & Wed: She
is better than I remember her to have been for
some time. We were down to attend ordination
exercises of two young Missionaries - sons of Beloit
College - going to China. Both had been teachers
of mine in the Classics - one a cousin of Prof. Porter
and son of Rev. Jeremiah Porter whom I used to hear
preach at Vicksburg. The latter is now doing mis-
sionary work at Brownsville Texas, and wants me
to come down there to take charge of schools next year.
I have written to Brownsville, and should the reply be
favorable we shall probably go in August. Salary 125
per month, and great opportunities for doing good. Should
I go I may renew my acquaintance with the Spani-
ards, and enter on some work in Mexico. They want
me at Beloit as Tutor next year at $1000. Here also,
I am offered the same. I should go to Beloit rather
than remain here, as I am more in sympathy with
Beloit and its objects than with this institution.
But I am more needed in Texas than at either College, and I
feel that I can do more good there. There will also be more
work for Carmie in Brownsville. She is willing to go.
I have not time to write fully on this subject but shall expect your
advice. We send love to all at home - including the youngest.

Your loving son Thos. C. Christie.

Madison. June 16 "72.

Father: — [James Christie]

Sarah came in on the Friday evening train and went away an hour ago this Sunday evening. She and I went together to the Episcopalian Church this morning and I saw for the first time the form with which you were familiar in Ireland far away and long ago, and which our Mother loved. I cannot stop now to discuss the Episcopalian service; if the worship of God is the end sought in coming together these are beautiful forms of worship; all they require is to be filled with the substance. We all attended at the Assembly Chamber in the Capitol this afternoon, to hear the Baccalaureate Sermon by President Twombly. It was a miserable

You answered both Dear Lina & Mother's letters. Mother thinks I know as much and more than notes show. Why Carrie is surprised at my reticence on matters of a forced loan.

Tell Jane not to forget to follow pioneers and

affair; and just for this reason, — he is a miserable creature to be at the head of this institution. A miserable old fox, who tried to cheat Tom out of $166.— of his salary! The latter would not consent to be here another year: the students and the best of the Profs are anxious to have him remain, but he don't like, nor can any sensible man like, the way the institution is managed. Perhaps he will get a place as assistant in the Prep. Dept. at Beloit College $1000. He has a show for getting the Green Bay High School at $1200. and Sarah and I wish him to take that, but he leans Beloitward.

You will be anxious to know what brought Sarah here. She came to talk of missionary work. Thinks seriously of going to a place in Germany to get training for a nurse, and then returning to this country and giving herself to the work among the poor in the great cities. She will probably write to you of her plans and her reasons; I shall try to get her into teaching along with me. Dre she can get this plan worked up. I am convinced that the missionary work is chiefly on the principle of making a whistle out of sow's tails; the mission of a good woman is to give birth to and train up a family like unto herself, and besides this and after this to do what other good she can.

This plan of getting up to a certain height spiritually and intellectually, and then refusing to reproduce, is a dangerous error; and one of the best things about the Reformation

was the doing away of great part of this. I think you hold this view; and I wish you would write to Sarah, impressing it upon her. It is more your office than mine, and comes from you with a better grace and more effectiveness. I believe she could marry if she would, and perhaps a letter from you would influence her.

I intend to go into the schools of this State as a teacher, and am now reading up on what I lack for a First Grade Cert. I'll give Sun Prairie a call, and go on to Chyman for a day or two if Tom can lend me a few dollars, then work through haying and harvest, get a Fall term if I can, if not, work and study till schools begin for winter. Will try Sun Prairie Oak Grove Juneau, Lowell, Beaverdam, etc; and may get a place at Green Bay.

Tom Reid, (tell no one but Dave and Mortie, and don't let it go out) has disappeared for some time, but an Irish Catholic girl in Watertown has had a child by him and has been turned out of her father's house. Sarah has track of Tom, who at first denied, but finally owned up; and is now, if he can be trusted in the least, working with the intention of marrying her this fall. He is so untrustworthy; and then if he did, he would probably run away from her again. I counsel'd Sarah to let me put the Watertown folks who are interested on his track, among others his own the Sheriff; and fail the scamp. There is no end to disgrace. I will probably hear more of it in Cleguan. Uncle Rollis Tom (who was on a Man of War) fell overboard in the harbor (I think) of Valparaiso, and the report goes

that he is drowned; but it is evident from his father's letter about it, that it was no unmeaning fact that he fell overboard at night while lying at anchor in a harbor; and the ghost of it is, he has deserted.

And so it goes. Who would attempt to make anything of such material? I believe in the Jewish method of making the Earth the Lord's and the fulness thereof.) Obey the greater number of laws, raise offspring healthy in soul and body, and while those who will not obey the law die out before the law, give better to take their places. In accepting the cardinal principles of the new Christianity which relate to the spiritual in man, let us not forget what was wisely appointed for the physical in the old Jewish and Spartan systems. Of what avail is the record of the past, if we are not Eclectics? I admire Eclecticism. The Greco-Jewish Eclectics did a great work for man; but they could not do the work for all time. I believe this to be a time in which the Eclectic is much needed and would flourish.

Sarah, (to change the subject) told me that Prof. Hendrickson looks for your letters as anxiously as she; for the reading portions to him and they delight him, he pronouncing the author a philosopher and a poet. Hendrickson is more of the philosopher than anything else, and much like ourselves in his modes of thought; far deeper than the other and older Professors. There is nothing like the old country, Father. Tom wishes he could have you with him well near; and I wish

to have you with me before long; and as among ~~all~~ the good intentions of all there may be enough realized to give you a little change. You do need change; and if we can make a change for you without adding to the debts in Minn, it should be done.

But I am coming to the end of my sheet. My enthusiastic moments clamor loudly for a life of devotedness solely to the work of making whistles out of sow's tails; my better judgment and my arith. assure me that it isn't wisdom. I am coming to believe more in ~~the~~ τὸ ἄριστον μέτριον, the best measure, the golden mean; and if I live a hundred years longer, will begin to keep to it.

This paper ("French") is barely dearer than other kinds, if any; and when I get a little money I will send you a ream of it. Your Son Alexander.

Morning. June 17th 72.

My Dear Father [James Christie]

Before sending my letter off, I wish to add, as I think I can to this light paper, that I am convinced I should in all cases after listening to advice, take the course that commends itself to my own best judgment. I should not have come here and run in debt, but rather taught school. I shall get out of debt and stay out for life.

Again; my best judgment assures me that no one knows much about our Creator, the future world, or any of these subjects necessarily so mysterious by their very nature, and that those who profess to know are simply deceiving or ~~self~~ deceived. I find out one after another of these men

to be as ignorant of these subjects as myself. Again, I am ever inclined to believe men genuine. I find, on the contrary, that I, no less, are anything but that. Experience teaches me, not only that "~~it is not~~ all that glitters is not gold," but that there is scarcely any gold to glitter. In short, I find that even those who profess a certainty, are really in doubt and in fact know nothing; that those who profess a pure faith, and in name separate themselves from the rest of the world, are generally poor sticks, the small residue being men just like ourselves, trying to fight their way against they hardly know what or why, in obedience to an inner impulse. History cannot do the work for us. Geography cannot; we must do it ourselves. Write soon. Sandy.

Rapidan June. 21st 1872

My Dear Sarah. [Christie]

I salute you this Beautiful morning with the inquiry Why do you not write to me? Why? too much engaged, occupied with some subject that absorbs all your thought and energy? if so I all well, yet even in the best purposes hesitation is wise. From a letter received last night from Sandy he speaks of your being in Mattison to consult about the Objects you have in view, or rather Object for he spoke only of your Considering whether you ought to go to Waisesbarth or not, now I wish you to inform me of this thing, and to be plain and explicit, that is that I may write back. I conclude from your letter the anything of it, that of course you will need to be supported by some Church Organization in this work as well as in the necessary preparation for it, and of course you should need to give yourself entirely to the work, having your whole heart in it. For there is a prize to which whoever puts his hand, must not think of looking back, but always forward and upward. This my Dear Sarah is a very momentous affair, and is not to be taken up lightly, you would need to see that your motives are entirely upright and sufficiently strong to carry you through, indeed the only motive should be to try to remove or to alleviate somewhat of the physical moral and spiritual misery that has accumulated in the lowness and lazy ways of degenerated society. Always work is the delegated functions of the Son of Man. apart of the health of the motives, to be successful in this work there is more needed than good intention. See how Jesus announces His witness for this great work. "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me" "for He has anointed me" &c Again in the appointment of the seven deacons you will observe that they were really consecrated to the work by the laying on of the Apostle Hands, this was not a mere ceremony as it is now adays. But an addition was made to their natural fitness for the office by a supernatural Gift. there was an impartation of that which would Exalt all their natural faculties to a supernatural intensity and activity, each according to his own nature supernaturally ~~exalted~~ Elevated and Guided. I do not think the Church claims such a power now, at least they feel conscious of not possessing it. and so must be content to select those who they

deem are naturally fitted for it. or those who feel an inward drawing to the work. and whose Circumstances and past life has sent them into the necessary state of mind and Metaxie. and so taking them and giving special training they send them out on their errand of mercy. I think you are naturally inclined to such work, and from your past experience here very Clearly seems to be necessary that there is fit it. But I very much doubt of your Ability to bear the Burden of the daily light and the Constant Contact with so much Sorrow, pain and misery. So much to harrow the feeling, and even sympathetically Torture and afflict your own Organism. One needs a kind of Apathy to work with success in the midst of suffering Humanity. A strong heart and Body. an indomitable Will. and the continual Consciousness of an unseen and sustaining Lord. There are few such Mydear Sarah to be found. I think your Constitution is too sensitive to enable you to follow this profession of a healer and helper in any Continuous way such as is implied in this Avocation. I would exhaust you utterly in a very short time. it needs a Bilious - Nervous temperament Yours is Sanguine - Nervous. Keen. Quick. Energetic in short period but not lasting. entirely dependent on the Flow from Heart and Brain. too much susceptible of All surroundings as influencing the Circulation of the Blood and nerve fluids. I speak with authority although unknown Because that is my own Constitution and I know Yours is the same with some modifications. Now are you in any way certain that there is any more than your natural desire to do good to and ministry the sufferings you see in the world. stimulating you to this kind of usefulness. if not pause a little. because if mainly natural strong the impulse will not last. Can if proceeding from Christian motives, and in imitation of Christ you wish to heal. to help. to support the weak in Body and Soul, to patient watch and support the suffering, to apply the healthy influence to irritated tissues of mind and Body. this requires much Endurance not only of Soul but of Body. I tell you. you are incapable of it, without a special anointing for the purpose, from the spheres of invisible Being. All the professional nurses I have seen were stout Women. of vigorous build with a certain underlying coarseness and insensibility which enabled them to do their work with efficiency without feeling much the painfull position of their patients. laughing and joking after having gone through for hours the painfull scenes of a lazar Hospital. I have seen them in good health, with unclouded brows and sparkling eyes till others succumbed to the situation, took sick and died. or left incapable to continue in it.

Now in all I have said my object is not to dissuade you from this service but rather to show you that I think you are not qualified for it. If I thought you were fitted for it I would say at once Go on. Nothing can be more noble than such service. Nothing more Christ like. In all my talk to you I have gone on the assumption that you cannot acquire any special Baptism by the more formal ceremonies and Phase Conversions of the modern Churches. You will have to do all in the natural strength of your Soul and Body. sustained, perhaps, measurably by the faith of a true devotion to the work. But I will not say but that if your faith were sufficient you might receive help occasionally. or by an unseen Laying on of hands you might be anointed to the work in such manner as would exceed all your natural Capabilities. This requires a faith which is very uncommon and it would be absurd and presumptuous to expect this through mainly natural means. And therefore not to be looked for without the previous Gift of such faith which is Alleways the first instalment of all possibilities.

If then you find such an interior drawing and devotion to the work as would assure you that this is your Vocation, I would not ask to withhold you from it. in Godds name Go. This may be one of the means intended by which you are to work out your own ~~Redemption~~ Salvation, that is, a necessary step for you in the process of your Sanctification, of your healing of your recovery from Soul sickness. so that while you nurse you also may be nursed. unto the full establishment of Soul Health, which is Holiness. I only require me to present you Going if possible I wish to present you if you have not the right motives. and wish to present you if without sufficient faith. not otherwise. and now My Dear Sarah. Examine yourself. analyze your motives. and if all are in accordance with righteousness fear nothing. But if you doubt of their being so, fear. I might say to you consider my authority as yours is the do not go, and you might obey. I shall not do so. I only advise. and my advice is, do not enter into this work as a profession.

Now let me say a little to you in reference to the importance and usefulness of your present employment. You know that it is a maxim that prevention is better than cure. A Teacher has facilities for inoculating souls with truth which become preventive of all disease. either of Soul or Body Knowledge of the Laws of Life and Health. and the spirit of Obedience for this. Also you may imitate the Saviour. who was the Teacher. Designedly inculcating at all times Obedience to the Will of the Father. Now all natural Law is the Will of the Father. nothing else. To better the Law relating in the Economy

of the Human Soul, in its Eternal Nature. ~~Endeavoring~~ Obedience is the prime step in all Holiness. Whether it relates to the Body or the Soul and you will notice that Jesus is said to have "led his disciples out as far as unto Bethany" before He left them. This really means that before leaving them to themselves He had taught them Obedience. For Bethany is, or means "the House of Obedience" For the Saviour Himself cannot save his people unless through Obedience to the Will of the Father. Then inform yourself of the Laws of Spiritual and Bodily Health in order to install, inoculate your pupils in season and out of season with the importance of Obedience to the Law of God. Then throw the Law in all cases coming up in your daily Ministrations, and while you give the sediments, and put into their Hands the instrumentalities for acquiring all Knowledge, continually teach that it is all useless and worse, unless they shall use it to the acquisition of the Knowledge of God's Will and the power to Obey that Will, & teaching that the Spirit of Health will be given to them if they shall ask it. You have proposed to yourself to give yourself up to the Ministry of those Missions & argument upon the violation of Laws. Why not give yourself up to the inculcation of Obedience? teaching the Law of Physical and Spiritual Health as paramount in this and all other Worlds, & begin to teach Christ as the preserver as well as the Healer, the Bestower of the Elixir of Life The Salt of the Universe, as he said his disciples were the Salt of the Earth, (id, est) the preservers, stayers of Corruption.

But my dear Sarah, to end all my talk on this subject I remind thee that you are physically in need of nursing yourself, instead of becoming a nurse to others, and I earnestly advise you to go into the first position.

And now I feel sorry you do not write to me. You did not write to me either when you were concocting your plans to step alone in the Millinery Business and when I did hear of it you had gone too far, and involved yourself and others in responsibilities, that are not yet Liquidated, a stigma to your Name. This is not the way to proceed in such heavy matters. I could say many more serious things yet I forbear, for your sake. Are you sure your motives for this new move are all right? do not flatter yourself, nor deceive yourself nor others. Nothing can stand the test of Judgement but righteousness. Make your paths straight and you will come out ahead whatever may be your daily Vocation.

Write me in your next if you are coming to see me soon, and when of course I have many things to say to you and talk about and would like your presence with me for some time at least, and besides I want to hear you and see you. I am satisfied you are doing all the Good you can, in the Best Way you know. But I fear these "High flying" ways. Keep nearer the Ground and you cannot fall so far. We are not Some of a Brood of Eagles

I do not need to declare my affection for you. James Christie

Rapidan, Monday Morning June 24th, 1872

To Alexander

My Dear Son

Received yours of the 16th on Thursday last. You know Sandy I am getting old and am living out the Remnants of my Constitutional Vigor, of course I am often that well enough to write. I have written a Note to Sarah, in deprecation of this hurrying Business founded on the fact that she herself is a subject for the Care of a nurse. Totally unfit for such a Laborious Business. I would not dissociate her on any other Considerations. It is indeed a Noble Mission. Christ Like Go to it Dear Sweet Sandie "The Christ" is the Alleviator, the Ameliorator of suffering the incarnation of "Remedy" the Son of man has power on Earth to forgive sins and as Expiation by Lamb to the Pharisees to restore, to Heal is forgiveness again He says "Whosoever receiveth whomsoever I send, receiveth Me" and whomever receiveth the receiveth Him that sent Me." Now if you can Joint a few scattered things together you may possibly find out Who the Son of man is. He relieves from penalty, and interposes his Body to take the Retaliation of violated Law. He is the incarnation of the Highest principle in humanity. the principle of Benevolent Love, and who could dissuade any one from devoting their Life in imitation of the perfected Man. Who has become God in the Highest. You talk of your own highest Moments. of Glimpses of a Certain Enthusiasm. of determination to the Cause of Humanity. Believe me you are then in the Mountains. Of course when you descend you get into the plains of Common feeling and Common sense. Which is Common because it is not so High. But Observe that however high any one may Climb in this Natural way he is still on the Earth. and while on the Mountain's heads the descent of that influence which is above and Apart from the Earth. the Baptism of the Spirit. When received in the Heart it is the Holy spirit in the Heart the Spirit of Holiness, The Baptism of the Affections through the Medium of Faith finally Works to the Enlightenment of the Reason because the Life principles fermentate and stimulate the intellectual powers

You see I wander. But as I was saying I could not for kill Sarah only as being unable. I did my best to deflect her intention from this purpose because of her inability. I tried to show her that in the School room she could do much Good in the way of prevention, and that she might also imitate Christ as the forerunner as well as the Worker. He who called His Disciples the "Salt of the Earth", id est. the Stayers of Corruption, the Consumers of Decay. Who Ministry is the Salt of the Universe

Your letter makes me think and I must reply to some of your conclusions. You tell me that knowledge of God is not in the possession of many. That your one answer is a confessed condition of humanity in the Scripture. Where we are further told that all that can be known of him is to be seen in his works, and that he is to be seen in the face of Jesus Christ. That the Church is his dwelling place, and his body. in short that a Redeemed and perfected humanity is his abode. We are also told that "God is Love" put a few such things together and get a conception of the inconceivable, and so have your feet shod and run no longer barefooted like a savage. We in our miserable littleness cannot contain his Idea, and reasonably ought to be content from what we do know to believe all which we do not know.

You see there that Faith which is based in Reason gives us possession of more than sight — and we walk more firmly than upon sight. Faith liberates, knowledge binds. The Buddha of this land, while Abraham ascends beyond the reach of knowledge and possesses all things. Cut loose from the fourmels of mere knowledge whatsoever and ascend by faith into the regions of the Eternal Verities. This is the place of all possibilities, because the place of Power. Where the natural is supplanted by the supernatural and Jacob son of Abraham, wields the instrumentalities of all the tribes of Israel. My Dear Sandy I speak that which is true and no lie. in a few short years it will be to you and will be literally true, for that which is the inner sense of things now will then be to us the simple perception of spiritual verity.

History nor Geography indeed, no, they can do little for us. These are the movements of the life in time and place simply. But in our Sacred Books time and place indicate the motions of the soul from condition to condition. The transition of our life into higher or lower state, let us illustrate in the Organism, If your life power moves from manifestation through the Basilar region of the brain, into manifestation itself through the Coronal Region you have changed your position, and if you have done this through repression of Alcoholism, enforced by a regular regimen. Governing yourself in purity doubtedly, you then live in Nazareth, and by consequence in Galilee which is the land of progress. The spirit of the age in which the soul lives was nursed in Nazareth. Still live in Galilee and go forward I trust on its way to Jerusalem the Holy. (in using the word "age" above I specially mean this period of Church life)

Yes, it is a hard work to take music out of bones and bristles. But what is impossible with man is altogether possible with God. I was down at the afternoons a few days ago, about that school house Grand Dad, and he was showing me. His bees and how he could by certain arrangements cause his bees to create a new Queen. I was long known the fact. But then I saw it in process the enlarged dwelling, the new food, and what else escapes our observation and it is done, the common bee egg which you manipulated without the laying on of hands, would have remained a careless laborer, to live for a few weeks and die unknowing and unknown, becomes a creature of power, a mother of nations, a Queen, a Ruler and Regulator to whom the whole tribe pays homage and yields obedience. This is a most astonishing transformation. This is a miracle, or is not, just as you choose to look at it. Just so soon as you know how, so soon as you ascertain the laws under which it is done it becomes a natural operation. and you see that it can be repeated. that it may be made a common phenomenon. The natural mind sees nothing in it. But I see the Living God in it all. He gives himself and his power to all his creatures to supply their needs. to redeem and to bless if they obedient like these bees work according to the Law made and provided before the foundation of the world. All is possible to God, and all is possible to man working through faith, according to the supernatural Law, into which if he rises, impossibilities cease to be obstacles.

Let us have faith. it is very reasonable, why Man, Peter and James and and John and Andrew, and Phillip were all born in Bethsaida. that is the "House of fishing". With the two fishes over the door as a sign. Spiritually in all productions in all power. Faith is born in the house of the Intellect the child which transcends its progenitors whose inheritance is the Everlasting Hills, the natural children of that house seek only in that ilk. But Peter born there like the others is touched from above and ascends to travel in new regions, to become citizen in the new city, a dweller in the house not made with hands eternal in the "Heavens" and there he learns new things. He sees the "Christ" he perceives the Great Law which supplements all others. the Law of Universal Love. the Outermost Circle of Life, which circumscribes the infinite and of necessity holds all within it in its power. which yet also is but the Extension of the Invisible Centre. the first and the Last, the Alpha & Omega the Beginning and the End. It is Faith my Dear Sandy which perceives the "To Ariston"

now you see what a rare that

that seems full of years has fallen on me, and it makes me proof and inspiration is difficult, you and Thomas speak of having me with you somewhere. why? I am always with you. in Spirit I could not endure being present in Body the Excitement of your Society would dissipate me. I should be Evaporated in a very short time. No! No! here I have but little to ask for. I do not need much. But I have Liberty. privacy room and I live in a World of my own. The light which shone around me once in the days of my innocent Childhood. Shines in my thoughts now in my Solitary age. for I am really alone so far as my personal life and presence is concerned. And am most happy in the World of thought. There is but one thing I ask of God. that I might be enabled to do something. However little, to the Elevation of those around me. It does not seem to me that I do. and it troubles me night and day. I wait I know not for what to enable me. Conscious of my need of something. My feet will never travel to the purple mountains of my native land again. this is but the dream of a Heart that wants Rest to do me good. I honour your intentional thought. That does me Good. If you do well it is all I ask of you. that my Children may live more useful lives than I have done. And now I must close up. (this is Wednesday morning and mail goes out to day. and I must cross to Bixby.) Daniel is finishing the partition fence out North of us. has Broke some 20 acres. I must Bribe our machine and be there at the Way. he has planked the Horse Stable and put in 4 single Stalls and 2 double ones in it Horses Back to Back. and it is Quite Roomy. he must yet Go to the Woods for stuff for new sheds and a little more Grainery. He will manage all Bank Responsibilities. and probably Write you all about it We are all in usual health. and that you know with many the Whole Human Family, is a State of Chronic sickness in Soul and Body. Yet I believe the Lump of Healthy Leaven has been put in which will Eventually leaven the Whole Lump. You see what it is to believe, how it keeps Hope (Child of Heaven) Alive. and sets Love to Work. and Remedy goes on Slowly. Yet surely Begotten by the Blessed Iris, the Unseen Moneds, does it not? "All succeeds to the Will, Because the Creator has here descended to the Old, Holy, Earth,"

And — I must bid you Good Morning. I am sorry that the Unworthiness of men will not let you Hear God and Honour the Way as St Peter and I told you to do. learn to love men for their possibilities

James Chuste

Vilas House.
DIRECTLY OPPOSITE
State Capitol and Park.
COR. MAIN ST. & WISCONSIN AVE.
P. B. Parsons & Co. Propr.s
Madison, Wis.

June 28th 1872

My Dear Sarah; [Chester]

I have been off to the N.E. of this place, looking round to see what I can to the best advantage.

Learned something about schools, places to work for board, etc.

I learn that Sun Prairie pays head teacher (there are 3 depts.) $800. per annum - 9 mos.

I have written to Hattie E. Marsh for information, and will likely apply for that place next year - Sept.

In the mean time, I have only a few dollars and must start today and find a good place to work through haying and harvest.

I would have liked to ~~have~~ study all the time except harvest, so as to take a Fourth Grade Certificate of good standing; as it is, I shall study what I can, and try for one after harvest. I have no fit

though it costs $1.50. No letter from home. Has I heard with the rest.

I got mile from last preaching and then was no other way. There is to be a lecture

Sarah

clothes for young on school business,
and should send Dave a little money
to help him over the shoals; so in
consideration of these facts, I wrote
to Uncle Dave for a loan of $50.
And he writes back, that he has drawn
no pay since March, and has recently
borrowed $50. to pay running expenses;
but expects a Qr's salary in the latter
part of July, when he thinks he could
lend me the money. That will be too late
for me; and besides, I shall not be in debt
if it can be avoided.
He writes me that he expects you to pay that
note this fall according to promise, and requested
me to speak of it if I met you. I will not stoop to the
tricking of borrowing $50. ostensibly to further my
studies, and then let it go toward that note; but if
you will make an effort to save a little, I will
see what I can do too by the time it is due.
As a last resort, (although he says he wishes to use it)
he may permit me to assume the balance of the note
and give till Spring. Now, Sarah, the thing must be
paid; I know you can not save much; do what you can,
and write me what you think you can do, however little.
I trust you would never get into such a mess again if you
were only sure of his success. Could
I work two months of this financial affair. Cannot
you sit down and write out a statement of all your
debts with time & payment, interest &c. and send it
to me? I cannot go it blind. Send such, nothing, though

Carlyle is right – "Blessed is he who has found his work" "vein" in the sense in which I use it. I felt good all afternoon; I fairly made melody in my heart, and felt all over that Thomas was right again – "Work! and therein have well-being!" "Labore est orare"; at it I went, thankful that I had been nurtured in this very school, thankful that I was not a rich man's son.

Now I was doing my part; now I was bringing order out of Chaos; now I was earning my bread, so no one could dispute it.

And there is need of activity, energy, patient labor. Let me tell you something of how the case stands. I took the notion, after Tom left, of getting help of Uncle Dave, and studying like wicked was for two months, pass examination, get a tip-top First Grade, and make sure of the Prairie School or one of like character. I wrote to him

Township of Burke, Dane Co. Wis.
June 28" 72.

My Dear Father: [James Christie]
Here I am, snug-
ly housed with Jim Whelan, 4½
miles ~~north by~~ E N.N.E. of Madison on
the Sun Prairie road, having wor-
ed my first half-day (afternoon) on
a term of two months at 27½ per
month. You were probably wonder-
ing what I was to do, and of late,
what I was doing; for I do not re-
member of writing for a long time.
I wanted to get settled somewhere,
and then let you know of my
whereabouts and what-abouts.
So here I am (an assertion always
in strict accordance with the fact)
working for the said Jim Whelan,
an Irishman, (at least by parentage)
and most probably a Catholic.
As far as I can see, he is a good
fellow; and that was the under-
standing when we talked it
over. And now of what I
have been doing since Saturday

22d the day Tom and Carmelite left for Rockford. You must know that Tom was tight run to pay his indebtedness in Madison indeed, I believe he has bills which must stand over till he gets the money; so he could not spare me anything, having barely enough to take himself and to Rockford. I gave lessons in Arith. and Alg. to a boy, and got $10. from him, and Tom lets what I owe him stand over till I can pay it. (though you know, he is hard run himself) I had some little things to get, so when they left, I had about $8.50 I would have liked to see Sun Prairie and Clyman; but I had no fit clothes, that suit which I got (with the exception of the vest) being pretty far gone — poor stuff it was. I finally concluded to stay a day or two in the house and see whether something would turn up. That's all nonsense, they must be turned up. I left with my valise on Tuesday at noon on the Sun Prairie road, and got back to Madison last night (Thursday) having made a peregrination to the N.E. and E, in the Marshall, Cottage Grove and Blooming Grove regions, only going within sight of Sun Prairie. I do not intend to go there till I have a good suit on, for I intend applying for the highest dept. of the school when I do go. They pay, I understand, about $800. for a year of 9 mos. I got back to Madison Thursday night, and as there was no other way I went to the Hotel which cost me $1.50. This morning I started out again, and after talking about 4½ miles, I hit on Jim, and we soon came to terms in the middle of a large field of red clover which needing tending to badly. What a luxury it was to take hold of a pitchfork and go to work again! What a road out of trouble it is, too,

for $50. (you see I need clothes besides running expenses, and ought to send Dave something.) Uncle wrote back that he has not drawn a cent of salary since March, has recently borrowed $50. for his own expenses; but thought he would be paid about 20th July, when he would try to spare the amount. He said he expected Sarah to pay the note ($50.) this fall, as he would need the money, and told me to tell her if I saw her.

The fact of the matter is, Uncle Dave is run close, and ought to be getting out of patience.

Of course, I wrote him that I would not take the loan in July, but that another way had opened up, without my running in debt; and was sorry I had troubled him, considering all the circumstances.

Sarah will not be able on her pittance to save half of it. I wrote her to make an effort, and I would do what I could. I intend to see Uncle paid; for Sarah needs the help, and he has not been used right.

I'll never go against my principles again and try to borrow money to spend instead of earning it. You see I don't blame Uncle D. a bit. He is willing to put himself a little out of his way to oblige us; but he is beginning to think that Sarah will never be able to pay him a cent.

I am glad he could not send me any: it would have been a mistake on my part.

I'll be earning a little, and not running deeper in debt; and I'll do what I can at the books and take a First Grade Lic. warrant.

I don't want you to feel bad about these financial matters; I write of them because I don't wish any mysteries to enshroud my doings; nor is there anything to fret about — rather good grounds for rejoicing. I actually believe that Sarah would never get into such a fix again, and isn't that a good thing?

I feel quite courageous about it. If I can get even $60. — and if I can't, I'll take to farming in disgust at schoolteaching) I will have a large margin to devote to putting our family to rights with the world.

I'm glad to hear of the crop prospect in Maine, and hope Dan's health will keep good, things go on nicely, and our noses get above water. If it were possible, I would send Dan some money to help over the shoals; but I am here among strangers whom I could not ask to lend at pay in advance, or anything of that sort, even if they had it.

However, I want Dan to tell me what his prospects are of meeting the obligations; and if he gets in a desperate fix I'll try Charlie, or Hattie, or some of them for a few dollars. If they have it, they ought to lend it to us.

I tell you Father will get our

Does above water look?

There's virtue in hard knocks: Tom is doing his best, and is doing well; and he has the true ring in him; and so has Carmelite. He will have $100 next year at Madison, if he wishes to stay. He was assured of that just before he left, and it is probable he will accept of it.

My conscience feels easy tonight, and my arms are not sore: ah, what a glorious thing to be brought up as to be "King of two hands" when there is need of them.

I felt all afternoon as if I was along side of Dave, working out our financial salvation. I'm sick of towns — the bustle of the streets, the busy mart (busy cheating each other) and the Rialto.

My Post office is still Madison.

I want Dave to sit up all night Saturday (I'm an Irishman now) and write me a letter. He needn't spend 10 minutes on a word trying to make it look like Spencer: It will be Dave, hand and voice after all; and that's what I want.

Beloit - Wisconsin
Sunday. June 30th 1872.

My Dear Father,

I have now two letters from you this month - one bearing date of June 1st and the last rec'd yesterday - June 21st. - In the first - you speak as if you thought I attended Tom's marriage. But - I did not see them until afterwards in Madison when I spent - a week of my vacation there. - I hope Mother is well - also Emma Dave and the precious baby. - I have not even seen a baby for so long - that - the sight - of little James will be not - only a source of pleasure, but - a curiosity. - Here, when you go to see people - you are shown into - the parlor - so that - if there is a baby in the house, you never get - a glimpse of it. - Now about - my

going up it is barely possible that I may not - I want to very much more indeed than I could express. but if I can find employment here of any kind, I will probably remain here during vacation - Now the reasons why I have not written are various - In the first place you asked me what I intended doing: and until I had decided, I did not care to write - in the next place this last term is always a hard one preparing one pupils for the final examination of the year - and having frequent written examinations - then this last year or so, I have taken a very great dislike to writing - and again I have thought so much, that I fell as if I once took up a pen to write to you - I could'nt possibly stop short of several sheets, and in my wearied state of mind and body (though a pleasure in one sense) I dreaded the labor of it. - And now today, I will say little as possible for I am unequal to more. -

Alexander has been rather premature in the impression he has given you - I did not speak of Roosevelt particularly - indeed I spoke more of being trained in the Hospitals of London, and among the Bible women there - I have taken no step in any direction - that is the kind of labor I have always had a strong desire for - ever since I was in Fox Lake. - but had just about given it up - thinking there was no opportunity, at least in Congregationalism. I had decided to offer myself to the American Board for work in foreign lands - and would have done so had it not been for Prof. Hendrickson - We are good friends and had often talked ~~so~~ ~~such~~ about such work. - and he knew my preference for the other - So when I told him my my decision, he very earnestly counseled me to wait - to take time - for more thought - previous to taking such

a decisive step - to wait until I had seen you. and then - if all were propitious ~~to~~ was time enough - The very next day a book came to my hand, that changed me back to my old ground - It was the life of a Miss Agnes Elizabeth Jones - the book entitled "Ina and her Pauper" - The reading of it made me feel all my old strong desire for such a work among the poor - and now, I feel I cannot give up that thought - for anything the world could give me - Miss Jones was a native of the north of Ireland - her home was at Tahan on the shore of Lough Swilly - She lived there and labored among the poor Irish until she was 28 years of age - She then went to Kaiserwerth to Parson Fliedner - where she remained 3 months - from there to the Bible women of London for a few months and after spent a year in St Thomas' hospital - and finally, to a large work-house of Liverpool of which she had the superintendance - and where she died, only a few months ago - after having done a glorious work in the short time of three years.

She was an extraordinary woman. There are few like her in the world.-
Now as to my motives. I do not think that at all times it is best to analyze too closely, or criticise our motives or our feelings for leads to wrong results sometimes. it seems to me that if we have a strong desire for the work, and a growing desire, are willing to give ourselves to it. that it could not be there unless God himself had planted such desire. Such strong direction, comes not from the heart of man. but is the work of a Higher Power than we ourselves. I think there is no mistaking that:. I know our hearts are deceitful, but we can trust and follow God. when He leads us:. Such promptings and drawings to a life of self-sacrifice, cannot come from below. for they inevitably lead to the Highest:. I have studied and thought it all out in and for myself.
The way I feel, is this. My years are passing rapidly away. My life so far has been a willfully and blindly misguided and misdirected one. Myself to blame. and

now when I have seen the folly and
am seeing the folly and sin of the world
every day - I wish to give my life to the
only work in which there is satisfaction -
That is, work for the Master - for the
coming of His Kingdom - It is not a giving
on my part - it is His due - If I am a
Christian if I am His - then I have no
right to dispose of myself in any other
way than in His work. - He has bought
me, and I am His - no half service will
do - it must be the life - an entire
consecration to His work - This superfi-
cial life. going to church. and living un-
pectably like one neighbors - nominally
Christians, bearing his name - without carrying
the Cross - I feel in my heart = is almost
an entire shame and pretense. - Being
comfortable - our minds at rest = in quie-
cence while the world is teeming over
with the work to be done - the world full
of sin and misery in every shape and form
I have waited as long as I can pattern

and the work is waiting for me. -
I feel within myself that - I have great
power in certain direction - and it was
given me for use. - Sufficient - unto the
day is the evil thereof. If I seem not
to have now the strength that is needed
for such labor - I can trust - God for it
when required - and it will be given - I
can feel it - that - it is so. -
I have written much more now than
I intended to when I sat down - There
are always some things that - I shrink
from saying much about - they seem too
sacred. - I only tell you how I feel
on this subject = with the reservation that
if you object - I obey - There are many
things I would like to speak of - some
in your letter - but cannot now - if
I decide to go up I will let you know
in about a week - Tom and Carrie
are down at her father - Alexander is
about Madison - He wrote me last night - he
would write to you when he had some settled
work - He is looking for permanent work for the
summer and also for a school in the fall I

think - Give my love to all - I so long
to see you Affectionately. Your daughter -
- Sarah. -

[July, 1872]

Dear Father.

Thomas has left this letter for me to finish, because I could not think of allowing it to be mailed without adding my line. I should have written you last week had writing material been available. The long letter you wrote us shortly before we left Madison touched my heart because it seemed so full of tender forethought in reference to my comfort and welfare.

It hurts my feelings more than others know to have those whom I love act on the supposition that I have in my composition less of human nature than other mortals, thus losing sight of the fact that self-sacrifice is a struggle for me and contrary to my nature.

I wonder if all lovers live as we did, in an ideal world, and

loving and worshipping that which is but ideal scarcely catching glimpses of the actual! We knew almost nothing of one another. At least I knew little of him. How could he know me when I was not myself but one transformed as it were, by the magic influence of love. Happy are they, who like us, find as the ideal melts before the intimacy of married life, that which is more worthy of love, more needful of sympathy, even though mingled with what we must pity and forgive. – The Lord did not direct our lives so that they met and flowed together because we were perfect and that we might continually hit in admiration the one of the other. but rather because we were so weak, so empty so needful of the help and mutual sympathy we each of us required for the moulding and

taken it upon himself to accomplish. My bringing up has been so peculiar that in some respects it is hard for me to sympathize with things and persons where they seem to be guided by impulse – contrary to what seems just to others concerned, rather than by close and judicious reasoning. – I sometimes wish I could go singing through the world as unconscious of care as I am appears to be, but might not some one to keep accounts and plans for the future! "God helps those who help themselves."

There are times when I fear it was not true love that prompted me to yield to Jim's entreaties to marry him now instead of when he should have completed his Seminary course. I ask myself, if because I loved him so, I lost sight of his highest good

and ~~hence I~~ longed for closest sympathy with him, consented to become a burden to him. — If I cannot prove myself of service to him I shall deplore the weakness that led me to the step which made me a destitute one.

You see father, how weak my faith is and yet I am constantly trying to look up into God's face trustingly. God seems a great way off today and my way very dark.

Perhaps I ought not to have written you when my heart was in such a turmoil and so sore from its own lashings.

It does us good sometimes to open our hearts even to those whom we have not seen yet love. — This letter which has so plainly photographed my weaknesses, will perhaps come into your life as a discordant note, making you to realize as you have not before, what an unworthy daughter you have in me, instead of the strong and truly womanly heart your son needs for his help-meet.

Do not be impatient with me but consider that three months have not yet passed since my 20th birthday.

I am anxious to hear from Alex, for my interest in him became very deep, and with Thomas I sincerely desire to see him brought to the glorious light of the Truth.

Please regard this letter as private. If its spirit does not in your judgement appear Christian do not mention the fact to Tom, but reproach me. Ken would not allow me to write you such a letter were he here.

Give my love to Mother Christie, remember me to David and Emma and kiss their little treasure for me.

I am your affectionate daughter
Carmelite.

Thinks I should be home to do Christ's work in Christ's way. Alluding to Tom's illness

building up of our characters and the strengthening of our hands for our great life-work in his Kingdom.
Marriage has by no means transformed me: it has simply transferred my selfishness to a further object - from myself to my husband.
As for myself, I feel that any thing I can do or endure for his sake will be a pleasure, but my heart rises up in bitterness and rebellion against against that which hinders him as he struggles on towards the calling which the heart bids him follow.
Already a mountain (of debt,) stands before us which must be beaten down ere we reach the goal. - I do not think Tom sees, or seeing does not realize, as I do, the struggle before us. Perhaps it is well that he does not. I know that my life would be brighter if its shadow,

which always hamts me, word re-
mord. Thomas seems to me, so daring,
so confident in his strength to do
anything, to even be ready to increase
burdens, that his conduct, often looks to me
like bold presumption.
Just as I fancy I have solved men-
tally the problem of our difficulties,
arriving at some vague conclusion,
some new cross comes to figure in the
sum of our trials.
And now dear father, you will moder-
stand why it is, and I trust you will
forgive me, that I cannot believe with
Thomas that duty calls upon him
to help Sarah unless it is impossi-
ble for her to help herself. I am
willing he should help her in her
immediate necessity for means
with which to reach home, but I do
not think it quite right for him to
plan more than he has already

Madison Wis. July 4th 72.

My dear Father, [Jones Christie]

When I came in this morning, I found yours of June 24th waiting for me. It was refreshed by it, and will go on hopefully for a week on the stimulus it afforded. The man of faith is right — You are right, and I will be some day.

I want you to write me such a letter once a fortnight at least. I really need one every day.

I am hired, as I think I wrote you, to an Irishman 4½ miles toward Dane Prairie — $55 for two months, beginning June 28th at noon.

I like the place very well and am more than a match for the work; — fine thing to be brought up to a life of toil! Madison is the scene of great commotion this day. You will read of it — reunion of Army of Tenn. — Sheridan, Hurlbut, etc, are here, but no Grant, no Sherman. I am writing in the back part of a book-store and paying no attention whatever to the affair.

The fact is, such things have lost their interest for me now; I think more of a letter from you than all the speechifying by all the Generals this side the water.

Sarah may be on the road to you, for aught I know.

I want you to talk it into her to let me help her out of trouble as fast as my circumstances will permit, and have her go into the schoolteaching along with me, so soon as I can bring it around.

Sarah got into debt through those very qualities of heart which the world is much in want of — and she must let me give her a hand. 18 months will do it all. Talk her out of the going abroad and

mission work. Her mission is here in the School, or married.

I am going in on the teaching for a year or two at least, perhaps always, but do not intend going to College — the life dont suit me.

Make Sarah feel hopeful. Feel hopeful yourself — we are all coming out right in a while.

I am strong and hardy.

Write to Madison - Box 1633.

You must write. I am in a hurry — this is third letter today, so Good Bye and a blessing on you all

Sandy.

Madison Wis. July 4th 72.

My Dear Sister, [Sarah Christie]

Your's of June 30th was in the box this morning. You write wildly. I must tell you something of myself.

I will be able to do but little for you unless I get a school this fall, and even if I do, I will not get hold of more money than will put my own affairs in running order. But with the prospect of pay. in Spring or next summer, I can borrow a little. Next year I can do more, and a little for Father's comfort, besides putting myself on a better way.

But let me tell you, I will always be miserable if you do not let me help you out of

your present troubles, and I shall surely expend my energies helping some one; why not you first? I intend going through this life trying to make things better than they are, and the people in the world happier; and my first duty is to put you right with the world in so far as I can. I do not intend to go to College any more, and would not were I free and my pockets full of money. I don't like the life; I like to do my days work, sit down to my books, learn something new, use it next day, and so go on using what little knowledge I have gained. I have been

blessed in this method more than in any other, and I shall follow it.

Don't you feel as if your debts were a desperate affair. They will be things of the past in 18 months, or I am not an Arithmetician; and then I want you to continue on with me in the work of doing what we can for poor humanity.

You'll have opportunity enough to do more for others than was ever done for you, and so why object to a helping hand? Do you remember the potato-patch west of the South Grove, where you, Tom, and I hoed 105 hills the first day, and you and I hoed

105 apiece each day after till all were done? I believe you and I can live that glorious life of effort over again, and make of this weedy, noxious world a green, fruitful garden wherever we go. Strike hands with me on this, and let us begin by laying our plans for the morrow while we do the work of to-day. I know Father would be rejoiced; for he lives only to see us do well. I propose that we teach school till something better turns up, though I doubt our ability to serve our cause in any better way. Let us give our lives to doing good; to this consecration has God been leading us up ever since we first saw the light. Misery struck Ireland far away and long ago, and our lives will

see a miserable failure if we do less. Don't be uncharitable toward Tom. I know he will work paying off those debts till not a cent stands recorded against either of you, come what may.

I got a glorious, long letter from Father, and will answer today.

They are in good health, and everything is prospering finely.

Go up and see them; it will do Father so much good in his weakness and loneliness; but I cannot see you ere you go.

I am working for a farmer between this and Sun P. $5

for two months commencing June 28th at noon.

I am stout and hearty, enjoying the work and the prospect for the future, revelling in plans for the year to come; and you will hurt me very much if you do not join me in my views of things. Tell Father to cheer up, hide nothing from him, give Dan and Emma encouragement, and Mother a helping hand and a kindly word; and I will see you when you return. Say nothing out there of my affairs; let the dead past bury its dead.

The streets are full of noise. You will read of the day here. I care not for their affairs and am writing in the bookstore without once looking out. Yours Sandy

Mich. Cen. R. R.
July 8th 1872.

My dear Miss Christie: [Sarah]

It is too hot & dusty to sit idle, and I don't feel like reading, so I will commence the promised letter, although I don't think the prospect of your being able to read it are very encouraging. I reached Chicago all safe Friday noon, and found in the depot Willie White, a little boy who had been in our school for a while after the fire long enough for me to become

quite attached to him. I
also found an acquaintance
from Rockford in the depot.
Arriving at my friend's
there was a lady who had
come in on the same train
with myself, a teacher from
Fox Lake, Miss Henry.
Sunday I attended church
at the new Union Park
church, and in the after
noon three cousins of mine
came up. This morning
I had a series of adven-
tures in getting to the
depot, and was sure I
should not get here in
time, but with my usual
good fortune I did and
here I am, just past
Mich. City, on my way
east. As I entered the car
the first person I saw was
one of the Rockford teach-
ers who is on her way to
Vt. and we go as far as
Burlington in company.
I did not get a teachers
convention ~~ticket~~ for
they said we had to go
~~to~~ Boston to get the
return ticket so I got
a round ticket by the
Grand Trunk R.R. for
$27.00, and hope to sell
the ticket from Rutland
to Boston.
The country we are pass-
ing is very uninteresting
very flat and not high-
ly cultivated, but redeem-
ed by occasional ~~plumbers~~

glimpses of the lake. Along in the shores of the lake are frequent sand hills, perfectly bare and dreary.

Since I got my ticket-checker than I expected to, I indulged in another book on insects but it is not suitable for R. R. reading, & I haven't much of anything that is.

Sunday. At Home.

It seems my letter did not make much progress on the cars, I guess I had too many commenced for any of them to be very full. After the first night, I found myself quite inclined to doze

I finished my letter in pencil because it was begun so.

during the day, unless the scenery was interesting. The first part of the way it was very tame, but in the eastern part of Michigan it began to grow more inviting, and after we passed Sarnia in Canada it was generally quite pleasant to look at. I enjoyed the part of my journey which lay through Vermont very much, as it was a road I had never been on before and abounded in in views of mountains, ravines rivers with high, rocky banks hills and meadows dotted

over with beautiful elms &c. &c.
I reached home Wednesday
noon, tired and decidedly
soiled, but I am now rested
and ready to begin work
tomorrow in good earnest.
I have just made a beginning
in the books on Entomology
which I wish to read this
vacation, I am afraid my
courage isn't quite screwed to
the sticking point yet, but I
suppose I shall begin tomor-
row to tighten it.
I wish I could see you and
talk instead of writing. I
shall be anxious to know
whether you decide to return
to Beloit or not, I hope for
my own sake that you will, but
I know that it would be very
unpleasant for you if things
continue as they have been,
I hope next year to have more
time to read, and I have thought
it would be very pleasant
if we could read some of
the same things.
We had Prof. Bordman of
Chicago to preach for us
today, I wanted very much
to go up and speak to him
What a trouble these social
formalities are! And yet, I
suppose we should be worse
troubled without them.
So you know, my brother is
talking me over onto the
side of Greeley! You may
conclude I had no definite
opinions if I could be so
easily turned. Well, I haven't

taken much interest in the presidential campaign, but I am beginning to think that I must wake up and find out what it is all about. The church bells are tolling, but I do not heed them. I think it is delightful to stay at home Sunday evenings. The air, trees and mountains of my native state seem just as delightful as ever. I wish you could enjoy them with me for a while.
I wish my letter were a better one, but I know you will return good for evil, so I at least shall fare well.

Yours with love,

Ellen E. Murriam

Rutland Vt.

July 15. 1872.

Allen's Grove, Wis.

My Dear Father: [James Christie]

This little village is 16 miles East of Beloit. Carrie's father was pastor here for two years, and she came out to visit old friends last week, I following on Saturday. My travel costs me nothing, as I rode Pet up from Amboy to Beloit & thence here. Sold her today, poor thing, in Clinton, nearby, for $45.00. It is all she is worth – for she has developed a very balky disposition, and is not good for much except to ride. Her colt is in Amboy on Mr. Brewer's farm, & is a noble little animal. If Pet had not been balky I could have got $75.00 for her. As it was, she was a continual expense to me or to some one else, & was doing nothing I was

very sorry to part with her, but it could not be helped, and I have got all she was worth. Before I left Madison they offered me $1,000 to stay next year. I did not bind myself. Came home M. to Rockford in the end of June, and stayed there a week, being on the Examining Committee at the Seminary. Went thence to Amboy and spent a week in the corn field with Mr Brewer. Then saddled Pet & rode to Beloit, camping out on the way. Learnedite I sent for afterward to help decide on the plans for next year.

I wrote account of Commencement for the Mil Sentinel. Am to be in Beloit next year at $1,000 as assistant in the Preparatory Dept. Am also appointed to travel this summer over the Southern part of the state, and collect unpaid subscriptions for the College. I start tomorrow. C. will stay at home until we can begin housekeeping at Beloit. She is a model of economy: I never saw any one who could use money so judiciously. Our expenses next year will be – room, and kitchen privileges, $90.00 Table Board – cooking for ourselves – $100.00 (I will have Dave send me a barrel of Minnesota flour if crops are good.) Fuel – $25.00; Washing $20.00.

These are the great expenses, $285.00 Clothes, books, travel &c will perhaps add another hundred. We guard all these things most carefully, and yet I shall be well satisfied if we may save $600.00 during the year.

It is a satisfaction to have a place to work so good as that in which I shall stand, as well as to feel that one is prepared to do some good in it.

While I am traveling this summer I shall be able to look up places for Sandy and Sarah. I have twice written to brother Alec: he is now near Madison on a farm: It

I think we can get along with less than this sum if we make just every penny go as far as it will go. Yr $85.00

is his intention to teach a good school next winter. I shall see him at sometime through the vacation. Sarah is yet in B. but expects to start for your place about next Monday - seeing Alice on the way. It is not her intention to stay in B. next year, as the salary is so low; her work is worth double what is paid for it at present. You see, my dear father, we are all in some sense together yet, and mutually helpful. I hope to see Alice with me for steady a part of next year, and Sarah will not be very far off. I do not think of going to the Seminary within less than two years, perhaps three; but I am content. My domestic happiness is secure; I have a home, and my work as a teacher is a good work. What more could I desire? My conscience approves my course day by day, and I feel that God is blessing me in all that I lay my hands to. I want to help Sarah, and I want to see Sandy well launched into a good and useful career. With Carmelite beside me, and myself all ready to step into Seminary study at any time, I shall be full of happiness and contentment through all the waiting and working of the near future. I have health and

Madison, Afternoon July 16 '72.

My dear Sister: [Sarah Christie]

Tom's note of 13th rec^d. In it he informs me of his appointment at B. and of your going to Maine. I came into town today, having given up my engagement for work on account of my being kicked by a horse on the 13th. Not dangerously, but bad enough to authorize my lying round for some time; and so I packed up and will take the train tonight at 1 o'clock for Sun Prairie, where I may stay a day or two — how long, will depend upon whether they are glad to see me or not.

Don't make any calculations to see me here, for your letter may not reach me in time, and I am out of money to pay fare.

Go on to Minnesota; and my advice to you is, not to meddle with any other body's business, however much you think it is needed; create no fresh wounds, nither open any old sores; but act with that wisdom which Divine has surely brought to you.

Dave writes of the generous crops; and so things will begin to mend, wherever money can mend them; and nowhere more can this be done than in Father's clothing. When I left, he had barely rags. We were all in much the same fix, but it is hard to see Father thus.

Dave has so much to pay out, that he will not be able to do much in that line for a year; but if I have the fortune to get a small school, we will see to it before winter sets in.

As to the appearance of the house, its hard to keep such a place in order. Still, a little scrubbing, a little time and place, etc, might mend matters.

But you must make allowances; hard work, early and late, poverty, etc, go a far way to make things depart from the ideal; and it is still worse

if there be no ideal.

Be helpful - wisely. Keep Father cheerful; — you cannot do it more certainly than by showing him that you are profited by a hard experience.

Don't worry either yourself or him with mission talk; that style of aspiration is a weakness in our family. One Christie born into the world is worth more to it than all one can do for this heartless race of beings we walk among. Graft apple buds on cast-iron pillars, I'm more and more a misanthrope. If you wish to do anything for me, treat Henry Dyer as he treated me, like a brother and don't forget that his wife was my friend. Further than this do nothing, say nothing, know nothing.

Give my best love to all our kith and kin, and don't pass by Will and Mary. Yours affe-

Sandy

Beloit Wis.
July 17. 1872.

My Dear Father. [James Christie]

I have been reappointed to some place here in School. but have sent refusal to accept to the Board. I must make more money another year. Tom and I have written to ten different Principals and Superintendents for position for me for next year. and I will stay here another week at least to receive replies and it may be that some of them will want to see me previous to hiring. so I cannot say definitely when you will see me. but it will be soon as I can make it possible. And I will write you note again at the close of this week. and previous to starting so you will know when to expect me.—

Carrie is visiting friends at Clinton and Allen's Grove. Tom started this afternoon to travel for the College. collecting their old

outlying subscriptions - selling scholarships drumming up young men for the college &c - Tom has written you I believe of being hired here to teach next year in the Preparatory Department - Salary $1000. Lannie and he have hired rooms and will board themselves - Sandy wrote me Lally is well - working for an Irishman 1½ miles from Madison on Sun Prairie road - 2 months for $55. I will see him and the boys before going home if possible - My love to all - and hoping to see you before many weeks - Annie is at Prof. Emerson's since commencement - ~~staying~~ serving for her board and studying - where she will remain until fall probably - With love -

Sarah -

Rapidan. July 19th 1872

My Dear Sandy

I received your letter of the 4th and 9th last week. I am pleased to hear you are well and able for the work you have engaged to do. We are all fine in the usual state. The work goes on very well so far. David has Barney to help him making hay, having first put up a stack for Barney of some 10 tons. He assisting David to make all of this for that. David has now put up also some 14 or 15 for himself. The Barley is in the stack. 3 acres probably going 40 or 45 bush to the acre. Barney is to get 2.50 per day through harvest, and is yet the only man David has hired. Help is very scarce, and wages will be high. The home folks all being absorbed by the N.P.R.R. The crop of wheat looks certain for 20 bushels just now, and will be about 8 or 10 days completing itself yet. Oats likely 70 bushels and some cut yet, no potato bug. May crop good. David thinks he will put up all he needs before Herbert's. Little Jamie in usual health.

Sarah I judge not coming up. I expect to know definitely to-morrow. Insists in her last letter of 2 weeks ago that she must go into this missing mission. Yet says that if I forbid her she will not. I cannot forbid her further than showing her she is not qualified physically, and that she may do much good work as a teacher. Prevention is better than cure. And all good teaching, keeps both the physical and moral faculties in a state of collapse.

Poor Tom I have received no letter since his page in yours at Madison. I excuse Tom's defective literary. I know his whole working capacity is taxed at all times about as much as it will bear. He has high motives, and considers that all he is able to do is requisite of him. He is right, and I have no fear for him. Yet I sympathize with him in all his trouble. And I believe he has many. Marriage has added to them. Yet I believe it was necessary, but he will have trouble in his family, and he will feel again as St Paul said so truly. Not that I deprecate marriage. But deprecate its necessity especially for Christian workers. Very different are these days from Apostolic usage indeed.

When they went out single although not singly. Yet when their Lanthorns were on All their Grandeur was Lost, and the Letter Itself Gist up. The ~~Vanishing~~ Nine always they Go to their Work Merrily. Establish the Church as the big Gun of Christian Civilization and from that Battle the Strongholds of Satan, Christianity is consequently Exhibited in its Sweetest Guise as allowing and Endorsing All the Natural functions of Man, in a Wise and Temperate Life. And there is as much if not more Vision in this Age as that. Yet All this will again Change, and they will probably perceive that Generations Would better be observed until Regeneration. That they perceive now possibly, and are forced to tolerate What they Cannot Exterminate. Nevertheless, this is the root of the pure Corps of Humanity, it is miserable in Reality, Because of the Power of prior Devil. This is the panacea of Human Ill, to make Holy the Real, for as you have so shall you reap. If Adam and Eve had not Gone to Mount Sinai in the Woods the Whole trouble would have been removed again and I am for bidden Ground. Regeneration is a little Work, is it not, in a few lessons. (Now true a language is homely and idiomatic English) it is natural, practic, Correspondential, because the but Growth of a Plant that Dies.

Your Dreams, Well, I am no Chaldacean But your Dreams Was true. God, Shall I say it, instructs us in Dreams Shows us in dreaming. Shows us Who and What he Are. This is instructive Yes I believe You are in "Galilee" spiritual progress, Within hight and Sound of its murmuring Waters, and its Waves Lect its shore between You and the rising Sun. Although You must Correct its spiritual Geography by Your Natural Knowledge. Thus You were permitted to Cognize in Order to fit in Your Working Knowledge, its Spiritual Aspect. Have faith and You will Get to a Side of it Where there will not be so much debris around You. Trees are Earthly passions. And its inability Waves shall deadened some of them They will Topple over by and bye. and You may Get more to the right of Where You now Stand, and be Where You thought Bleisdell lay and hear the Music of its Waters. and Yet Remember You thought You did not believe, there again You were Shown Your Natural true Condition and You Wished to bring a pebble, a Concreted Fact, isolated a thing to be carried in the pocket. (of memory) polished in the sea of forgetfulness by Constant Usage. The Current Cries of its Shores. and You some how did not Get it. I found it for You however and fixed it in Your Fractional prayer of the night before. It is this, "that God answers prayer" do not throw this little pebble away. it may yet be used by You to Kill Your Goliath

You did not see the extent of the sea. No. Who does? You need not be looking for the proximate Cause of your dreams. The Spirit takes Whatever Condition of Bodily State to teach by. as witness Peter. Hungry. Waiting for dinner. occupying himself in prayer and Behold the State of his Stomach became the foundation for a lesson in Christian Love and Liberality. He went up to the House top, to pray a narrow Minded Jew, a narrow hearted disciple and Came down Large hearted and Liberalized, a New Man, Complying Also the Man to Whom he was sent. ~~He~~ He an hungered him. Was Spiritual hunger and he also had his Vision. All in Conformity with his Condition. This is a Materialistic Age. its Scientists must touch dirt, before they Can believe anything, and there plenty Where Twelve on it. they are Nothing Else. if the physiology of Man were fully understood the might find the Clue to the mirrle and mystery of dreams. But the Known truth lies there somewhere and Some have. and therefore the believe in opite of the Ignorance of Science. A true Faith is the Line Laid down and is far enough from Superstition. I am not afraid of being Called superstitious, I know too much. not to believe. I believe because I know. they disbelieve because they are ignorant.

Now I only I feel Wearied, and must perforce close up and Walk over to Big Ly's. I have written two Shets to You before this and there perspired them. It is Well to Wait, was Waiting; a day or two to heaven. Green thought sometimes Crack and are not Good for Good. Half Vision, Aberrated by Semi Opaque Eyes is sometimes dangerous, Ophthalmic Optics are not at all times to be trusted. Continue to Write to me. My Dear Boy although I do not at all times reply. You know my Weaknesses. and in them must and will find Excuse for me.

Believe me always deeply interested in Your Welfare I intend Going down to Dyer next Week and have this take and Acknowledgment of a Deed I have filled up for you And I will hear of no Caveat from You Be Silent I must do this and not be taken some day unawares. leaving things at odds and Ends.

Yours in All Truth

James Christie

Beloit - Wis -
Sat: Eve. July 20th 1872.

My Dear Father. [James Christie]

I hope you are not looking out for me every day - for I have just about given up seeing you at all this summer - It is really so sickening as it is to me to think of - but my first duty is to secure a place for next year - And having written so many letters of inquiry as Tom and I did - I want to get the answers here for before being hired I may have to go away somewhere to attend an Examination - and it wouldn't do to be so far away, besides it would take so much longer to exchange letters over & up there - and I want to know something a little more definite before leaving here. - I had five answers to the letters

already - nothing very satisfactory in any of them - merely asking questions - as to my teaching - and for testimonials. -

Had a letter from Tom last night - was in Delavan at O.S. Smith's his classmate. - If you have anything to say to him - write to Union Grove, Racine Co - Care of A.D. Adams - and if he has gone further when your letter arrives - A.D. would forward it. - Or address him here, and I will forward to him. -

You are making hay now I suppose - and it is almost time for harvest. - You must miss Alexander very much. - I wish I could be there and that you would let me drive the reaper - Well. I will see what another week does for me here - but I have small hopes of getting up there this summer now. - I am expecting a letter from you every day - Write me note soon as you get this - and I will get it before I can leave here even if I go - With Love to all.

Sarah. -

Berlin July the 21 1872

Dear friend & brother [W. E. Stevens]

It is with pleasure that I again seat myself to address you after so long a time but we have long looked for some word from you till we have come to almost fear you have forgotten us we are all well and hope soon to hear the same from you and yours also to hear how you are prospering in worldly as well as in spiritual matters for I feel that the day is fast approaching when you and I shall have to render up our accounts to our great judge let us try so to live as to meet our dear departed friends in a happy land free from the cares and sorrows of this world Lydia writes to Fran about you in almost every

letter I suppose you knew she was married again she is now the wife of the Res Bela Cogswell of East spring hill Bradford Co Penn says she has a splended home & one of the best of husbands they talk of coming west before long Mother wishes me to get your childrens names and ages written off like a family record for her she is about to make her will in which they will be remembered she made the request some months ago I hope you will be so kind as to send it as soon as possible & I will forward it to her immediately on its receipt as I am about to write her soon she is living alone in her old home but I expect to any day hear of her death she is nearly 84 years old our neighbours about us are all pretty well Matthew Betsy is dead Mr W Bush has lately buried his third & wife Stephen Starks has been married to his third wife about a month his & one having been dead 5 month you would without doubt discover many changes since you left here but I presume I should see greater ones in your place if I could visit it again which I do not now expect to do we would be very happy to see you all again we went to visit your brother Vincent & family in March last found them well & prospering I had the pleasure of reading some letters from your children just received by Thares hope they have not forgotten Thare Smith cousins who would be verry glad to hear from them, Buell & Estella, De Etta & Duwitt. has anxiously looked for an answer from thare last winters letters to you I hope you will write them soon & also to aunt Mary Ann tell us all about every thing it will interest us verry much to know if

These letters into Japan for Ada & Alfred

either of you are nearly ready to go
to teaching school or if Miss C has any
Beaux yet also if you have a new
mother yet & if you grow any apples
yet tell is every thing you can
think of I remember you all just as you
looked 7 years ago I wish you would send
us your pictures and we will do the same
some time we expect to commence
our harvest tomarrow Wm how is your
crops I presume you will have a great
harvest we understood you did last year
the wheat crop has not been verry large
here the past few years so consequently
we have not grown verry rich I believe
I have written all the news give my best respects
to Mr & Mrs Hoover & family tell them I want
to hear from them also the Everhearts
please write soon as you receive this
Yours verry respectfully Mary A White.

Frances & Ada must not fail to put in

[ca July 9, 1872]

There is much that, being nothing stuff, yet attracts attention by donning a foreign costume. If there was but one language, meritorious sayings and writings would be better known.

You asked in a former letter, what took me to Longfellow's. I can give you the filling; but I may say here that Helen had sent him specimens of her poems for his advice, and wished to see him herself. Some of her pieces have merit - Longfellow himself said that - but others that she sent were trashy; and in my opinion she ought not to have troubled him with them. However, when she came to Cambridge and told me she was going to see him; since I had once foolishly offered to go with her, - to keep my word, to do her a favor, who, poor woman, has nothing else to dote upon but her rhymes, to see that the interview should be short enough to be witty, and last and least, to see the poet, - for these reasons I went. And thanks be to the rapidity of a second-watch, nothing ridiculous took place in the foreground, and the

poet was not displeased. In fact he was very cordial, actually so. He granted the interview and he granted it graciously and as the grand old man does everything - gracefully. We were not there ten minutes, and if Longfellow could know how much good it did Helen, he certainly would not grudge the time. I am not easily upset, - yet I confess that I did feel a little odd when Longfellow came out of the room where Washington studied and spread his maps before his brother officers during the siege of Boston. And by the way, I have here beside me a memento of Longfellow which I know that you will prize, and which I secured lately for you for a trifle. It is a little "basket" (it is more like a dish) made of chestnut-wood, made from the tree which waved its branches over the smithy on Brattle St. when Longfellow was a schoolboy, and which figures in that beautiful little poem beginning "Under a spreading chestnut tree, The village smithy stands." If I could secure the anvil and the whole kit of tools for Dan, now that he will be thinking of putting that old reaper together, I'd do it. Tom will bring you the "piece of the true chestnut-tree" when he goes out, and I will forward you a paper giving details.

Again, you spoke of business matters. Well, as far as I think we should go now, is to pray for the grasshoppers to go away and stay away, or none of us will have anything to devise to anyother body. As long as I have anything, I'll divide with you and mother, and it will not do any harm for you to keep what little you have in your own name.

However, we will see be able to speak more definitely in a while

Your Aff. Son, Alexander.

Sarah's of 5th at hand. Glad that you enjoyed the Fourth, in a country (long may it wave!) where one has neighbors and those neighbors take some little interest in each other. I draw myself up to my full height* on this first day of my thirty-second year and say proudly that my mother Earth is Minnesota and I'm not weaned.

Alex. T. Christie

* $\frac{1}{5965000}$ of the Earths Quadrant measured on the meridian arc between Barcelona and Dunkirk.

Clyman July 23 "72

My dear Father: [James Christie]

I forget where I was when I last wrote you, but here I am, this afternoon, sitting in Uncle Williams Parlor. ~~I~~ The Irishman for whom I brought near Madison had the most vicious horses I ever saw. I need not attempt either to describe them or to tell all the bonds they had broken in former days; but suffice it, I was finally kicked over, lay by for 3 days, got $9. (had previously rec'd $2 of him) and started for Madison. Took train for Sun Prairie, staid from Wed. morning till Monday ditto with the Royces, — was treated gloriously by them all. They were in health. — As good living on Charlie's as Darius on

on an ~~so~~ nearby, Will Mark ~~is~~ in a dry-goods store in Town, Charlie in town also, driving a good business putting down and repairing pumps in the surrounding country. They appear to be doing and succeeding well, though the two who are farming are not making money this year, since wheat is very light in consequence of ~~bad~~ poor land and dry weather, and the old chintz bag is working briskly enough in it. Ca good looks no older than he did when we last saw him, is just the same every way, feels well towards us all, made one feel at home, went out strolling after a swarm of bees while I was with him, made me quite a confidant, and spoke much of old times. His wife is quite a fine woman, an old school teacher who knows how to have things in place and means business. Now should write Ca good a letter. They have no children. Dave is driving at the work, and will be a well-to-do farmer in a few years if he has health. He is present he is slightly under the weather in consequence of poor crops for two successive years. He is wife is doing everything for his interests, and they are in comfortable circumstances on a very good farm. Their family consists of 4 girls, one of which is living with her (Mrs. M's) father. How Will is getting on I could not so well determine, but I presume quite well. Aunt Eliza is quite smart, lives with Katie, took great interest in me and the rest of us, let me read Sam's last letter (of Sept 24 '59 to Chas) gave me a photo- of him, etc. Charlie is in good circumstances, has a very superior little woman

for a wife who is bringing up a finely organized good-mannered family for him, consisting of ~~two~~ two boys and two girls alternating the oldest a girl of 9.

Both went to great lengths to please me, took me about town, gave up work, were really highly delighted and evinced it. Charlie and I had long strolls and talked all the time, getting up early and sitting up late. We went over the ancient history of Chyman and the biographies of its early settlers, and he said he had not enjoyed such a time for many years; neither had I. He gave me Sam's Playfair's Euclid as a relic, one which John Lowth originally owned, and gave Sam when he went to Sp-

Charlie is a smart fellow, and is a man trying to do the right thing in every way.

But I must speak of other things. I offered for $700 to teach a

The Deer Prairie School the next year for me. There are three depts. about 200 scholars, and I was to control the whole school. There are several teachers open to the Board at various prices. Nothing arrived at as yet, but I hopeful a line from Watertown lowering my offer $50, and have some hope of getting the place.

Left W— at 10 A.M. spent a few hours in the old town, had some talk with old acquaintances, as for instance John Brennan, Hollering, Billy Sutton etc, came out to Olympia on 4.20 train, took supper with Aunt Jessie, rode to Uncle Williams with Willie Reid, and am here. They are all much as we left them with the exception of one empty chair: the young folks are changed a good deal, and Grandfather looks older than before.

Ellen is in town with Hordy. I will

go to Uncle Tom's this evening.
I will write more of everything
after a little. I'll go by
the old place as I go down, for
we came up by Keefe's road.
Uncle T's grain is the best I
have seen in the State, and
is quite good; and H. R.
says Uncle J's is quite fair.
As to the the grain in general,
it is but half a crop.
Write to Clayman. Harvest
is beginning. Uncle T in-
sists on my working for
him.
It is raining a little.
I hope you are all in
health, and the grain
is good shape.

Yours

Sandy.

Madison July 24 1872

Miss. Christie

Your favor of even date is at hand. We have no vacancies now. Probably will have before term begins. If so will bear you in mind.

Hastily
J. H. Carpenter

[To James Christie
Castle Garden, Dumfr.]

Beloit, Wis.
Thur. P.M. July 25. 1872.

My Dear Father.

I will write you another little note to let you know of the progress of events. I believe I must give up going to Maine this summer - hard as it is to me. - I suppose Tom and Sandy keep you and Dave posted as to their movements. - I had a note from Tom this morning from Geneva - telling of addressing there the people in regard to the interests of the College - Dr Patton being in the chair. - I take his letter bright-up to Pres. Chapin and Prof. Emerson to read. - Tom is in his glory - enjoying his work - and well in health - Carrie is now visiting friends in Clinton - but comes to Beloit in a few days. - The last from Alex. was a note from Watertown - dated July 22d. was on his way from Sun Prairie to Clyman and Beaver Dam - Address him at Clyman in care of Uncle Wm. - Tom

address is now, and will be for some time, Union Grove - Racine Co Wis - Care of A. D. Adams who is his classmate. - Things begin to assume a more satisfactory look as regards situations in schools for both Alex and myself - I am in correspondence with several places. - Offers are beginning to come in. Through Mr North, Alexander North County Supt of Waukesha Co I've hear of vacancies in Waukesha where we apply. - Mr Parker of Janesville recommends me to several - one of whom offers me $90.00 per month in Intermediate Dept of their school in village of Edgerton - (next of Milton, on Rock Prairie.) with chance of Alex. for Gram. School in same. - mine is sure if I wish it. - Alex. has also opportunity in Clinton - another chance in Sun Prairie &c - while Prof. Pickard of Milwaukee says he will do for me all he can there - and Prof. Kerr and Mr Carson in Madison not to speak of Rockford - Green Bay - and a dozen other places where I have friend or friends working for me. - I am determined for one thing, not to accept of any situation until I find one with a suitable salary. - I will write you again in a few days - and try to keep you posted. I wish I could see you all - how is Dave getting on with the work. Dear Dave - I hope he is well - and how is Emma and baby Fannie - and Mother. Write to me. -

- Sarah. -

Rapidan, July 26th 1872

My Dear Sandy

Your letter all received. Also that first one which we thought had been lost. How glad we should be in thinking well of our fellows. On the 25th David commenced wheat harvest. Joe driving the Reaper, David and Barney binding. After one day they got another hand to help, and take down tie up and shock from 5 to 6 acres per day. They talk of taking twice by the forelock. We David has done with the wheat. We are alone cutting and people conclude we don't know anything and that the wheat will shrink. Some have come on the third day come to look at it, examine the shocks and conclude it will do. Next year many will not wait so long until they begin. The straw is yellow about half way up. Grain a left paste. But no better trouble and I think it will be the best looking and really the best on the prairie. Wheat all standing up, good as yet. Oats 5½ feet high, and badly lodged. Wheat is here for at least 20 per acre. Barley in the shock three times a week ago. Not a potatoe bug.

May. About 16 times fully, in the stack besides 9 or 10 to Barney for assistance in making our own. David is not in good trim, his lungs are in bad order. Get out in that dry asthmatic way. However, he leads in the binding and tugs them along. He has a great deal of brain force, and that compels an ill used body to get up. He will crucify in the flesh. George Sand, is the only instance in which I have heard of, where it has stronger than bones. When will men learn not to crucify at the shrine of Pleasure and burn the best incense in honored homes. Exhort. Exhort should be the cry, but since it is concluded that another sacrifice for Christ in they will go into the Garden, and of course the world stays in it, did not the Angel arise then, but with a warning sword, and who and pray shall find courage to tell them. If they have as much as the traditional blind horse, one might wink to them, but they do not. We have all been born blind. The Angel of the sword of fire must use it, because the Angel of the sword of Light is not heard nor seen. The sword of the spirit, which is the words of God. (id est) the Truth. Are you one of the initiated? or do you walk by faith? or are you neither? Keep your eyes open, and also listen. The inward monitor looks after you. The ever present Mahashi. listen! listen! He speaks to all who have an ear, to every one who is called a sinner.

He that hath an Ear to hear, let him hear. What the Angel says to the Churches. They have stopped their Ears. Not willing to be saved. and God will send them strong delusion. that they may believe a Lie that they all might be Condemned. that take pleasure in Unrighteousness. The delusion is that they can be saved while they take pleasure in unrighteousness. that they take pleasure in any other way than under protest, protesting against the necessities of the Earthly Body. whose desire are at enmity with all Holiness in Spirit. The delusion is Lent. Because if they could not Guard themselves. if they were not delivered. they would be Demonized they would Rebel Willingly. Curse God and Die, it is therefore but in Mercy to keep them. to keep them in Weakness. untill they shall be morally. spiritually able to give Obedience when they see. or, not able. they submit under protest. and then they cry. Who shall deliver us from the Body of this Death.

I look for a letter from Sarah to morrow. letting us know if and when she is coming up here. I am anxious to see Sarah and Endeavour to penetrate the Mystery that hangs about her. There is some Great Moral leak about her. it's Impossible to heal unless one can first make a diagnosis of the disease. it must be made to themselves in order to decide on the mode of Attack. that is the peculiar Cheatness of Evil that it always reinforts itself before the Enemy. How Benevolently are all things arranged! if Sarah is really afflicted with a Mania of Benificence. it is Mania and Sin. if it passes the Boundaries of Right. and causes its subject to beg and lay burdens on others who have legitimate objects requiring all their means But I am very doubtful if such is the case. However I think I shall be able to divine through all disguise. and mean to clear up the Moral fog. and let in a light that I hope will stay. I shall endeavour to burn it in, there is something dreadfully out of Order in her Moral Nature. Whichever way it exhibits itself

I enclose a picture of James S. Christie (Son of David. Son of James. Son of William, Son of James of of Glen Moy. Shepherd and Bachelor backon (in Literature)) He. God bless him, is running. Brave. and Peaceful. poor little sinner may he Grow in Grace and in the knowledge of the Lord. and become useful in the World I would willingly die to make him righteous. it is always the Son of Man. that carries the transgressions of the Fathers. that suffers for their sins. the iniquities of the fathers are visited upon the Children Unto the third and fourth Generations. (in the natural Order) I love this little boy for his sake. I lament his conditions and love him the more. knowing the terrible ting he is born to. and I pity all unregenerate humanity as partaking of the common lot I know how hard it is, may God look upon us in Mercy. and Call us into his marvellous Grace and Kingdom. Lonely I must away across the prairie with this hurried friend. it is the best I have, and you have it as it came. the Offering of the Early Morning. May God bless and keep you. Your Father James Christie

Sunday Morning, Rapidan July 28th 1872

My Dear Sandy.

Received yesterday your letter telling of your unceremonious dismissal. I felt sorry of your disappointment with a schoolboy. I joke about thinking you are not seriously hurt. But why did you not tell me more particularly of your accident. Sandy you either have too much thought or too little. and you make me to fall down between the two stools. tell me now whom the Nurse reminds you. and how it is with you

I am glad that there are such institutions in this World as a General Kind Hearted Uncle. for your sake. they have been appointed a Cities of Refuge apparently to which the ill used may resort. I always felt since you first told me of your Engagement with that Irishman that there was something about it strange. I hope it is all right and true. I suspect that the Celtic Lassie and parents of the Northstone have you in Odium. and Complain about all this. Their are certain Conjunctions of life which should not be disregarded. the whole of your unnatural treatment was antipodal to the association. Now last week I sent you a little note with a picture of little Jennie of this place. You must write to Mediano and get it sent to you. I trust you will stay with Uncle William until you turn up something to Compass you through the winter.

If you do not intend coming Home. David took Nervous of the Bread and I think he is likely to stay it in good time. having cut and stacked 18 acres before any other Machine was started into grain. the folks thinking he could stand the Hour spoiling the wheat. it will not shrink a white and now after 6 days in the stack look fresh and smooth. this has set him on his feet by keeping ahead of the reaping process the Ball is at his feet and the Reaper cannot beat him.

Barney and another young Lad at 2½ & 3 apiece per day. between 5 and 6 acres about a dollar an Acre besides his own work. Jennie is the Reaper. Wheat stands nice. Alone 20 bushels perhaps that is certain. Wages are very high. Arnott is cutting and binding alone, and it is possible he will do it all himself. Cannot get any help. He is indomitable and may win. God always helps those who help themselves. Because he helps them is and by themselves and gives the believing hopeful heart sufficient Energy. Faith always produces power, the man that sets and wings his hands without using much work out of them. He is mysterious and time and difficulty seems hers down.

That was a divine interrogatory the Angel put to the startled disciples "Ye Men of Galilee Why stand ye gazing up into Heaven?" Get up and Gird! Your Master is coming back by the same method. begin to prepare for His reception. Your account of the Noyes Family is very interesting. Their kindness to you, and I think it was genuine, is pleasant to read. The Human heart is not yet entirely rotten in spite of "Total depravity" and different theologies. Hezekiah Gave up Quietly this season not so much fuss and scraishing as last year. David's eyes are getting open a little, and Martin has been foiled in his attempt to draw him into a striped concern of work. I am pleased that experience tells a little. This is Sunday morning and to my Church yonder. There, there is Great Cry and little Wool. Altogether a poor specimen of Stumbling pastors and stunted flocks. No Wonder. the School Master is Troubled, at least he is not much in these parts. We are all in our A.B.C. abs and cannot yet fairly spell out Abba, Father. The lisp in the letter not having yet caught the spirit, and whence our lives without seeing their significance the doubting World stands gaping about, interrogating every new manifestation "Why" art thou? Is that what was to come? or do we look for another? and the same inscrutable answer is given. look at what I do, and judge for yourselves Then and there do we observe that the Blind are made to see? are the Lepers Cleansed, do the lame walk? Not in these parts. We therefore conclude that the Best was to come is not as yet come Here. or, having come He could not do many miracles amongst "because of Their Unbelief. I fear the last is the true solution. Tell your Uncle William I intend posting for him a letter I wrote some time ago. Give my Good Wishes to your Uncle Tom. Carry what of your Grandmother Reid and tell me of it. I had a letter from Perth on Saturday also. He is Visiting in Beloit for answers to letters written to Designing people in reference to a new Literature or Teaching. He asks more wages than he has in Beloit. Yet to what use. it is not in getting that it lies entirely but in applying to the right use. One may go and get and yet always be poor. This dual style of the title Deist is thus farmer Give my Respects and Good Wishes to all old friends and acquaintances that one to ask about me. Really with Hall to all Men, so You cannot make any mistake tell me what of Grandfather. What his Views of Life are and what he thinks of Christ, if You can. His sentiment I know and it may be difficult to find out these things. I feel interested in the old man, and should be Glad that he had some sense of the Higher Life, from which We have all Gone so far. And my Dear Sandy be careful for the inside Man and do your duty also to the outside one. Separated from You I like to write to You and speak more freely than if Your Face present. Write to us I may have again from You next Saturday. Your Father J. Blackie

Tuesday August 2d 1872.

I thought of adding a few scraps this morning before posting. David still keeps in tolerable health. The wheat nearly all cut. The wages generally 3 $ per day. our help 2 $ because settled before the market took shape. Arnett has Barney Simmons, a Swede, and Fred Stratton driving and ditch thrashing. Warner has a Mr. Arnett and Martin and he works together 3 men binding on her and one driving. all done by one team of horses. Bisby and Col. Smith at Red Wood. The Col. having been appointed Receiver in that New Land Office. Mrs Bisby read to me part of a letter she received last mail day. in which Bisby says you men are expected out around Winters to enter their Claims. The Land District extends all along the Western frontier of the State. Our Alsike or hot will not be ready for 10 days yet. All else will be finished and some stacked before then

Little Boy is Good Health. and I entreat of You to send Word on the day You receive this, to Madison and Get my letter and his picture. I addressed to You in Madison P.O. Box 1633. but I think You Cordered. I have a letter written to Uncle Wellington. but it needs revision and must wait until

next week. Lay some speculative it needs to be review as first drafts are sometimes almost unintelligible. I should write to Helen. for I have quite a regard to her. and interest in her. But I am unable to write to many letters. to Fons. to Cornelia. To Sarah. to Willie. to You. and once in a while to your Uncle, it is too much on an old man. who is all shattered physically and mentally. I had a dream also last night of Nine, repeated, it betokens something. But my brain and phrenium. has not yet transmitted the interpretation. and I wait for denouement. I think it will accomplish truly in Clymer. I have pleasure in it. tele me if your Uncle William looks much worn, and how the burden of life sits on him. if you see any indications of a change of his old mental state, if he gives signs of leaving the negative philosophy (which is the apotheosis of dirt) and if he receives any addition to positivism. in the transit of your Grandmother. by positivism I mean the true. the spiritual philosophy. where do not neglect to write. let me know if your Castor cut hurt your throat. and where. descend to particulars. in Sarah's style. and make no use of Gopherwoo. I am love a letter from you. me to translate for me. Give the sense. never mind the rhyme. that I think is not your forte. Remember me to Uncle & family all of them. I remain as ever. Phoenix

University of Wisconsin,

Madison, Aug. 2nd, 1872

My dear Miss Christie
[Sarah] Your letter was duly received — I have delayed a reply a few days to see Mr. Van Slyke —

The Board of Regents have made no provision whatever for the care of sick among us nor for any addition to our Corps of teachers, except in the Department of vocal Music, & will do nothing farther until the demand actually exists —

I am very sorry I can say nothing encouraging to you from

this quarter I S would certainly be a great pleasure to me to be associated with you as you propose & I would that it were in my power both on my own account & yours to make an opening for you here —

I know very well what it is to live in an unhealthy state & am well aware that it is not at all conducive to health or happiness —

I received your brothers kind letter — he was very sorry that he is to leave Madison & I have heard many regrets expressed by others —

However I can not blame him for going to be with the dear Pabst friends for here I fear, I think, can not be found.

Hoping & believing that a kind Providence will yet open a way for you to come, with better remuneration I must take leave of you as we start for Minnesota in a few hours.

Present Kindest regards to your brother & his wife & accept the best wishes of

Your friend

D. E. Cram.

If I can serve you in any way — shall be most happy to do so

D. E. C

Amboy Aug. 4th 1872.

Dear Father. [James Christie]

Inclosed you will find one of dear Tom's characteristic letters.

You see we are not together this summer. He is in most active service while I must remain quietly at home trying to bless with Britton,

"They also serve who only stand and wait."

My family are very glad to have me at home for a time. They are none of them very well and for this reason I regret that I am so nearly worn out that I can be of but little service to them.

I am longing to be quietly settled in a home with my husband once more. I think you are doing a great and good work and I fully sympathize with him in it, cheerfully giving him up to any work the Lord calls him to do. I hope your health is good this summer.

Won't you please write to me sometime? I have no recent news from Father Alex or Sarah. Lovingly your daughter Caroline.

Union Grove, Wis, Aug 2, '92

Dear Father: [James Brewer]

I left the service at Madison and entered upon my present and prospective work for reasons — 1. The work at M. is wholly secular; in Beloit it is, in essence, religious. To a Christian teacher the difference is an important one.

2. The processes of intellectual training pursued at M. are, both in theory and practice far inferior to those found at Beloit. As a professional teacher, appreciating the dignity and worth of my office, and desiring to see the best results achieved from my service I chose to give that service to the more earnest, the more thorough, the in every way more efficient institution of Education.

3. Socially and sympathetically: I am more attached to Beloit: I have a romantic fondness for my Alma Mater, a personal affection for her Professors, to some of whom I owe more than I can ever repay in this life, for influence that has been in itself an education, and a friendship for Beloit people in the Church and in the country near by, that has grown very strong in the five years of my residence among them.

4. Pecuniarily – I shall save more money in Beloit. Carrie can tell you how this is.

These reasons are sufficient to my own mind, and my dear wife sees the force of them: I trust they will prove equally good to you.

Work keeps me very busy – A letter from the President this morning & 50 more Catalogues; I ride every day in various directions from my Centre of operations. Shall be here till Monday – speaking in Ch. on Sunday night – Then to Racine.

Carrie's letter rec'd. Shall answer tonight if possible –

My love to her, and to all with you,

In great haste –

Yr. Affectionate Son –

Thos. D. Christie –

Please send this to

James Christie –

Castle Garden

Blue Earth Co.

Minn –

Tell Orville I shall be very glad to help him with his Latin next year in Beloit: he is ready for the Middle Preparatory Class & to take up Greek –

Rapidan, August 4th 1872

Daughter Sarah [Christie]

Yours of the 25th Ult. received, and I feel I am amazed at the way in which you pursue the School World in your particular interests. Who will bid highest for me? Going, Going, Gone, to the highest bidder. This merely is the Spirit of the World with a benefaction, and anything else looks like folly. Yet it is not Christ. My Dear Sarah this is not the way to Conquer success in the Higher regions of Being. And I doubt if it is the way to succeed in any form. It is not really what you receive so much as how you retain and devote to the proper Objects. Be the Nose back never satisfied, never full, Because of the outflowing of the incoming stream. take the first situation that offers which does not require of you more labour than you are able to give for what you receive, and husband your resources. learn to do with little and find Comfort in reducing your earthly wants to the minimum. do not over reach yourself and over tax soul and body in obtaining the recompence

I think it is useless however to talk to you for the Spirit is always in the World, and it is the prime object of Christianity to destroy it.

I am very much gratified with what you tell me of Tom's success in flying up the people to lay hold on such Culture of the higher life as Bethel College affords. You see with what an abandon he throws himself into his Work. And you also see how the Lord provides for him. He throws himself into coincidence with the instrumentalities around him, commits himself to the stream, and rushes forward on the flowing tide of the Time. The secret of his success lies in his impetuous Constitution working in the right line. Believing it is the Work of the Lord, he leaves all ordinary care behind, trusting, hoping, and to triumphing. His Greatest Gift is Faith. Seeing those things which are not seen, he pursues forward in his Work in a sublime Earnestness. Seizing the time from perdition, recovering the Minutes from the Spirit of Evil, he fills them with the Work of God and carries them forward a Glorified into the Eternal. I am full of thankfulness to God that the Spirit of Life has been given to this Boy, that he may do Good in the World. He moves in a Smell and a Humble of those

But he moves heavily, and flings his little light around him, and unconsciously many see the Glory for it. Shall we say that Alec is unfortunate? I think not. For here many opposed his hope to overwhelm him. I think they are under the direction of God, for counsel, to bring Sandy into his best possible, tho' his little Capacity. Great possibilities, but a dreadful Antagonism of Head and heart, an almost irreconcilable Contradiction of the Natural and Spiritual Man. He carries a Great and heavy Cross, in a strong personal nature. All he needs is Faith to enable him to move upon the Enemy's Work with power.

I am satisfied however that he is growing strong and will Sweetheinely to one day soon under the instructions of Adversity purposely and

But in relation to yourself

My Dear Sarah. How much headway do you make in the lessening of your Debts? You must deny yourself. You must retain all that is not strictly needed to live to be spent in the payment of your Creditors. How much talk there is about the Master and his Work! about Paul and Peter! I have ~~[illegible]~~ But just think of them being in debt!! Peter would have perished night and day and made his Wife Gather bait

and let the little ones lie on Bitter bitter heads
rather than been under such Slavery. Paul would
have served at his tent on short allowance of
Graham bread to pull up the way. Gone without
a Jerkin or Sandals. and pawned his Cloak!
for though he is preparing. Give no man anything
have a good Conscience and sleep easily.

O, it is ridiculous to talk Christianity and have any
act in your Skin Weir of others. I expect all this fishing
for schools some of this. take my advice. that is the Cross
you have to carry. first to Give the World its Own.
if you should start yourself in these things, you think you
most need, and do not turn aside to Give in Christ
that which really belongs to your Creditors. God will
Certainly be well pleased to see you do so, and will
bless you with peace, and make you to feel his approbation
Letter of your Conduct, take care that you do not
burden Jesus, Remember his responsibilities to others
Now My Dear Sarah let it be your daily prayer to God
night and morning that he would teach you and lead
you in the simple and straight way, the unassuming
method of working earnestly in secret to be just to all

If I did not Love you My Dear Sarah I would not
speak of these things. But would have all pleasant with
Lateness. We can only be comfortable in the future
if we do right now. I look always to your Eternal Welfare
as ought by your Father. Rev Christie

tell me if your Uncle William is still as stuck
if he has a Self Raker or not, and if he owns his
Harvester. David tried binding on a Marsh
Harvester at Josephine yesterday in pasture and
has lost all Good Opinion of another trial
speaks of giving Willie the Girls. and getting
a Harvester next year. I should be mighty
well pleased with this. it would so assist William
and indeed would be a Good move for David Also.

I received a note from Lewis last week. He is
still waiting for big pay. He tells me of Jones causing the people
up in Potsdam to Belief College, and doing much Good. I begin
to think Tom is somewhat lazy, beginning to believe in him
I trust however he will take care and not overtax
himself this Hot Weather. tell me how you & Annie
like New Jersey. and where you then heard of this horse
you did not inform me of that, and it makes me wonder
is your Uncle still as funny as ever? full of dry
Scotch humor? or has his 58 years and the inevitable
Cares of life chilled it all up? He is naturally full
of Care. and has greater tendencies to Melancholy than to
hope. If not so philosophic as he is, life would really
be burdensome to him, seeing seems to many anticipated
happiness melt away before him, and I know he has seen
many. You need not expect David to visit you. he has
all he can do. But by and bye he will. Now do not be
filling yourself with wine. or hops puffs up. about the
Great and honorable and well paid situation you are
going to get. You are really independent if there they
do not feet if they all walk away. You can come
home and from it, and take care of me. Who am always
caring for you. J. Bronster

how you get received that letter from Mr Moore with the Photograph?

Rapidan, August 6th /72

Dear Sandy,

Your letter reached us last week, and the Maple leaf brought up very vividly before me the little Nooks and Corners of that old place which now I know as no more, every acre of which has its own Memories, so many place on so small a spot of Ground cannot be found here. The Country has but one aspect.

David is getting near the end of the Nearest eight acre of Oat and 3½ Acres of Wheat, left now it has been accomplished so far without much trouble, and with but little noise. He has done it very well. I trust you all get along pleasantly at Uncle William's. I would like amazingly to see Uncle William and have awhile with him, to have a morning talk daily with him for about 3 hours. While the accumulated homeforce would last. And yet I do not know that I may plant one idea in William. He resists with such force, so positive against all argument that does not flow directly from

Let me know what you do when your Uncle David is employed here.

Causality, or that there the only Avenue through which we may arrive at the Truth. There is Nothing to him of any Value unless it is built upon a Chain of Antecedents and Consequents. He sees all things as a huge machine tooth working into tooth from the first Molecule to the last. Therefore he can take Nothing for Granted, and necessarily sees behind but little. There is much that is hid in this Universe, few beginning seem and we often have Nothing more but a Glimpse of a part, from which to conceive of the Whole. Yet this that we may be certain the Law of the Whole by the Analogy of the Whole, being the part. The response is in everything. There can a Scotch Gregor discover a Hole by firing a pistol, just so. May the discover Truth by Obeying the Law of Correspondence, true on the 2nd of the Fiddlers, by speaking 4 syllables we could hear them repeated by a Hill 5 or 6 miles off, if we had not known of that Hill we might have inferred its Existence to a Certainty by the return of our own Voice to us. There is then a Method of Interrogating Nature which may lead into the Truth entirely different from Observation, but it is not indeed so Certain in its Applications, unless often repeated from different sides. The rider who mounts an Analogy to hurry up truth must look out that the Dam does not bite the Mule of his horse, and so throw him backwards. Dan, in Judgement Hole lie in the way as the Adder, for this very purpose. But see here, if after discovery by this Method, we may then test by the other Method after we get unhorsed. There then I have got it said I believe.

To day the thermometer say 90 and no wind stirring, it has been threatening one about the Watowaen and the Blue Earth since last night at 9 o'clock, and now it is 11 in the morning, and yet we may escape as it seems to travel east by the way of the Big Woods North. We have had no severe storms in this immediate Locality, but there has been some both North and South West of us. Wages this Year are Excessive, Scott has men Got some hand a 3 $, which he have 4 of them 12 $ per day. South West of us over the River some of them are paying 4 and 4½ and putting on two span of horses to the Reaper to hide the binder. We here heard of 3 different men who have killed horses at this work. But as yet no Mortality. We have had Great Quietness and peace this Year, no fuss, nor hurry, which is the true Way. Season is not yet begun to hit Wheat it is all Oats, and is now making Hay after Getting in 25 of Oats and 25 of Barley.

I am very to hear from you that Williams Junior is still in Backwoods. This is a great Loss for Mike, for Mike is really the performer of these things which he sings for.

But unless the Aspiration are turned towards the Glorification of God that is Nothing in Heaven to Us, for we have no Eternity in Heaven, for we are the Child, Mike is.

to the highest Tower's. You must return Your thanks to Emma for the picture. and so carry away my Clandestine act. in lending it without leave

(David is nearly through with cutting of the Harvest has not been quite free from asthma. yet has simply hard all the time. but the Binders and Men work while finish it, only the stacking. Sandy is working at Uncle Williams

You will of course shew this picture to Carmelita, I would have sent it to her. in preference to any but Yourself. If I did not know that all flesh is as Grass and that the flower of the field may fade so easily. I would have told how broad & handsome, full chested. stout former a Boy this is, and how he looks as if it wants to be his delight to put down all opposition, he has a Head like a prize fight and a fist like a load heaven. Now all these Qualities are needed if they receive the right direction, there is much tough work needed in this World. the sword as much as the yelling book May the Angels of God be commanded our Boy to Guide him in whatever is Given him to do. Have I given You any Conception of him? And God bless him in Your prayers, and although not having been Your Son in this way bring him up, one Your Knees. You see the significance? —

My dear daughter do think of what I have said to You. if You will. there is Good in it. forgive My severity for Love's sake Yours always J Christie

August 6th
[1872]

My Dear Sarah. I believe I spoke to Mark from Truth in the Other Sheet, that the morning was looking dull. I felt as if I had said some disagreeable words. I cannot take them back, and now would like to make some amends for them in sending you Jamie's picture. They only had two of them at first. I sent one to Stanley, and without asking leave I enclose this the best, it is a poor picture. Yet you will see some of his character in it. His bold and unassumed, Quick to see, Amusing, Good Humoured, ready to laugh, in good health, and as they estimate Humanity in this Country by what it will bring in the Scales, this Boy has been "Weighed in the Balance and not found wanting". 5 Months, 17½ ~~lbs~~ You know unregenerated Nature is a poor affair at its best, even in Maturity, in Childhood very defective. Yet somehow rather agreeable than otherwise, and I think Jamie is a very pleasing specimen of Adolescent Paragery, I write him a Mile at any time to please him, and do indeed take care of him about one third the time

I have taken a New Interest in Humanity and Life ever since he visited us. He has brought back my Heart to the Old Simple Loves, and these are nursing Mothers

Platteville, Wisconsin.
Aug 6, 1872 –

Dear Dear Miss Charlie. [BELOIT, WIS.]

There are many reasons why I have not written to you lately. I has been terribly unsettled & my long since I came home & then I did not know but you had gone from there long before this – I supposed you were in Minnesota.

I have resigned at Beloit I came home & looked the matter squarely in the face & found I could not afford it for another year – my salary would not support me –

I may possibly go to school next year but I am doubtful

good offer to teach – I shall do what seems best – Married I am not to be – I wish you would write me how long one is.

If you see Inie Cogswell give her my love & tell her what I've done – She's a good girl. I wish I could be with her next year – I don't think I was liked very well in Beloit. People I guess were happy when they heard I was not going to return – How does the Union get along? Is Carrie Simons at home? I would rather like to continue in music but – I am more thinking of a place where I will clear for ten months $8 & $9.00 per month free from all expense. I go at all events to school next year – I am in the country at my mother's

having a quiet time.

Feeding chickens getting eggs doing visiting & sewing. The latter makes my back ache. Tell me how you heard the rumor of my resigning – they neither. It is not at all true & I would not hear of my going back again – The thing at any time has a relapse & I should never forgive myself if I went contrary to her wishes –

It is harvest time & I have very irregular mails cannot depend upon the boy's ever at all –

I have made one dress & done many other things too numerous to mention since I came home – This is just the kind of a letter you don't like & I am

having a quiet time.

Feeding chickens getting eggs doing visiting & sewing. The latter makes my back ache. Tell me how you heard the rumor of my resigning – they neither. It is not at all true & I would not hear of my going back again – The thing at any time has a relapse & I should never forgive myself if I went contrary to her wishes –

It is harvest time & I have very irregular mails cannot depend upon the boys ever at all –

I have made one dress & done many other things too numerous to mention since I came home – This is just the kind of a letter you don't like & I am

tempted not to send it – Its
pamphleting & Hallow. But
you know any narrow gale
never contained too much
good sense – How some of
the teachers will rejoice to see
I am out of the way – Well
you go with them I am as glad
as they can possibly be –
Burn my letters or at
least do not leave them
around for meddlesome
people to read –

Yours
Kate D. Walker

Mrs. Wickersham
Lot Mr. Wickersham
Write immediately
Call the name –
Tell me if once
Since Christmas
Have decided

Write the first - who write
Write the next - I dare not
Write about it -

When we have get here
write I - and Jennie are planning
to go to - Prairie, and stay -
and supply also. - We
write have a telephone
line. If we are at phone
write it - We will have
[illegible]

[Grace Christie]

My Dear Valtzy. I write just a little
note again. - There are several places
I can have at - $40.00 per month
and one place at - $45.00 but - I want
to find a place where Alex. and
I can work together - We are on the
track of one or two - but - nothing
decided as yet - I have accepted one
place near Beloit - a village north-
west - of Janesville - Edgerton (the F is
soft -) at - $40.00 per month and board
is cheap there - will go there unless
we succeed in finding a place to-
gether - and if we do - I will resign
at - Edgerton - and send a substitute
for which there are plenty to be found
in Beloit - Alexander came down to

Beloit
Thur. Aug 8th
Grace Christie
120
Grace Christie
Prairie
Wis.
Write soon
I have to write
to Dave
and
Mrs.
Johnson
Write soon
Write soon
Office closed
for
rest - Good-
- Good-
- Good-

Quite 21 years ago today since another died in it. It's 22 years I believe this the day - he was 8 years old - 50.~

about day before -
see, Clinton school, yesterday - and I went out there (Clin miles east of Belvidere) and met him. but that chance has fallen through for us. - I haven't time to enter into particulars - We stayed all night had plenty of time to talk - sat up half the night - and yesterday I came back to Beloit; and he went back to Uncle Will's harvest field - He showed me the sweetest darlingest picture I ever saw our handsome little baby Jimmie - bless his precious little soul - what a handsome chubby boy he is; he let me take the picture I but I am to send it back to him - you must send me one. if there is one to spare. I would give anything to have one of them to keep. - Why don't you write to me; but I know you are busy. - Am glad to hear through Alexander of your all being well, and of the good crops - We will all be together this time next year, I hope - that is the plan now - if God spares our lives until that time - but somehow I am afraid all the time of something going to happen - You know Longfellow says:

"I have marked it - well - it must be true -
Death never takes one alone, but two!
Whenever he enters in at a door,
Under roof of gold or roof of thatch,
He always leaves it upon the latch,
and comes again ere the year is o'er. -
Never one of a household only. -

Poor Grandmother

Rupison, August 9th 1872

My Dear Comrade

Yours of
July 1st received as enclosed. I am not surprised nor
grieved at your views (unless for your own sake) I am
indeed happy that it has been Our Good Providence which
has directed it that so prudent a companion has been found
to sympathize with [illegible]

Get by Dear Child be you also of good courage
Do not let such things as any from prevent your
temporal & spiritual comfort. Remember the Lord of the
Universe [illegible] for they depend upon
constitution of body and preponderance of feeling to the
opposite pole of Religious life. Wife. I trust that your
Dear Husband is yet to be one New Man in Christ Jesus
[illegible] I believe [illegible]
Therefore let no proper [illegible] form of Constitutional disorder
or either [illegible] as a Religious & Christian (the more important
of the device) the most [illegible] a Religion of loving thoughts
[illegible] the results of the peace maker. When the insidious and
poisoned darts will fall blunted, impotent from the
shield of faithful love. So let us [illegible] that a Divine
foreknowledge provides that we shall be perfected by mutual
attrition. When a Child of the Divine Being [illegible] here

Pebbles lying imbedded together in the Shifting Beach
the variously veined Agate and the Blue and rounded
Rock crystal. Their Warfare over. Quietly resting to gets
or as part of the Restoration of a new Order. a More perfected
Society. Both Beautiful, Smoothed into such Completness of
harmony as each was capable of. All accomplished by (if they
they have been sensible of it) a very rough sort of treatment
let us have full Confidence. There is no danger to those
who Abandon themselves in simplicity of Heart. It is
those who Commit themselves most fully to the rushing
Waters that are most perfectly polished, the Angular
Asperities of our Characters are rubbed off by the perpetual
Comparing with ~~the which~~ which we will accompany the stream
of Life. the Mutual Attractions produce the Mutual polish
the Earthy Crust is rubbed off and the Gem is revealed.
There is Much that we know not Now, that we shall know
Hereafter. Always let us believe, indeed, forever, that
our present difficulties are permitted to try us, to bring us
to perfection. The Essence of Christianity is the Spirit
of Gift and it is a very serious thing to be imbued with
it if Contemplating by the Spirit of Worldly Wisdom, it is difficult
to draw the line of Compromise at the proper place.
Yet it does seem that in this World Compromise is necessary.
It does not seem that we can Cast all our Care upon the Lord
although He cares for us. We have not the Aliness of the Lilies
of the field. They do nothing but stand in the sun.
We know how they are arranged. they are invested very
gorgeously. Yet they are very Beautiful
I believe that Beauty is the One thing that God is intending
to Clothe us with Also. But that is not accomplished
in a day. in all processes of nature and providence
there is to be seen. the Blade, the Ear. the Corn in the Ear.
and we must be willing to wait on the development.
If the Spirit of Beauty has fallen upon us. it will
finish the work. and we must wait and labour. wait for
ourselves. for those we love, for all. and not look for the Ear
in the time of the Blade. Our share in the labour is to
adjust ourselves to the influences of the Light. If it is
dark around us. it must be because we have come under a cloud
in these unmistakable times. for they come to all. let us
imitate the Lowers which from the dreary Light of the day
Blossom in the night. Thus may we put its flowers and
its Fragrance in the darkness.

My Dear Companions to each of us is Given
Hereditarily a Certain Natural Character. for which we are
not responsible. All are warped in one way or another
out of the straight line. and the peculiar Cross of each is
simply the divergence of this Natural Character from the
Image of God. Seeing thus that it is not our Blame
how willing should we be to pity. to assist one another
in the Carrying of one another's Crosses. indignation
should never enter our hearts. But in Gentle Charity
should we assist one Another. Yet we should try
to discover Earnestly what is our peculiar Cross

and to discern the peculiar Cross of all with whom we have to deal. to carry these Crosses in Love is the only way in which to abolish the Small. It is Love alone which can destroy Evil. All else is Quackery. There is no panacea for the ills of Life but Love. But that is the panacea

I fear I have been talking in a very General way to you, and perhaps not much to your Benefit. I am neither wise nor Good, although desiring to be both, and can not do much Good to any one. But if I could do impossible things I would make you all happy in one day. and perhaps in doing it do a very foolish thing.

I have delayed writing until this morning. and now it is too late to fill my sheet I must hurry in this Good bye.

And subscribe myself as ever

Your Truly J. H. Noyes

Saturday Morning Six Oclock Lowell Ills August 11th 1877

Dear Cousin [Sarah Christie]

I have just got our breakfast & Jim has gone off to work - has not finished harvesting yet - he wrote a couple of letters last night - but did not have time to carry them to the Office, and consequently I am going right over with them - have got my Ironing to do today besides all my other work so cant write you any letter - but just write you this note urging you to come & make a good long visit - come next week Sarah if you can and stay a couple of weeks with me.

I want to see you, I have some news for you - concerning myself not bad however. and now good bye

Jessie Lowth

love to Tom

P. S. I have just discovered that this paper is dirty on the other side but cant stop to write on any other paper

Jessie

Forward to
Post Office Box

Clinton Miss
Aug 12/72

Alex. Schenster
Dear Sir.

I discovered after you left, the boat which the other members of the Board were in.

They had told me to hire a teacher while they had given encouragement and were bound to support young Chandler of our place, and he and his father were holding them to it without my knowledge, when I encouraged you to come down. I fear and they also feared that Chandler was not the man but they had not the

Moral courage to say "yes" to you and "no" to him while they were under obligations to the father of C— in their business relations

Therefore, I only assented to their arrangement with C— on condition that your expenses be paid and he teach for less than you offered — which was unanimously consented to,

I, therefore, remit — ($7) Seven dollars for your expenses —

If that does not cover your expenses, you will oblige me by sending the figures

We may do better for you sometime in the future

Yours Truly

Geo. Lovett, M.D.

Have heard of no school to suit you here. If you come to Glenwood, you will have Dessie with you & as a place to stay at, and I could make it pleasant for you. I shall write to Mrs. Dimmick & see if she will wait until I can come about the middle of Sept.

Sandy.

Aug 12 '72.

[Christie]

My dear

Yours of 8th & 9th rec'd. I have agreed to take the Lowell school, and so cannot think of another.

Do the best you can for yourself and let me so for this year where I am; we will get together next year.

If I take the school for 9 mos. the salary is $50.; if for less time, (which is not probable) something more.

I cannot do better. There was a danger of my failing to get anything but a common district school. Here there are two depts, and not extremely poor pay. During the year we will look out some-

thing better for us both.

Tomorrow I will visit school, get contract, see about board, etc. It might be policy to board with another, but I will not go by Jessie.

Dr. Benson and Uncle Wm helped me to the school. The Board had already decided to retain one of the summer teachers for lower school.

Don't lose your hold on Edgerton.

Tom is here. Came Saturday afternoon. Goes away tomorrow (Tuesday). Looks well. Takes in the right way about everything. Off today at Oak Grove, Lowell, etc.

No news from Charlie about the loan of $25.

I am now owing Uncle $13. Will work it down to $10. at threshing, and may clear it all by going round with the machine. Expect to get $1.50 per day.

I ought to send $9. to Madison for books ordered, and need under-clothing. If Chas. don't respond, will go on threshing till I have enough. School ~~don't~~ does not begin till latter part Sept.

If I get the $25. on 6 mos. time, will send you $5.

Folks here in usual health. No late news from Rapidan.

Will go to Beaverdam in long, and assume that note. Uncle Dave will

not refuse me till spring on it. I may raise a little this winter teaching evening schools in various parts, and may start a singing school or two.

All this work will advance my own knowledge and address.

I am glad Tom is as he is, — let us be thankful and go forward.

Heavy crop in Minn. They will require no help from me to clear the debts of the place.

Get fixed in some desk and prepare for next year's work. Let me hear what is done for Annie M.

Your Brother Sand[illegible]

Rapidan, August 15th 1872

Rev. J. B. Webster

My Dear Son.

I received not the letter from you last week. The first Weekly Courier since you left us. and imaginations run every one of its conjectures to persuade me that something altogether worthy for evil. Life and Welfare are so uncertain that all my little judgement is taxed to keep me from feeling fearful It is indeed almost reasonable that man should look for evil tidings Because God reigns. There is and has been so much violations of Holy and Good Law in this World, that we may look at any time to see the inevitable penalty fall on anybody; no man suffers only for his own sins. But participate continually in the consequences of the general sins of our race. Now I write to you in hope nevertheless, knowing that you are seeking to do right, and would do it more and more if you could find the way. So I trust that on Saturday I will find a letter from you assuring me that all is well with you. Because I most certainly and fully believe that nothing can happen to us outside of that providence which looks to be ever being always for good.

I shall therefore proceed upon the assumption that you are well, and suppose the cause of the missing letter is nothing extraordinary

David is now stacking, as also all the County with few exceptions, since I wrote you last week the hail rain of the big rain storm which laid down that 8 acre of oats so that no reaping machine can take it up. David took off all the tackle and has mowed 2/3 of it and has now been stacking the Wheat there last two days intending to let those oats lie untill he receives the main crop. He has I judge some 250 bushels of oats secured in good order in the stack besides those 8 acres.

I should willingly believe that all are well with your Mother in Clyman and that you are all as well as we are here.

I had a letter from Carmellite last mail containing news from home to her father. Which he also ordered sent to me. John is doing quite a good work for Beloit and the good cause, in inducing the people of brethren this country to take hold of the advantages of their little College. He is having quite a degree of success, and I can see he is in good trim and good heart. in short in his glory,

I am pleased at all times, and very glad that one of us has been privileged to do anything in this line.

I could wish that you also should consider that you can do much good. not so much in teaching the young idea how to grow as in teaching the just and pure feeling, the charitable emotions to gather strength and begin to grow in the hearts of your pupils. I fear that this has been one of your aims. and I desire you to make this, a certain effort in all your schools, it is entirely more worthy object than 3 times 3. or proviture. composition and paper coloring in any mere intellectual training.

I received no letter from Sarah either last Saturday. in her case it is likely that the business of answering so many letters from school superintendents and other interested, and perhaps going to their place for examination & action, has sacrificed all her time. But I expect one from her this Saturday. I should wish that Sarah might see more clearly than she does that it lies fully as much in conserving her means than in increasing their amount in receipts, besides the advantage it would be to her to deny herself and so learn to limit her desires to the minimum. they are most free who need least. One of the greatest evils of our civilization lies in this, that instead of liberating from the tyranny of material interests it increases their dominion and proves as much so that the civilized man is more bound to be of material necessities, whose whole time is spent in labour to supply his ever-varied wants. This is all wrong. The true civilization is spiritual, not material strength of spirit and mind, produced by adherence to the natural simplicities.

I myself find that from the habit of a life confined in simplicity of wants I am a mere pleasure. Who is miserable if certain articles are wanting? The great trading class foster every thing that shall reduce the people into luxury. This renders the multitude to labour for them. See the earth around us here growing with the weight of bread. Men living like hogs and working like worms or as if they were machines. Their spiritual aspirations all heavy grovelling. Their region underdeveloped. Their arts crude. While they might have abundance of leisure to acquire all that they need for their superior nature, their best labour lies in ministering to wants that have been created by this false system. The hair shirt and leather strap, bread and water. "His food the roots, his drink the crystal well" is the other extreme. and it is really more tenable. But there is a just medium between them which should be continually investigated

August 16th.

Sitting an hour before the fire musical and my thoughts again turn towards you. I try to see why you did not write. and I await tomorrow's mail with some anxiety. it happens lately to me that in consequence of your various applications for schools, you may be away somewhere in connection with them. I feel unable somewhat as my views are few and feeble. We are unable to look forward with the hope of penetrating the future. But we can always look upward in the hope that this future will be to us all according to a perfect wisdom. What more do we need? We need a perfect acquiescence to that wisdom and confidence in the merciful disposition of God towards us.

To the merely intellectual man, this Cosmos is a tremendous Empire, which overpowers him by its very vastness. He shrinks from the contemplation of its infinity in space, in time and in power. He sees in its vastness what relations does it bear to me? and it seems to reply. "Sale into coincidence with my motion, with my interests and I am in your power. Oppose me and perish." This is startling to our weakness, and seems to demand more force than we can give. Yet we try to adjust ourselves to its demands. This is true homage and obedience. and a sense of inability in us, should, and undoubtedly will be accepted. The body and all allied to it must perish because of its corruption. Medicine but the willing spirit survives because of the recreations of thought and feeling. resulting in consciousness of life.

Pardon my long and unsatisfying philosophy. It is so natural for the weak and the vain to try those things that are beyond their reach. it is really an attempt to grow. The reason still seeks for a solution, because it is related to the absolute truth. and will never be fully satisfied until it lies in the mean time (which is indeed mean enough if we consider of the way in which we fill it up.) let us try to obey the triple injunction "to do justice, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with our God." and justice will be done to us mercifully, not in the pride of power, but in a condescension which will bend to do us good, as you see the circle of heavens come down all round to touch the earth, to encompass it. Firmness and God will is written out in very readable character everything declares. Even the grey moss carries in its arms the children protected

and the Living and not unfortunate souls Prances back to Light and to the face of the Moon and Morning Stars. Endeavoring to repay in the time of our need the Lord's Gifts of his sweet and Silvery influence. Everything teaches Love, and Nature is Revealed to us in Scripture. Scripture being simply the Voice Interpretation of the Universe. Faith is unnecessary to those who see, and while Eventually be destroyed by Knowledge, as it has clearly taught in the Book.

My Dear Son. It is yet hard or necessary for us to believe, because we do not see, (at least clearly) "Now we see through a Glass darkly. But then face to face" Then we shall see him, and know as they are. because we shall be like them, filled with the truth - and the lie cast away. I thought then to be our prayer, our endeavor to come to a knowledge of that truth which is in Jesus, that is, the truth which saves.

Since writing the above I went out with the teams to see the days work begun, and the long furrow broad. Not Burdsall's horses run away and scatter a portion over the prairie. But Daniel jumped off to stack and arrested them. No damage done. Only he got pitched off, but heart. It made me earnestly desire the time when Man will be in subjection, full divine Grace to him in his Labours. When the turning of a rock or a dam will accomplish all he needs. The unorganized forces of Nature working through adapted forms, is much safer than in complex Organisms which Needs not understand. The time comes rapidly when flesh and Blood and Animal Brains will Controle less and less the events of the Hour. And the human Mind will regulate the Human forces to accomplish its Will. When the Memory teems of the Spheres Will sing and love and reap, and Grow, All due in, through our Obedience to its Will. All the potencies of Time and Space continually seek to Come in if we would listen to their Voice and Obey their Teaching.

I believe I may now write my Journey. I long to hear from you, to know that you are all right, because I have little doubt of how much those horses hurt you. We are all as usual. Letty praises like the rest of us a Continual Love and a Continual Comfort.

tell me in your next all about Yourself and Lizzie and Jane and all our Friends. Now I must close the prairie and post this. 9 o'clock, a fresh breeze from the South. Thermometer at 76 and every one Building their pyramids of Brass for the preservation of the Body like the Egyptians, also. I trust we will extract the Essential all from all these Mutable things.

J Christie

I got photo

Cayman. Aug 16 "72.

My dear Father, [Jones Christie]

I have but time to drop you a line. After I get settled I will write by the Grand Uncle H. has threshed wheat 1107. Oats 170. wheat 62 bushs oats 5.

He will take a trip west, to get ready, but don't let him know that I have told you.

I am thinking 10 shillings per day. I still owe him $5.75. Will clear that and make a little chiv.

Have taken the Lowell school 9 mos #50. 6 mos Oct. 1. Dr. Benson wrote me out a Second Grade without exam.
Will board with Jessie.

× Now for your own sake. I am in Clyman, have been in Madison, am better acquainted with things relating to Tom, Carmelite, and Sarah, than you are or I was. And I say that S. does not deserve so much blame as we thought. that she should not be excluded from our love and sympathy, and that love and sympathy wholly transferred to anyone else of whom we know little.
I have made mistakes in this line; and you have made a most grievous one in writing of Sarah's affairs and character to others as you have done.
Keep sorrows of this kind for the ears of those whose years have

taught you to trust,
and don't get Tom into
trouble.
Everyone is good in his
way. Tom is a good fel-
low, better than a year
or two ago. Carmelite
is a good girl, but
Sarah, our Sarah is not
a whit behind any in
those qualities of heart
which make up the self-
denying disciple of a
self-denying Master.
Don't write of S. & C. Women
are only Women; and Justice
is Justice, and you are in the
dark. Wait.

Yours affy Sandy.

Chyman. Aug 16. 72.

My dear Sarah; [Christie]
A line
only. Never mind, we
have all done you injustice
in thought, word, and deed.
You will come out right
yet. Be patient.
I have given Father a
hint. And a hint from
me goes far with him.
He will keep still
at least.
Charlie has not answered
my letter asking loan
of $25.
I will do without it.
Covert sent enclosed letter.
I return 75 cents, excess
over Hotel and R R. for

myself. Uncle is threshed - & still owe him $5.75. Will soon work out of that at $1.25 pr day threshing, and get a little ahead. I owe 9 dollars at Madisonburg Books.

I wrote you & am hired at Lowell Qno, $50. Oct. 1. Board with Jessie, about $3. Other teachers hired. Got business note from B. R. Falls, too late. Wrote to that effect.

You must wait a year for anything so glorious.

Take Edgerton this year: next year something better.

Don't go crazy over anything. I will see Uncle.

Dave,

Yours aff

Sandy.

Do you remember Jennie Fitch? She is now visiting Elder Brights family at Kaukauna. We spent a very pleasant evening with her last Tuesday. She expect a visit from her and Elder Brights family on Tuesday of this week. She looks very much like her another. Elder Fitch made us a visit at Q. nearly two years ago. We have been expected there & times since I have been there. I hope to hear from you soon. I shall not gently rest until you have given me a long letter. Yours, L. M. W.

Rural, Kaukauna Co. Wisconsin

August 17, 1873.

My Dear Friend Christie; [Sarah]

You must think me a perfect heathen, by this time, as I have just received the third letter from you, and have not yet answered the first. Let me explain. When the first was received I thought I would wait till the one was forwarded from Lancaster. That came last night. I also wished to wait till my husband had decided an important matter that we had been talking of since we first came home.

This matter was nothing less than the resignation of his position at Lancaster. My husband had scarlet fever last fall, and his health has not been good since, notwithstanding he was one of the most hearty and healthy before that. He has been doctoring most of the

time since. Although he was far from being well when he resumed the school he hoped the summer vacation would do much for him.

After being at home five weeks, he felt that he was little if any better than when we came. He at last decided to take the advice of mother and myself, together with that of his father & brothers, and many friends, and leave teaching for one year at least, and try farming.

He accordingly returned to B. last Wednesday and presented his resignation, which was reluctantly accepted. I received a letter from him this evening. He is busy packing our worldly goods and will return with them next week.

Isn't it strange, my dear Christie that after such a long silence between us, we came so near being brought together, and are yet to be separated

I am so very very sorry. How much comfort we should have taken there together, living over old times, and forming a new acquaintance, for of course both have changed. O, I have so much to tell you! I don't know how I can write it all. It is very plain from your letters that you have not heard of my dear father's death.

He was taken from us the 29th of last Dec. without a moments warning. He left home Thursday morning apparently as well as usual. Went to Berlin a distance of thirty miles, stayed over night and attended to his business on Friday, and returned about 10 o'clock in the evening. He was found about 8 o'clock the next morning dead in bed. From all appearance he died without a struggle. His eyes were closed, his hands folded upon his breast, and the bed clothes were up close about his neck, and he lay as if quietly sleeping. A messenger was at once sent to mother. Who can imagine her feelings! Brother George and our neighbor Mr. Ackman went to Berlin the same night, and returned about seven the next (Sabbath) evening, with the dear remains. Word was sent to us from Berlin, but did not reach us till Tuesday P.M. He started at six in the evening and reached home at noon on Thursday. My dear dear friend

you can not imagine the sad coming home it was to us. On Friday nearly a week from the time he died we laid the dear body in its last resting place within sight of home.

Mother's health is very good. George is a man in size if not in years. He was seventeen last Feb. He and mother have carried on the farm this summer, but it is too much for them, and I am very glad on their account as well as on our own that my husband has consented to take charge of it during the next year. It will relieve mother of so much care, and give George an opportunity of going to school which he needs very much. We have not yet decided where he will go. He was at Lancaster with us two years ago. Now I must tell you something of myself. I did, as you supposed, teach with Mr. McGregor at Plover. He taught there two years, and I may safely say that there our acquaintance began. Although I had met him

several years previous, and he was our Co. Supt. for three years, and I had also boarded in the same family with him eight months, yet I felt that he was almost a stranger when we went to Dover. So you see ours was no "love at first sight." How we first discovered that we were meant for each other I can not say. But it seemed to be slowly and firmly impressed on our minds that to live apart would be misery to both. Now please don't laugh and declare that I have too become very sentimental, for I am just as matter of fact as ever. We were married three years ago the 29th of last Dec. just three years before Fathers death. Started for Lancaster the same day, and that delightful little place has been our home ever since. Now I have another delightful communication to make, of which I see by your letters you are quite ignorant. I have a precious babe, who will be fifteen months old the 23rd of this month. How I wish I could show him to you. Mother says, "send

my love to Miss Christie and tell her she ought to see our baby." He is a great comfort and joy to mother. Last winter in the time of our great sorrow he was a perfect little sun beam, and I think he was really a great help to mother at that time. Father never saw him. We call him George Malcolm, after both grandfathers. Do you wonder that I am happy, knowing that I have one of the noblest, kindest and in every way best of husbands that ever woman was blessed with, also a darling babe who is blessed with good health a perfect form, and so far as we can judge a sound mind? Riches we have not. Neither are we poor, but very very comfortable, and if my husband's health is restored we hope some day to have a goodly share of this world's goods. But we never expect to get them by teaching. I never get knew a person to become rich in that occupation, although it is a good field for usefulness. Husband has talked for some time of giving up teaching. The coming year is an experiment. Whether he will again enter the school room I do not know but think it doubtful.

You wonder if I have changed. I think I have. Certainly I have in size. Several have remarked since I came home, "you are not more than half as large as you used to be." But my health is very good and I am quite as strong as during school days at Top Lake.

I am still a Baptist, though I think not quite so bigoted as formerly. I united with the church at Lancaster. But it is a very feeble body and they have been able to sustain a minister there but a small portion of the time. I have attended the Congregational church most of the time and feel quite at home there. My husband is not a church member, but being a scotch man is of course a Presbyterian at heart. We have rented the same seat in the Con. church since we first went there, and Mr. McG. has been connected with the S.S. in that church all of the time, and I was for two years. I can not help feeling sad when I think of leaving the

many warm friends I had there. You can't help liking the place and people. It is a very small quiet little town, but beautifully laid out and ornamented with trees. And then the people are so good, so very social and friendly. I would like to write a full letter describing them especially my particular friends, but I have not time and perhaps it is better you should form your own opinions without being biased by mine. I hardly think you could find a better set of scholars than you will in that school. They are not difficult of management. There is no examination of teachers except that of the Co. Supt. and I think that does not take place till some two or three weeks after school opens. I do not know that any arrangement has heretofore been made for paying teachers monthly, but I know that they have drawn at any time during the term that they wished. No doubt you could get it monthly if you wished.

Board for $3.50 per week includes lights and

I want to introduce you to my husband and sister Mrs. Ellen Cox left Kansas City, Mo., is married and lives at Kearney. Mother lives with us. About forty miles from here. Come and have a good visit with her. I would love to come, please. My thoughts have flown back to you while writing this but I must stop. Over your loving friend, S. E. K. Cox

just, but not washing. We have boarded two or more of the teachers most of the time since we have been there, and they have always done their own washing. I do not think it possible that you could live on less than $3,50 per week.

I am glad you have met Mrs. Eaton. You will like her very much, and after knowing her I think you will agree with me in saying that she fulfills the duties of a ministers wife more perfectly than any one you ever saw. Mrs. Murphy is another good sister in the Con. church, whom you will like more and more as you become acquainted with her. She was a near neighbor and very kind. You will find her always cheerful and ready for fun notwithstanding her frequent attacks of headache. Mrs. Meyer & Mrs. Cox were also neighbors, and I can't tell you how good they were to me. At either of those places you can feel perfectly at home to run in at any time and always be welcome. Then at

the other end of town from us live Mrs. Ryland, Mrs. Chandler Holloway, Mas Judge McEnigal and many others just as good that I can not stop to mention now. You see I could not resist the temptation to say a few words for my friends. There are very few young gentlemen there, but some very estimable young ladies.
I am so sorry we can't be together, but I do hope now that our correspondence has been renewed we will try to continue it. I shall be most happy to hear from you at any time, and although I may not be as prompt as of old, rest assured that I shall answer as soon as possible. Of course I shall not always have material for such a lengthy epistle as this. Now I have a proposition to make. Come and see us during the christmas vacation. Start just as soon as school closes, and spend all of the time with us. The cars run to Kinkaca now. We will meet you there. I think you can come and return for less that $25. Don't say you cant afford it. I know you will need the change and rest, and I shall be

Milwaukee Wis
Thurs. Eve. Aug 22/93

Miss Christie; [Sarah]

your letter is just received, & I hasten to reply tonight that you may get this tomorrow morning in time to write to Edgerton the same day.

I thank you again, for your kindness in mentioning this school to me, & writing so fully about it.

My sister forwarded your letter, & I rec'd it yesterday afternoon.

I write to night to say I will accept the position at Edgerton, & would like you to send them my name, if you please.—

I do not see how you could have misunderstood my other letter. for in it, I said, & underscored it, that "if you did not like to ask the Board there, to wait for any decision, I would take the situation now"

I have made my plans here on the strength of that promise to you. — that is I told the Board here. I had written engaging to take another school. & suppose my name is taken off their list, before this time.

I shall not attend the remainder of the examination as mail — to hear any report, for I considered your engagement binding, unless you wrote me. they were willing to wait, this week.

I shall be glad to fill the vacancy there (Edgerton) and certainly thank you for mentioning it; & wish you much success. & happiness at Lancaster. the coming year.

I shall doubtless be in Beloit — Saturday afternoon when I shall be glad to see you. —

Please excuse haste, as I must put this into the mail immediately to have it leave here in the early train.

Very truly.

Fannie H. Benson.

Sequently, to be Alone, because of her Essence
I am opposed to her Going into this Nurses affair
She has not enough of physical stamina for it
Also I think too by an pathetic in Constitution
in Temperament and texture. Not puffed Nurses I have
been Nine Women of an pathetic frame, or feeling.
Who could Laugh and Sing in the intervals of their
Labours. Crying the tender day there patients but
Force of immediate duty. This Alone it always seemed
to me enabled them to live amidst the Scenes of Suffering
by which they were surrounded. Insensibility of nerve
in a Nurse is useful for their Charges. Yet it is death to
themselves. Whenever Sensitive, being, feels and suffers. Lines seem
to be very strong or very indurated. That is very and a portion of
of that Burden which has been attached to him since the Sentence
ation of the World. It has always impressed me in thinking
of the Passion. That with this fine Temperament, deep feeling and
Exquisite Spiritual Feeling that He must have continually carried
a Great load of Agony. He must so that if the Lawyers and Theologian
had not put him to death He must have died of a Broken Heart.
"How long" He says "Shall I suffer you?" When I contemplate the sinful
State of the World. (Wonderful as I have been by sin myself) and in the
suffering it originates, it crushes me with a part of its Agony, and I
should need at these times a deeper Knowledge than I have to keep me
from a Kind of despairing unbelief. which afflicts me terribly, until
I Nearly groan in Spirit. Lord How is it so? This is worse to me
than all the rest, sometimes it is like to kill me. I point there are
many dangerous thoughts for me, and has a Continual tendency to dim
ments a Very disponden and Blank atheism. Who can give me
a Cure for this? it takes away my life from me at times. I am
Compelled to cease thinking and appeal to God in prayer to save
me of this Great Burden. It must be a punishment for my Lack
of Faith. it is a result of Looking to Know More than we are
Qualified to Carry. My Dear Son I think God that you
have been given power to do Good. I think Him that you find
Happiness in doing it. it is my consolation that you have
devoted your life to serve the World from him, and that a Years
and Experience should teach you more and more its Terrible Nature
You will more and more Grow in power through God's Grace & Lyman is
Write me again soon, tell me of your Success. I believe

(To Thomas.) Rapidan, August 24 1872.

Your letter received
I am much Gratified You have found the place You wished
for, and that You are Employed there, also in work which
You like, and in which I hear from Sarah You are doing much
Good in I feel thankfull — The tone of Your letter is buoyant
full of hope and full of Gratitude as it should be, and You
refer with a little Gentle tone to what has been done for You
and You seem to begin another Year in an Abandon of Faith
and hope. I attribute some of this to Your sanguine Temperament. The
strength and flow of Your Blood is so Generous that the difficulties
of Your position are seen through a Rage tinged with the Brightest
Ray. You ought therefore to make some allowance for those
of a more Melancholic Temperament. if You think of their travelling at Your
side in peace, You must at least endeavour to cultivate prudency
prudence. It also is indispensible for You. My Dear Son the Lord does
not require the Lord to look into our Account Book and Match
the Balance. Although I believe He will do that even if He sees
that We cannot do it for ourselves. My advice to You is to be prudent
without doubt You think You are a model in that way, When You
compare what little it does for You. With the thousand temptations
which Your Natural imprudence would put You into. When
You make up Your programme under the influence of Your more
hopeful feelings, distrust its correctness, and at least deduct
Forty per Cent from the last Careful figures. Never forget that
Financial success is accomplished not alone by Getting but also in
retaining. Conserving. I do not wish to extinguish in You any feeling of
Loving and helpful Generosity. Only do turn it homewards. Mainly
but behind this ink is shed in pain more. the feeling I am trying

Creation, Your is not Your strong point, and in Your Case time will come by age and wrinkles, when the Countenance assumes the shape of a purse all drawn together at the mouth, and only relinquishing its corrugations when it has something Coming into it — after all my talk I do not wish to see the worldly preacher stamped strongly on your at any age — God forbid. Yet I suggest a little prudence, Your know that the Horse of the Earth have all the Roles as yet, the more need for the inhabitants of the so near me, to fill theirs. Nestles the Topmost branches, the Children of the Spirit must live by the Spirit, and I seek not to turn you back.

Yes, You ought to rejoice in the Lord, for all He has done for you. You ought also to be full of Courage, to be full of Hope of Faith of Love and thankfulness and humility, as You have a Hope to share all these possessions with You. But does the is she not more melancholic in temperament? If You cannot share this with her also do you not see that in these things she becomes Your Crosses. Do you think of her Circumstances, of her trouble, when she through the darkness of her Religious temperament only sees the difficulties of the road? And You are not yet Christ, true indeed "A thirsty man suspects himself a fool, knows it at Work and reforms his plan," here You a plan, I do not believe it.

My advice to You is to take time by the forelock and reform in something, before reaching that period, I have said too much in this track, You must forgive me. "But there is a time some water where the stirrie crosses" Hence let me advise You again in relation to Sarah, I believe that You are doing to her as You ought to, that is helping her to that by which she may help herself. There is a tone thing of the Horse leaks about her Character, which I cannot see into. Allways Getting, and allways in need, it is a most decided Defect and must be abated, it is intolerable. She must be made to suffer for it in some way or it will state Grow to Curse and disgrace her and all Connected with her. She must be taught to suffer untill she fulfills the righteous law which she has violated, this is God's method of inducing a true Repentance, Salvation is always Conquered by Grain. And a true repentance must be fed on Locusts Especially, on that which arrests all Earthly Growth and proceeds by Retrospection, looking at the past is where is derived the new impetus to Go forward in the new path. Flying a short distance it alights allways looking backwards, loses its post Course for an instant and in taking another new impression, it suddenly flies up hastening away from the way it has passed. Where a sustained Repentance is also fed on the sweet hopes, promises, and truth, it finds in the new path. Anything which does not include this treatment for those who need repentance is damnatory of final peace.

I speak from Experience. I have suffered because I had sinned, and the light shed from the Blessed Book has shown me that it was right I should suffer.

I should have been much pleased to have had Sarah's company for a time this summer. God knows could they

Saturday morning.

Clyman, Aug. 24th '72.

My dear Father: [James Christie]

I got back from "Rolling Prairie", where I have been thrashing at 10 shillings per day, this afternoon and found your long and welcome letter of the 15th & 16th awaiting me at Uncle's. I am sorry that I omitted writing for so long an interval: but I was so situated that writing might be called an impossibility. My last, which I hope you got, short and worthless as it was, was but a hasty line or two, and I can promise very little more tonight. I started out last Monday morning to look for work. Of my failure that day I need not now speak. I kept on through the grove to Rolling Prairie Station, to Sunnyside Corners, where I dropped into John Kirkes Smithy and talked awhile of David and the rest of his folks in Maine. He was glad to see me, and hitching up a team took me to two different

Postscript: Go back to Uncle's for me. Give her accounts principally, I pray ye.

places in the neighborhood where he thought there was a chance for me. Did not succeed. You see I did not intend to hire by the month, but by the day, either to help run a thresher; or to use a fork at threshing. One of the places we visited was the Shurtleff farm N.E. of the Corners, where a man is running a farm on socialist principles, sinking a great deal of money which he derives from an Eating House in Toledo, Ohio. Artificial ponds, swans, best of buildings, imported stock, French draft-horses, Durhams etc etc — Stopped Monday night half way west toward Beaver Dam on Oakdale Road. In the morning, left on toward Fox Lake, and found a job at threshing at $1.00 per day with one Sonner a short distance toward Hampden from the "Snake-Home Corners", 4½ miles N.E. of Beaver Dam. Didn't get started till 3 p.m. This job lasted only ½ of a day. Thursday morning started in for a German named Fiegel, this side of the Corners, at 10 shillings. Worked Thurs. Friday, and half of this Sat. forenoon, when rain stopped us. After dinner threw my valise on my shoulder and "lit out" for Uncle William's, where I arrived at 5 o'clock. I go back Sunday evening, as I promised to be on hand Monday morning. Had to come down for letters. Yours is worth twice the distance. Glorious. Fiegel has about 3½ days more, and there are other jobs in the neighborhood. I will earn all I can at these wages, or even $1.00. Another day will clear what I owe Uncle W. on my clothes, etc and then I will need a little beside me and to pay for books ordered at Madison. Pretty country around the Corners. Sonner is from Conejal 35 years agone, brother of Robert Sonner of the N.Y. Ledger; and his father-in-law is a Rose, born near Strabane. Had quite a chat. Sonner is quite well-informed. One of the Rose family, not now at home, was 2d Lieut. in the Battery and I was acquainted with him by sight at Goldsborough, Richmond, and Washington.

Dodge County is a country of "insignificant distances". After my experiences in the further West, I think nothing of what seemed 10 years ago long roads. I am in the best of health; if it would not elicit the Scotch minister's running commentary on Peter's words ("Ayr brag-ging"), I would fain tell you that I can do more work with greater ease than any other man on Rolling Prairie. I am already recognized in that character. Only yesterday I relieved a crowd of ~~two~~ ~~three~~ ~~Dragoons~~ Dragoons, throwing a sack full of wheat on my shoulder with one hand, a thing none of them could do. I don't tell all this I make things go and stand about for me; all I wish you to understand is, that I am able for my work, and feel like singing all the day long while I am at it. Hope Dan is able for his, for I see by your letter that the storm has given

him more to do. I am afraid something very serious will happen with those horses now that they have got off once, and I would advise Dave to feed light and work them hard till they get tame. Don't let him go threshing.

As to my next year, I will be in Lowell at $50 per mo. for 9 mos. beginning Oct. 1. Sarah will probably be at Lancaster at $45. She is still writing on the subject.

We will all be usefully employed; and while we are of service to the world around us, we will be advancing the interests of our own family. If we all have health, a few years will tell in our favor, I trust.

You cannot do your part better than by giving us the results of your cogitations such as I got this afternoon — better than all the books on the shelves. I cannot but be a believer in a grand future for those who use the Present aright. What it shall be we know not definitely; but something noble, glorious and I trust useful. Could we ask for anything better than the privilege of still bearing a hand in advancing the good cause?

I trust and think, I am growing upward, away from the gross earth into the pure air of the heavens. It is a slow growth, but a growth it is. As to the end, I cannot say.

When I get more time, I will write at length. In the mean time, do not fear for me. I have more work to do, and will, as a matter of course, live to do it. My best love to our household, Dave, Emma, Jimmy, Mother and yourself, not forgetting Joe, who I am glad

[Aug 26, 1872]

I scribble off copy for you of the most important document since Emancipation Proclamation.

Mr. G. W. Ryland
Lancaster Wis.

Dear Sir;

My sister now at Beloit, informs me that she has accepted a position as teacher in your school, and that the place of Principal is still vacant.

I am hired as principal of a village school in this County, but could find a substitute if I desired; and in view of this latter fact, I now make application for the vacancy in Lancaster, submitting the following statements as regards myself.

I am in my "27" year, have taught four years within the last five, only time was of

which as principal of a school of two depts. and am, consequently, practically unacquainted with the graded school system, though I have read such descriptive and explanatory works as fall within the reach of every enterprising teacher.

But so far as skillful teaching of the usually requisite branches, and the principles and practice of school government are concerned, I can, I think, give good satisfaction.

Although I take great interest in the higher mathematics, and would be pleased to instruct classes or private pupils in the whole course, including the Infinitesimal Analysis with its various useful and beautiful applications in Engineering, Astronomy, Natural Philosophy, etc. yet I am fully aware that, in mathematics, a thorough understanding of Arithmetic is that to which the pupil should but seldom does attain, that I deem it more to the purpose to say, that I will take no ninth place as a teacher of that (to the majority of scholars) extremely abstruse subject.

To the subject-matter of all the branches usually taught in our common and graded schools, and methods of instruction in the same, I have not failed to give the attention which their importance demands.

I know a little Latin and less Greek; and if you wished pupils taken through a Latin Reader, I could do it, though aware of my inability to do either them or the Latins full justice.

In conclusion, -

My portmanteau

is not crammed with "Testimonials", "Recommendations" etc. While in Minnesota, I carried one of the few First Grade Certificates, and was considered to be a Ne plus ultra by many not qualified to judge; but I never asked and never received one of those fulsome emanations so much sought after by teachers and in so great demand by School Boards.

If you consider it advisable to enter into negotiations, you will find me reasonable as to terms and at this place.

Yours Very Respectfully
Alex S. White,

Ogemaw Fris Aug. 26 "72.

August 27th 1872

My Dear Sarah

to make one disregard John's due to others besides Christ, but we cannot do justice first that precedes Character, Christ. I have heard of more act of that kind as you about Sarah. Let me hear of them if you can, and I will be satisfied, and also shall have some hope, the proof, the proof. Your letter of the 16th received

And I must speak at once of the surprise that your statement that "have been writing to some one of Sarah's character and affairs" I have written to no one of Sarah's. Certainly to no one but Tom. And that was in a letter some ten days ago in which I commended him for exerting himself to get Sarah's situation, telling him at the same time that this was the best method in which to help her and not to give her any money. In the same envelope in which was the letter to Tom, there was also a note to Samuelite.

I wrote both these letters in Ripley as it were to a note which Samuelite sent to me enclosed in a letter of Tom's, which he had left her to post when finally in Tom's letter he was making out by enumeration of how many things he had been successful in how much he should be thankful to God for, and also telling me what he intended to do in the future, amongst which was that he meant to help Sarah. These things his wife had read in his letter and, knowing Tom's hopeful and generously sanguine ways saw nothing in them but proof for heavy, and as she said that note in depreciation of these things to me, the note is a very depressed late strain, in full view of all Tom's indebtedness, and here where she had made calculations for the future, and when prostration should come, she state begins to see some trouble ahead from Tom's heedless ways. Among other personal causes she specially mentioned what Tom in this letter said of helping Sarah. Said she was not opposed to Tom giving Sarah money enough to come to Minnesota with, but she did not think he could go any further if he looked to his own affairs. Now I think this was right enough, and indeed very natural that she should have said all this. But the question was to interpose in some way. Now this was a thing I could not do in any way but in general terms. And so I wrote a small sheet to Tom warning him to be a little in his longer in way of running things, to be more prudent and to deduct 40 per cent from all his calculations about the future showing him that his wife had a very different temperament

* Regret to say it appears to me if Tom should have written as he did, he would have felt that he should have written to Samuelite, and not to me, and yet I feel that in justice to all there was nothing else to do but to write to me. I am much satisfied that Samuelite's conduct in Sarah's behalf was entirely proper and in accordance with her feelings. Tom's letter was a very proper one, and I am sorry that I should have felt any misgivings about it. Tom's letter was a very proper one, and I am sorry that I should have felt any misgivings about it.

and the for the reason that it is his own Vine and his own Fig tree must drink some Day for Wine and Eat some Day for Figs. You must become as it were a mere Spectator, and while You may offer Advice they better, must seem to be Content to let Others take their own Foolish Stuff. One may Ofly Graft a New Bud and they must know it. That is better than risk all the Dangers of Strife and Pain to Commence on the big Old Limb. Let Mars Alone. Any Mile off out where the new Buds Enlarge and crawl to them. The Life of the Tree from the Good Seed, doubt not, some of it will take root. But be sure that the Seed is Good. You will probably see Benson after

Otis is not much heard to him, nor much heard. Yet as Mars Gr. he is Capable of doing Some Good. I do not think that he is a Christian Unbeliever, he has taken Good training for that, and too much of the Worldly philosophy. Benson in short is Respectable —

David has Got all into the Stack only three down Oats: and now rainy Weather prevents any thing being done with them. 15 stacks of Wheat, one of Barley 3 of oats and will probably finish Early next week. have put up 21 feet of new fencing and 54 feet of Sheds, running East on the north side of the Yard. Benny and David away to the Woods this Morning to get poles to roof, intending also to build a Crib with them at Threshing.

Yes I anticipate have You will write to me regularly again, after You start to school. Elder Hart Gives signs of again Joining the Lutherans. has told Clem to scan his name off the Church Book. Was Deciding on Leaving Lately and Clem pushing to 7 people. this made some fuss, and they is he letter of Expulsion. I hear of more this, All this pertains to Churchianity, rather than Religion —

The Spirit of Christ is the Gift of God. And is Super-Natural. This Alone Constitutes a Man a Member of the true Church. it is more rare in the World than is imagined, is Genuine, is a fact. Which the World seems to ignore. Indeed they ignore the Supernatural in it, that has really been the Source of all that is Good in our Present Civilization. Show that of the Ancient, the Accession of the Man Jesus into the Spiritual Affairs Inaugurated a New Order of Government in the Heavens in Reference to Man upon Earth which will Eventually Establish Righteousness upon Earth, after the destruction of the Selfish Policy in the Church and the World. All this seems a long way off yet But is true. The Leaven Work although unseen, and the Lump is big.

In Conclusion let me say, that You must be careful not to be deceived by these Jesuits You will know them by, the, and it and saying of Jesus addressed to the, Heart. — I also write as if all the Bakers of Your Ilk, I invited

from here. I wrote in my last Letter to him in the Philosophical and Pathetical Phase, in to which I sometimes fall. Not Mentioning his Wife letter to me at all. All imagine as if I had been merely surveying his General Character and Natural Interests Leaving him the Great difference between himself and Wife Temperamentally and Educationally. and moved by writing a Note to her alone, Proving her Not Jesuitical State Was the result of a Perspicuous Temperament in unalloyed Christianity. Which is hopefull, Unless of the things of this World. Which is indeed in Essence the Spirit of Gift, and hence that Nature contemplated by the Spirit of Worldly Wisdom is a dangerous thing for Human Comfort and reason in Worldly matters. Thus Mary although its Founder had no dwelling place Therein, and lived by a System of Casual donations, supplied by the Women folk, who followed him Mainly, Yet Mars Unmarried Men Who have taken up home must not trust to the system. but must make calculation to provide by their own Labour. Re Sharing David this in My note to Tom. in Connection I said that Sh must take into Consideration the Great difference of Temperament, and not let that enter as a dividing Wedge between them, hence that We are purposely placed in that way to act beneficially upon one another, to polish and bring to light the peculiar Perfections of each. Re All in my heart Manner. Not once Alluding to Parsh or her Conscience. Besides Enclosing these Note in One Envelope to Tom's Address, Beloit College, so that if Any Writing shd not Satisfy him he might suppose both after reading the one

I think Sarah must have been tampering with the secrecy of the post office. she has been Writing to You from that Knowledge. You perceive that instead of letting anything, it Has me that Has Getting News. Surely do You imagine that I Want Speak of Sarah's Concerns to Carmellite? No, "It is a dirty Bird that fouls its own nest" I am Guiltless in this Affair. It is one vision more of Wrong that makes Sarah Write to You. it is all the Harmless of an Active Imagination Stimulated by Knowing Which has produced this Accusation.

(2) and is a Step higher than the footstool with Lowly Feet of the Lowly Jesus. Yet the Lowly Jesus is and has been Worshipped as the Lord of Glory. Yet the Lowly Jesus is the Glory of God. Yet the Lowly Jesus is the Glory of God. Yet the Lowly Jesus is the Glory of God

3)

But I wrote a letter to Sarah about the same time, in which I endeavored to show her that all this anxiety to get high pay & situations was not for her true interest for her, but rather to require her expenditures to the minimum, & to be orderly and earnestly to work to make all things straight without and within. I said some things which might have seemed to her severe, but it was, as is necessary, you cannot take away a gangrened ulcer, without hurting some. I then wrote another letter to her in my kindest feeling, all of which both true, coming from the heart, for I love Sarah, and only wish she would amend in this affair of imitating the worldly, Jesus Christ has nothing in common with Jeremy Fiddler. Sarah has many crooked things and needs to be watched, all this in your ear. Upon consideration and after I am gone from this world, she will yet embrace all over I have said. I have never but defended Sarah, against all who have attacked her. When things were at the darkest and worst she is true. My love is stimulated by knowledge. We inherit the errors of our parents it is embedded in our physiology, and of course in our psychology, — for the spirit always works through the channels of greatest facility. While an efficient cleansing force has taken possession to turn the life force into the smaller and of course weaker channels, time on this point I have said enough, although not by any means all that I should wish to say.

I am glad you have accepted that school, it is a certainty, "better a bird in the hand than two in the bush." There is no situation in this life without trouble, it is probable they will be plenty in female school, "but you must force a smile and be a stay brave" and go straight, whoever must be straightened, yet do all things with caution, taking into consideration the weakness of all parties, avoid disputes with the governors, endeavor to please all in your attempt to please the principles of righteousness, and yield a little to the weakness and blindness of humanity. Avoid setting up as a representative of the God in heaven, while at the same time you seek to cause his law to be respected, in this country where every man sits under his own vine and his own fig tree —

I have tried to give that I was made to write to you, it might be the cause of much this experience, I trust for instance, I see in everything with perfect trust for Providence.

I must say a few words of little Jimmy. He is pretty nearly free with Getting Teeth. Yet cannot be called sick in any way. His Head grows in the mental region and he looks well. He gives me much trouble and much pleasure, and loses me Record to more, I presume because I mean to gratify all his wishes better than others,, Yet he is a very perfect little Savage, as the greater number of little ones are A Bundle of untamed desires. Before Everyone of them. it is truly the Business of Life and of our probation here. to conquer these same powers, The Responsibility of Parentage is Enormous, and if our current Views of the Hereafter are correct how Guilty are these responsibilities esteemed. Matter are then fence that be based? "Strive to enter in" Now hearty we to direct unseen Shirkers, and we ask Why? While then we must strive for others and not for ourselves. That is the Way to force entrance, to be unconscious of self in seeking the welfare of all.

Excuse my continual prosing, Good Morning.

have not heard from Nellie since Nurse began. I have had quite a severe attack of my same nervous, semi bilious disturbance which I vanquished by a dose of Jaynes Sanatives, while in that way I had some very strange dreams in reference to my Mother. Who I saw in great distress because of Aunt Jessie Prince being let go free, and many other incidents. One does not know what to make of these things. Yet I anticipate receiving some startling news from Clymer by & by.

There is no true source of permanent happiness but in the peace of God. in the consciousness of a heart void of offence towards God and man. Not only so. But instead of offence a spirit of love. that would suffer evil rather than do evil to any one. We may confidently defise all the powers of Evil if we shall continue in well doing.

Petersville Aug 28, 1872

My dear Sister Christie: [Sarah]

It is a miserable rainy day — Cold disagreeable & altogether unpleasant. I am going to Barnesville at 2.35 for month. It is about 18 miles from Lancaster. My schools begins the 3rd week we depart I fear through Lancaster can only employ 1 Barnesville Lafayette & Mt Pleasant & perhaps Shelby if for we have to remain & come to the Hayde House I mean Jehiel Hayes to see me. I stay there Saturday for dinner, Sep the 7th will find us once more at home. I left Ann & Robert billing

Beloit & Such Ships it on-
account of the Dam - It will
be the school room at Ma-
Pennsylvania. I don't wish been
a - I know the benefit of my
learnings - If you will pay
for this & bring it home at
Christmas I shall be much
obliged. Your sister is
from Beloit & intends there
to Beneficial Home & Preacher
by Name - I. is a Penalty
fifteen of 1800 or 2000 - the
account reckoned Above as
Bonebel People mostly farmers
& I remember Poor
character as those at Beloit
They are nearly all Baptists
& the society here is reckoned
about the best in the County.
After I again inform
ed that I shall write for
longer better letters but

situated as I now
from myself you see the
character of my spirits -
I pray God to bless
of Elder Skinner from health -
& I don't believe the en-
tire Journey Doubtful
I see see at Lancaster
If you come after the
of people mostly quite
one as Beloit & I'll see
you when you pass through
there - Off
Rode -

Sat Eve, Aug 31 "72

Uncle Frank.

My dear Sarah: [Christie]

Arriving this evening from the Prairie, I found your two letters in relation to important matters — 3 sheets of Aug 25th and 6 sheets of 22d. The only thing that frightens me is the necessity for immediate action. Otherwise it don't make me even wink. That's all right, and right it shall be; so don't feel down about it.

Father has passed upon me the deed of 100 acres, after. In my absence

If you are frozen, tell them you will pay in six months & further, Sarah fire up the stove!

he threatens to make out the instrument and hear of no negative.

I will now accept, and mortgage for all I can get on the longest time I can get. My word goes like a Prophets with Father and Dave, and they will do as I say. I will write for the Deed, and borrow of Uncle Dave, or with his assistance: and after I have done the best here, will send it back, and Dave will do what he can in the same line for me in Minn.

As regards immediate funds, I am in a quandary. I will leave Uncle Hiram at early and see Uncle D, before Church. I will get all the ready money he can command, or trust me no more. I will send it by Exp Monday.

Whatever is raised, and it is not probable we will be able to get our hands on so much as you say in short notice, pay each a part, as an earnest of intention to pay the rest.

I write this like lightning in the gloaming, and will leave it with Aunt J. to post Monday. I will do the best I can

Coward

Sandy.

On no account be discouraged.

If necessary don't go to Lancaster or anywhere else mind now.

Sandy.