

James C. Christie and Family Papers

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Version 3
August 20, 2018

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned a legal voter and freeholder of school district No 78, in the Town of Rapidan, County of Blue Earth and State of Minnesota, has petitioned the County Commissioners of said County, to set off his land and residence— twenty five acres in the N.W. corner of the SW¼ Sec. 34. Town 107, Range 27— from school district No. 78, to the adjoining school district No. 92 And that a hearing of said Petition will be had before said Commissioners, in the City of Mankato, on Wednesday, May the 24th 1876

Dated April 14th 1876

Carl Sperlich

[ca 1875?]

Northfield.

Thur. Noon.

My dear Father, [James Chrystie]

This is a most unfortunate time for me - & have been hardly able to go about - for bad weather & terrible sore throat, & my lungs painful - Examinations + hard work - They begin today - & make on much harder - & get - your letter yesterday morning - & write now again this P.M. & Dave - & write send this instead explain + as made else as I can

If these men will not-
observe the rules for Dave
& Ben Arnold they will
for me - & will go down
& see them if necessary -
any dear Dallie don't let-
people talks about me -
you hurt - to me & do
not - make yourself un-
happy about me - you
can trust - to me, both
you & Dave notwithstand-
ing anything they may
say - yours with love -
Sarah -

Beckwith House,

ED. & FRED. BLOOD, Prop'rs.

Oshkosh, Wis., Sat. Even- Jan. 2. 1875.

My Dear Father, —

My school begins Monday, and I had promised a small present, not to be had in Stockbridge, as a New Years gift to the best scholar in the primary department, to be given first day of new term. There was nothing for it but come across today, and without a team, for my purse wouldn't stand that. Rather cold morning, and a nor'wester raising the deuce and the snow on Lake Winnebago. ½ mile to the lake, 1½ miles across, and road desperately bad, and I hardly out of the house for three months, — certainly haven't walked 3 miles at a stretch. But the thing must be did, and I set out at 9 o'clock A.M. thinking, with my usual conceit, that I could do it both ways today. Folks in S. would have stopped me for a crazy man, dissuaded me, or come with me to the Asylum over here; so I gave them all the slip and "lit out." The cold made a thought to me, nor the wind either, only as it made me slip back oftener. I've seen worse winds than ever blow here, though the lake has a bad reputation with the travelling public; and so I enjoyed the cool bath,

with my duds just as I wear them in June, with the exception of one of those cotton sleeping-shirts mother sent me, under my fine shirt. Got in all right in four hours but muscles of my legs somewhat sore, and made up my mind to give them a night's rest before going back. So here I am, and my legs thank me. Tonight would be a wild night on the frozen twelve mile ice-prairie.

I have written little of late, for have been up with a friend, helping in the vain attempt to save one of the best citizens of our little town, and one of those most needed. His was a sad case, It makes my heart sore to see his two fragile girls going about now, fatherless and motherless, - for she died nearly two years ago. We gave him Masonic burial, the Odd Fellows and Good Templars assisting. "God's will is accomplished. So mote it be. Amen."

Also, I have started to write mathematical text-books, beginning in the middle and "working both ways," - as every good rule and rule-maker should. First book will be Arithmetic. Am at work on Second Book - Algebra and Geometry combined. Think I have "struck it"; and if I can get some publisher to think so next summer, I'll do.

May God's blessing abide with you all this new year, which, I trust, you have happily begun; you cannot but bid seventy-four adieu with a sense of relief - it brought us dark days. Do not write me long letters, much as I love to read them, for it must be a wearying task for you.

With love to all, I am Yours Sandy.

POSTAL CARD.

WRITE THE ADDRESS ON THIS SIDE—THE MESSAGE ON THE OTHER

CHICAGO JUN 8 ILL.

ca 1875-1877

U.S. POSTAGE ONE CENT

Miss Schuette

Principal Fem. Coll. Dept.

Wheaton

Ills.

Chicago —

My Dear Friend. Please consider yourself
engaged to speak before our Temp. meeting
Sunday after next the 18th
The address last Sabbath was of tedious
length & repetition.

Affectionately, in haste
as I leave for Philadelphia & New York
tomorrow night, to be gone till the 20th

Your Friend Mrs Holyoke.

If she is absent, go

Mrs Schuyler, I expect to assist you.

for now if it only lasts in peace & quiet. That is one grand thing Surgeon Hart & home learned in "Hearts ease" for four weeks. "Hearts ease" for me - or, at least Hart- ease seems to me nice now it's not only worth - it's worth a dollar in with a dollar in it's worth a dollar. The world doesn't seem worth a cent living. I would like to have a good long talk with you about your chances & what you should do after the war is over. Letter next week.

Yours truly,
Emma Kinney.

High Forest, Iowa, Dec 4th 1865.

Dear Miss Christie, [Sarah]

Rec'd your last letter Sunday, shall have no chance to send one to office until tomorrow night. Am so sorry to hear you are not well, hope you will be when this reaches you. Wish I could say something that would do you good, but cannot - except to say that I am well, and think of you and many things we used to talk about - much oftener - I believe, than when I was with you.

I had rather see you to-night than anybody else I know.

Now must not say or think any thing more about my coming back to Carleton - for it cans never be.

I should like to for one thing - to be with you - Of course it would be pleasant to be with all the friends but there, I cans get along without them all better there you. I have good & sufficient reasons for not coming - do not try to surmise, for you don't know. When I have thoroughly decided what I am to do, I will tell you all about it.

Please tell me all about the Society fuss. I have heard nothing, but the few words in your last. Is Rockwood & Parker to get back this term?

I should judge P. quit away in just about the right mood to stay.

Tell me all about the exercises. How did Thurina do? and what was Burke's Rec?

Does Sawyer come back this term? Do you know that my everlasting baggage is lost again? I haven't heard a single word from it since it was sent. I have written to Mrs. Strong about it - but have heard nothing from her.

I ain't it really strange what does ail my boys? I'am begining to think that it is all in my name and think I shall petition to have it changed. I am getting along finely with my school - marching right along - I think it has been best for me all round to come here this winter - I manage to study a little every day, and the reviews are just what I need. My health has not been so good for a long time and I feel myself growing stronger every day. That is one objection I have to going back to Carleton. I know now - though I hardly realized it at the time - that my health was poorer while there than in all my life before. As for as I am concerned, sickness has no terrors

Garden City Sat Eve.
January 9th 1875

Dear Miss Christie [illegible]

Your letter came tonight as you said it would. I was a little fearful that you would be so busy this week that you could not write; though I knew you would if you could.— I can see you all, in imagination, going through the regular routine of daily duty, and I often find myself wishing that I were "in the crowd", as you say. But for some reasons I am very glad I am not. I may as well tell you one of these reasons is that I am glad to get away from the Literary Societies.— You ask me to tell you all about everything. Rather an extravagant demand, isn't it? But I know of no one in the world I would sooner tell all my thoughts to than you.— I commenced school Monday. Am studying, beside Latin and Greek, Geometry. The class have finished one Book, so this week I have been doing more than regular work in

that to overtake the class. Mr Sterling prefered that I wait a few days with the Greek, but will go at that next monday. Have read the Cicero's first oration against Catiline, - just finished it. As you know, it was expected that I should have one or two recitations - Have had only one this week but hereafter expect to hear two. One an Arithmetic, and the other an Algebra class. Hattie is in both of them and that I like. though dont really dislike it any way, except that it takes considerable time. Teaching is hard work for me; much harder than studying, even if I should apply myself as closely to study, as one is obliged to, to teaching; which by the way I seldom do. Reciting to Mr. S. is quite different from the recitations in Carlton, for as he himself says he is "rather rusty" in the Classics, having scarcely seen a Greek or Latin book for several years. It makes me more careful in studying to get every thing right, for if wrong there would be great danger of not being corrected. He has made only two or three corrections on the whole oration, yet I think I could read it now with as few mistakes as any I read with Prof. Chamberlin.

Parker has not been in school at all, neither have I seen him since you were here. A week ago today he told Mr. Sterling (at least Mr S. so understood him) that he intended to come. but Monday Father saw Mr. P. Sen. and he said P. Jr. had about decided to go to N. again. I should have gone over to see him before now but thought likely he had gone.

I shall probably go over to section tomorrow, and will find out what his plans are. I presume he thinks of going Mon, and if he does you will probably see him before you get this.

I have laughed not a little over what you said about miss K. If that was all your letter contained I should be tempted to label it "nonsense" and throw it off into one corner of my trunk, and keep it to read when I get the "blues" and need to be arroused from a disconsolate mood.

You say I need not deny what you say. and I think myself it would be useless, for if you believe (?) it, a denial would only make your convictions stronger; if you do not it certainly would be useless. - I to make me thus say "Confound her!" in earnest to know some things that miss K said about me; for instance, that I was jealous of Parker. I believe you told me

this before, but I dont know as I said any thing about it then. I suppose it is possible (for all things are possible) that my actions have indicated that this was the case, Be this as it may, she, of all the world, ought to be the last one to say so.

You say you are jealous of miss K. I had never mistrusted it; and, really, it surprises that you should say so. I do not mean I am surprised that you should tell me, if it were the fact, but that it should be true. Well, it seems to be impossible to account for some of the whims and fancies that people will get into their heads, and it is so with this. I have read "T'were infamy, to die and not be missed." I suppose, too, it would be in some degree infamous to leave Carlton and not be missed. So I am glad that someone misses me. I knew you would miss me because you said so but I didnt think any one else would, unless Huleatt, Hall or some of those fellows might. As I said I am very glad to be missed by a better class of students. (Looking this over, I dont know as you will think me very sour when I tell you I am getting a little sour, and as I shall want to write after seeing Parker will postpone operations till tomorrow. One thing more though, I will read the Book of John as you propose beginning at 2 o'clock (a.m. or p.m.?) Sunday.

Sunday Eve.

As I intended, I went to see Parker this afternoon. He thought of going to Northfield Friday but Mrs P. was taken sick, so he could not. He expects now to go ~~now~~ as soon as she is well enough to be left. You have probably heard that her health is very poor, but now she is quite low. She has had turns similar to this before, always reviving & gaining strength in a short time. This time she remains feeble much longer and seems to be getting worse rather than better. Her friends are quite fearful for her. It would do you good to see how kind and attentive P. is to his mother. It seems as though he watched every motion and every expression of the countenance, anxious to do anything for her comfort. You once said you had heard that P. was unkind at home. but it is a great injustice to him that this should be said. You asked me to tell you what he said about you, Nothing, except that when I told him our places were filled at the table but that you would make room

for him, be near you, he said he didnt care much about it, or something of that kind. He didnt mention d'Kemp's at all. – Now you mustnt accuse him of coming back because ~~himself~~ his selfishness would not let him stay here, for he told me that he should have staid but Mr. Parsons advised him not to. He is not altogether selfish in what he does.

Now, Miss Christie, I have a request to make of you and I am sure you will be very glad to do as I suggest. When Edgerton was here we went into one of the prayer meetings together. An invitation was given for all who considered themselves christians to rise and he arose. I did not know before that he had had serious thoughts even, on the subject. I wanted to speak to him about it afterward but hesitated for one or two reasons & finally neglected it altogether. Now what I want to ask is that you do or say something to draw him out, so that he will take a decided stand ~~is~~ with the christians in school. It would be such a good thing for him and also for his roommate, Donaldson.

Will this not be a pleasure to you? I am glad you had him sit near you at the table. Where does he attend church this term? I am somewhat afraid that under Parker's influence E. might hesitate to stand boldly as a christian, but hope he will not. He promised to write to me and if he does I shall refer gently to the question, myself, in answering his letter.

I saw a ~~note~~ reference to Mr. Davis's marriage in the Citizen. It was denominated the "Alumni Association of C. College" or something similar to that. You think it remarkably proper & appropiate that they should be married. I presume it is, though I'm not a judge of matrimonial alliances.

Remember me to misses Finney, Rolfe, Cook Carmichael & Murphy, and also to any others, (if there any) who may be interested enough in me to enquire for me. And especially the last three I have mentioned I wish to be remembered to whether they care anything about me or not.

I forgot one thing when speaking about Miss K &c. You thought you were not deceived when you asked how many pages I wrote to her. You will allow me to inform you that you were, for it was a short letter that I sent her (I think about 5 pages, very coarsely written). It is true I evaded

the answer, but only to bother you, for I knew you would notice it.

The President was, indeed, kind to you although it was not but only just that you should have but four classes, I should like to see the letter he wrote, You seem to think some things he said were too flattering to be true, but I have not the least doubt that they are as true as the Gospel itself. You must not think from the comparison I have made that I am jesting, for I am not.

Parker had a letter from Prof Payne a short time since, and he very kindly remembered me. I wish I had tried harder to please him, through the last terms. I am sure he must have felt badly about many things I did, for instance about my conduct during the examination of the Philosophy) class.

It is very nearly 11 o'clock and I must close.

My Maker or rather benedictions upon all the inmates of Carleton.

Most Truly Yours

J Rockwood.

P.S. You see I have been correcting with a pencil. I am getting anxious about that which you said you wanted to say to me. Also tell me next time without fail

Andover, Dak. Evening.
Jan. 9. '75.

My Dear Father:

I appreciated highly your last two letters, Particularly that part of the first in which you speak of analogies and Correspondency. Where your thought is both true and beautiful. You are right in saying that I take naturally to analogical reasoning — the pure abstract has little charm to me, and so I care but little for Mathematics and Logic, and a great deal for History, Poetry, Philosophy, Language — i. e. The Humanities. "Nil humani mihi alienum est." It is strange that my bent should be in this direction, and Sandy's in the other. I tried to start him in Greek at Madison

and he kept at it, though distasteful, until I turned out to him a very dull boy I had in Arithmetic. He was to spend an hour a day with him. Would you believe that S. left the dryest of languages to spend hour after hour beyond the requirement in unfolding the beauties of Reduction and the Square Root to the unappreciating mind of Johnnie Fitch, and that finally he ceased Greek altogether before the close of the term, because he "didn't like it"? I do not depreciate Sandy's acquirements in Language, at Beloit he was the best scholar in his Latin class, and his Correspondence with me proves that he has kept up the Latin, - he also has studied the English thoroughly in such great works as Marsh and Fowler, - but his genius lies not in that direction. What he is in Language and in Mathematics, - liking them well enough, but not enthusiastic over them.

But a problem in the Calculus for him, and a Play of Aeschylus for me - & we are both happy.

Strange how moods of mind & even brief occupation in some particular line, by the parent, will stamp for life the character of the child.

I think I indent your paramount tendency of mind, While in Sandy's brain the wheels of that Iron factory are forever rolling in mazes of calculation. When we were first married I wore blue nearly all the time, in deference to my taste. And now, When Bessie dees a blue dress on her mother, she is wild

with delight, circling around her, crying "pretty, pretty," and pointing.

This reminds me to speak of the household. C is up again, after 6 weeks in bed, and Bessie is back again beside us. But she has now the Whooping Cough quite severely. Our rest is very much broken in consequence, and for fear of illness myself. I have resigned Extra work - the F. V. Sunday School, taking instead a class to teach in the Free Church, and my appointment to speak before the Soc. of Inquiry.

This by advice of friends, and because want of sleep does use me up.

There is enough to do at present & will be all winter, for I have two pupils for the winter, one every day, & the other three times a week. My boy Lindsay has gone into the Latin Class for which I was preparing him, and is doing excellently there, although he had only six weeks at one recitation per day, while his classmates have had sixteen weeks at twice a day.

Kinlay comes for Greek, & Scholes for Arith, as last term. The latter's father writes me that I must keep him all winter - K. pays 75 cts per hour, and S. $1.50 - So you see how well the Lord provides for meeting our regular & our Extra Expenses for this year. Living costs double what it does at the West, the Drs bill will be about $30, my board during C's illness, $30, and Bessie's board perhaps $15. But the Professors' wives pay the last item, & we are hopeful about the other, in view of the sources of our income.

I look back on the last term with wonder at the amount of money I was allowed to earn, while at the same time doing Sem. duty. Look at it.

From Miss Dove for Sunday –	$ 30.00
From Mr. Scholes	45.00
From Brainerd, (Earned 10.) paid	5.00
From Geo. Christie for preaching once,	4.00
From Kinlay up to Jan. 1.	5.00
Work in Miss Wallace's garden,	1.00
	90.00

The importance of this column is seen when we remember that without it I should have been thoroughly devamped before Christmas, beneath the bills of "Butcher Baker & Candlestick Maker" – to say nothing of Expenses of illness. And now that the new year has begun, we are again Encouraged by the coming in of these two pupils who will bring me nearly $10. per week. Surely I can take for my own the words of the Psalmist: "The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of my Enemies, (Poverty &c) Thou anointest my head with oil, my cup runneth over. Surely, Goodness and Mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the House of the Lord forever."

In your last, you hint that I may be a little forward to take things, and do they are given me. But there are good reasons for their selecting me to superintend the Bryn Village S.S. & to speak in the public meeting. I am 10 years older than the most of my fellow students; I have been a teacher for 3 years; and I have been in S.S. work many years.

these things were known of me before
I came, through Beloit Student, here,
last year, & so I was picked out for
the Superintendency before coming East.

As to my pupils, I have made next to
no effort to get them. They have been
sent to me, because of my having been
a teacher, because dear Prof. Emerson
told Mr. Bancroft about me, and
because the Lord did not plan to bring
me here & then let me starve.

The one place where I am pinched is in
my books, I need a Webster's Dictionary,
a Hebrew Concordance, a Greek Concordance
to the New. Test. Tischendorf's Critical
Text of the N. T. Scrivener's Introduction,
giving account of every N. T. Manuscript,
and a good Commentary on both New
and Old Tests. These would cost over
$50, & I must go without them for the
present. But I must have some of them
this winter, for my studies are hampered
for want of them, - Especially the Concordance.

Lowell, Wis. Jan. 13th 1875.

[Alexander]

Friend Christie,

Dear Sir, your welcome visitor of Jan. 10th inst. reached us last evening and as usual we were glad to see your name at the end of a communication.

I am in a great hurry today and can not stop to write much except to answer your inquiries. In regard to the Note, although I am a little short just now, I will say take your own time and be not troubled about it. I inclose the Note and you can pay it when you get good ready without interest.

In regard to the Anatomy (Gray's) you can have it at $5.00 here. The list price same binding is $7.00 retail. (Cloth binding $6.00) Any Med: or other books you want I will furnish you at cost.

Ray's 3d. Algebra, that I have, does not contain Evans' Solution of cubic equations. I think you must have seen it in Schuyler's but am not sure. My Schuyler's is at Beaver Dam at present.

Yours very truly, L. M. Benson.

Carleton College.
Jan 15th 1875.

Dear Miss Christie [Sarah]
I have
been afraid you were
sick for a long time, and
when I was Home, Mrs.
Carr told me that your
friends had not heard from
you and were anxious,
I thought I would write
then but neglected it.
Time coming back, I
have heard a report that
you were dead, I knew
that it could'nt be true.
but was dreadfully shocked,
You will write immediately,

will you, and let your
friends here know how
you are.
I have been thinking of
you almost all the time
lately. You were the
best friend I ever had,
except my Mother, and
I do wish I had been
kinder and better.
Do please write as soon
as you possibly can

E. W. Parker.

Garden City Jan'y 16/75

Miss. Christie

Dear —

I received an anonymous communication to night from some one who described herself as "the woman who takes whims & fancies into her head". What to make of it I hardly knew at first. For, (supposing you to be the authoress) what could I think after writing such a letter as I sent you (which, by the way, I read over with much satisfaction, congratulating myself that such a letter would atone for mountains of past wrong) and then to receive a reply as short, sharp & laconic as yours. What is it that so troubles your conscience that you cannot write a letter, nor even sign your name to a short note, until you know that the other letter is burned? Are you afraid I will let some one read the letter? or, as a lady who was writing to me & signed her name in an unusual way, said, are you afraid it will sometimes get into my wife's hands and make trouble in the family?

Now, I'll tell you what I had a

a mind to do. I thought I would copy the letter, then burn it and tell you in a note as pointed as your own that it was destroyed and after you had written let you know that a copy was still in my possession. Or another plan was to say nothing but wait for you to write, as I feel quite sure you would. But finally I determined that I would gratify you and so without copying I burned the last two sheets, keeping the first as I was sure you could not object to that. Now do not think I am playing some other game for I am not although I did feel strongly tempted to do it. This word "feel" I detest, though I sometimes use because others do, and see that it is used 3 times on this page.

I am tired! have been in the woods at work today, and being unaccustomed to manual labor it is rather hard for me and beside that have read a page or two of Xenophon and written one letter before this. (To Mullikin) Mr Sterling advises me to read Xenophon and drop the Greek Reader. I have begun the Anab. and find no difficulty with the translation but the drill on the Grammar is better in the Reader, so I want to keep it for a while. Have written Professor Goodhue asking his advice. My course will depend somewhat on his reply. i.e. if he should reply at all. If I do this I shall try to go into Homer with the Freshman class, next fall, provided I return to Northfield. Mr. Sterling is not very good in either Latin or Greek. It is about the same as studying alone. I have nearly all my time at home for study and I guess I can do as much as the class will do. In Latin I am along far enough to study alone to good advantage, but not so with G. I have commenced an oration that is not usually read, and it is the Hardest Latin I ever undertook to read. There is scarcely a word translated in the notes through the whole oration. I knew what it was before I took it, and chose it because I thought it would be a good thing for me to "dig it out" I have neither seen nor heard from Parker since Sunday. Don't know but he is in Northfield now. He promised to come over and spend the evening with me sometime this week if his mother was well enough, but he has not come. It may be because Mrs P is not well enough, but Father was

there the first of the week
and the was better then.
I am getting out of patience
with my correspondents.
Five ~~letters~~, letters are due me
one from each of the following
Sawyer, Rolfe, Norton, Palmer
& Miss Christie. & almost
paid two from miss C. but
it will be due when this is
received.
This paper & found in that
box and thought & would
use it, but & never would
use another shut if & had
a ream of it.
I shall look for an reply as soon
as Friday. that will give you
from Sunday till Thursday
to write. Dont dissapoint
me.
adieu
Rockwood

P.S. you see I sign with a
bold, free, honest hand.
This is very miserably written.

Ypsilanti Jan 21st 1875

My Dear Alex

I have received all your regularly & duly. Also the Educational, it is a good thing in its way. President Chapin's address is this one is very good indeed. And Hagle's article on the relations of the Common School to the College. I perceive is upon your side also. Yet like your articles too, very indefinite. It does seem to me that the method which will be most successful in Giving the Greatest good to the majority is the Natural Method. this is the plan of development from the lowest type up, through all the Grades alike for all of the ultimate Rooms so far as each needs to Go to attain its own Sphere of Being, and then of course the development of each Species on the Scale of Being at the point for which it was intended to Exist, with, then the more full Completion of the Essential Organs to a suitability for the necessary functions of it being, is Money to it. this then would seem to be the object which you seek, the fuller Expansion of those Faculties of the Multitudes who can never Enter Colleges, which will fit them for the Varied business of their Lives. I do not believe in this System with Human Beings. because all are Capable of a Development to which any can reach. and therefore, I would Carry all along upon the Natural Method, as if they were intended to reach the last Step in the Ascending Series. And I hope that if not here, at least somewhere else all may Go on beyond the point at which they now Arrested in their upward movements by unfavorable Circumstances. Who dare inaugurate any System which has in View the partial? which has in View the manufacture of Clod-hoppers or Counter jumpers. Wall street Brokers or Miners. All these diversities of being and function should be left to Individual Choice. If any man wishes to remain a Tadpole, Let him Tadpole it on his own responsibility instead of Breathing through Lungs and Living it in the Sun

I do not think to ask it from Daniel. I believe you will feel much better. Both the Rose children & Libbie. Love to me if you see Emma I am Conscious I am

Yours truly Prof
Received your letter the
received from
Prof Greenleaves
My thanks for
a long time
Robt.
and Hagle's article
in the Journal
of education for
Readers for
Prof Elliss for

hes of himself Chosen to be mute and Struggle this little Raile, No indeed! Seal with all as if they were all Going to Jerusalem. if they choose to stop at Jericho. to themselves be it said. Your Blood is on your own heads,

But after all this I do not see Why the State Should provide Mental Education for all to the topmost notch and not also provide all other educations? Why not provide that All Should Come Virtuously? by an additional Moral and religious Education:

But I think I see your Object more More definitely. is it this to take Care of the Weakest and let the Strong Care for themselves? to Educate all in the Common School so far as that they Shall be Qualified for the Common life and Little all so far as that they may Go further if they Choose, that is Good. the Sun Shines upon all alike, and the rain Steeps all roots. Yet many are Overwhelmed and Some are trampled upon. Some are in the Shade and Some are restricted to the Crevice of a Rock. So that the See that although the Beneficence of Rain and Light are Universal Situation determines the States after all. You then Would Seek to do all that Can be done for those Who are Bound down by Situation. it is indeed noble. That is Carrying Beneficence down from the Universal to the Special Which is its perfection. the Accomodations of the General Good to the necessities of the Weakest. This is the Calling of the publican and the Sinner. the Essential principle is the Same And all this is reconcileable With the Good of all. I do not See Why the public School could not be much raised in Character and Efficiency. and Yet not be in Line With the further progress of Collegiate education! as it is State the Sun and rain which Enliven all. the use of it for the benefit of the ill placed While not injure those who Stand better Situated. nor will there be hurt in the less favored positions. by the full Effulgence falling on the more favored! I am thick headed and Cannot See what you folks Wish for. please tell me what the dispute is about. distinctly

I Send Sons letter With this Also. And I here to make

I included "Reminders of Christ" being American Life & Letters for Nov. Library. I think I perceive it is not fit for any but the Educated. it Costs $2.50 and when You Get Your

Yale College Jan. 24. 1875

Dear Sir [Alexander]

I have recently re-written my Analytical Geometry and have made numerous changes which print many principles in a form more satisfactory to me than was done in the first edition. Considerable change has been made in the article to which you refer. If CD^2 is positive, CE^2 must be negative because it does not meet the curve of which EE' is a diameter.

I am

Yours truly

Elias Loomis

I would like to spend a day or two in Northfield and visit you all, yet I don't know as I have any great desire to return there to school at present. I am enjoying myself rather quick better in the short time I could there. Now I am glad to feel I may about as well as convenient

Garden City Minn
Monday Eve. Jan. 25/75
[Miss S. J. Christie]

My Dear Friend.

Your letter came this afternoon and I have read it twice with much pleasure & assure you.- You express regret that you could not write sooner. Now dont give yourself any trouble in that way hereafter. Although I always look anxiously for your letters (and did last Friday go to the office full of expectation thinking what a pleasure I was about to enjoy) yet I can wait far better than you can hurry around to write. So in the future write at your convenience, remembering, however, that the sooner the convenient time comes the better.

I am very sorry for Miss Gibson's sickness. I do not remember that I ever spoke with her and never knew that I cared a snap for her yet the fact that she is a student of C.C. and her friends are my friends, arouses a sympathy, on hearing of her misfortune, which is real and true. It must seem strangely sad

to close the doors & halls through which all are accustomed to pass with lighthearted carelessness as if the life of one of the inmates depended on the depth of silence which reigns through the house.

You can not tell what happiness it gives me to hear such things as you say about Parker. He ~~is~~ is always "Parker" to me - no more - no less. & if I were the only one interested, I could at anytime call his worst faults virtues. but for his own sake and for the sake of his friends I have often wished he would do differently. I am glad - very glad, he took his old seat at the table, and also that he is so kind to you.

It seems as though Father & Mother (and all the rest) never thought as much of me, or at least never took so much pains to show their affection as they have since I came home. It may be that it it is only because I notice it more, but certain it is that I never thought as much of it. If you had not a Father between whom and yourself there is I know the strongest love to exist, I should say to you that this parental affection was something beyond your appreciation for I do not think anyone can appreciate it until they have fully known it. But as it is, you probably realize its worth as well and perhaps better than I.

I had a first rate letter ~~to~~ from Sawyer a few days ago. I answered it soon after receiving it, but I can not write very good letters and I am afraid he will think "Rockwood is a jolly, good natured fellow, but as a correspondent he is a failure" But there is comfort in the thought that Sawyer has an inexhaustible fountain of charity, and can overlook more than most people.

I wrote to Stratton also not long ago and hope for the pleasure of an epistle with his autograph attached before long. Milliken too, owes me a letter, as well as two or three others of less importance.

You were mistaken when you concluded from what I wrote that Miss K had written and I wanted to bother you with the knowledge of the fact. I have had only one letter from her at all & and I omitted her name because I preferred to say nothing about. ~~her~~ I thought afterward that you might perhaps infer what you did, but it was too late to change & I had to let it go as it was or not at all.

In reading the Book of John I have noticed quite a number of things that I am sure you have noticed also. All is living on the lounge with his head in Dad's lap. We often find amusement in watching them I pay more to Mother than to anyone else and she is more indulgent to me in what I say & than you were.

How about that "nonsense". You know that is a very general term in my vocabulary, one applied ~~to~~ indiscriminately, to all sayings of all people, that I do not fully agree with. And you know further that it means just about nothing. It is true I have said one or two things maliciously (I ~~do~~ will try to excuse myself for it, because I am sick of that) but the most that I have said has been simply nonsense, in the true sense of the word.

Do not look for any more confessions from me for you will perhaps be disappointed if you do. If I conclude that I have said or done anything wrong, I'll repent. but can not promise to beg your pardon, even.

It is getting rather late and I must bid you Good night

J. K.

This is the address
Jennie C. Dow
273 Broadway
South Boston

Wednesday Jan 27th 1875

My Dear Sarah [Christie]

I recevied your letter and likeness, last night, and write at once, to thank you for them both. I am certainly much obliged for to you for the picture, It is a very good one, and if sale would always give me back as fair an exchange as this I should be well satisfied My ineffectual efforts to keep that other picture of yours lostg ago, were perfectly appalling I stole it back once you remember but it would not stay stolen with me

All of us are much as usual except William Emmesson who is slowly recovering from a very severe attack of asthma. Jennie is teaching southwest of Lowell and came home to spend New Years. She rest are going to school. Maggie is with us yet. Will is at home and seems to have come to the conclusion that farming is not the worst way to get a living. I was down at Read's last summer, and found them all looking well, grandmother included. Robert's unlucky affair was a severe trial to his mother but it seems to be settled now. and he is not the

woods driving his father's team, who went up himself and came home with his hand frozen. They are not very bad and will be better in a while, but he will not try the woods again poor man.

The house building and the poor crops have made money scarce with him I guess

Will is working at his printing in Madison.

Sister Jennie I had a letter from the other day. House and family occupy her time and she is not strong She is a patient body but sometimes complains to me a little, and I often wish the time were come when I could be near her and hers. I know so little about her now that I do not know whether company is a trouble or a pleasure to her. Poor little mother, she does the best she can, and may the good angels of God be near her every day. That Dudley is a good man I reckon, and it is a great comfort for me to remember that when I think of her and her children.

Clyman is better than it used to be or I have more liking for it and the people, and am getting blinded to their faults. I do not know which is the right way, but certainly the saloon has lost ground in Clyman, and the Church is gaining God be thanked Father Ward is a well meaning earnest man and it would amuse you perhaps if you knew how much importance I attach to his work. It seems as if something had been set all right again which was going all wrong before he came here, and there is hope and comfort now in looking at Clyman. So be it

Ed Keefe is married to Maggie Connally Lizzie Dowling to a Mr Ames, Amelia is courted on by a Mr Burke and Frank Dempsey waits on Father Ward's sister, so I hear, but you know I only make believe to gossip for fashions sake and do not keep well posted.

Mrs Welsh has given Jimi another little daughter. I found him the other evening holding it snug in his arms and rocking away in the chair as nice as could be. I like Mrs Welsh and Jimi. She always speaks kindly of you, and thought you and I do not understand each other, yet "Blood is thicker than water" as the Scotch say

Grandfather is still dodging over to the yard to see if he cannot give the cows and pigs and hens another handful of something to eat more than their allowance. Father is still "threshing straw" in theologic argument

and I am still wasting my life among my books — Are you not making a mistake in your life, too. Obedience is more than sacrifice! — My own youth has gone from me entirely — the gray hairs are coming, and it does not not much displease me to see them — Ann Coler and I are good friends again — Our estrangement grieved her as much as it did myself, and the past twenties the dead which lies within it. Maggie Duffy dear heart is now in Baltimore. Her father came in the other day to tell us very cheerfully that they had just had a letter from Maggie — I have never found one more perfect in her own ~~sphere~~ way than Maggie Duffy.

Well I must close my scribbling. You know I do not like letter writing, so I must not let you think that we are going to keep up a correspondence I do believe you like to smile but it is a great trouble for me now to think of sitting down to write a letter to any one else except Jennie. To her I always find enough to say, and I neither need to excuse my dense or nonsense. Maggie desires to be remembered. She seems to think some of a little German who worked here this summer. Rudolph is going to marry a relative of Belay's husband. If Annie Murphy is near you please give her my love And show my dear cousin Good Bye. I always wish you well, think of me also sweet kindness and may the Saints keep you — forever. Yours affectionately

Helen

Clyman Dodge Co Jan 7 30th /75

[James Christian]

Dear Brother your
we Received of the 12th
and were glad to hear you were all well
especially David I hope he will yet get
over that trouble altogether in a short time
you want to know about all the People
about Clyman well to begin with John
Harrison he sold out about 18 months
ago and lives in Town they live and get
their Been and Came for nothing else
Thomas Rhodes the same as ever. the
young man Maried & works the Lawn
Ramsay still the same & got Religion
from Van. Cott gave a long Prayer and
wished them to sing a Hymne on account
Pyge it makes. The Boys all laugh he
takes a Dose of such stuff now and
then I suppose it acts on him like
a Confession his Daughter went
to Kentucy to her Husband left one
of her Boys with David and the Crazy one
with the old man - an Imacent.

Would you would have Rut this line in that letter but he was not Prepared at the time

Ike went also has been there all winter
working on Railroad Magie Keeps House
for David as ever, Alex works as little
and Drinks as much as he can get & spends
a good deal of Money and time at the
Grocery - Gibbey must about the same
But less Basket than ever all the Boys
at Home John teaches their School this
winter and Martha the one west of us
all in good Health, Stanton makes
money as usual, Reen lost his oldest
son last fall with a Bad Cold settled
on his Lungs and so, the old man Bird
all at the Beginning of this year and
got quit of that Burden - James Welsh
at Station and has got 2 Children, the
Responsabilities of a Married Life But gets
along well; Jesie Morties away a even
Jean teaches School South of Lowell
will teach Clyman in Summer, Nice Girl
the next one at School. William is very
sick at Present a Spell of Asthma
the first he ever had and Pretty Bad it
a Week since he was Laid Dowin
we have not heard to Day how he is
he uses Stramonie or some such thing
Puts it on a hot Coal and Breaths it
(that)

young Cotton is in Arkansas. at Harrison
Boon County justice of Peace and Pretty passing
Cherly Morse the Blacksmith also, he
Morse is doing well. the Old man is
when they went first, to Missouri
has a Small Deal of land Breaks his Wood
and lives along - Thomas Keep Pretty well
used up Edmond got Married out the Town
yonder man Chorley Snabend died some time ago
his oldest son Henry lives where old Frank
once lived, Built a Brick House and a
large Barn, his youngest Bill and Wife
and Mother lives on the Place
Old Dumpy well used up, his Daughter
Emline got Married this fall lives in
Lowell on a farm Andrew Miller
about the same none Married except
Mary. Jenn to Govern ——— Enough
Sorrow to learn you two have got such
a Bad Cold everyone round here the same
we had a very Cold Snap here when you
had it, yours was 26-ours 28 a great deal
of Potatoes lost and House Plants the same
we (could) do nothing for Grand Father
his sight is going away and no Glass
to suit him Better than the one he has

I think the Baby of the Eye is getting opaque
hoping to hear Sarah is well and doing well
Hellen had a letter from her 2 Days ago
we also saw that one of Toms I tryed to
write But I was sick with the Cold and
even you Guessed well we are all Betty
well at Present not counting on Special
Providence. as for that NB 12 you talk of
I have not sat it think I want Bother
about it— you have not offended me in no way
whatever But Lord garner People that wants
to think ill of others can allways do so
they can wilfully Blind themselves to good
Points and exaggerate the Bad ones. there
may be two meanings to many things that are
and even the Queen of Sarcasm will turn
a few friendly words into venomous
ones. and throw Friendship as it were Back
to the Giver with an impulsive force of Bad
feeling and if one lives long in the world
they will often find that when most
Justice was to be expected. there is the greatest
lack of it the Opinions of People does a great
deal of Mischefe in This World
I allways feels Glad to get a letter from
you But I hate to write) your true Brother W C

Sunday Morning
Jany 31st 1875

Dear Miss Christie

Although I have received no letter from you, I am going to write because I feel like it. Juddie is unwell, so someone has to stay from church with him. This accounts for my writing Sunday morning.

O, how I would like to talk with you a little while. Father lately has been talking to me considerable about different things. He seems to think I am going to perdition by with terrible speed. Now, the facts are these. Since I came home I have tried to avoid saying anything against the Bible or against Christianity. & I have often opposed him in some of his ideas, but have been careful to say nothing which could be construed to depreciate the worth or truth of the Bible. On two or three occasions he has accused me of advancing skeptical sentiments and I have so explained them that he admitted there was nothing wrong, or at least, nothing skeptical in them.

Dear Christie
I received a letter from you
and thought I would write
I am very much
Yours truly
Lucie

Yet he says that one hearing me talk, would consider me a confirmed infidel. This morning when I commenced writing he spoke about doing such things on Sunday, a thing which he never did before. It seems as though he were distrustful of whatever I do. Now in regard to my real condition, I have been more at rest, have enjoyed prayer and bible reading more, have been less doubtful as to the truth of the Bible, for a month past than for nearly a year before. I cannot think these other things are wrong. I dont know but I ought to change entirely for his sake, but nothing would could be harder for me than that. I do modify my words & actions a great deal to please him but I have such a blunt way of doing it, & such a harsh way, when I stand on my own ground that he probably thinks I care little or nothing for his wishes. He has, however, as I have said before been remarkably good & kind to me which makes it seem all the worse that I should (or can) not please him entirely. I havent told you this because I want sympathy, or anything of that sort, but it makes me unhappy sometimes & I wanted to tell some one of it, and of course there was none but Miss Christie to whom I could speak freely. - So far you will call this rather dull & gloomy, but if it has tended to lower your spirits at all shake off its effects & think no more of it.

I hear (otherwise than from yourself) that you are working hard and do not look as well as you did 2 or 3 weeks ago. Now you must do so much. Let those worthless girls & boys with their more than worthless rhetorical parts, go to the winds. I would like to give you a few lessons in shirking & taking things Easy. You who have never tried it, can not imagine how much better it is to let things (girls & boys and rhetorical parts included) take care of themselves, than to worry & work over them, and then receive for your trouble a little gratitude, or quite likely not even as much as that.

You say My letters do you good, do you? Well I'm glad of it i.e. glad you said so. The fact serves as an illustration of what seems to me a truth of mighty importance

I never knew whether to believe it or not before but now the combined powers of heaven, earth, and Hades could not shake my faith in it. It is thus wise people learn more from fools than fools learn from wise people. (I presume — no I don't either)

How is Miss Gibson, now? I had a letter from Savoyer written Monday, which spoke as though she were no better. He also spoke of you as not looking as well as you did. He said several good things about you. When I read the letter I felt like thanking him for it i.e. for speaking as he did of you.

I am getting along well in school. We have finished the third Book of Geometry, Cicero is out of the way, 150 lines of Virgil read and also 3 or 4 pages of the Anabasis.

You remember when you were here you said there was something you wanted to say or rather write to me, you seem to have forgotten it lately. but I shall remind you of it occasionally until I find out what it is.

I am hoping for a letter from you to morrow or next day. If it should come I may not answer as soon as I sometimes do, since I have sent this extra

Very Truly C. Rockwood.

United States
Postal Card

WYO
OCT
19
N. JUAN

U.S. POSTAGE ONE CENT

WRITE THE ADDRESS ONLY ON THIS SIDE – THE MESSAGE ON THE OTHER

To Jas Christie Esq
Castle Garden
Minn

Office of The Independent, New York, 1875.

By reference to the address on your paper you will observe that your subscription will expire March 4, 187 5. **I trust you will renew it promptly by remitting as per terms of subscription herewith.**

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Trusting to receive your prompt renewal, I am, respectfully yours,

HENRY C. BOWEN, Publisher,

Office 251 Broadway. **P. O. Box 2787, New York City.**

Stockbridge Mich. February 4th 1875.

My Dear Father, [James Christie]

Your two letters of 18th and 21st ults were rec'd. the latter inclosing Sam's from the East. I was glad that you got through that dreadfully cold weather - the mercury here down at 37° below zero - and now I am nervous again over this storm, for fear that Dave may be caught out in it. Day before yesterday we had a heavy fall of light snow - yesterday morning it was partially drifted and the wind rising. I did not expect more than a dozen scholars, the roads were so bad and the drifting storm so fierce; but 29 of my department came and insisted on my going on, contrary to my own wish, for I feared the storm would grow worse and render their return home perilous. Several had come miles, among them your little namesake - a hardy, tall boy of 13, who spells down the whole school twice out of three, who does all his work in a workmanlike manner, and is a little Scot throughout. By 3-30 there was blowing the fiercest storm I have seen this side the western prairies. You may believe, it made me think anxiously of home far away, as I will not be easy till I hear you are all right. I let out school. The boys started off well; but when it came to the girls, I thought they would blow away. And here I would say, that I believe women dress warmer than men. We wear our clothes too tightly fitting the body. Women may go off like balloons, but they seldom freeze. Kidmore tried to get his team down through the drifts, but failed, and fought his way through on foot to tell the girls they must stay at "the Corners" - as we call the little village.

Fearful time. We have all seen colder weather, for the mercury was not lower than 18° below - but the oldest settlers say they never saw so fierce a blow in Wisconsin. Roads are full from fence to fence. Very cold tonight, but wind

Dave has an inclination to be a lawyer
Dave is a mighty good boy.
Hope all are well

decreasing, and we hope for better weather. How has it gone with you?

In answer to your inquiry as to what is the real ground of dispute in the late rapporing - I would say for myself, that I know as much about it now as I ever did, but can no more answer your question than Kaspar Could Peterkin's at Blenheim. Perhaps we were all trying to bring our names before the public. I ought perhaps to speak thus candidly only of myself, and give my fellow gas-bags credit for angelic motives: but to speak plain truth, "I crooket my finger and lickit it, — and sae did Bailie Samiston."

I received an answer from Prof. Elias Loomis of Yale College, in which he tells me that ~~in~~ to he has recently re-written his Analytical Geometry, making numerous changes, some important ones in the article to which I called his attention. He does not deny my views of the proposition in question, nor yet does he grant the incorrectness of his own demonstration. It would hardly be proper or gentlemanly to insist on the latter point, or I could send him an irrefragable Demonstration of the Existence of the Error in the book in my possession - 19th Edition.

I am getting quite an insight into the higher departments of mathematics; and if shut up in a room by myself could write out several pages. I intend to keep on; and may in time know something about vanishing quantities, transcendental curves and Eulerian integrals.

Will be able to send you a little money in a short time. So you are still pegging away at the Arabian Nights and other marvelous palm-tree-shade Stories? They are good in their place; but the marvelous parts actually make me laugh; and it is quite a chore to control my facial muscles when I find a man who thinks them Gods Truth. Sarah has not written to me often of late - she has plenty of other work - nor have I seen the presidents' letter to her. I believe she is trying to do right - and the rest of us can do no better. I think I see glorious light ahead, and am far from discouraged. We have no reason to feel dissatisfied.

As Ever - Your Son Alexander.

Gardner City Mond
Saturday Eve Feby 6th/75

Dear Miss Christie

Yours of Sun. mon. & Tues. did not reach Gardner town until to night. The storm blocked the road so that no train has been through before to day. You express a desire to receive a letter from me this week, & I suppose you have, though possibly not. I am glad now that I wrote because if I had waited for yours before writing, it would have been too long, to suit me, at least.

Accept thanks for getting & sending the Photo. of Miss Cook. You know (but I guess no one else does) that I have always admired Miss C. very much, & enjoy looking at her Photo. — There are several things which I wish to speak of & I can hardly tell which to take first. Perhaps I will speak of Miss Murphy. I am sorry to hear that she is in such a condition, for one so properly unhappy & dissatisfied with themselves while in this state of suspense & terrible uncertainty that they can do nothing comparatively to

From with Acts. I will read and ascertain your next time & should like to take to Revelation.

Dear Miss Christie
Yours received this morning will this written yesterday & had a slight headache for the first time in several months.

Dr. Edward Hawkes & Co.
28 Bond St.
New York

Dr. Edward Hawkes
Nice, Sar

benefit either themselves or anyone else. I cannot say anything that I know of to do any good. I can tell you what has done me more good than all other things combined. For several weeks I have tried to think as little as possible, as to what is true or not. A few things I ~~fiurmly~~ believed, — that there is a supreme ruler & that Christ who claimed to be the son of God, died for what he called a sinful race. The things which I believed fully were few. Well, I concluded that I was coming no nearer to a conclusion, & that the best thing I could do was to do nothing. So lately I have neither said nor thought much about the truth of anything. Have staid away from church & the meetings here, because it seemed impossible for me to go & hear such things as ministers are sure to say, without having a feeling of opposition aroused, which I wished to avoid. I have prayed, not feeling sure that my prayers would be answered, but thinking that if God does hear & answer prayer, he would hear mine, if not, no harm would be done. I see now that when I do think of these things (for I can not expel all thought on the subject from my mind) I am much less inclined to disbelieve than before. Others might not be satisfied in this way, but I do not know of anything that would satisfy me better now. As to being a christian, if Christ forgives the sins of any, he will forgive mine. For the promise is that all should be forgiven who ask, and I have tried to ask. I hope Miss M. will not remain in a state of doubt for a long time, since it is a very unpleasant condition, at best.

I have been to Mankato to-day to attend a teachers' meeting. There were five of us who went down, — one lady, and all the rest of the sterner sex. We had a rather jolly time going down, though there was one thing that didnt suit me exactly. I happened to get a seat beside the school-ma'am & she was dull and prosy enough to discourage, or perhaps disgust such a fellow as me. Coming back I avoided anything of the kind and was better satisfied. As soon as we arrived in the City I went to see Palmer & staid with him two hours nearly before the opening of the meeting. That was about the best part of the day. Coming up in the evening, I had a good, long talk with Mr. Jones, one of the teachers here. He is a man who has read a great deal & understands Anglo-Saxon a little better than most of people. We talked some time about

Latin & Greek derivatives as an element of the English language. Afterward the ~~subject~~ conversation turned to the subject of Byron & poetry writers. I got a great many ideas from him especially in regard to the poets. His favorite is Wordsworth. I asked him about Byron & he said something the same that you would say of him. (It is late & I must wait till to morrow to finish)

Sunday

Palmer wants a few works of History. I spoke to him of Falkiner, and promised to find out where to send for it &c, will you please tell me this, & the price of the book. What other histories shall I tell him to get? I presume this would be all the ancient history he would want. He also thinks of studying Geometry & of course I shall help him all I can in such things. He is already quite a German scholar - reads ordinary composition without the aid of a Lexicon and with a Lex. he says he can read anything. He will read & study almost anything I tell him to probably & so I want to be careful what I say to him on the question.

Now I will tell you what I have been thinking in regard to myself. - that I will gradually go from the present age into voluntary exile and become

he told you once that I had not as much regard for him as he for me. It always makes me unhappy when I think of it. If it would not be so girlish I would tell him how the matter stands, but it would never do.

By the way, I have been fearfully "girlish" in ~~some~~ all of my letters to you lately. It makes me half ashamed of myself afterward, as I think what I have said. This one is about as bad but it will have to go.

You must have exciting times with so many sick. Take good care of Edgerton, and let the rest go — well I wont say where. May the Fates be praised that I am not in Northfield.

The word "I" (as usual) is used oftener in this Epistle than Sumner ever used it in his speech. He used it 4 3 times within a minute, they say. Well that is one of the failings of "Your Humble" and it cant be helped.

There are a dozen things I would like to speak about but cannot. One must necessarily be so brief in writing that there isnt much satisfaction in it sometimes — Please tell Miss Cook I am very thankful for the Plot.

Truly Your friend
A. L. Lockwood

Graeco-Roman, i.e. make a special study of everything pertaining to these two peoples, - become a complete master of Ciceronian Latin also of Homeric Greek, become thoroughly familiar with the whole history of each nation and ~~anything~~ all connected with it, - in short become as I paid a Graeco-Roman. Of course I should have to study the other ancient languages also Math. to some extent & the Modern Languages as well. — Now you will read this and say "How egotistical!!". I will admit that it is strongly saturated with egotism of the purest kind, but I can't help that. This is of course for yourself. I never tell anyone else half as much. Hereafter I propose to be a great deal more thorough than I ever have been, & think I am getting along in Virgil better than with any other Latin I have read, also in Greek am doing as well as I can under the circumstances. When Parker comes back I shall make him help me in Greek.

When Parker misses me, does he? I am glad to know certainly how he thinks of me, but I have had no doubt for sometime that he thought as much of me as of anyone. I would like too, to have him know that I have no less affection for him. You remember

Friday Eve Feby 17/05

Miss Christie

My Dear Friend.

It seems an age since I heard from you last. We have had no mail for several days, or otherwise I should have received a letter before now I presume. As it is the last one was written nearly two weeks ago. If I dont get a communication with your Auto. attached tomorrow I shall go crazy. It seems terribly lonesome here, occasionally. There isnt a young man (nor young woman either) in the place with whom I would give a "continental red" to associate. I enjoy home all the time, of course, but I cant get along without a guard in works on some question or other every day or oftener, & I would like to find someone like Parker with whom I could agree, generally, for a while. But enough of this Nonsense. — I havent got along quite as rapidly in L. & Greek lately. Have been busy with outside work, but will soon be through with that and then will go ahead with winged speed.

I would just like to come into your room for an

hour's talk! I am in just the humor tonight and just tired enough to take the rocking-chair and sit quietly by the fire, listen to what you might have to say, make an occasional comment and enjoy myself hugely. Why, simply thinking of it & telling you my thoughts, gives me greater pleasure than I have had before for a week. But then, I like home on the whole better than Northfield. — I have now read as much as you in Acts I think — today I read the 13" Chapter. so hereafter we will be together again. My time for reading is at about 10 P.M. usually, after I have gone to my room for the night. I find it a very agreable way in which to close the day. — I commenced this to write only a little, & that because I felt like it, ~~because~~ for it cannot go from here probably before, monday. And then I don't want to send it until I hear from you.

So I will wait for the present and write more hereafter. — I'm tired, my head aches a little, & it is my candid opinion that the best thing for me to do, is to fix my humble couch and give myself into the Kind, loving (& loved) care of Morpheus.

So adieu, for the present

R. C. Kenwood.

Saturday Eve Feby 13th

Miss Christie

What in the world is the reason I didnt hear from you to day? The mail came and. I went to the office with hardly a shadow of a doubt that I should get a letter from you, but my fond hopes were doomed to terrible disappointment. I was disconsolate for awhile & in my excitement walked the floor, with unwelcome thoughts of misplaced confidence flitting through my giddy brain. It was some time before I could compose myself and calmly consider the possible why's & wherefore's of the affair, but now I am so far quieted that I have concluded to send you a letter Monday as that is my regular day, and wait with patience to hear from you. — It is nearly two weeks since I have heard from any of the boys. I dont see why in the world they dont write. Norton hasnt written at all. How I would like to get a told

hold of him for 5 or 10 minutes! Wouldn't I shake the very boots from his feet! I feel as strong as the winds as I think of it.

I'm too lazy to write to night. If I could think of some light gossip that would not be torturing to you, the temptation to "indulge" would be stronger than I could bear, I'm afraid. But better than anything else I should like to get jolly light with a lot of good fellows. Wouldn't it be fine! But I forget that I have reformed (?) & have determined (?) henceforth to "touch not, taste not, handle not".

Mother invited the teachers of the City Schools to spend the evening here a few days ago. They came, & brought all their babies. I can't see what special sin the race has committed that makes it necessary that they should be tortured so outlandishly & inhumanly by babies. And then to see the fortitude & feigned contentment with which some people endure the chastisement is enough to arouse the wrath of an ordinary person. But enough of this sort of nonsense. And what next? My resources are failing. Never since the time of Adam have I found it so hard to write. My memory is gone so I can tell you of nothing I have seen or read lately. My perceptives are so inactive I can tell you of nothing that is going on around me. My reason & speculative powers are destroyed (if I ever had any) and my imagination — well I'm very sure I never had that. The dilemma is simply ~~something~~ hopeless.

I'd give — no I won't say it, it is would be blasphemous.

How are the afflicted ones in Canton? Why do you suppose the Great & Good Jews visited his hot displeasure upon the students at just the present time. Now there is a reason for every thing — so there must be a reason for that, but I confess to me it is wrapped in a mystery almost as dense as that which enshrouds the baby question. However, mortals should not aspire to a clear comprehension of such questions, so I'll try to think it is all right, & be easy

Give my love to all the girls & tell them & think of them oftm. (Perhaps, though, if you have any regard for the truth you may as well leave off the last part of that.)

Now you will read this over & say "What ails the miserable fellow?" But never mind I'll be as good & soft next time as I have been foolish this time. Mind I do not apologize for any thing I have said nor beg your pardon, no matter how much I ought ~~to~~.

Well its half past 10 & I'm going to sleep till noon to morrow, and pity if I wont feel better than I have this eve.

Yours Mutely.

Poxwood

You will understand considerable of this with the "twinkle".

Stockbridge Wis. Feb. 13. 75.

My Dear Sister: [D. J. Christies]

Yours from home was received in due time, since which I have had a letter from Father dated previous to the Storms. I am very anxious to hear from home - This has been so fearful a time. For two wks. have been drifted in here - no mails, no trains on this Central - what must it be in Minnesota! Mercury at 41 in Green Bay, frozen in Stockbridge! So Stormy had to let out school two days, and have been running with a ⅔ attendance.

Am taking another pull at mathematics, having reviewed Anal. Geom. and Calculus. Sent a correct demonstration of a Theorem in Loomis's Analytical Geom. to the author at Yale, who tells me he has materially altered it in the recent Edition of that work. Just think of a gross Error going uncorrected through nineteen editions of the book, dozens

of alleges and hundred of dazes. Am getting a better insight into the Integral Calculus where I have always been very feeble and untrustworthy heretofore. Recently solved the Eagle problem which I wrought at so much when you were in Lowell, but have not sent to Monthly, as I was unable to obtain the Equation of the curve and make that complete analysis which alone can satisfy me; nor have I been able to solve the cognate but more difficult problem which I do recklessly send them myself. "I bide my time". If everything goes right, I will be able twelve months hence to "hold my own" with any mathematician in the State. They will then give me a better paying chair than this, or show cause in mathematical symbols, if I have to nail a challenge to the doors of the Colleges.

It was too late to write you to prevent your saying anything to Miss Smith which possibly might be misconstrued by her to her own harm. I trust to your good Judgement that in the event of your having had a talk with her, you did'nt mention that ridiculous subject. I may as well say, that I do not care a fig for any woman I ever met, am not situated as regards financial matters, schemes for study, etc, so as to warrant marriage, thank God I'm yet unfranchised with wife and family, and would rather be shot by the Mexicans than marry a woman who is a member of a church. That's five centuries behind my time. May I never be so unfortunate as bind myself to anybody or anything to interfere with my glorious liberty of thought and, the allegiance yet to be. I worship the rising sun — and my religion is the one which, in the circling of the years, shall supplant the effete systems of today. But avast!

No dancing yet for me, and will not try it. It would be a tormenting waste

waste of power.

Father spoke of the President's letter to you, as if I had read it, - What was it? Are you getting along well? How much study are you able to do? The principal thing in this life is good health, and if you have that, you should be thankful. We are both old enough to look stoically upon the ruins of many a Chateau En Espagne, to recognize the rule of destruction in the affairs of human life, and let it go at that. Neither man nor boy, disappointments or anything else, can make me a victim of melancholy. I intend to laugh my way through life.

Salmon of '70 was here from Depere, with some others, trying to induce us to go back to bibs and slavering childhood's imbecility, and do duell Church tithings — but it broke down first evening — and they all went home next day — wiser, if not better men. Write me a short note, telling me what the prospects are for tarrying still in Northfield. Remember, self-observation is the first law. Look out for No 1.

Your Brother

Chas S. Christie.

Andover, Tuesday.
Feb. 16. 1875.

My Dear Father: [James Christie]
You must be
having a terribly severe winter,
for here the cold is unexampled
for duration & intensity. At my
writing there are more than a score
of fishing vessels fast in the ice off
our Coast, & the crews are perishing
of cold and hunger. The sea is
frozen for miles out, not hard enough
to let the poor fellows escape afoot
to anybody to reach them in that
way, but enough to fasten their
ships & to prevent even steam from
reaching them. Signals of distress -
the American flag with Union down -
are flying from a score of mast-
heads, and friends are making every
endeavor to reach them, but in
most cases without avail, and

unless a South wind blows tomorrow — of which there is little prospect — many poor fellows must perish.

We could think of nothing else, as we ate our dinner of shrimps today, but the perils of the hardy men who gather the harvest of the sea off this stormy Coast. Two Sundays ago I went again to Maine to preach — there is some prospect of our spending next Summer with that interesting little Church — and in the Evening assisted in a "Bethel meeting" for the Sailors. It was most interesting to hear the old weather-beaten tars tell their experiences. Said one: "The first time I ever prayed was that night we had the storm in the Bay. (of St Lawrence.) Some of you remember that night in the fall of '54, when four hundred fishermen were drowned: Well, I was there, and I was a wicked man too, but I had a young brother with me & it was his first voyage, & so when the storm was at its height, & we all expecting every minute to go down — I didn't dare to pray for myself, but I did pray for my brother, that his life might be spared, and I believe my prayer was heard, though they do say the prayers of the wicked are an abomination to the Lord. But from that time I've tried to pray for myself."

Carrie got her first glimpse of salt water on this last trip to Maine. We are all well, the baby — two years a week from today — is fairly over the Whooping-cough, and active & bright as ever. It seems sometimes to me, as I sit down beside her and her mother to our little table, that no man ever was

do happy as I. We all work very hard, but no Marines can stand before a romp with this lively, red-cheeked, bright-eyed and affectionate little maiden that God has given for our Solace and joy. Her voice is usually the first heard in the morning — she sleeps between us — with her cheery "Good Mornin", "How Do," and then "Up Papa!!" We shall have another picture taken when the weather moderates, & you shall judge for yourself how she grows.

Work goes on as usual. We have read two Chapters of John's Gospel, with lectures on them by Prof. Thayer, have made some little progress in the Ep. to the Hebrews (this is voluntary work on the part of a few of us.) and have read in Hebrew the first three Chapters of Genesis and 7 of Joshua. Besides this, some of Prof. Phelps' lectures on Homiletics have been taken by us. His thought is beautiful; it reminds one of the

sound of silver trumpets.

My boys still come for tutoring - three of them - I think I told you of the last, the son of Mc Cormick of Reaper fame. He comes in the Evening for Latin & Mathematics. Poor fellow! all his father's money cannot give him the brains of my Scotch sailor lad, Lindsay, who is already one of the first three in his class at the Academy.

The revenue from these pupils will, I think, enable us to get through this hard winter without debt, for which I cannot be thankful enough. A new field of work has just opened for me: there is a mission Church in Lawrence - 4 miles north, a great factory town on the Merrimac - and this Church is supplied with preaching by an association of five of our students, who take turns in going over for the two sermons on Sundays.

The disabling of one of these brethren has led to my election into the work,

and I preached for the first time then on last Lunday Evening. After the Sermon we held a prayer meeting and three arose to ask for prayer for themselves. It seems to be the beginning of a good work among them. The Brethren here met Every Noon to Counsel & pray over their Common work: I am rejoiced at the opportunity of joining them.

Write me When you can; I know it must be a dreary winter with you on that Minnesota prairie; how does the baby stand it: We must to hear all about the little fellow, David.

C. sends Especial love to Emma, & wishes She could be near her to help & sympathize with her. Alex wrote a note tendering help if I was in Straits. The generous fellow! but we were able to tell him that the Special providence which is bringing us money this winter, is sufficient to meet our requirements without our burdening one already heavy-laden. But Sandy is always doing just such things. C joins me in love to you all,

Your Affe. Son, J. D. C

Gardner City Minn
February 17th 1875

Miss Christie

Amica valde cara, (or carissima)

I have not heard directly from Northfield for over two weeks but I saw Mr. Parker this evening and he says you have been sick as he hears from Parker Jr. So I thought I would like to write although you may be well before now, as I hope you are.

We are having a "Donation" here tonight & suppose it passes as a donation for Father, but it is only to pay his salary which is due & so is really to the church. It is getting late and all have gone but a few young folks who are trying to do something—I cant make out what. One of them says "come, Chelsea, dont be a deacon" But I look up only for a moment and resume my writing again. finding

this more entertaining than their (nonsense).

I thought it very strange that you should procrasticate so long and began to fear that you might be unwell but still hoped that it was only because you were busily engaged or perhaps slightly forgetful. Yet I dont know as I have any reason to think you would neglect me except for imperative reasons. I shall watch the mail with anxious solicitude until I hear that you are better.

Those pictures of Northfield teachers & students attract considerable attention. Nearly everyone thinks Miss K. a very fine and, as they express it, a "smart" young lady. The Nortons are spoken of often as fine looking fellows, and Miss Cook has received several compliments which pleases me for it seemed to me that she was underestimated in N. although others of course knew much better about her than I. The Pres. is not half appreciated. He is called "slurpy" &c, but I, summon all my powers to my aid, to convince them that they are decidedly mistaken.

It is after twelve but "the sport goes on". I dont think much of such intemperance. It is the most contemptible foolishness. It isnt quite as bad as the absurdities of a newly married man couple but the next thing to it. They are playing "Jacob & Ruth" now. If you dont know what that is, get Parker to enlighten you, and after you understand it for no doubt you will unite with me in my verdict. Just now some one has run against the stove and damaged that considerably, but I dont know whether that fellow's "shins" are sore or not. I cant say, however, that I envy him much. I believe I shall let my benediction fall upon the heads of the profligate youth and retire.

I have lots of work for the next few days and dont like to spend so much time in this way.

I can't think of anything worth writing and so will cease to torment myself and my reader with such stuff as this. Please write as soon as you can (if you have not already) and ease my anxiety.

Din dale,

C. J. Rockwood.

P.S. What do you think of Revelation to read after finishing acts?

Rapidan. Feby 17th 1875—

My Dear Sarah [Christie]

I have been very sick and unable to write to you, added to which. No word from you. it must be that You also are Unwell. I am very desirous of hearing from You. It is two weeks past on Saturday Last since I became unable to go about. the Worst attack Ever I had on the Lungs that I have had for 28 Years. Pains like Rheumatism in nearly every Large Joint. Chills running over all the Back part of my Body. Apparently an Inflamation Condition of Liver and Kidneys. a whole Complication of Diseases. Mother has been Assiduous in her Care of me, Sitting up at Nights now for a fortnight to keep up the Fire. Sleeping, if any in the Rocking Chair

I am now much better and write this at the Stated Hour morning. All the Chills and Fevers are Gone. Lungs Nearly Well. I did not Allow Anne to Send for a Medical Man Without Expense. Anne Got this for again Mother also has had a bad cold Annett had a little touch also of something like My trouble Our Neighbor Colonel Cross of about the same Kind All the rest of us here are about usual. and Little Sandy Well and Growing a very Jolly Child.

If You are Unwell please Write at once. if not able Make Some one else do it.

I do not feel able to Write more now.

Good Bye

S. Christie

Saratoga February 18
1875

[Sarah Christe]

Dear Sister. My conscience has been urging me for the past week to write to you. So here goes. to have a social chat with you, in the first place we are well and hearty at present. Our four boys are all in good health. and Willie. last Saturday finished up ten weeks schooling. he is now able to read in the second reader very well, and has learned as far as the 7ns in the multiplication table. he is in the Examination. of Robinsons primary; having studied before this winter, now he only missed one day in the ten weeks. and I had to go for him only once in all that time. although we have had so much cold weather, and he had over a mile and a fourth to go. David is a sturdy Chap and will commence going school this spring. James is not quite so stout as as David. but is healthy. and happy as a general thing. Thomas is now about 15 months old and is a quick bright little fellow, and is the boss of the house, at present. Now you may wonder why I do not write to you more than I do. well you see the battle of life is a hard one to me. and Mary. and we do not know yet how it will go with us. and I do not feel like writing. much to any one, on that account. indeed Sarah. I fell on my feet when I married Mary and I ought to feel thankfull to you that you done me as much service in that matter. She is patient and industrious and saving in fact she is the most economical woman I know If and if she were not so we would have gone under long ago. Neither of us dress up. but she I believe does with

less clothes than any woman in the county. and you do not come out all right. it wont be because she wore it, or I either, or because we ate it. for 170 dollars covers all of our expenses for the last year. including all we have ate or drank worn or our backs or beds in the last 12 months, how is that for Six of us. My crop last year owing to the drought. only gave me nine bushel to the acre of wheat. and 31 of oats, My wheat is all gone not a bushel left for seed, and it will take all my oats to feed my mare and pay my taxes and interest on my land. So you request how we have to scrimp and squirm to get along. Now please let us know how you are and how you are getting along, I see by a circular letter I received some time ago. that Carmelite had been quite sick. now do you know if she well again. I hope she is. for Bessie sake, as well as Tom's. Do not think I have not written to you because I do not of you. for we often speak of you to the boys as we set round the fire these long evenings I hear from Alexander once in a long while. and when I do hear from him. his letter is like a Beam of Sunshine to me, Now all the boys but Thomas. has gone to bed, and we can now have a quiet chat by the fire, Now write to us soon, for I know and feel I write to you oftener than I do, Mary sends her love to you and hopes you will come see us one time soon, hoping this will find you well I will close by subscribing myself your loving Brother

Wm L Christie

Sunday afternoon,
February 21st 1875.

My Dear Friend [Miss S.G. Christie

Parker told me yesterday that you were intending to write to me to day and I thus thought I would wait to get your letter before writing. But that terrible power of habit! With resistless might it seizes its victim and all attempts to escape its grasp are as futile as the attempts of the moonbeams to ~~vanish~~ destroy the huge icebergs of an artic sea. I just now beneath its weight, and try to become reconciled to my fate.

I happened to be in town yesterday and noticed Parker as he came in from Mankato. We met with a hearty handshake, and each had a hearty welcome from the other, you may be sure. About the first thing I did was to inquire for Miss C. and one of his first questions was in regard to his Mother. He was in a hurry to get home and so we were together only a few minutes.

He says the Beltonians are getting more popular than they were. & have had quite a large & additions to their numbers. But from the names he mentioned, I don't see as they have gained much in talent, He only spoke of two or three, however, who have joined. It makes me happy to think there is a prospect of their going ahead of the B's

Your Brother and his family were at church to-day. He told me of the fall which you had on the ice &c. I had not heard of that before. (Parker probably took it for granted that I knew all about it and so said nothing of it.) Mrs C. had her "little one" with her. He looks much more like being a man at some future time than he did when I saw him before. I could then see no indications that he would ever be more than he then was, but the symptoms are improving, I think.

How pleasant it has been yesterday and today! Doesn't it seem a relief after so much cold & stormy weather, to have warm, sunny days again? I have little faith in their continuing, though. It isn't time for Spring yet.

I have had lots of work lately. You may know that Father is a public man. (Town Clerk). When I am at home he makes me do all I can of the business, and this is a very busy time in the office. I thought I should get about through by this time but yesterday they gave me an ocean of new work. That is one comforting thought. It pays very well. Yesterday I charged $2.65 and didn't work all day, either.

I shall try to go over to see Parker to-morrow and see about getting help in Greek. I haven't said anything to him about it, but I presume he will be willing to give me assistance occasionally. He asked me how far I had got in L. & Greek and when I told him he said seemed to think I had got along rapidly. I have been dissatisfied myself for 2 or 3 weeks, though. By the time I finish the first Book of Virgil it will have taken me nearly 4 weeks. I can probably read the other books faster, and will perhaps make it up if I fall behind a little. I mean to finish the Mathematics of the Freshman year next term. and so will have my first college year for language. Father advises me to teach next year. I may

be obliged to do this, but shall lose no time if I can avoid it. It will not be entirely lost on my course for I should then get everything well up, for entering and in Math. I should be ahead. So I could take two years of German in the course & perhaps two of French also, which would suit me exactly.

I presume this kind of stuff is not very interesting to you, but I have to write most about that which I think most about, and the question which claims more of my attention than any other is - how can I get along most rapidly & most thoroughly in my studies?

It is now about 3 o'clock and I presume you are engaged in somewhat the same way that I am. I hope so at any rate and hope also that when I hear from you I shall learn that you are recovering expeditly from your late injuries, You must learn by this experince to keep off from frozen ice &c.

Please tell Edgerton & Mullikan that if they dont write to me I'll never forgive them till the day of final reckoning. Then I will square up accounts with them and not before.

Yours as usual

C J Rockwood

Republican Dec. 22 - 1875

My Dear Mandy.

Your Letter and
Educational Journal received. We have indeed had a most severe season. It has not ceased to rain for two months. Yet has not gone down so very low as the have often been, from 18 to 25 below pretty steadily. But there has been a succession of three or four days
and I have been quite unwell, nearly one month ago. Broken a little Vessel. I was taken with Chills over my back and back of arms. Then neighbor with acute pain in all the large joints, an inflamatory State of the Liver and Kidneys, and also such a Cold on the Lungs as I have not had since 28 years ago. Affecting Nervous from all previous Colds I ever had in that it was partially obstinate

But since again I am nearly all as before. Sent for no Doctor Mother sat up every night for two weeks and kept up the fire and do partially kept down the cough Nursing me with all the tenderness of a Mother and all the Affection of a Wife, Accelerate Medicine Chills left me first. Then the Liver Condition of the pumpernickel Organs. Then the pain in the Joints and Lastly the Lung trouble. Daniel and his folks Quite well Mother Almost do. Walter has been Your little Mathematical Article, as he visited here and does often Call with us Grimp his counsel Lastly Surveyed the Edwards

The days Your Article will not be understood by One in One hundred who read it. He took it into town with and made it all out and he said. I Congratulate You on Your Ability to see such things. But I am written Logical nor Mathematical and it is all Dark as to me I would Rather been Excluded from the Groves of the Academy and the Schools of the Pythagoreans

Our Post Office is now discontinued and transfered to the Ford. But the Clerk Agrees to Address all letters for us to Mankato. Arnold Goes there Every Week. David Sometimes and Will Make the Letter then Spending half a day of Man and Horse to the Ford.

Have not Heard from Sarah in a Long time. Received a Letter this Week from Tom all Well. Preaching Occasionally, and Very Attentive Ladies are Ever Offered their Assistance for which he was Quite Grateful

Write Soon.

I am not able to Write much Yet

Yours as Always. J Shortle

Garden City. Feb 22nd '75

Dear Miss Christie [L.g.]

I haven't time this morning to write a letter (I will do so before the end of the week) but I wanted to thank you without more delay.

I opened the package as soon as the train started, find both the volumes and the enclosed note. and you will not think me ungrateful, will you? if I say that I valued the latter as much as the former.

Did it never occur to you that those who are naturally undemonstrative themselves are more pleased

with the frank kindness of
others for that very reason.
You know, Miss Christie, that
I appreciate your kindness, feel
gratitude and affection for you,
and would express it if I could.
I reached home without difficulty,
and found Mother better than
I expected, though she is not
feeling as well this morning.
C. J. called on me last
night, and I gave him your
messages.
I have sent my acknowledgments
to Misses F and D.
Excuse haste, brevity &c. for
it is nearly time for the mail
to go out!
I will write very soon.
Your sincere friend
E. W. Parker.

Lake Crystal, Minn,
Feb. 23rd — 75.

To P. Christie:

Dear Friend,

The immediate cause of my writing is a small matter of business; but do not, therefore, rashly attribute this as a sure sign that my friendship is of that cold and fickle kind, which no one would care to possess: rather consider it the spur, that has caused the flagrant procrastinator to perform his duty. Work, then play; business, then friendship; so, here goes.

Amy youngest sister intends to teach school in the spring; so I feel anxious, that she should have a good school,

She has been attending my school for nearly eight months, and is very good in all the common branches, as well as in some of the higher.

Tell me, then, what are the prospects in your direction? That is, do you think I could obtain your school for her, provided it is not already taken? If so, who are the members of the board, at the present time?

Here, I have given you the whole thing. "Multum en parvo;" so advise me, now, as one good friend advises another, in matters which deeply concern his welfare.

Dear friend, I feel that I am getting along gloriously in many respects; that I have taken several steps upward—if not forward—since I last saw you. My position as S.S. Supt. has given me a rare opportunity of exercising my powers as a speaker, be they weak, or strong. So, too the protracted meetings, which we held a few weeks ago, gave ample scope in the same direction; for in them a vast amount of work devolved on me, as well as on others. I have many incidents, connected with those meetings, which I long to tell you, but cannot for lack of time and space. Suffice it to say, then, I have seen several phases in the human character, of late, more plainly than at any previous time; and have learned how vain, as terrible in their results, the sophisms by which men smother

the voice of conscience in that which pertains to their eternal welfare. But, thank God, I have also seen many, by largess of his grace, rising to a nobler manhood—harbinger of the time which shall surely come, when none shall teach, as the prophet says, "Know the Lord: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the Lord".

I would have made you a visit during the holidays, had I dared to venture so long a walk in my then not very ruggedcondition. However, I shall try to do so after it breaks up. Was invited to Sarah some time ago, but have not received an answer, as yet. Tender my sincere regards to Grand Pa, David, Emma and all the rest, whom I have not forgotten.

Northfield, Minn.

Wed. Eve. Feb. 24. 1875.

My dear Father, [James Christie]

Your note in Jurial telling me of your illness & accidyesterday - also one Each al- the same time from brothers Willie & Alexander, my first impulse was to go home al-once to see you - & dreamed of you last night - & thought you looked very pale - as if you had been sick for a long time - & you were in your shirt-sleeves - are you comfortable? & think & will get a heavy shawl & send to you if & can find one in town - Please write me a little note soon as you get this - & let me know all about how you are - & have not been well this time - half sick all the time.

and a great-deal to do + see to - I am seldom five minutes alone from morning to night - I so often wish that - I knew some of the Jamies round here, so I could go out - away from the crowd - to stay over Sundays sometimes - + sleep - added to all else I have had two great - "boils" on my face last week - they made me sick - with the pain of them - I have had my face tied up all the time - for they made me look fearfully - so swelled + discolored - my face - one on my left-cheek - + the other on the right-side of my chin - Our students have been having the measles too - Jone case at-once in our building - taking much care + attention from Miss Evans + myself - particularly from me - There were more cases among the young men in Wells Hall - some of the poor boys were very sicks - + no woman ever entered their rooms but-me - I went - the rounds every day - + did a great-deal for all of them - They are all very grateful - my boys would die for me - All are on their feet again but - Several just-able to walk about -

You see how my time + energies have gone - + although it - may have seemed so to your folks at-home that - I have been ungrateful + forgetful - I have been neither - under the circumstances I could do no other than I have done - + I fell worn out - myself - I have not-written to Rockwood for a long while - but - his write nevertheless - so that - I have now

six letters from him waiting to be answered — I had one from him also yesterday — telling me of seeing Dave + Emma at church at — which I was very glad — + he told me all about — the baby how he looked &c — for which I was grateful — I am going to write to Rockwood tomorrow — also to Dave, + thru — if possible, — Mrs Shaw is going East — soon, + is to stay about — three weeks — + wants me to stay there during her absence with her sister + take care of her little ones — it will be a change + rest — for me to get one of the crowded, noisy buildings, into a family — Give my love to mother + to all — I feel grateful to mother for her care of you — write to me about your health — just — so soon as you get this — + believe me your affc daughter
Sarah —

Garden City
Feb. 26th 1875

Dear Friend

Yours for February received this afternoon. It seemed an age since I had heard from you but your letter was all the more welcomed & all the more eagerly read. I had begun to fear that I should not hear from you this week, hence the Postal card. No "Apologies", but "Repentance" to your heart's content.

I should know from your writing that you were unwell, - your hand trembles much more than usual &c. Now, why in the world dont you stop working so hard? for that is probably the principal cause of your sickness, is it not? There is no earthly excuse for your doing so much.

I guess I gave you a wrong idea in regard to ~~this~~ attending church. I have missed only one Sunday since I came home, I think, and have been away from S.S. only twice. I meant that I did not attend the meetings through the week. One reason for this has been that I had'nt time to spare, as well as the fact that I didnt always feel inclined to go. I must try to do more as Father & M. wish me to, hereafter, in this matter. I always feel unhappy when I see the look on Mother's face, if she urges me to do anything and I remain firm in doing as I please.

You fear for me if I teach a year, do you? and think I need the contemptible "inspiration" of a class. If my ambition is not sufficiently well founded to stand alone for a year, but needs continually to be propped up by class influence, it may as well go first as last; for it certainly could not stand long after leaving school entirely. But then I shall go a part of next year if possible, if I can study to advantage after being out awhile.

I am much obliged to you for Miss Evans' message and thankful to her for remembering me; but I have overhauled my whole brain and cannot possibly imagine why she should miss me. Unless, perhaps, she misses the troops of boys coming late to breakfast; the midnight torpedos bursting about her ears, or more likely the unswept rooms in ~~the~~ Willis Hall. Which do you think it is? I ask her. Yet I am very glad she does remember me, and you will please return my best wishes.

Miss Christie, do you notice many errors in my spelling? I hardly know whether I can spell decently or not. I do know that I sometimes

I don't care to answer this letter

[illegible] Journal

[illegible] misspell through carelessness.

For instance the word "arctic" in my last which I afterward remembered to have spelled "artic".

I have read your letter 2 or 3 times and shall keep it in my pocket to read occasionally till I get another.

It is yet early in the evening, but I dont feel like studying, for I have a slight headache, and feel more like shirking it till morning. But as I think of it I have a little other work which I must attend to,

I went over to see Parker Morse, and had quite a talk with him. And have often told we were never given to talking very freely on small topics so I didnt learn allabout Castleton as affairs.

Later.

We have in the school monthly written examinations & I have just been looking over the papers of the class which I hear. It is terribly disagreeable business. I pity those who examine the papers of College candidates, for there there would of course be much more responsibility.

Father has Butler's Analogy but not H. E. of C, of which you speak. I have very little time now for such reading. Mr. Jones spoke to me of one or two books, which he said I ought to read one was 'God in History' by Read. and that Father has. as soon as I can I shall read it. But why do you say

must" read it? Do you
think it is the only safeguard
to my future "grandeur"?
If so I'll get and read it.
but otherwise I am afraid
I shall neglect it although
I should like to look it over
if I had it & had time.

If the rising sun doesn't
find me sleeping tomorrow
why, it won't, I suppose.
but I wish it might. The
difficulty is if I don't build the
fire all the rest will wait till
nearly noon.

You spoke of staying in N.
through the spring vacation. You
must change your mind
if you have not already. Why
do you wish to stay there when
you might come here & enjoy
yourself? If you find it tedious
to answer all my questions let part of them go.

Stockbridge Wis.
February 28th 75-

My Dear Sister: [D. J. Chase]

No news from Minnesota since the storm of Jan 4 and 5, and am very anxious to hear how all are.

Will writes me from Olyman of the serious illness of Wm Emmison with Asthma and Dropsy. They have fears for his recovery, and Will writes me to do my level best to get Annie a Summer School. Jennie has this Olyman School promised her, and if Annie could earn a little this coming Summer that way it would be well. It looks bad for a school here for two reasons; the country is full of teachers; and they consider girls of even 20 yrs as too young to teach. However, I'll do what I can for her

School here thinning out, though not so badly as last year. Weather bad for everything. Mail irregular, mercury beginning to thaw out, and my class in Nat. Philosophy in Optics, reflecting on refraction.

Sent the Journal a solution of the general problem of which the Eagle and Pheasant problem which bothered me at Lowell is only a special case. My problem also includes Clairault's problem of the Couriers.

Also sent them a brief solution by the Calculus of a problem which James O'Connor in the Journal for '62 or '63, and the Scientific American lately solved by the clumsy methods of elementary geometry. Wrote Prof Linsby of Rochester University, Editor of Robinson Calculus, regarding a section of that work, where the celebrated Theorem of De Moivre is assumed as true universally, after a demonstration which does not cover every case.

Expect some standard mathematics soon, including Watson's Theoretical Astronomy, when I'll be deeper than ever in the mire.

How goes the battle with you? Keep on the safe side of the Dover that be", and do not sacrifice yourself for anything in this despicable world. "A" "No 1." If not "A", at least "No 1."

Drop me a line, however short. Haven't heard from you for a long time.

Good Brother

Alex Lander

Garden City. Feb. 28th '75.

My Dear Friend [S. J. Christie]

I intended to have written before, but I have really had no time, being obliged to attend lessons, as well as letters on account of other work.

Now that I reflect, it has'nt been so very long either, yet it seems like a long time since I came from Carleton.

Mother has been considerably better yesterday and today, and it seems more like home. She eat[s] also nearly two hours this morning and I was more like her

old self than I have seen her for a long time. We cannot but hope she will be permanently better every time she seems to improve, and the Dr. speaks rather more encouragingly than he has before.

I have seen Rockwood twice since coming home. He reports himself well and happy and his bronzed and smiling countenance abundantly confirms the report. He says there is nothing for the health of body and heart like home influences and respectable food, (or something to that effect) neither of which he could get at Carleton.

He says further that far from staying at home, he has been to church, Sunday-school and prayer meeting every week this term. I gave him a great deal of good advice, at which he laughed very heartily. I didn't exactly see the joke, but good-naturedly joined in. I really can't see any thing very alarming in his condition, but perhaps I don't appreciate the danger. He spoke quite solemnly of the Methodist revival now in operation in Garden City, and any one who will speak reverently of such absurd nonsense, must be very reverent indeed.

Emeline doesn't go to school now, because (report says) her father isn't willing to pay six dollars tuition. She has quarreled with the Baptist church, and goes to Methodist meeting, sings in the Methodist choir and — But I must remember That she is a favorite of yours, and not indeed I to remember it, for only

yesterday morning I met her
in the Post Office and
responded to her very cool bow
with a very cordial, good
morning, all on your account.
I have it been able to study
much so far, partly from
having so much else to do and
think of, partly from want
of energy I suspect, but I
have made good resolutions for
the future and may do better.
The growing darkness makes it
difficult to write, and the end
of the sheet is approaching.
I hope you are feeling better
than when I came from Co..
If you will write soon as you can
I doubt not, and Tell me how you,
and my other friends, are. Yours &c. E. D. P.

Garden City
March 2 1875

My Dear Friend [Sarah Christie]

Yours of Sat. came today. First, be assured that I am not "angry." Although as you say I am "sorry" - I should be sorry to give you any trouble. - My error was of the judgement and not of the intention. I did not suppose any one would see it, but even if they did, I cannot conceive what they could make of it. for the whole was indefinite in the last degree. Any one would know that it was something which you would understand & would be equally sure that they knew nothing at all about it. Yet if I knew that no harm could possibly come of it, I should now be sorry for having run

the cause of trouble to you. Anything more. When writing Friday Eve I underscored the words "Postal card" I think. — not, however, to call attention to the fact that it was a card but to its contents. Of course I shall say nothing to P. or E. about the note from you.

Now shall I write more or let this go as it is? There are things I would like to say, & do not think that I care nothing for what I did, if I say no more about it. I forgot though to say I was glad you told me how you considered it, and instead of its being anything for which you should ask my forgiveness, I thank you for it.

I saw P. today. You know his mother is quite low. She is a little better just now, but when I asked whether he thought she would get well, he said they hoped so, of course yet were fearful that she never would, as he spoke a slight quiver of his lip betrayed the deep feeling of his heart.

I cannot tell what effect it would have on P. if his mother should be taken but I should hope it would be God's way of making him a better man.

Although he sometimes seems hard and unfeeling, such an affliction as this would bear heavily upon him.

We are just together in our Bible-reading — today the 2nd of Rev. I have enjoyed Acts very much, especially the historical part. I like Paul's speeches too. They are soundly logical.

A day or two ago I commenced "God in History." I don't exactly like the writers style, but he has many ideas which I do like. I have sometimes thought history in something the same light but of course he gives one a

Much clearer & more comprehensive view than I have ever had. What he says of the preparation of the world for the reception of Christianity & of the means used for spreading the knowledge of it for the first hundred years, is remarkably fine. Sometimes I am tempted to call him old-fogy-ish, but on the whole I think him quite clear headed.

Virgil is better than ever lately. I had a grand passage in the lesson to day. Lines 199-233 B. 2, Ask Sawyer about it.

Nothing has so much marred my happiness for a long time, as your letter. I cant get it out of my mind & I think the more of it as you have been, and are now, probably, unwell. But I shall try to learn a lesson from it, to be more careful of what I do.

Please write me as soon as you can

Your friend

C. J. Rockwood.

Rapidan. March 6th 1870

[Stevens]

Yours Duly Dear Sarah.

Yf 24th Feb. received but a few days ago. it was als as I anticipated with you. Quite Unwell and so disagreeably as to have your Ma called married. But you are getting over it and now probably about well again. So I think one like to think. I am not any worse but better yet not able to do scarce anything. Not able to make all of our own fires and a yet! The Whole family here Das usual in health. do not lay out for me any money in Getting a Shawl. Of this Will Soon be there And now I wish to impress upon you, that you must address your letter for us to Mankato, because now no post office here. they would reach us addressed to Good Thunder. but if so, they would need to be Gone for as a Week by stage Where Annett Goes once a Week to Mankato and Darie occasionally. so it is best to address there

I sympathize with you in your many Trials And difficulties. Place your Confidence on God. doing all things to Him. you will yet become Free.

I Cannot Write much more

And remain your Affectionate

Father and Friend

S. Christie

I Correct Address
Burt Lan. P.O.
Cards & Tolls
To Bouquet Ave
Cor 1st Meet
I am Attorney

Clyman Dodge Co Wis
March th 11th 1/95

Dear Brother [James Christie]

not having much to Send
thinking I might send you a few
Lines to let you know how things look &
round here and so to begin I must tell
you we have had a terrible winter here
snow and frost about 2 months ago
the Thermometer stood on Sunday morning
38 below zero, we have had a great deal
of snow and none of it has gone off as
yet no doubt we will have a great flood
when it begins to move, yesterday it
began to go a little but this morning it
snows again but it must go soon. all
south and north roads are full and
we have to go through the fields crossing
and Jumping the road to get to mottestown
But there is very little Travel any how
Some we have 18 in Snow on a level
if Lesses Dam holds out it is more than ?
think, the Albert inhalator never saw
anything like it When it collapses every
marsh will be a Sea

Willie had a letter from Sandy a few days
ago he is all right doing well but I would
like to know how Thomas is getting along
for Sickness you know James is Bad to
cope with Health is a great thing to have
and I hope he has again acended to it
Hellen had a letter from Sarah things
looked Pretty well then David had been
well so for that he may still keep so
is my ernest wish so allways when you
write let me know about him —
William Emerson is very Sick I believe
he is not to recover en about 2 months ago
he take Asthman was very Bad it went
away and Dropasey set in he soon in his
feet it went up to his Abdomen and
and then it is he may go any time
he is very weak But it takes quite easy
they have a hard row to Hoe your Bote
I forgot to tell about ×George Lewis in
my last they say he Stole a Horse
was Put in gail at Londonderry Brought
out and went off to Ports mouth in it
ordered and another Cost the Family about
$800 George is a Bold Boy and could not
make money fast enough and Tryed
a short cut and Missed it —
Thomas Read Poor fellow has not been
very lucky this Past year he went up
to the Pinenies last fall and got his hands

frose the first night he was there Poor
Bad and Patient went up and took the
Horses and let his father come Home
Thomas threw himself on his Bed
By Building that new House a nice
House frame, outside Brick, he might
have done ½ less if he had Done what
I told him he came to me and told
me he was going to Build But the
old man said except the underpels was
rotten I told him to Put new ones in
and then Brick it, he said he would
see what the Carpenters would say
they told him to Build a new
one and he did it and tore down
and threw away the one he had
which Pleased them very much he
has got a good House But at an awful
expence he will have a hard struggal
to get out of it Debt James is like
the Dyspnat it is very Deceptive —
we are going to have a Cheese factory
here, Byron Millen is going to Put
one up we will grow less Wheat
and more more Stock we will sow
down about 12 acres of Clover and
Timothy this Spring and go into
Milk and Keep the Farm up Better

well we have had another Reel at Venus
Ent; had a look about 60 years ago and if
he and me were Both right we are now
7 000 000 of Miles nerer the Sun than we
were when Ent; took his observation
and if so at the same rate it will
take only about 1400 more to Pocket
this Ball of ours, if that is True, guess
what is all this Mess about if Creation
is going to be orders of the Day
the time is quite long enough for you
and me But I would like to Standaside
and see the mushin, But between —
Divine Sanitity and Sin this is
a queer world we live in But I
say nothing like facts however unpleasant
they are. if the Thing is going just as
we are none the worse if it to Know
it goes for to Prove Mr Watsons Electri-
cal theory that brings us to mind
the two Theorys Politicks and Religion
which Bothered mankind so much
Past Present and To Come we may now
give it all up and Learn no more and
talk; no more of the Coming Man
let him live in quietness and much
Patience for the Lost Man
we all send our Best Wishes to all
yours &c to Brother
W W. C

Garden City
March 12th 1875

Dear Miss Christie:

Another of my favorite times for writing to you has come it, when there is no one in the house but myself, so there is no danger of being disturbed. I always feel freer under such circumstances - more as if I were with you & talking to you. You may have noticed when I have been in your room & others came in, that I usually had very little to say. The reason, as near as I can get at it, is this, I have a way of expressing myself varying as my hearers vary, & get two of different kinds together & I can't adjust my words & thoughts to suit both, always, - so I am obliged to remain quiet

P.S. Just sometimes, with your permission, I want to step across myself & see you. Shall we not have a chat after Rest & Tea this afternoon, now it is 4 o'clock. Yours truly

On this account, I like to think that only one person is hearing & knowing what I say or do.

I finished the 2nd Book of Virgil today. & also have finished Geometry.

Now I believe (this for yourself) I have learned more in Latin & Mathematics this winter, than I ever have before in the same time. The help which I have had has amounted to simply nothing of any consequence. I have just been obliged to dig things out myself & let them go altogether & I have dug. I have serious thoughts of staying at home entirely this spring. All that makes me hesitate is the fear of being interrupted more & so be less regular. But I can set apart my study hours & keep them sacred to study.

Avis's scholarship would not be so finely polished, if he should study alone entirely; but a short time would suffice at toward the close of his course to round the angles and knock off the corners. I do not expect, however, to follow this plan myself any longer than I find it necessary.

I had a letter from Miss Knox written a week ago. She said she had not written heard from you since she wrote me before. If "two weeks" seemed a very long time to her, what will two months be? But I presume you have written before now.

I hardly know what to do about my Mathematics this spring. I am ready to enter now & I don't know but it would be best to put more work on my Greek & take the Math. in the course. What do you think about it? There is more danger of my slighting Algebra & so than language for nearly everything is so easy to understand that I should not be apt to put work enough on it to get things fixed in my memory & so forget very soon what I had been over. Latin & I take so much work that

when once learned, they stay so.
Now, if you will forgive me this
time I will try not to bore you again
right away with so much talk about
my studies, for I know it must be
tedious to you.

Inclosed is the sheet that I wrote
last Sunday. Some things which I said
do not express my ideas exactly, but
you will get the general thought.
If there is any thought in it
but as I read it over, I have about
concluded that if there is any, it is not
very plain & pointed. I will try
to give you a better idea of my
moral & religious status.

Please write as often as
you can without crowding
yourself. If I were not aware
that you had more work
than you can well perform
I should find fault with the infrequency
of your letters but as it is I try
to be "patient" Yours Ever
G Rockwood

[ca 1875]

Garden City
Sun. Eve. Mar'y 7th

My Dear Miss Christie:

It is only yesterday that I mailed you a letter, but I want to talk to you a little while & as I am alone, the present is the best time I shall have for it, so I will write what I wish to & send it when I think the right time has come; for what I have to say does not get old in a day.

I have been thinking lately that a great deal of what you used to tell me about disbelieving because I chose to do, is after all too true, although I then stoutly defended myself; but since I think more freely and not so much toward the end of bolstering myself up in my own course, & see more clearly the real facts.

I have frequently thought while talking with you & others, "how easily I could shatter such arguments as these of mine." I have looked with admiration upon the strong foundations of the Christians faith and yet if anything was said to me I was immediately prepared to give battle with my strongest weapons. This eve, I have been reading an article by Arnold of Chicago. He is speaking of the way in which skepticism should be confronted. He speaks of the power of Christian experience as related by one who has really felt it, to overcome infidelity & guell arising doubts. It reminds me of what you would sometimes say. after making your statement you would say, "Now, Rockwood, you know this is true". Well, I did really, though I would not admit it, to myself, even.

My greatest enemy is my own sinful selfishness & pride. I fell bound down by its power as if I could not tear myself from its grasp. In my thoughtful moments I can not but despise myself for it, but when the first temptation comes, I have fallen before I am aware of it, and it seems as though I were perfectly powerless & entirely at the mercy of my evil inclinations. Sometimes I am tempted to believe that I am & not as bad as I was a while ago. & to rest in the thought that all will be right at no distant day. But there is very little satisfaction in this, partly because I am not at all sure all will be right, but more than this, it is my duty & privilege to be right now. I have not been easy exactly in doing nothing through these meetings, even if I have done no harm. For since God gives us the talents we have, they should be used for Him. In thinking of the love of Christ I am

altogether to apt to think or recall that there I have nothing to do in return, or rather forget that I should return love. & should be willing to keep every command-ment.

I have been thinking whether the modern world is not in about the condition morally that the ancient world was ~~3 or~~ 30 or 40 yrs, B.C. & whether I was not rapidly becoming a type of "the man of the period". I tremble occasionally as I think what I shall be if I continue in my present course.

Now, if anyone else should say they were wrong & could not change I presume I should & count the idea. But it is, to some extent at least, a stern reality.

You will pray for me, will you not? You can do me more good in that way than any other. I dont know as I ought to trouble you with this, but I can tell you better than anyone else, and I wanted to tell some one

Adieu for the present Rockwood

Stockbridge Mis. Mch 9 '75.

My Dear Father: [James Christie]

Yours of 22d ult. in feneck.
at hand, and I am rejoiced to think
you are no worse, but so well.
I sent a P.O. Money Order to you
at Castle Garden, drawn in Davis
favor on Mankato, not knowing of
your portal change.
Have been talking - not moon-
shine - but Rainbow to my philos-
ophers, for two days: analyzing the
whole by means of the Differential
Calculus, and exhibiting the results
in Colors. The young men are de-
lighted and in a rosy flow of wonder
and delight. I fairly made them gasp
with awe as I unfolded the pro-
founds of that wondrous phaenomenon,
and showed them mathematical per-
fection of the thing. By the way,

There is not one in a hundred thousand
of those who have studied it, who
really know anything about it.
Nor can it be understood without
the higher Mathematics.
If Kirke Wrought that Earth problem
out (by Analytical Geometry and the
Calculus) he would be surprised
that the matter - one of 12 - is not
treated of in Elementary works on
Astronomy.
Ask W. D. C. to drop me a
line. Hoping that this will
find you well
I am
Yours
Alex.

Jardine City
March 16th 1875

Dear Friend: [S.J. Christie]

I am glad I have the privilege of writing to you when I choose, for I really like to do it often. I get lonely occasionally here, for I have no company except our own family, Josephine & Virgil. This is enough usually but "variety," you know, "is the spice of life". I have not seen Parker but once since I went there immediately after he came home. & then only for a moment. He promised to come to see me, but has not yet. I have considerable patience with him, for I know he has a great deal of work on his hands & beside it is not very pleasant

for him to go among those with whom he is not very well acquainted.

Two weeks more & the laborious students & teachers of Carleton indulge in another short vacation. You gave me your reasons for remaining in Northfield a while ago. I presume it is better for you to stay, but I am very sure, that all your B. E. Co. friends will wish you could come as well as not, if only for a week. I would like to make you a call after all have gone when you have a plenty of time for visiting. How would you enjoy it?

You apparently have neglected to get the information from Miss Evans which I asked you to, since you said nothing about it when you wrote last. "Now, this is not the first time Neither the second [I quote from memory and may make mistakes] that of you have wholly disregarded, totally ignored requests &c and I consider this just as" — well perhaps you know the rest. But I must find out what it is that makes "Miss E. remember, or rather "miss" me. It gives me sights of trouble. I have been thinking that on account of my generally bad reputation she has given me credit for something worse than I was ever guilty of. Otherwise how could she "miss" so much? My anxiety will not be quieted till the matter is "officially" explained.

If King Eolus has has broken the bars of his prison doors & the conflicting winds rush from

their caverns, beating their heads together like madmen. The heavens are filled with their angry howls and - and - I guess that's all. The G.C. Post master wont be troubled with mail again for a month, more or less.

At the recent election here the town went go to 5 against Liquor licens. Three cheers for the good people of Garden City! Mr. Jones was chiefly instrumental in bringing this about.

I am sorry that I sent that shut dated May 7th the other day. It was blind in the last degree & beside it had one or two qualities worse than obscurity. I will write again, as I said, at no distant day.

If you call some of my letters short you must remember the motto "little & often"

Ever Yours
S. L. Rockwood

letter to the right person. Is at S. J.?

Red Wing Mar. 17 1875

Dear Miss Christie, [Northfield,

Minn.] Don't you owe me a letter? I want you to answer it and do me another favor at the same time if your conscience will permit.

P.S. You see I did not go east last fall, but I want to next. I have changed my plans a little however, since I need to talk with you about the studio in Boston. Now I hope to obtain a school next year in that city or its suburbs. I mean a situation as drawing teacher in a school.

I have taught so little that I have no where to go for testimonials. Would you as soon as not write a note for me saying that you are a teacher in Carleton and that you know I tried to teach drawing there, or something to that or

any other effect you choose?

That is all the business.

Perhaps you think I am trying early for a position, but I am not. Indeed I fear I am too late again.

Are you well this winter?

Do you hear from Mrs. Lee? I have often wondered how she succeeded with her drawing. That she should dare to attempt to teach it with so little knowledge as she possessed is a "mystery to me". That is a funny sentence, but I insist upon the mystery, it is past finding out.

I see by the papers that your town has been favored with lectures this winter. Have you attended them?

How does Carleton thrive without Mr. Dow? Nettie tells me that Myra is Myra Brown no more.

Nettie dined with me last Sat. after which we spent the afternoon tramping through the slop'y streets. She was getting and spending her school money, I seeing about Bibles for my poor little S.S. scholars.

We - that is Mell and I - and a few mutual friends spent a very pleasant evening at Margaret's a few weeks ago. Have you heard of it?

Whom among the people of A. do you meet. What are you doing besides routine work, or does that take all your time and strength?

My principal work this winter seems to be reading stories aloud to the family. I never succeeded in interesting them as I do this winter, but I am fairly tired out sometimes. The last is "Arthur Bonnicastle". It just expresses my convictions about most of the subjects with which it deals, serials for instance.

I hear that Mr. Towle is going away. Are you sorry? After I know you always

defended him when I found fault-
I feel a little remorseful over their
fault-finding now. I never regarded
anyone with such a strange mixture
of feelings as I have for him - friend-
liness pity respect, impatience indig-
nation, disgust. I was always feeling
like a traitor on account of him but-
I couldn't help it. I wish you could
hear our minister here. He is the man-
liest, most upright and downright little
Lutheran, with a heart big enough
and deep enough to embrace all human-
ity, and hear his burden upward.

Please give my love to all the
school girls I know, and write soon.

With love

Abbie C. Hall.

This is the most trashy thing, I can't
possess myself long enough to remember
what I meant to say next this afternoon.
I don't know as I have addressed your

Andover, March 20. 75.

My Dear Father: [James Christie]

No letter from you this
winter, and Sandy tells us of the same
silence. You must be pressed by a most
dreary winter, We hope no illness or other
serious trouble is joined to this terrible stress
of the Elements. Write us as soon as you
think a letter can reach us, for we are
really anxious about you. The winter
here is still holding us fast. I look out
of my window & see nothing but snow, on
the ground & in the air, - for we are
having the last, probably, of the great
storms that have peculiarly marked this
winter. Back within doors in our
little home Everything is bright, cosy,
& Cheerful. The health of all is very
good. Last Sunday was the third
anniversary of our marriage, and

nearly a month ago our Bessie completed her second year. – both were occasions of joy and thankfulness: we have been most signally blessed in these years, and often say that even if the future may bring sorrow and trial, yet nothing can rob us of the happiness of the past. But we are full of hope for the days to come, and we know that all things shall work together for good to them that love God. May we all be kept in that love!

Bessie is still very stout & hearty: her head is noble, for size and shape & she weighs 32 pds. She has learned several of her letters, is very fond of singing, and displays a wonderful memory. Says a great many words & is beginning to put subject & predicate together a little. In Boston she lorded it over Cousin Jennie's three girls so energetically that she had finally to be kept in the kitchen away from them, & her mother hastened her return home to relieve the city Cousins of her too demonstrative muscle and brain power. When the weather moderates (& the purse is replenished) you shall have a picture. We are now in the middle of the Spring vacation of 3 weeks. I spent one week of it in visiting Harvard & Yale Colleges, the Expenses of the tour being paid by my preaching last Sunday near Yale, for which the good people gave me fifteen dollars and an invitation to become their pastor. It was a temptation like the Beloit Professorship, but I had to tell them there were two years of preparation yet before I could take up regular work. Besides the opportunities

for doing good, there was the offer of a thousand a year & the nice parsonage with ground attached. The Church, too, is in a valley of the Housatonic Mts, amid the fine scenery of Western Connecticut.

But I must toil through the regular and necessary Course of Ministerial Study; then, I may consent to rest a year or two in some quiet New England parish, before girding anew for life work abroad, or in some Western College. I got much pour my town to Harrard & Yale. They are both great intellectual centres, but I like Harvard the better of the two.

There is an indescribable air of culture about the old place (founded in 1636,) & one is reminded of his ideal of the English University. The men do their work under less constraint than is visible at Yale. Nothing would please me better than a year at Harrard to study Greek Literature, Philosophy, and the Greek Fathers. What a year that would be!!

When in Boston I paid for another year of the Congregationalist — the only paper we take — and also directed a copy sent to Bro. Millain for the year. We often think of them on that bleak hill side this winter, and wonder how they are getting through this most trying season. We shall try do something for Will & his family if we ever get our own heads above water. Sandy writes once in a while; is hard at work, tells us of a problem just finished, on which he has worked two years, for the Journal of Education. A year at Harvard in his special line would do S. much good; but there is an opening of his eyes to higher truths that is still to come.

In our Mission at Lawrence the revival still continues, and we hope to organize a Church there yet. About 25 persons have, we trust, been

converted there this winter. Very little machinery - the Wednesday Evening meeting and the usual work of the Sabbath - that the Excellency of the power may be of God, not of men. My last sermon there was on the joy in heaven over one sinner that repenteth. The next will be on the subject - Confessing Christ, text our Saviour's words, "Who touched me?"

Send love to Emma & to all with you. We are much interested in the little fellow, but hear nothing from him. Be sure to remember him when you write. I met Pres. Strong in the Congregational House in Boston two weeks ago: looking well, & has raised ten thousand dollars for the College. He spoke highly of Sarah and her influence on the students.

13 years ago today we were on the Tennessee, approaching an obscure place they called Pittsburg Landing. So we are ever sailing on, not knowing the things that shall befall us whither we go, but there is One with us who does, & who will bring all things out right. Your loving Son, J. D. C.

Stockbridge Wis. March 21st 75

My Dear Sarah:

Have had nothing from you for a long time. Drop me a line, however short.

Am like passing away at school and the Calculus, making most progress in the latter. Today, demonstrated Lagrange's Theorem. Am determined to know something of mathematics, unless the oil mills fail. How goes your own study? And what classes do you have? Do the Powers skill smile occasionally?

Intended to have inclosed Mrs.

Halsh's Note, but Jim has not
yet sent it me. If he does'nt,
I'll write him. I sent the last,
two wks since.
Am in health, fair spirits, and
am sending out letters to feel
the educational pulse. Do not
know whether they would pay as
much here another year or not.
Hard times, and village dying
out. Was told when I came, that
it was to be the last year of good
school. Element in favor of
lower taxes. Etc
I have made no Enemies, nor
flogged a scholar.
Excuse this hasty scribble.
Yours Aff—
Alex. S. Christie

Rapelan. March 21st 1875

Sunday Morning -

My Dear Sarah. [Christie]

I have been in such poor health this long time, and am so now that I could not write to you of anything. But this Debt which you have laid upon David, for it is really upon Him it is laid. Compels me to force myself to write to you. Arnott came over to him day before yesterday and arranged about Going into town to see the Men they Got it from. Daniel went in alone that Day and could only see the Men they had the 200 $ from. the other is away from Town. Arnott went yesterday and had the same luck. Arnott is desperately troubled about it. and indeed so are we all. for we that can be done. Daniel has no Wheat and has not been able to pay all of his debts either. he is Already Mortgaged for over 400 $ And when these Notes become due they will come out and take away from us our Horses and Cows and Machinery and utterly ruin us. besides the Loss of our Honest Name and General disgrace. I can not sleep, nor Eat for this Great trouble. You must make an immediate Effort to save us from Ruin. Could You not Get some of Your Northfield Friends to Give You the Money and take us out of the Hands of these Jews and the Laws Can You not make arrangement to pay Quarterly so much of Your Salary to some One who would advance it for you and Wait on it in this way.

Sarah You have brought ruin upon us if You do not, and immediate ruin also. for it is but a few days when it must Come. there is very little probability that the Notes Can be renewed. Arnott found this out When he went in. Daniel tells me. What Can We do? If they Shall also fall upon Arnott It will deepen our Disgrace - and Entirely destroy our Character in the Country. Arnott is not the Man to be silent. He Speaks very freely now of Your Character

My Dear Sarah. Can You Paint of Describing
My peace such as it is. in declining Health
and Old Age and ~~Mistakes~~ the Greatest Efforts.
You Whom I have suffered much for,
I Would pay all for You if in My power and
relieve You and myself of this Great Burden.
It is too terrible for me to Contemplate What
may be the final result of this Dreadfull thing
You have involved us in. On the Morning
You induced Lovell to try to raise this money
You Spoke to me as if there Would be no difficulty
in Your Getting the Money if You had been a little
time. Did You intend to deceive me Sarah.
And Why have You never mentioned this to me since
in Your Letters.

I can Write no more
But if You do not Wish to Crush me Entirely
You Will surely make this all right in a few
Days. and allow me to Live
Still With all forgiveness
My Dear Sarah. Your Father
James Christie

N.B. Arnott Rather in Favor Went into Ray thinking to Learn
Where the Money might be again Borrowed and Ray told Arnott
of how You did Write the 300 ℔ order upon Dave as his Bank
Ray said he Would not have any thing to do in this Matter
and So made Arnott feel much Worse about it.
My Dear Sarah. for the Love of God
do try and make this out for us.
Cast aside all insincerity and be true to me
for this time.
Write by Return Mail and Give
Some Hope if You Can.

Garden City Mich
March 20" 187

Dear Friend,

Saturday evening again brings weariness both of mind and of body. How the time flies! I've worked hard for a week or so, & have indulged in unusually late hours & early hours also. But it doesn't seem as though I had accomplished as much as I ought, considering the labor. The truth is, my mind works slowly, and even when I keep busy all the time, I accomplish less than some who take time for other things than study.

I am surprised & sorry, very sorry, to hear what you say of R. I did

2 not think he would do such things now. I felt guilty last fall for my conduct, (& do now, very) Perhaps if I had decidedly opposed he would have refrained at first. Yet I did afterward tell him that I should have no more to do with whisky & kept my word although he did, with H. & one or two others, continue in the old way for two or three weeks. One thing I place to his credit. I dont remember that he ever asked me to join them after I told him that I did not choose to keep up such a practice even for a short time.

As to the cause of it. I really do not know what to think. He probably does like it. But that is not strange else I do, & almost every one, does, I guess. There is something else. That contemptible H.'s influence probably has something to do with it. Yet this is not all. It cannot be that he does it to drown trouble, for he has no care that should weigh upon him so heavily. I am afraid he thinks

3 he can go on for a while, and stop when he chooses; or that he can control himself and not run to excess. I remember now, to have heard him say when Rolf (or Norton) once said he would not dare to trust him off to drink even occasionally for fear of becoming confirmed in the habit, that P. replied in a sort of self reliant, contemptuous way that that was "nonsense." I did not suppose he meant it then but now I am afraid that it was for near to what he believed. I wish I were strong enough to approach him on the subject & compell him to admit, that his course is dangerous. One thing I will do, or rather will not do. I will never again give any one countenance or encouragement in that direction by my example, or in any other way.

I am glad he wrote you such a note as he did. But I am not

4 surprised that "Parker", even, should do it. On the contrary I was surprised not to hear immediately from you of just that. (I guess this last is rather strong) Now, you must (I mean must) write to him. If you must neglect either let my letters go a little longer. But do not give D. a shadow of a chance to think you care less for him away from you than when in your presence. I know that you do not, but I have greater faith in human nature than D. — (Now it is very presumptuous for one of my years & position to speak in such a way to you, so take the above with all due allowances).

I have been writing this just for a rest, & will write more tomorrow I want to speak about one or two things especially.

It is now 8 o'clock & for the next 3½ hours I must revel in the luxurious position of reading the Manteau Port, So adieu, for tonight

Rockwood

Sunday afternoon.

I read 90 lines of Virgil last eve. besides spending quite a long time (after writing to you.) in conversation with F. & W., So it was quite late before I retired. (in consequence) I am stupid & dull today My parental friends have spoken frequently of late about working too hard. Perhaps I do. but I cant bear the thought of doing less. I wish I were made of material that no amount of work could wear out. I wouldnt close my eyes in sleep once a month. But I am not thus fortunate and must, I suppose, Exercise Care. By the way, how are you lately? You say nothing of your health so I hope you are quite well.

You ask where I shall teach next

'year. Probably not in Garden City. I should prefer to go elsewhere, because I think I should be more successful there than here. Then, too, I should be obliged to take the intermediate department if any, & that I should dislike, for the scholars in that department are of just the age that they are hard to govern and more than all, the one who now has the position is, I think, doing good work & will probably be retained there. I think I shall try to get the school in Lake Crystal, or perhaps some other similar school in the county. But it is not at all certain that I shall teach atall.

Father preached this morning from the first verse of the S.S. lesson of today. It was a first rate sermon, too. I like his preaching in many respects, as well as the sermons I used to hear in N. But perhaps I am not an unprejudiced judge. (Tautology).

You say you wish you "might be set free from this prison house of a body" and other things follow in the line of the same thought. Now, I do not wish anything of the kind. although if death were to face me I think I could submit without much complaint. I look forward with satisfaction to the work of life, its difficulties, & dark hours as well as its sunshine, the growth of the inner man, and the better preparation for the future. I have no aspirations toward the life of the mass, but I should like to be a Payne, a President Strong, a Sumner or an Aggassig Agassig. The higher the better in the line, but I do want to work in the world, even if my position were always to remain low.)

Then as to our condition, I know the idea is prevalent that we shall enter an exalted state immediately. It will be exalted, as it is uncontaminated by sin. But farther than this I do not think it will be, at first, much beyond our condition before leaving the world. A mind unpolluted by sin must of course become exalted in other respects, but will not time be

necessary to bring this about?
I do not allow myself to think much
about these questions. We are told that
the righteous shall be rewarded
& the wicked punished — one is as
plainly taught as the other — but in
what way either will be done, is &
forever must be, to mortals, an unsettled
question. I can conceive of nothing
which seems to me more foolish than
many of the theories on this point. I
think the Bible was intended to teach us
how to live, and to gain truths calculat-
ed to benefit us in this world. Then if we
live rightly, a blessed life for the future
is assured to us, & so indirectly, it guides
to heaven. It may be the great object
of the Bible is to lead to heaven, but this
indirect method is used, as it seems
to me.

You express pleasure that
I "put your" letters on a footing with
Palmer's in my collection of them". There
is nothing in this that I object to, but I
take it as a sort of text for what I have to
say.

a while ago the thought came to me "which of my friends do I value most highly?" But, really, I could not bear to think of it after a moment.

There are a number (a small number, however,) between whom I could not possibly choose, & I would not for a fortune say that either was dearer than the others. Comparisons of this kind are repulsive, if not "odious."

I wish Parker would come over. I get lonely occasionally & would enjoy a tear hour with him remarkably well.

Mother tries occasionally to get me to go into society here, and Father preaches philanthropy (that isn't the term he uses, though,) to me - says I ought to do something for society &c, and ought not to shut myself up so closely. Now the fact is, the preparatory & College curriculum demand a student (especially a dullard's) undivided attention. If other work is done

this must be neglected and neglect
ed to the lasting & irreparable injur
ry of the student. So I have
positively refused to take anything
else upon my hands. Am I
not right? Should not a student
for the short time spent in school
give himself up to his selfish-
ness (if that is what you call it) almost
entirely? I have done it and
propose to in the future, unless
stronger reasons than any I
have heard yet are brought
forward. I do not refer to
church work especially but to
everything else.
Your last is a very good letter.
I shall look ~~anxiously~~ eagerly for
another of the same "genus".
Yours as usual
C. J. Rockwood

P.S. I omitted intentionally to speak
of the Postal card. You were too
willing. There would be no satisfaction
in it. It was only nonsense that I
had in mind.

March

Rapidan Tuesday 23. 1875.

Dear Sister we are all well.
you must write Somthing Certain
about this matter. you must
~~have~~ Send the Interest money
So as to have it here by the 29th
this month which is next
Monday as Smith is going away
and have promised to meet
him at that time But you
must try and pay it all now
we want to know everything about
it right off we have no way to
work it, and Arnott feels Ugly
about it and is hardly willing
to sign again can see it by
his actions and I do not blame
him much you have said so
little about it, now that
Interest must come by that

1

time or we will be in
a Trance of a Seraph
~~of Grace~~ Send the Interest
by post office Money Order
if you Send the other

Send it by Express to my

address from your Desperate
Brother Dave

Sunday afternoon.
March 28" 1875.

My Dear Friend

Thursdays roll their accustomed rounds, and again not "by force of habit" now, but because my pleasure demands it, I begin a letter to you. The day is very warm & spring like. It is pleasant enough to rouse the good humor of the most surly. Nothing could be more delightful.

Father & mother are just starting to Mrs. Parker's. They heard that Mrs. P. was very low - hardly expected to live. She is so good & is so much needed by her family the thought of her death seems almost unbearable. Dan

I always find comfort, however, in the fact that all such things are ordered by One wiser than man, and beyond the narrow horizon which limits our vision, and beneath the shallow surface which alone we see, He is working out his own wise and benevolent designs. There is nothing for which we should be more grateful than that it is never left for us to say which of our friends we shall part with first, & which shall be longest spared.

Mr. Lyon of St. Paul is here to day to see about reviving an old Presbyterian organization in this place. He preached for Father Todd this morn. His text was "If it were not so I would have told you." He does not confine its meaning to its own particular connection, but makes it applicable to all parts of the N.T. He says Christ never allowed people to misapprehend his meanings, nor to indulge in false hopes. He corrected all false opinions, also he spoke to his people in terms which they could & did understand correctly. So the reasons that Christ's true meaning was just that which an ordinary, candid, honest mind gets from his words. Knowing what the mass of common people (if they are honest) understand & to have said & meant, we have a reliable interpretation of his words, and have no need of anything further. So also he says of the writers of the N.T. — This was a new idea to me & I rather like it. Please tell me what you think of it.

The school closed here Friday.
An Exhibition was given & ~~for~~ by the school. There were no original parts, but the declamations recitations &c were rendered in a better manner than I thought G.C. capable of. It was really very interesting. I finished the third Book of Virgil, also finished Geometry. This (coming) term I shall put a large part of my work on the Greek, I am becoming better satisfied that it would be well for me to teach next year & study all I can, through the time. I should be far better prepared to enter. Also I have an increasing desire to go east & I am afraid its power will become well nigh irresistible soon. and by the way, I have no inclination to check such a desire that I know of.

Now are now greatly rejoicing

in the immediate prospect of a vacation. Tell me, pleas, how the examinations stand. are there any public exercises of any kind for the close of the term? ~~A~~ happy time & an easy, lazy time to you through your week of rest. Read novels & sleep to your hearts content.

What has become of Edgerton? I wrote to him two months ago & should think, and not a word from him yet. The only consolation I have in the matter is the hope that he had a relapse of the measles & has been so nearly dead that it was impossible for him to write.

When I mailed your last letter I wrote what was on the outside while in the post office. The P.M. took up the letter and looked on it with eagle's eyes for a few moments then threw

down in "divine disgust" with
the explanation "that's Dutch!"
I never believed before that
A.M.'s did read such things
but perhaps they do.
Eli & Sarah think of going
out this week to the prairie.
I don't envy them in the least
& never could be satisfied
with the hard work required
there.
Damn, as I am, running
short of subjects so will relieve
your patience.
Your friend Ever
L. J. Rockwood

P.S. I look hopefully yet patiently
for a letter from you every day
i.e. I look every day, perhaps
not as often as
you can.

Ovation Mine,

Mar. 31st 1875.

[Sarah]

My very dear Miss Christie:

Yesterday I called upon Fanny. She has again changed her mind and decided to return to Carlton next term. This will necessarily make a change in Bellis arrangements. I have written to her telling her all about it, and have enclosed the letter in yours for I do not know her address. May I trouble you to subscribe it?

You can't guess what we have at our house as I will have to tell you. — A Baby Boy. He waited till I came home before he made

his appearance into this world of sin and suffering. I suppose he knew I was used to taking care of babies and thought he had better come just now. Of course he is a wonderful child, and just as good as he can be.

On account of Mother's sickness I have been very busy this week, and don't think I can write until a week from Saturday. I have thought of you often especially at meal time, and wondered if you were lonesome and missed your girls; but Miss Christie we will be with you in a little while. And meanwhile you must keep a stiff upper lip. That is the advice which was given me last September when I left home to go to you. How dark and dreary the day has been hasn't it? I mean outside not inside.

Yesterday I saw Lillian. She was well and happy as usual. Tell Nellie she has finished her big apron, and treacled hers without injury. I suppose Nellie has nearly finished reading the books in her uncle's library by this time. And if she does not think she will have sufficient sewing to keep her busy I would like to have her help me about mine.

You will excuse me won't you? if I have written anything in this letter pertaining to Alababba and the "Forty-thieves" for Victor pen has been entertaining the children with a history of his life. They seem to be very much interested in the story, and admire the character of Alababba very much.

If I cannot come till Saturday please save me a place at the table by you. Good night Miss Christie Expecting to hear from you soon I remain your girl.

Nellie Dreary.

Mankato March 31st 1875,
Dear Sister Came in to town
to Day to See if there was any
word from you and got your
Note with $5.00 in it all right,
we can get an extention for another
3 months and that is all
But we would like to know
just what you can do then
because then it must be Settled
Sure, and there will be no Borrowing
Money then for Every Body is afraid
to Lend with the present
Grasshopper prospects So now let
us know just what you Can do
very Soon Father is not very well
but better than he was, the
Baby is very Sick has Caught a
very Bad Cold we have had the
Doctor to See him he is some

Better now but Still very
Sick but I hope he will
be better soon
have been Sowing Grain got 11
acres in now write Soon Direct
your Letters to Good Thunders
Ford as it take's to much time
to come down here
no more time to write So good
bye from your Brother
Dave

AUDITOR'S OFFICE,

BLUE EARTH COUNTY.

Mankato, Minn., Dec 31, 1875

Mr Mr L Sterns

CLERK OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. *79*.

SIR: I have this day, in accordance with law, apportioned the General School Funds in the County Treasury, available on this, the last Wednesday in *March*, to the different School Districts entitled thereto.

The sum apportioned gives for each person between 5 and 21 years of age residing in the several Districts, as reported to this office in October last, *76.3* cents.

The number in your District being *37*,

the District is entitled to $ *28.23*,

which stands to its credit.

Of Special School Tax levied by your District there was collected according to *February 28*

settlement with County Treasurer, the sum of $ *46 55*,

with which the District also is credited.

Yours, &c.,

Chr Ford,

County Auditor.