

James C. Christie and Family Papers

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Version 3
August 20, 2018

Garden City Minn
Thursday Eve. apr 1 1875

My Dear Friend [Miss S. J. Christie]

I received two
"splendid" (trissyllabic, fudl length
&c, &c.) letters this afternoon. one from
Sawyer & one from yourself. Sawyer's
especially was a good & yours more
especially was better, at least I
had been looking for a letter for
some time with "B. E. Co." as a
part of the superscription & when
I saw it was gladly reid & its con-
tents eagerly devoured. ~~Not that~~
I do not mean that it gave me any
greater satisfaction because well
filled with flattering words, but
for better reasons. I was particular
ly pleasd to get it.

I commenced "libes Romanozum"
immediately after finishing Rev

So will not have to redd fait to make up. I have read the regular chapter each day, with a single exception, since we begun Acts Thus (when I missed) I was so very sleepy before I stopped my other reading that I concluded to wait till I could understand rather more of what I read. — We are now together once more (Rom. 11th today) I agree with you in your plan of redding by course through to Rev. I had thought of the same thing and about concluded to speak of it to you.

I am spending my spare moments (& hours when I can get them) during vacation on Latin Prose. I find greater need of a teacher in this than in Virgil. Only one thing however has given me serious trouble so far. That is th Oratio Obliqua, & I presume with a little harder work than I have yet bestowed upon it, I shall be able to get along with that.

You think do you I should be initiated into the "griggly bear" mys- (or miss-) teries, if I were at Northfield. Well I am not in the least anxious to try any experiments in that direction, as it is something with which I have been entirely unacquainted since I was a "wee shaver" at My mother's knee. Consequently I am rather glad that I am in "my Father's house", secure against any attack of the kind.

A short time ago I determined (in part) that I would make a practice of committing to memory regularly some selection of Bonar's poetry, taking of course the finest selections within my reach. Now this would be very beneficial, but the time & labor consumed in this would be sufficient to accomplish considerable in L. & G. Beside there are so many other things

which almost imperatively demand greater attention than I have given them in the past. Several Histories in the house give me a severe Reprimand every time I see them, for the neglect which they have suffered, Milton & Byron are getting covered with dust. I have hardly looked at a newspaper for several months - a thing inexcusable and almost disgraceful. Beside there are other things innumerable which ought not to be so completely left in the shade. But what can I do? The days are short & there are but few in a year. I always look forward and think what an amount I will do, but I look back and - well, not much of anything. It is well nigh discouraging often. Yet, I usually think it over for a few minutes & arrive at the Conclusion that it is best to do all I can, & be that never so little. So I guess I'll try to find time still for memorizing an occasional poem or an extract from some fine oration.

5.

I have read this week a book called "The Defence of Armageddon", & this as its title suggests an interpretation of the prophecies of the Bible. The author undertakes to prove that the U.S. is the "Restored Israel" of the O.T. - that at some future time its sway will become universal, or rather its form of government & its religion will be the form of G. & the religion of the world, - but before this, a great conflict will take place between the U.S. as the defender & supporter of civil & religious liberty, on the one hand, and the allied nations of the earth with Russia at the head, on the other, in which the U.S. will of course be completely victorious. This will begin the "Millennium" - an indefinite period of time. Beyond this his vision does not extend. - I have never had much faith in such interpretations of prophecy, but I must admit that I can see no possible answer to a great

part of his argument. The book was written in '57 and from the great ~~Eup~~ European disturbances some think the great day is already approaching, for evidently All Europe will be shaken from its deepest foundations, unless something is quickly done to allay the difficulties and avert the impending strife. — I wish you might see the book. I would send it to you, were it not a book which I often borrowed.

It is not Millerstic, it even calls Millerism "pious fanaticism"

This, however, is another of those questions which do all not allow to be the cause of many sleepless nights to me, By the way this night will be almost sleepless unless I retire shortly

"Once again, Farewell!" (I do that quotation correct?)

Yours Rockwood

Faribault, Minn.
April 1. '75

My dear Miss Christie. [Sarah]

Do not be frightened because my letter is dated on "All-fools day". No joke is intended. I assure you, but merely a friendly greeting from my home. I had hoped ere this to have had a letter from you before this as I knew you were sitting quietly in your room and in the writing spirit all the time, while I have not been able to get in the mood for letter writing in the pleasant bustle of vacation week at home.

The days are passing so swiftly! I've been quietly at home most of the time, plying my needle and thread. On Sunday, Hattie and I took advantage of the absence of our pastor, and went in the morning to the Cathedral

to share in the Easter service, and in the evening to the German Methodist church, where I enjoyed the services much. The morning service was not very satisfactory, although the altar had its Easter flowers, and the music was triumphant, as Easter anthems ought to be. The sermon from Mr. Kidney was of no great interest.

The beautiful weather of the early part of the week caused me to lay many plans for going out these days. But our returned winter has caused me to change most of them, as it doubtless has those of some of my friends who were intending to visit me.

I hope the days are going more pleasantly with you than you anticipated. I am sorry for the storm on your account, as I hoped you would take occasion to circulate freely among the townspeople this vacation. Are the "hundred letters" written yet?

A letter from Miss Reeve yesterday asks when you are going to Minneapolis. I hope you will let nothing divert you from your purpose of going, as I think you need

the freshening such an [illegible] will be a good effort [illegible] purchasing [illegible] need not [illegible] Mrs. Gaylord or Miss Reeve [illegible] mountains with [illegible] for you have with [illegible] you come? Please let me [illegible] from morning mail. [illegible] depot. I hope the weather [illegible] Spring about [illegible] the Episcopal Sociable [illegible] week. It is warm. I [illegible] The Boylstons [illegible] dress yours will have [illegible] Tuesday night. I can't [illegible] heartily welcome, if the [illegible] I have not succeeded [illegible] Monday. I thought the [illegible] Peace a day or two ago, [illegible] I hope will have [illegible] Miss Fenish is not [illegible] only have decided not [illegible] the entire change with [illegible] for any little [illegible] this Spring. For [illegible] all about your absence from [illegible] as they do not give [illegible] them. When are we [illegible] Lantomation. When will [illegible] Evan dejunkly try to [illegible] I can meet you at the [illegible] change, I'd love to [illegible] life to visit St Paul? Hattie is attending [illegible] we can go Monday to [illegible] dress yours will have to come [illegible] stay until Monday or [illegible] promise you missed [illegible] weather continues like this, [illegible] finding a place for Buzz [illegible] fair for a [illegible] have been disappointed [illegible] more before this. [illegible] this Fenish is not [illegible] Come into the house

If you have heard anything of the probabilities of the time of Dr. Strong's return, please write me. I don't like to be so uncertain about the time of my going back.

Hoping to hear from you tomorrow morning and to learn then that you are coming to be soon,

Lovingly

Margaret J. Evans.

Northfield, Minn.
April 2d 1875.

[Mrs Wm Stephens, 2 Doors Thunder, Minn.]

Dear Sir,

I write with reference to one of our students - a Miss Annie L. Murphey - who wishes to teach this summer - She is twenty-five years of age - has had considerable Experience in teaching - & feel interested that she should get - a good school - I wish to apply for your school for her. - Is it - still open & applicants? & what - terms can you offer her. She is considered a successful teacher, wherever she has taught

both in. District & Graded schools.
I feel quite sure your district
would be pleased with her work-
& can heartily recommend her as
being both faithful & thorough -
& knew her in Wisconsin & she
has attended the College here since
last - September - Please write fur-
as soon as possible, as she is
in suspense about a school & I
would like the matter settled for
her soon as convenient - for all
parties - I hope yourself & family
are well - I would like to be re-
membered to Estella - Address
me here - Yours very truly.

S. J. Christie,

Rotterdam. April 3. 1875

My Dear Son Alexander

It is long since I
received any letter from you, and our postal affairs have been
so out of order that some of your letters may have been lost.
I write this morning more especially to tele you to send your
Letters to "Good Thunder". do not forget this
it is too far to thank etc, and we do not wish to trust
Every one with bringing letters from there -

This leaves us all in moderate
Health with the Exception of your little Namesake
who has a Cold on the Lungs and is much troubled
with it. Oh may God help the little Children who
have so much Cares on them by the ignorance of parents

I write while Daddy harnesses his horses
and can only say a few words. Do write to me
often, I shall try and Bye to write to you more
fully. of our Ways and our Doings, of My thoughts and
and Opinions of some matters.

I have not heard from Tom since
February. Sarah writes sometimes. tele me if she
writes to you. and the Girls.

Mothers Love and mine to you
With many thanks for your timely
Kindness in the Green Locks.

May God Bless you and Grant
you Sole Wisdom, but Growing
All your needs.

Your Father
D. Christie

Northfield Minn
Sunday April 4th 1875.

My dear Father,

I hope this will find you both in health. Ever since you wrote last I am very much troubled about your being so unwell this winter & Spring - You must stay in doors during this wet weather & not take new colds. Please write to me a note soon as you get this, and let me know how you are & also the baby - Who does Dave have to help him this Spring. Are Joe & Pete both with him? I wrote to Sandy before, the first for a long time. I am wondering how he is succeeding with his school - I hope he will come out

when his school closes, & help Dave in the harvest= The letter before this that- I wrote him he did not- answer- & suppose he is busy- & then they have been having an unusually hard with mails not- running for weeks.- Do you hear from him, or from Jones & what- news from the East= Our minister here resigned & the Home Missionary for this State- that- is the General Agent of the Association who lives in Minneapolis- wrote a letter down to the Executive Committee of the Church recommending Charles L. Morgan of Yale Theological Seminary to supply the pulpit- this summer- but- the Church have given the call to another man- It- would have seemed rather strange to me to sit- under the preaching of "Charlie Morgan" & look back at- the past= & under what- circumstances I knew him before, & what- God has done for me, meanwhile.- Don't- fret- about- me, father

I shall not- get- Done into any difficulty- I would lose my life first- & there is no fear but- that- I shall be taken care of- I have come through worse trials before, & borne them alone- & this one is the last= I shall not- say anything about- Arnold- only this- He has not been diminished in what- he did for me- all he wants, or cares for, is a wife- When I did not- write to him in the vein he would like- he abused me unmercifully- and said things to me, that- no man yet= ever dared say to me- I am under obligations to him, so must- be silent- I would be anyway- for I pity his ignorance & coarseness- but- you may be sure I will be free from the obligation just so soon as it- is possible- This much to you only, & Dave too- But- never mind these disagreeable things- They will be of the past- very soon- I want- you to get- Dave to put- in a good garden this Spring- I did not- get- you the shawl, because I could not- find one in town- but- you shall have a good library one next- winter, if we

all love - This is a lovely spring
day - Write soon - Affectionately -

Sarah. -

Andover. April 4. 1875.

Dear Bro. Alex:

We send you a picture of our Precious, and as there are but few of them — owing to state of Exchequer — You will please forward to father, after a good long look at the little treasure.

You see how hearty she is, but you cannot get a glimpse of her activity, in the picture. She would tire out a squadron of Cavalry in a day's manœuvering. Her vocabulary of words is large, & increasing every day, and we see with delight the growth of her mind. The alphabet is nearly mastered, & she counts up to twelve, so you see her Education in Literature & Mathematics is already begun. She shall not be crowded, but if spared she will begin Greek in a year or two, & by the time she is ten will have worked in

Hourly & carefully the Greek & Latin I had to cram in my 24th year.

Language as such, should be mastered young.

I spent a week of the vacation in a visit to Harvard & Yale — you can imagine with what pleasure & profit to myself.

The expenses of the tour were met by one Sunday's preaching at South Britain, in Western Conn. among the Housatonic Mts. The people there wanted me to stay, offering $1000 a year & parsonage, but the Seminary must be finished.

You may perhaps see us in the West this summer. McCormick of Chicago — the Reaper Millionaire — has a son here whom I have been tutoring in Latin &c. The father is here now, & in a visit to me on Friday said he wanted me to come to Chicago & teach his boy in the long vacation: He would pay me well. C would go to school, & I would have only two hours' work in the day, making my home with Mc C. The arrangement is not settled on yet, but prospects are good for it. I shall ask $20 a week & board, for ten weeks.

Excuse great haste: I am glad your problem is done, opus magnum as it was. Got letter from father this week. He was sick a month & the winter has been a hard one for them. I am glad for their sakes that it is now over. The birds are singing all about us & the last of the snow is going fast. C. sent box to Mary last week, some clothes new & old for all the family. W. is in a hard place; I wish we could help him more.

C. sends love. We are all well.

Your Aff. Brother, J. D. C.

Stockbridge Wis. April 4th 1875.

My Dear Sister:

I have not heard from you for a very long time now, I believe not this year: and am anxious to know where, how, and at what you are. I send this to Northfield, for if you are at home, you will doubtless have it forwarded.

And how are you regarded at Carleton College? Are you still in the sunshine of favor? Now for School prospects. I have written to Baraboo, Beaver Dam, Berlin, Black River Falls, Boscobel, Burlington, Chippewa Falls, Delavan, West Bend, Menasha, Neenah, Waterloo, and Lake Superior-California. Have rec'd thus far, replies from Beaver Dam, Black River Falls, Boscobel, Burlington, Delavan, Menasha, and Neenah. No show at any of them but Beaver Dam, Boscobel, and Menasha: where they have not already decided. Of course, my chance is slim, but I'll try my perseverance and their patience. There's everything

to gain, and divil the thing to lose.
B. D. pays $1400. Boscobel $1300. Menasha "$1200 to $1300." It's a sort of "applied mathematics" with me. I go by the Gazetteer, and will send out at least 100 more, to various parts of this State, Minn. Illinois and Michigan, inside of the ensuing month. I vary the forms, and will note results — the "phenomena evoked."

My Fall term averaged 12% better in attendance than the previous Fall term here, my Winter term 25% better than the previous winter term of the school. Yet there is not much likelihood of my remaining. The place is fast going down hill, a sort of quick consumption set in since the Wis Central tapped the county at Chilton 9 Miles off, and they do not feel able to keep up a good school in these hard times — and I do not blame them much. Keep a sharp eye out for places in Minnesota. It's a scramble, and we must scramble with the rest.

I inclose that note of Mrs. Walsh's: you will see that it is paid up at Compound interest 10%: so they have no cause to grumble. And they don't — anything but that. We'd pay everything up square, yet. Bide a wee.

You have never told me how much they pay you at Carleton.

I still keep up the studying, in the belief that something will yet come of it, of advantage to us. I think ere many years. At present, I deal with those who are low, incapable of appreciating anything higher than a loud joke or insinuation. I am serving "before the mast"; half my attention given to my duty, the other half to keep my skirts clear of the filth of the forecastle. Old Kronos will mend matters bravely for us all. Let us believe that it will yet be better, "And every winter change to spring."

Your Brother Alex.

{$46.00}

Olympia, W.T. ~

May 1st 1869.

One year from date, for value received, I promise to pay to Mrs Ann Mc. Severn, or order, the sum of forty-six dollars, with interest accrued on the same, at the rate of ten per cent per annum. ~

~~Isaac P. Smith~~

~~Chas. S. Smith~~

Rec'd on this Note Oct-10 1873 Cur. by cash $20.00
" " " " Jan 2nd 1874 " " 20 00
J. T. Walsh

1874
Aug 17 Rec'd on the within note $10.00
March 5th
J T Walsh
Rec'd $22 25

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C. sends love. We are all well.

Your Affe. Brother, J. D. C.

Garden City Minn,
Apr, 5th 1875

Dear Miss Christie, [Sarah]

Your last letter was rather unexpected, and as it was handed to me I, trembling with terror, thought, "What have I done this time?" And had I not reason for thinking something was wrong since this is the first time that you have written so promptly in a long while, except to reprimand me for something especially grevious or offensive? I will let you imagine the very agreeable surprise which awaited me on opening the letter to find that it began by expressing "gratitude", rather than displeasure. (I now feel better, having relieved myself

a little nonsense.)

Now, I want to tell you some of my thoughts while reading what you said about my "spiritual life". There was a word or two which I took ~~ob~~ exception to, slightly (nothing of any importance, i.e. the objection was not important.) & I at first said to myself, "Now I will give Miss Christie My opinion on that point," almost losing sight for the time of your real idea, but afterward I thought that could do no good in any way & I would ask you to say nothing in a similar way hereafter, that my opposition might not be aroused. Still later I came to the conclusion that nothing could be show more completeness narrow-mindedness than to ask one of my friends to remain quiet on a subject whose importance we both realize lest some inference might be drawn from what was said which would not agree exactly with my own crude ideas. I have allowed myself to do similar things, however, in the past, but I have made several attempts lately not altogether unsuccessful to break up the habit; but it is fearfully hard work often to let things pass by which I hear said although I know there is no probability of changing the opinions of anyone and even if it could be done, it would do no good. So in the future I shall try to listen to what is said, learning all I can & getting all the good I can, letting things pass by which may conflict with my own notions, i.e. when the question is an unimportant one.

Am I right in this?

I would like to give Edgerton a good, sound lecture. He can be such a splendid fellow

it seems a pity that he should spoil himself in such a way. From personal knowledge, I can understand just about what he is now. At times he is one of the worst boys to talk that I ever saw. He is never profane, but aside from that there is nothing too low for him. It is often simply disgusting to hear him. (This perhaps ought not to have been said, but I commenced, & before I was aware hardly, it was finished)

While reading I see something in almost every chapter which I would like very much to talk over with you.

You ask whether our reading together in this feature is a thing "too good" to be read. No. However good it may be, there are certainly many things better which we have long & have now, enjoying. Perhaps this never will be a reality (though I have strong hopes that it will) but it is not because it is in any way "too good." Of course I know you will agree with me

Tuesday Eve.

The mail has been interrupted here for a day or two so I did not post the note of last eve.

I'm dull, stupid, lazy & sleepy. I wish it were time to begin studying again, - with all my heart. I do. By the way, to morrow is the day for the resumption of duty at Carleton. Do you dread it? If it were in my power I would say or do something to make your labors seem more pleasant & agreeable. But that can not be hoped for, that I know of.

I have about concluded to study Law. Do you think it strange? Well, the fact is this. Whatever I think about more than usual for a short time

I see so much that is really attractive, that I want to begin its study right away. For a few days I have been reading the plea of a celebrated lawyer on a more celebrated case, and occasionally it seems as though I would do any amount of work or make any conceivable sacrifice for the sake of becoming a skillful lawyer. But on the whole the attractiveness of Grecian & Roman antiquities preponderates in my mind.

I expect to be away from home during the remainder of this, and through the coming week; so you need not be surprised. If you do not hear from me again for nearly two weeks This, I am fully aware, is about a fourth class letter, but I have been altogether too stupid to do better. Please give my regards to Miss Evans & tell her that it would probably give me greater pleasure than anyone else could

Faribault, Minn. Apr. 6. '75

My dear Miss Christie, [Sarah]

It is well your note came to me this morning, or I should have felt that I must could trust your word again, as I almost did felt when I came home after vainly walking the platform of the depot & walking with staring eyes through the cars, to assure myself that you were not somewhere in them. We are all much disappointed. Can't you come tonight? I should send the money but as usual I have spent it almost all; Should have enough to help you some on the return fare, but no more. Your entire expense would only be a dollar and ten cents to come and return! Can't you manage that? I had planned so much! Can't we carry

out the plan for tomorrow? Mrs. Noyes of the Deaf and Dumb asylum has invited me over to dinner, and I accepted it for both of us, so we should have a good opportunity to see and hear all possible there. I shall go over on the bus when the train comes in, which passes through Northfield at nine o'clock. So if you can come down to-night or then, be sure to do so. It seems too great a disappointment.

About that table arrangement, I think we can manage it, if there should only be two tables, Ask Prof. Chamberlain to take your place at the foot of Mrs. B.'s table, and then the rest of it will arrange itself. I should like exceedingly to have Nettie and you with the boys sit next me, You would get profit only as we get enjoyment out of being together! I think you had better do nothing about it until I come, as I will Tuesday night. I'm glad for Miss Murphy. I don't think your fears of any unpleasantness on the cars could be realized.

Hastily, but lovingly

M.

April 5th 1875—

My Dear Son [illegible]

I regret to say that I cannot hope to keep pace with all the letters that come. I must therefore Condense their Sense. and my words in reply. Yours 7th Money Order for Seven Sovereigns. I have hope of him yet that he will learn Care and Economy. There is a Markell difference now, in the Conduct of the Nurse in relation to Expenditure since the pressure for Means Came on. All of us are Given to Hospitality, to an Easy and indulgent Habit. and with free Credit it is difficult for such to Recall the Voices of Providence and Conscientiousness, We Can soon Hear the Poorest afford to be Generous of our Blood untill Justice has had her Own. Seeding is long over here all but Corn, yet the Rains make little headway, owing ti Dry and Cold Winds

The Grasshoppers also seem to be Exterminated and many of their Eggs have perished upon Examination. Most they have died in the Egg. And Besides, there is a very small Creature of a bright Scarlet Color devouring their Eggs. More than this, We have seen - and We think our Crop may be Yet above Moderate. at least We have a foundation for the Castle of Plenty.

Our Log Building rises Slowly. it has been as Yet all done by ourselves a Log rounds on the top of the Stone Work. Roofed only in the inside. and Strips of Bark. Laid Close as possible, and Some of these days We Will Call on 5 or 6 Neighbours to Give us help to put all up in One day. I suppose they conclude We are Going Back in the World. If so I am Going into more Comfortable Lodgings than I have had in a Long time. even if I had the money I do not think I could do as Mr Stevens has done. in Laying out 1500 $ on a House Alone. I Would first like to see My Folks, have some Edifications in

Heart and Head. but I Can Lay no Claims to Superiority over any. and do not. I have only moved along as Led by the prevailing Circumstances. Calculated Little by any Kind of fore Counsel, and Shall be Glad if I do not come out at the Smallest end of a very Small Horn.

May 6th resume again a few Words, as I hope to Get this Sent to the Lord today. I have received No Letter from Sarah for Quite a While do you hear from Her.? Although Sarah is Apparently doing that Which is Good. Yet I have much trouble about her. She is in So much debt and is So pressed by her Creditors that I continually fear She Will break down Physically before She can Get free.

Do you Still Correspond With Henry Ayers? We have been having some trouble With a little Daughter sick of Cate, and Ed Ayers Wife has been dangerously sick but now I believe all Well Again

No Grass here as yet. But this morning there are Signs of Rain with a North Easter, and the Cows will look their Thanks into the Skies; at least they ought to. for here they have hard times and dry Straws only. It would I think be well if the Old Doctrine of Transmigration of Souls were again preached to the people. It might do more Good than ignited Bombstones Men might then be more Kind and Considerate of the poor Dumb Brutes, fearing the like treatment themselves.

My head is Empty this morning and I must Conclude.

Please to keep writing to me. It allways does me Good to Get a Letter from You. and I felt so pleased over Your Last so full of Kind Words to me. Mother looks much Stout You Could at Least Visit us this Year.

And Some one said to me a few days ago that You Wants See us at Christmas Next.

Good Morning. S. Christie

fruitless. I believe God never allows the faithful conscientious work of his children to be lost. In other words he never rejects their offerings, but takes them and makes something of them, often much.

Red Wing Apr. 1 1873

My dear Miss Christie, [NORTHFIELD]

I received your letter yesterday; I wish I had time to write a good long answer to it; but the apples that are before me waiting to be pointed are decaying, the Spring sewing and house work looms before me and me like a two peaked mountain, and all the plans which I have built for painting, reading, writing, study, and general usefulness at home and abroad, are falling to the ground, because I can't "get around" to take care of them.

I don't know any more about the Testimonials than you do, not so much, probably, The only things of the kind that I ever saw was a letter which Prof.

Wilson gave me a few weeks ago. It began "To whom it may Concern,

This is to certify" &c. I don't like the testimonial business. I never meant to have any use for such things. I thought I should make my work speak for itself, but I find there are circumstances in which that cannot be done.

I have a printed form for application to the Educational Institute of N. Y. City in which the questions, "Where have you taught?" "Where are you teaching now?" & "What testimonials have you and to whom do you refer?" are asked.

The first and last questions suggested the thought that I might need some presentable evidence that I had taught somewhere.

I think you will only need to write a statement to the effect that I have taught in Smithfield. I am sorry to trouble you, especially as the letter may not be necessary, but I thought you would be more willing and competent to do me this favor than any one else who knew as much of my work.

I have no particular school in view. I have sent a letter of inquiry to Wellesley College, but have really no expectation of anything from that quarter. I only do it because I must do everything I can. It is possible that I may enter an application at the Educational Bureau but I dislike to the fees are so high.

It has been suggested to me that I might try to obtain a situation in the Seminary here when it changes hands, as it will next year.

Of course if it seems best I shall (I do not know yet whether it would be of any use) but the chill that takes possession of me at the thought makes me aware that, I go east, if I go, not only in search of money and higher education, but also of companionship. I am not strong or great enough to do my best work alone. When my

acquaintances and even my friends seem to feel that my plans and aims have taken me somewhat beyond the range of their sympathies, even in matters that concern us all equally.

I do not understand it, since most of my friends are so much larger souled than I. That they ought to take one in as the greater includes the less, if in no other way.

I have just read the last paragraph and it is so silly that I thought I would write another letter and leave that out but I have not time.

You will please not react it more than once or think of it at all.

P.S. I should so like I should want to know your cousin.

Yes I want to write to you and I want you to write to me. I have not written as many letters as usual since I came to K.H. because I did not seem to have anything over good to say, still I am aware that I might have written a good many short letters more easily than one long one.

You make me want to hear Mr. Fowler's lecture. I should think the subject one in which he would especially delight. His work cannot have been

Stockbridge Mass. April 7th 95.

My Dear Father: [James Christie]

Yours of 3d at hand this evening. I draw my sleeve well up on my right arm to tell you how hopeful & sure of the future of us all — though clouds lower.

"The Future hides in it good hap and sorrow;
We press still thorow!
Naught that abides in it
Daunting us, — Onward!"

Little Sandy will live through all the ills of infancy to do a man's work faithfully. Have no fear.

Sarah wrote me same date as yours. Enquiring about me, how I do, etc. She has not had extra health a part of last Term. Sarah means well, and I believe is doing well.

Today was the Last of three on Examination. I wrote for 2d and 1st grades. Last Fall I wrote for 3d, 1st & 2d other teachers writing

for 3d now. Very few of them give any time to their advancement in knowledge. I swept everything clean; and only lacked time to do justice to the subject. Wrote three days on Physical Geography, Physiology, Natural Philosophy, Algebra and Geometry. A real pleasure to give a good answer. In Physiology, I planted myself firmly on the Chemistry which underlies so much of it; fortified Physics with the Calculus; sprinkled Physical Geography with Greek Etymons when I knew them, and Latin when I did not; and in Geometry, graded Euclid in the original, Commandine and Gregory in Latin, and Callad triangles in English. A book of theirs, I wish he had given me a chance to launch transcendental curves, osculatorix and volutes at him!

But enough of Ego. Set me down as hearty, if not handsome; determined to stand before kings, if diligence will compass it. Monaghan, an Irishman, but not by birth, is our Superintendent. Portly good as a scholar. A catholic; but a liberal man, an admirer of Lord — respecting, Educating, industrious Germany; a detester of the lawless Latin race; but a lover of the Irish with all their faults. We are fast friends, and may we so continue; for Monaghan is a rare man. I think he likes me all the better that I am from the "ould sod"; for he has no religious prejudice.

Sarah writes me that Dave has grain in. Why, the drift will fill the fence corners here, and no grain will be sowed for sometime. As many of the folks strangers, and has Dave joined? I would advise him to be out nights, nor to spend much time at it. But he ought to see something of this movement. I count one, and am proud of it.

Well, best luck to all

Elder

Stockbridge Mas. April 7th 1775

My Dear Sister;

Your welcome line of April 3d
at hand this evening. Am sorry to hear
by you and father of the sickness
of little Sandy, and hope you will
soon write me of his recovery.
Am also sorry to hear of your own
ill health: for without rugged health,
what is a teacher? But the President
is kindly considerate: that is true
Christianity. Father's declining
health trouble me much. May we all
live to see the day when we can
take down care of him!

Now a word in answer to your
inquiries respecting my tendencies.
My tendencies are none of the best,
but my conduct will bear scrutiny.
There is more danger of Olympus fal-
ling into the sea, than of my either

Going away or being led away into anything very bad. Just wake up to the fact, that I am one of the Landmarks which even Niles' floods will not move. My heart might break or my head burst, but otherwise both are O.K: and ever shall be, God helping me. I must associate with men or slaves; and I do associate a little with many men who are not specially good. And what are the majority of men? 9/10 of the Americans are villainously low; dead to everything but a villainous story told in a bar-room or a corner grocery. My ears ring with these and the brutal laughter they elicit; and do it must be, so long as I am doomed to a little village. But these things do me no harm. I take no part in them, and usually give them no room where I am. But

The men are not all as bad as they talk, after all. I spend nearly all my time in study, and will escape the evils of little villages, some day.

Today was the last of three examination. While the rest - 40 - wrote for 3d grade, I wrote for 2d and 1st (wrote for 3d last fall). Ah; there's nothing like study. I swept all the questions clean, and had not time to tell one-half I could. In Nat. Phil. when answered briefly on falling bodies, I might, if time had permitted, have given a full discussion of motion, by the Calculus, and Exhibited the law of falling bodies anywhere in space. And so with many of the questions. However, I move in all I could. This is not Egotism, I'm telling you how I prosper. I will have another 10's vacation after this. Roads bad. No chance for a school for Annie. Headaches to every school. Will practicing. Adieu.

Dear Friend

Apr 8 Garden City Kans 1895

Mailed you a letter yesterday in which I said I should be away from home for some time, but as "dampness" was put upon our operations, in the shape of a very heavy rain; consequently I am yet in the land of the living. Yours of Sat. Inst. was not received until this morning. I gladly "spread" as you requested. The school here is probably entirely supplied with teachers, and all through this vicinity there are more teachers than schools to teach. Nearly every School board has had from 2 to 5 applications, and beside, wages are very low. $20 to $26.

I wish I could give more encouragement, for I should really like ~~that~~ to have Miss M. come up this way.
Mr. Kirk is in J.C. today & I will try to see him, & if he can give any encouragement will inform you.
At the close of your note you ask a few questions. I will take time to notice them & close.
Frank Lindsley is in Wisconsin attending school I think with his younger brother. I have heard very little about him for nearly a year. The other, Cyrenus, is here. Has taught a 5 months' school this past winter & now is enjoying the proceeds I guess. I have very little faith in him, - he lacks ambition & energy. — Emiline Smith I have not seen for a long time I suppose she is doing her accustomed round of daily labor helping her father get rich & waiting patiently for some reliable layman in the Baptist Church, to ask her to share his joys & sorrows with him. "Such is life". — We have not heard from Mrs Parker for a few days. She is probably not materially worse or we should have heard. Her daughter Annie came a few days ago. That will probably give her considerable relief, directly & indirectly. Parker keeps away from me as from a poisonous viper. I dont understand it hardly. Have not seen him for six weeks I should think. — Julia & Hattie have done very well I think. In Latin J's class have gone far enough for the time they have studied, but

Mr Sterling has not been quite as thorough with them as he ought. I have watched & helped her what I could, so she has done better than the others.

You ask whether S. can help me much. He can (excuse my egotism) Not. In L. & G. he is slow & not sure. His mathematics are better, but still deficient. I have been careful to say as little as I could that might lower him in the estimation of the Scholars & others, because there has been difficulty in School & I thought Mr. S. less blameworthy than the people.

Perhaps I told you that I thought of Studying at home entirely this Spring. This is not wholly because I think Mr. S incapable of giving me assistance, but I am influenced by other reasons somewhat

Yours in true friendship

Rockwood

perhaps I will when
I write again.

Yours

R.

Late.

I have just seen Supt Kirk. Says he thinks there are more teachers than schools in the county. He says that many Dists have engaged teachers on condition that they get certificates but he thinks many of the applicants will fail to get cer. so there may be opportunities yet. He has been from Mankato since last Wednesday & has not rec'd your letter but he returns there tomorrow.

I was at Mankato yesterday & had quite an adventure ride home. Would like to tell you about it, and

Stockbridge Wis. April 10th 1875.

My Dear Sister:

The April No Wis. Journal of Education contains my solution of the Problem of the Couriers. It is printed with but one mistake, and looks well. Now, I would like to get a few more into the Journal, which I have already solved, or am able to answer: and I propose that we repeat the artifice of two years ago, by your sending the questions and my sending the answers.

You see I'm perfectly guileless, and never was suspected of anything else. "Pikes Peak, or Bust", is my motto. You must be extremely careful to copy with exactness, sign "A Teacher", and, if possible, have the letter mailed at some other

post office than Northfield. Address
Wis. Journal of Education
Madison Wis.

1- With what velocity would a body have to leave the earth to reach the moon?

2- On what conditions does the secondary rainbow depend, how are these determined, and what are the calculations and results. ~~In full answer desired~~. Our text-books give only "glittering generalities"; what are the details?

3- What is the most rapid method of computing the ratio of circumference to diameter in the circle?

4- Is carbonate of soda ever formed in the blood? and if so, how?

Just coax them for answers to these, and give me a chance to develop a profound knowledge of the subjects on short notice. I would like the questions in the May No., so that I could get answers into June No.

You would be a little surprised yourself, if you could see what I can say on the first two. And I want to publish before I speak many more Boards.

You be the Sphynx, and I'll be Edipus; and we'll go snacks on the gains. Disguise your hand a little, and fool old Pradt.

Letter from Tom states that they are well, and may see the west this vacation coming; since McCormick (Reaper Man) wishes him to come west and coach young Mc in Latin while the Profs are fishing off Nantucket.

Yours in haste
Alex.

Stockbridge Wis. April 10th 75.

My Dear Father:

I forward by first mail the enclosed letter and photograph from Tom. You see how healthy the child is, and more intellectual than when we had it: and by the letter one sees how hopeful, how fortunate, how strong of head, heart, and hand is our Tom. As I write, Mrs Kurker, the landlady, is singing little Glenn asleep, a baby of 15 mos. She is the best singer I ever heard off the stage, warbling all the old and all the new tunes one after another. The Canuck song is enchanting in her mouth. I enjoy little Glenn. Every once in a while, when she stops, I can hear him murmur in that peculiar baby way, as much as to tell her to go on; and sometimes he strikes in with a baby drone.

She is a greenly woman, and a motherly looking woman, still good looking, with sons and daughters men and women grown. There's no one in this wide world I respect more than a woman with good looks, gumption, and a family of grown boys and girls. Gumption! There isn't one man for 9 women that have that. Talk about women being silly! I've seen more of sillyness, awkwardness, stupidity and downright lack of wit, among men than among women. The latter talk much and run about much; but they make fewer awkward steps and blunder less in speech, than the former. I have in my mind's eye, little girls of 12 who have a finer sense of the appropriate, the fit, the perfect in speech and act than all the incipient Lord Mayors and Lieut. Colonels I know, or care to know. The men are strong, but not skillful; the women are skillful, but not strong.

Our Legislature has made women eligible to hold any school office. I believe they were guided by divine inspiration in this. My lady visitors are the most observant, the most agreeable, and to the school the most profitable I have.

I am making an effort to have that money ready for Dave; and think I will succeed in part at least. Perhaps may have to get a part of it later in the season.

No wheat sowed here yet—, and no birds; but sun becoming powerful. I believe the ice of Lake Winnebago absorbs a good share of our caloric.

Hoping to hear soon of the good health of all, I am as ever

Your Aff. Son

Alex. D. Christie

Rapidan Aprile 14. 1875

Dear Sister Sarah I Should have written to you before but have been busy. the Baby is better but has a very Bad Cold yet. Father is feeling Better to. about the School for ann it is taken by young Crane only 2 Months 30 Dollars per Month Should have written So Before but did not think of it. about those Notes we got them Extended for another 3 months you were Mistaken about the Interest. you Called it 12 per cent one of them was 30 o/o and the other was 24. o/o it is a most a full Interest to pay 15 Dollars on the Smallest Note and 18: on the other it is more than any Body Can stand I am Glad you are going to Get the Money to pay them off Arnott tells me to let you know that he Cannot Endorse those Notes again he Says he is going away from him he is going to Sell out or Rent his Farm and he Cannot Leave as long as his Name is on those Notes So now Sarah get it as Soon as you Can for we Cannot get them Renewed now write Sarah and let me know all about it how you are going to raise the money besides your Sallary; what was over Paying the Interest I gave to Father to keep for you I thank you very Much for Offering it to me Sarah. But ~~Many~~ maby I will not need it

we were Sorry to hear you
were Sick there is a good Deal
of Sickness this Spring though
I never was in Better health
Asthma has not troubled me
atall this Spring it is a very
Cold wet Backward kind of
a Spring here Cannot get on to the
land to Sow any more wheat
yet But hope to in a few Days
no more this time So write
Soon as you get this Direct
to Good Thunders Ford
So good Night from your
loving Brother
David B Christie

Monday Eve. 6/14/1875

My Dear Friend. [Miss S. J. Christie]

I suppose I ought to work this evening, but whether I ought or not, I am going to write you a note in place of the letter usually written Sunday, but omitted this week.

Do you as yet get satisfactory information as to your work next year? It must be at least unpleasant to wait thus in suspense, not knowing where the scene of future labors may be, even though you may be confident of success from some quarter. I wish I could give you assistance in some way, but I can conceive of no possible way of doing it.

Although I can not fully sympathize with you, never having been situated in just the same ways, yet I can wish well for your prosperity in every way. —— I have had a very pleasant day. First I took Julia out to her school about 5 miles from here, then went to Good Hynder's on business, remaining there but a short time, and from there went out to see miss Murphy. Her School had closed for noon a few minutes before, so, her time was unoccupied for the most part. She gave me a very cordial greeting, said she was glad I came, &c, &c. I staid till time for School to call & it seemed a very short hour. On my way home I stopped to see Mrs. Parker. As you probably know she is now quite strong, comparatively. Here another hour flied sped away on its swift wings before I again started homeward. I learned more of Parker's plans for the future, than I knew before, heard that P. thinks of "trying his power" on me when he comes home, in trying to persuade me to go to Minneapolis with him. Amy told also that others of the Carleton students (I know not who) are thinking of leaving C. to go there, too. At yet time I write Sawyer I shall open on him with my strongest weapons and if possible induce him to join the noble band army.

I presume he would have done it a year ago, but think it rather doubtful now. If five or six of us could go together we would have a fine time.

But however I do not intend whether I go, although it seems now very likely that I shall. Lest you should hear of it & think me guilty of deception, or something worse, I will tell you that I wrote to Parker a few days ago, I did not write what you would call a "good letter" but a very brief, laconic note, asking him a few questions about going to the University. I have not heard from him yet, so I do not know whether frowns or smiles will give me greeting.

You will probably conclude before you finish that this letter is entirely devoted to the Minnapolis project in one way or another. That is however the theme of my daily thoughts & nightly dreams. And

United States Internal Revenue,

Dep'y Collector's Office, 5th District, Wisconsin,

Manitowoc Apl 15th, 1875.

My Dear Uncle

Yours of March 31st

Enclosing $21.30 Came duly to

hand. I have Credited the Int

on the Note as paid up to Feb 21st

1875. and attached Yours Statement to

it also for future Reference.

So Stockbridge was floating - well

I guess we have all had a little

Experience in that Kind of thing

this Spring although here the

Beautiful Ones went off very Easy

and did no damage. This City is

well laid out - so far as Drainage

is Concerned the Streets are
graded with a run towards the
Rivers. but one day last week
the ice from above began to
come down in large Quantities.
And Commenced to make a Gorge
above the Bridges and when the
Vessells were lying. And was
like to become serious as there was
no passage for it - So they got one
of the Tugs Steamed up and
put her to bunting into the
Ice that was fast fast. and
she succeeded in breaking it
up so that Every thing went
off slick in an hour or two

Am glad you are liking it
up there. And that your School is
a success. Have you had any
"Spelling Skules" in your section.
There was one here. we went
down. but did not take a pri-
cent off very well and made a good
deal of Amusement. When they
began to retire in good order on
such words as "Cammel and
Persuade. Generosity &c.
This Spelling business seems to
be going through the land like an
Epidemic - the Measles for instance
only it takes young and old. Rich
and poor. no respecter of persons

They have been reorganizing the Royal Arch Chapter in this place about two weeks ago Bro M. L. Young was here and stayed Eight or Nine days instructing them - I think they will have a nice one here after a time when they all get to work working order - They have gone right into the fire ings - their Require coal them something like $300.00 They wanted I showed you but I thought I would not admit from B Dunn - for I did not know how long or rather how short I would be here - We have moved about two weeks ago into another house and locality - and are much more comfortably situated - and I think will probably not pull up stakes again until I do it for good - as of course you know I don't look on this as a permanent thing Have had no word from Clyman: do you hear any? Miss again com- we are all in usual health and hope you are the same - Yours truly D. S. Burtis

Stockbridge Mass. Ap. 15 1875.

My Dear Father: [James Christie]

I have been thinking of you and home more today than usual, though you are seldom out of my thoughts at any time, save when I'm busy with my work. But sometimes, as today, my impressions of home, recollection of home scenes, longings for home, are more intense, more real than at others. Nothing has made absence from home endurable these three long years, but the ever-present conviction, that two days would take me there, that I am still a bona fide member of the home circle, and only temporarily absent, as if I had but gone to mill with a grist. I would'nt have you for a moment suppose that I am "off and for myself:" the very idea is foreign to my mind, and would

make me dizzy to think it even.
No: The old home, the auld love is ayr the best; and my life abroad has only intensified the feeling. And if I were to come across the prairie today, you would find me the same boy, with no foreign airs or lingos, no aversion to hard work or plain fare, and happy to take hold and make myself useful.
Why, I recollect everything, just as it was, and in the ~~most~~ main just as it is. You would find that the years are bringing to me a more truly philosophic mind. I think I do not take desponding fits, irritable turns, and the like, as I was wont. I think I see the uselessness of that; and I feel more cheery and full of life than I did years ago.
I would give a great deal, if I had it, to see you this summer; but the Secretary of Finance shakes his head. Another year, I certainly will come home: I'll tell you what my plan is. It is to make things snug about home as fast as I can get my hands on the greenbacks. Just think of the years before me, and doubtless with pay increasing! I'll make home a mighty comfortable place before many years. Why, I'm not in condition to do much more, for I'm but a man before the mast: but I feel <u>strong</u>, uncommonly <u>tall</u>, and feel that I'm on pretty good foundations. I hope you do not feel melancholy when you find nearly all of us gone away from you in your old age. Count me as if I were at home; and while we both have existence, I will be proud to obey and love you as my father and my best and wisest friend. Sandy.

Rotterdam. Wednesday 21st. April 1875.

My Dear Sarah.

Yours of the 4th inst. to hand Quite a while, but difficulty of Getting a Letter Correct to Mail now, is such that although I have Quite Able to Write. I am never Certain that it will be sent away. I have to plead and beg to Get anyone Go to the Lord. Not as it used to be When I could Myself Walk over to Derby's. They are best Served Who Can Serve themselves. I am not Quite Well indeed, Have now a permanent Rheumatic pain in My Left Shoulder, a Remnant of the Trouble I had in January. and a Certain trouble of the Lungs Wearisome Asthma. but not so, taken together however, all of my difficulties I am able to Carry them in such Manner as Would Cause anyone to think that Little Was the matter With me. Little Lonely is in Ordinary health. Panic Wade and Getting in Wheat for Grasshoppers.

Both Pete and Joe are with Daniel. I had a letter recently from Tom, in which he told me of having met President Strong in Boston, who spoke very highly of You. Commending You much for Your Christian Action Amongst the Students, Your General usefulness and Value in the Institution. It pleases me very much to hear such My Dear Enoch.

I am satisfied You are more in possession of such a Knowledge as shall cause me to hear many such things of You.

I do presume it would have been Embarrassing for You and Charlie both to have had him as Your preacher. Does not God sometimes lead people by a way which they know not? in unanticipated Ways to the Knowledge of Higher things? "Arnott" He is indeed a poor Man. I was not deceived by his Spirit of Generosity. that I was fully aware originated in the Back of his head instead of in the front and Yet not either "Cupid" but Cupidity. Poor fellow! May God

Open his Heart and Eyes, and Grant him a Knowledge of Himself.

Let us now pity instead of hating. Our Character are made for us and not by us. Made by Original Organization and that which we have passed through. And thus My Dear Enoch is the true foundation for the pity which the Heavens have for us.

Oh My Dear Child how much do we all need to be pitied, to be helped. so much in need! What possibilities in us! such possible development. and how many Repressed, never reach the Stature of the perfect Man. God help us Clay Matter, the Spirit, and the Elevating Unfolding influence of the Love of Righteousness, from our inept position fails to draw us up, tied, trammeled Entangled by our Surrounding, the Struggle to rise and fail. But as Confucius said if we intend to build a Mountain, and have but Carried one Basketful of earth. Still we are building a Mountain. The Edification may be slow yet We are working towards it in the Strength

of Gods Grace. "Nil Desperandum"
fear not. "Trust in God, as Cromwell
said. Yet keep your powder dry."
Let us live to the practicalities Avoid Worry
Faith. and Where the Enemy assails us put
up a double Abatis.

I do not feel Well enough to
Write much and must close. I shall
Write oftener to you, and Nails too.

I send you With this Tom's letter
to Sandy, and Sandy to me. Pity Nails
Cheer You and make up for My deficit.
You return Tom to me and keep
What you Get to Yourself.

With Love my dear Lassie.

Your Father

A Lincoln

Andover. April 29. '75.

Dear Alex. [Christie]

Your short letter is
rec'd. & I judge this a good time to write
you of some things that may be of
interest to you, intending the letter
to go also to father & Sarah after
you read. Has the Spelling-
School mania reached Stockbridge?
Here in Boston & vicinity it has
raged undiminished for several weeks.
Great matches for prizes from a
dictionary to a piano are fought
before immense audiences, and
nothing seems to give greater amuse-
ment. There have been three in
Andover. The first between 40 boys
of Phillips Acad. & 40 girls from
the Abbott Acad. I sent Carrie
down to it & she enjoyed it greatly.
The boys beat, the winner being
carried home on the shoulders of his
mates, and $130 were put into

between Webster & Worcester voted,
& the rules of inflection studied.
You ought to see my lists of words!
It seems perfectly ludicrous to think now
of the enthusiasm with which both me
& the "Cads" threw ourselves into the work
of preparation for the great battle.

In every building were heard
the murmurs of groups of spellers busy
testing each other. I never worked so
hard in my life, I think, & in those
three days. But it was wonderfully
interesting, to brush up again my old
acquaintance with words; indeed,
people do not know how fine a study
it is that of a good dictionary. Words are
in families: you find their fathers &
mothers, & you know the whole tribe
by the family features.

The night came & I took C. to
a good seat in the Lecture Hall. It brought
back to her the old memories of Rockford.
The Champions met in another room,
& when the large hall was packed full of

our new Chapel fund. There a miscellaneous contest was held for the benefit of the Town Library, & a favorite minister went down on "Strychnine". Great fun, a young married lady, recently a teacher, took first prize. I had attended none of the matches; but on Saturday last notice reached me that I was to be one of 20 Theologues who on the succeeding Tuesday would have to face 20 of the victorious "Cads" for the honor of Andover Sem. & the interest of the Chapel fund. The young ladies of the Abbott Sem. were managers & the contest was to be in Theo Hall.

My pupil & My Lawrence work were taking all spare time, but the boys insisted & I consented to enlist.

Borrowed a Webster & for three days Sat. Mond. Tues. I "Crammed" Dictionary, and attended the meetings where we brought in lists of hard words.

At the table Carmie tackled me between the mouthfuls with such helps to digestion as "Honyknhnms" "Brasse", "Cuirassiers", "Cantos", "Cargues" "Quahaug" "Renaissance", & our old friend "Rogueaure". I ate, drank, talked, & slept Dictionary, for my dreams were full of strange words, & my waking thought of rules for doubling final Consonants, for making Plurals, for the use of -able & -ible, & all the cumbrous details of the most outrageous Orthography that Even tortured & trained a Civilized people. I sighed for the old Spelling-School days under Mr. Metterby or Dr. Benson, when all we had to do was to get by heart the Spelling-book, & look out for outsiders like "rogueaure": Now, the thing has become a Science; the Whole dictionary must be mastered, the differences

against one trembling Cad, who
soon committed kari kari with
the help of the "z" he put in "benison",
and then Harvard & Beloit faced each
other. It was then that I could scarcely
keep myself from laughing: to think of
as two grown up men, graduates of
Colleges, standing up like little boys
before our School maam to spell, - if
one of us had put his finger in his mouth,
& the other had scratched his head the thing
would have been perfect. And here were
four hundred people, Authors, teachers &c
all watching us. Nichols is a fine
fellow. We had been helping each other
like brothers for three days, but during
~~the match he had been floored twice,~~
getting back by appeal once, & again
by a Compromise between the sides
made necessary by a mistake of the
judges. We shook hands & began,
and for some time we delighted the
audience with some artistic spelling.
The "-ables" & - "ibles" were tried on us,
the best people in Andover, of Theologues,
"Free Lens", "Cads", professors &c, at 8,0'c
we marched upon the platform amid a
tremendous Clapping of hands, & were followed
by the Cad Champions who took the chairs
opposite. Then entered six young ladies,
~~wearing~~ White wigs & the ermine(?) of the judges
of the Contest, each followed by a page
bearing a Dictionary. The judges took
seats at a long table between the
contestants, having before them the
prize - a beautiful $20, statuette of
Sumner - and a large stuffed
owl, the bird of Minerva, patroness
of learning. Then the Choir(?) struck
up an old College song with words written
for the occasion.

"Let every good fellow &c",

The ball was opened with easy words,
but the first round floored four
Theologues on "Weasel", "Reversible",
& two others as easy - the fellows being
so scared at the their novel position
that they lost their heads. Several
Cads also went down on the first word.

The pronouncer was the Principal of the Ladies' Seminary. She gave out the word, the man rose, pronounced it after her, faced the audience, & put in the letters with a loud voice, that all might hear. You ought to have heard the laughing at mistakes & the cheering when a hard one was mastered.

A half hour had put half the Theologues hors du Combat & left only seven Cads. Then the Crushing words began to come & four of us were left against three of them.

Then Miss McKean with the blandest of smiles turned to Clark our Amherst man & propounded "Sciscitation". C. got up, cleared his throat, felt he was on his last legs, & meekly asked for a definition. "An Inquiry."

Amherst looked his last upon the blue sky — i.e. upon the audience, made a fearful attempt & was sent to the rear badly demoralized. The fellow on the other side tried an initial "S", alone & Blake, at my elbow, a Yale man, tried a "C", but they both went down like nine pins. Again the terrible word went to the Cads & again it had its victim. It was my turn: now I will confess that when the word was first given I could not have spelled it. But as it went back & forth I was thinking about its derivation, and like a flash I remembered the Latin verb "Sciscitari". All was then peace in my breast, for I knew how it must be spelled. You may imagine the audience were worked up to a high pitch, & when my spelling was pronounced "Right," you ought to have heard the cheering. The Theologues behind me got up & clapped me on the shoulders & there was wonderful enthusiasm.

Nichols of Harvard & I were left

hard work in the mill a pleasure to her. she seemed lifted up above her work & out of its atmosphere. These converts are reliable, there has been no Excitement, only the deep earnestness of souls deciding great issues.

A Church will be organized this next month we trust, & will start with 50 or 60 members. It will be a power for good in that needy neighborhood.

You have told me nothing of religious matters in Stockbridge. I hope you have some good men there & that you have been helping them. I wish you could see the results of this most wonderful work in Lawrence: the change in the faces of some is an evidence of the new birth that no one can could fail to see.

What a long letter I have written you! Father will be delighted with Farrar's Life of Christ which I ord. today for him. On reading it myself I made up my mind that father should have it if I lived on Bread & water for a month to buy it, & so sent for the book, 2 vols. with notes. I want them to go to father Brewer next, & so back to me. C. sends love, Bessie is taking a new start with all nature. Your loving Brother J.

but with no effect, we seemed iron Clad: Now I want you to look u from this paper & spell and adjective made from "Absinthe", the favorite dri of Frnch officers. Do you not say at first thought, "absinthean"?

Well, that is what I said, & sat dow leaving H. to spell a word more & the go down on "Amygdalate". H. gav back the Statuette to the Sen. in a very neat speech: I would have sent it to Rockford, We were both abundant Congratulated on what Mrs. Prof. Thayer called our "magnificent" spelling.

People said they liked my spelling because it was "scientific", i.e. it was based on Knowledge of derivations

The whole occasion was a very pleasant one, & the net gain to the Chapel fund was $135.60.

It cost me only $3.00 to attend the Centennial at Concord, & I had the great pleasure of going over the battle(?) ground, & of seeing & hearing

Emerson, Lowell, Curtis & Judge Hoar, & of seeing Grant & his Cabinet. — among them our old General Belknap of the Iowa Brig. in our Division. Morgan came on from Yale, I met him in Boston, & we went together to Concord.

It is about settled that I am to go to Chicago; C will probably stay here. Am to pay my own travelling Expenses, & for 10 weeks' work get $200, & board. I work hard all the time to keep head above water, for the expenses of the year have been far beyond what we anticipated. Am giving McCormick two hours a day through this term in Latin, he being altogether in my care in that study. for this I get $10. a week. These seem large earnings, but the money goes fast for the commonest necessaries of life here in the East. David's flour, & Mr. Brewer's butter, & your generous help, have eased the burden very much. Good father Brewer sent me $12. the other day to buy a new coat, under a hint, I am afraid, from the ever watchful and faithful Carrie.

In our mission among the Lawrence operatives there has been & still is great religious interest.

The place is now full of intemperance & for all that brutal disregard of woman & child which seems characteristic of the English laborer who is not religious. But great changes are going on, some men have signed the pledge, some have been Converted, and among the women & Youth the work has been very deep. We believe that more than thirty are really living a new life; one young woman told me that the nub thought which now fill her heart made the whole day g

Yours very Truly

M. Florence Stuart.

[May 1875]

My dear friend [Sarah Christy]

I'm real sorry, but perhaps
it's all for the best, and I can't help
but wonder sometimes when the leaves and
flowers are out; however, still I think
much about it all. Would like
to have you believe me on that
sin of quarrelling; also I ask. (over)

Garden City
April may 1" 1875

My Dear Friend, [Dark Christie]

I suppose Parker goes to Northfield today. The only thing which makes me contented to stay is the impossibility of going; but my contentment is, indeed, "the virtue of a whipped dog". I dont get along as rapidly here (in Greek especially) as I ought. But the worst is that the time of my again having good instruction is so far in the future that it is not clearly discernible. Yet it will, it must come.

It takes a world of patience

to wait so long, & drudge along so slowly meantime. If I could do anything else, I could not do this.

Perhaps it is "all for the best", but I freely confess my inability to see how.

I haven't seen Parker for more than two months. He has not been here to see me & I wouldn't go to see him under the circumstances. I have wanted to several times but did not allow myself to do it. I should like to tell him how I regard his Phoenician tongue; for he has promised once or twice that he would come. Perhaps it is "all for the best", however,

I have been studying this week. I can't work as closely & intently as when I stopped four weeks ago. Will get back ~~the~~ habit ~~ability~~ of close application rather slowly, I presume. I don't believe anyone can study as well when working out of doors a part of the time.

There is considerable humbug about this notion that it is better for a student to murder himself mentally & physically at the same time. One thing at a time is enough.

Sunday. I got so far yesterday and was obliged to stop.

I was considerably surprised last night to hear that Miss Knox is in Minneapolis, & has entered a class at the University. But you of course know much more about that than I, so

will not try to give you any infomation. — She seems to like well there, & thinks "the general instruction & methods of teaching fully equal & in some respects decidedly superior to Carleton". 'Tis my hope to enjoy the advantages of one of the New England schools. But after all, it depends more upon one's own efforts than upon the "advantages" which he has, whether he shall be a successful student & thorough scholar.

Miss K. says you sent word that you intend to make her a visit. If you do, just imagine for a couple of hours that for you are with Rockwood

5

and let her report your conver-
sation. Cant you do it?

I have lokked, though in pain,
for a letter from you every
day the past week. What is
the reason of such delay? Are
you unwell or only forgetful?
I hope it is the latter, but
have been a litter fraful that
it was the former.

Has Miss Murphy been
successful in getting a school?
I have heard of none here.
And I dont believe she would
want to comir for such terribly
small wages as are generally
paid hereabouts (in carleton)

The school, is probably small
Comparatively this term, nicht
wahr? Many of the old students

away, as usual, a few new ones in and things generally much more quiet than through the part two patterns. Rolfe says the Bettonians are doing fairly & "it is quite a little Society." I presume both societies will keep along more with an occasional ebb & flow of the tide of prosperity, until after a time each will become strong & influential in the college.

It is church time & I must again stop for a time. By the way Mr. Lynn of St Paul preaches again today in the morning & Mr Little of Mank & in the Evening.

They are here for the purpose of organizing a Presbyterian church or rather resuscitating an old organization.

Evening. Have just returned from listening to Mr. Little. He said in his sermon a great many things which you would call "just good", - not brilliant or startling but in some respects quite ordinary. His whole discourse seemed animated (that is a strong word if you think of its derivation) with pure, Christ-like truth! - There is something rather peculiar about Mr. L. He has small, deep eyes, set quite narrowly, a square forehead, an aquiline nose & a long chin - exactly the features of a shrewd, unprincipled man. But his whole being seems vitalized with the Christian Spirit, & he is an earnest devoted worker. I may judge wrongly as to his natural inclinations, but I think that nothing else than christianity could

is time for my eyes to be "drenched" so for the present farewell.

Yours ever as ever
Your friend
G Rockwood

have saved him from being an extremely worldly man, to say nothing of raising him to his present condition.

I have been wondering whether Parker will write. He owes me a letter and I hope he will ~~answer~~ send it along; though I would not now ask him to do it. He is a queer fellow; but I can't help liking him.

I have'nt written to Edgerton yet - partly from want of time and partly because I am not so much inclined in that way as before you told me what you did about him. I guess I will write as soon as convenient for I first proposed a correspondence last winter.

Lyra Minn. May 10, 1875.

Mr James Christie.

Dear Sir.

I passed by your house a week ago today on my way to my school. I wanted very much to stop and see you, but Mr. Kirk, who brought me out here, was in a hurry to get home, so I did not like to ask him to wait. I want very much to see you all. I thought that if you would let me know when any of your folks were coming to Good Thunder, I might meet them there. I

think I could get a chance to ride up that far, but could go only on Saturdays. Miss Ellen Shadbolt, the young lady where I am boarding, says that she and David's wife are old friends, and that she is going up there to visit. I might go with her, but she cannot go for two or three weeks and I am hoping that I shall not have to wait so long.
I like it here very much. Have a pleasant school. Sarah sent love to you all, and I have many pleasant things to tell you about her when I see you. I hope you are all well.

Very Respectfully
Annie L. Murphy.

Stockbridge Wis. May 11th 75.

My Dear Father —

Yours of 5th & 6th at hand and read with the old-time interest, the old love for you and yours, which years of absence deepen rather than efface. How shall I forget the letters that reached me when among the Carolina pines, among strangers, when I, a shy boy, knew so ill how to make acquaintances — much less friends — surrounded by hosts of men, yet alone; like Coleridge's Ancient Mariner —

"Water, water all around,
But not a drop to drink."

Ah! It is a sound consolation to know, that wherever I may roam, jostling and being jostled along the dusty pathway of life, that there is ever open for me a Father's and a

Mother's welcoming home, That
I am ever followed by their solicitude.
Whether I can see you at Christmas or
not, will depend upon where I am
for the coming School year, and how
well I "do": but "I'll try."

Odd, isn't it? But here we are, elbow
to elbow, James Alex. Christie, and myself,
he reading, I writing, and both eat-
ing peanuts. Of course, the Christie's
all delight in reading, and Jimmie
is not an exception. He is coming the
whole year to the School here, and will
probably go to Ripon College next year,
where several of his cousins - of his
Uncle James' family - have been attend-
ing. I have heretofore spoken of his
scholarship, and will say nothing
of it here, as I wish him to
look this over and sign his name
with me, just for the "fun of the
thing." While in Winnebago Co-

The other day, I ran across a
man northwest of Rosendale, by the
name of Kirker, who hails from County
Antrim, is of Scotch descent, and
whose mother's maiden name was
Christie. You will remember
Rosendale as you saw it in the ear-
lier years of your His. life, and
probably later when with the Kirkers'
and Hendry's? I came through East
Rosendale, situated in a very fair
country, but quite an inconsid-
erable place. The occasion was
the burial of a lady member of the
Grange. In answer to your
inquiries, I would say, that I
have not had a letter from S for
some time, and that I still write
to H. D. Excuse this brief note,
and believe me ever yours Affy-

Alex. J. Christie

Yours Truly

James A. Christie.

Stockbridge Wis.

means). You have probably heard of the shop that was burned here last week in which two men were smothered & burned to death - I went out on the river bank that night to watch the fire - it was just on the opposite bank - after it had burned a little while - some of the timbers fell down into the river and floated up -

Minneapolis, May 11th 75.

Dear Miss Shuttie, [Sarah]

I have been expecting a letter from you and also trying my best to get one to you for the last week, and have been equally successful in both operations.

I was very much disappointed when Mrs. Bothfeld told me that Wilson had been and gone and had hunted for me in vain. Of course he might as well have sought for a needle in a hay stack as for me in this great busy town where nobody knows who I am or where I came from.

You may imagine that - I did come

pretty close guesswork as to what that package contained, when Betts delivered it into my care and keeping. It was right after Chapel in the morning and I could not open it until noon.

It was too bad that W. could not see me there in the end but I have done the very best thing that I could think of, and if their numerous stories are not all condensed on those scraps of pasteboard I send you, it certainly isn't my fault, for I got up the most condensing expression for the occasion that I was master of.

You will immediately observe that I had the enclosed articles created for the sole sake of immortalizing that neck tie and collar. The object above is of no importance whatever. It's just there for the same purpose that wooden models are in the clothing stores - to hang something on - a ten penny nail would have answered just as well.

I hope you did not send any "spells" or spirits along with those things. They certainly did not want to be taken for they would not keep still half a second.

In the first place the photographer gave me a chair that was surely before made of cast iron & it had a back like an Indian's. He fixed and unfixed me two or three times - clawed my hair all over my head, first on one side then on the other, pulled my ears into position adjusted my nose to the proper angle and after leaving me a farewell poke went around to that horrible pall-covered machine and went to playing peek-a-boo - it was too much for human gravity to endure - at least mine - and when he looked over for a last glance, I just roared - and then he scolded, like sixty, and that only made me laugh the harder. Finally he said he would try once more and I must keep still. I screwed up all the will power I could muster, fixed my wandering thoughts on an old frog

in one corner of the room, and though I was shaking all the time in my boots, it managed to "take" and you have the result.

I am sitting up all alone - the rest have all gone to bed - and the fire alarm is making such a noise I can't think of anything else. They have had two terrible fires since we came here - one only two blocks from us - we rather expected to be burned out that night - it was a new experience for me - I assure you - to stand and watch the fire all night with the whole city so light that you could see much plainer than in the daytime - seeing the flames coming nearer and nearer and knowing all the time that there is nothing but a fire company between you and homelessness, it's not the most agreeable thing in the world - though after all there is some thing grand about it - The sight I

so that there was a perpendicular wall of fire from the surface of the water almost as high as you could see, seemingly reaching the clouds. It was right over the falls which looked like melted silver. and the sight altogether was worth coming a thousand miles to see.

I did'nt intend to send you a report of the fire department when I began this letter, but that old whistle made me meander.

Tell Dresser this is for her as well as you - I have'nt time to write to both - Mother is sick and I have my hands more than full all the time. I like it better & better here every day have got acquainted with several of the students - they are solid - thorough - brilliant - some of them. will tell you what I think about things in general when I have more time.

Read now good night - I believe I have'nt thanked Dres & you in all this - Sprague for Mr. W. kindly delivered favor all - thanks, are such cold hearted things wait till I invent something more original such grasping ends I'll send you a hearty hand. Tell Ms. W. that I am heartily obliged for his call, as also for valuable assistance as baggage-master. Ever Most Sincerly.

I guess I'll get a letter from you tomorrow,

P.S. I had included to send a photo of Miss Brewer in this letter, but will send it to you soon.

Miss Christie

I had a letter all ready to send to you but luckily had not sent it when yours was rec'd. Was not much surprised at the idea of your coming N., but was decidedly so at that of the possibility of your coming here - I should be the grandest kind of an idea - but am afraid that it could never be. though of course I know nothing of the matter and ought not to say anything I am sure you very little information in regard to the school for I am so little interested - We have only one teacher this year a g'raduate & a normal g. Miss Parker is in charge of the primary department & is very popular, she has charge of the first two grades - is very thorough & is considered an excellent teacher, belongs to - She is very different from Miss Evans, more energetic & should think though as I have met her only in the class-room & only know that she is very patient - dresses neatly - is not handsome but looks like a lady has dark eyes and hair, &c &c,

Mary Sheridan
13 - 1/5
Received this 2 reed

In regard to the other teachers I know
next to nothing there are times a dozen
of them I think, I only know the Pres.
and Profs. Marston, Wolfe, Thomson &
Brooks. like them very much.
The Pres. is splendid, is almost idol
-ized by the students - always pleasant
- never haughty but ever approachable
like Jesus did - mixing with the rest -

There would be a possible chance of
discovering a position like that, such
all of their present instructors might
but of course there may be vacancies.
I am sure the Board of Regents elect
several auxiliary Profs. to their
staff & know whether the Pres. has any
authority aside from being a member
of the board, or not. Seems to me
Parker has stepped his mind lately
he didn't to struck a dead lock of this
institution a few times, if I remember
right ly. Will send you a report of
the Pres to the State Legislature.
was no catalogue issued this year,
I send you back your own - keep
you observe - it was thinner than
mine and my envelope was about
full — If there is any thing else which
I can help you, you kindly I will
be glad to do so.

Yours Truly,

Dear Miss Murphy
Pocatello Idaho Nov 28" 1876.

Your letter came this evening & as it is some time (?) since I have written I decided to do so now.

You ask me to write a "cheerful" letter. I'll do my best toward it, but may not succeed very well.

I presume I could not say anything to give you either comfort or ~~use~~ assistance in the matter now particularly on your mind. So I will not attempt it. I cannot refrain, however, from expressing the gratification which I felt from the fact that you told me of your difficulty & are willing to "trust" me with the knowledge of it.

I must take it for granted that you are not ashamed of me, or the engagement existing between us, for if you were you might have written me a letter that would have been more satisfactory to me than any you could write now. I am not ashamed of you, nor of the engagement, & I am willing to let the world know it. I am proud of you, proud of your noble character, proud of your intelligence, proud of your beauty, proud of your love for me, & proud of the fact that you are willing to trust me with your heart. I am proud of all these things, & I am willing to let the world know it. I am proud of you, proud of your noble character, proud of your intelligence, proud of your beauty, proud of your love for me, & proud of the fact that you are willing to trust me with your heart.

I like that word "trust". It sends a thrill of perhaps pardonable pride through my whole being whenever it comes to me in ~~that~~ such a way. You may remember to have told me last fall that Prof. G. said he could "trust Rockwood." The knowledge of that was a much surer safeguard against the thing he (and the rest) wished to be avoided, than a lecture in Chapel would have been. Have you never had similar experiences?

I heard from Savory yesterday or two ago. Isn't he a noble fellow! His letters are almost inspiring sometimes — so different from those I get from the other boys. He told me of a little unpleasantness in the delivery of his last Rhetorical part (an oration I suppose). It undoubtedly seemed worse by far to him than to others, yet he is unfortunate in being subject to such embarassment when he attempts to speak. He says he expects a "long fight" before he can conquer the difficulty but doesn't propose to give up yet.

I like your last letter. It has the solid ring of quiet but firm resolution, — nothing wavering or vacillating (I prefer a dozen corrected mistakes to one uncorrected) but fixed & sure.

Eli & Sarah came from the prairie last week with somewhat sorrowful news. One of their horses had died the day before — it was a very fine, handsome & valuable colt of

which S. was particularly fond & indeed, it has been the pet & almost the pride of us all for two or three years. Judd could not contain his grief when he found that "Lou" was "dead".

It seems strange that we become so much attached to mere brutes; yet we cannot avoid it. (Remember the favorite dog of which you told me and your pain midnight walk to save his life)

I hope you will have an opportunity to visit Miss K. it would be so pleasant for you both. Thus too I should get somewhat of benefit by her report of your conversation &c &c. If you go, please tell me what you can about the University & its faculty. I am considerably prejudiced against it though perhaps unjustly.

I have quite an amount of work

May 18th 1895

Dear Sarah

I wrote a few lines to tell you that we have a little baby in our house. A little girl, born on the Sunday morning, which was eighth I think. Jennie seems quite a good little mother, and baby will surely be spoiled, if we are not careful. by all of us wanting to have her to toss up in our arms. She looks some like Jennie, only her eyes seem more blue than black Jennie says they are a bluish brown, like Dudley's, They seem blue to me, but we'll find out by and by. I had a letter from Maggie the other day in which she tells me you are teaching again, and I am glad to hear of it. How all of always go back to our old vocation

I hope your health keeps on pretty good, and that the girls keep well, too. Please write to me and tell me how you get along, and tell me if you think of going up to Marion this summer. When I hear from you I will write you a long letter. Thank heaven my health has greatly improved so that I do not have that dreadful pain, nor anything trouble in my chest. and am busy every day tending store

I shall keep money enough by me to come on West again whenever I can. I do think Sarah I cannot live so far away from all of you, even for Jennie's sake Won't it be hard though the parting from her when it comes. Ah this world was made to try us and try us, and it is all right. I am amazed at the change in me from ill health, to, comparitively speaking good health Not that my looks have changed much, but I never rise in the mornings now feeling that the days is a drag to me but happy in the thought of being able to do my daily work.

How thankful I feel every day of my life.

Jennie's life seems like the most of them around here Dear little souls. If the time comes again to part from her I suppose it will be forever in this world. There is one trouble with me here, every place I fill seems more needed by some one else, and there are so many starving poor; so many Is it my duty to go upon and help Jimmy Arnat raise wheat for them

Please write me a letter, I am so anxious to here from you and Tom and the girls. Jennies little baby is a good little soul. but frets its mother watching it all the while. I had a letter from your father the other day they were all well but he complained of not receiving as many letters as usual, and you must write more to me too. if you do have any time to do so. Write one a few lines when you get this and tell me of your plans or if she want of them. We are all living yet — Thank the Father of all mercies. How terrible it would be to me to hear of any trouble on any of you and how strangely my heart is devided between the East and West. — But I know if I come this time it will be a final settlement

Good by God bless you Helen

To whom it may be presented.

This may certify that Miss Sarah J. Christie has taught in the English Department of Carleton College for the past two years and, I am glad to say, with good success.

She has had classes in Algebra, Arithmetic, Physical Geography, Grammar, History, English Literature and Zoology.

These classes have generally been quite large and consequently somewhat difficult, but she has at all times governed easily and taught well. and I would heartily commend her to any who may be desirous of her services as well qualified

to instruct in any of these branches and as faithful and earnest in all her teaching.

A. Goodhue Jr.
Prof. of Greek,
Carleton College.
Northfield Minn.
May 22. 1875

Bradford, Pa. May. 23. 1875

Dear Miss Christie; [Sarah Christie]

I presume you begin to think that I have forgotten to write to you, or do not care to; but it is not so. I have thought of you every day since I bid you good bye at Ladies' Hall that night, and have wanted to see you ever so much to have a talk with you as I used to. But as that is impossible I shall have to write what I can and leave the rest until I see you. I have a large school of fifty-nine pupils and expect more; have

taught three weeks, and find it very hard to teach. The first week I was so discouraged that I thought I should give up the school altogether. I found it so hard to govern, as the scholars have been in the habit of doing just as they had a mind to, and the school room in a fearful condition I sent word to the School Board to clean the room, but they have not seen fit to do so. I do not rely any on the Board for help or encouragement in any work, as I do not think they are men of much principle. The family I board with are pleasant people but not congenial to my tastes. The young lady I room with is a Universalist and a member of a theatrical club they have here. All the family attend dances, and are of that class. I go to Owatonna every Friday night to recite Latin, and come back Saturday afternoon. After a while I expect the trains will run so I can come up Monday morning so I will have an opportunity of attending any own church. I feel sorry because I have not sent you the money to you yet, but, Miss Christie I mean to just as soon as I can, which I hope will not be very long. I can never forget your kindness to me as long as I live, and hope I may sometime be able to partly repay you. Where is Miss Murphy? I received a letter from her before I began my school, and understood her to say that she was going to teach near Mankato.

I wrote a letter to her and directed it there, but have received no reply yet. Fannie Purnell told me she thought she was teaching near Northfield, but was not certain. I have not written to Miss Evans yet, but intend to soon. How is Mrs Bois? Please tell Miss Upton that I mean to answer her letter soon. Now Miss Christie won't you answer this soon, for a word from you would do me so much good. Do you work as hard this term as you did last? Perhaps I can see you when you go home if I know when you pass through here. I must close for this time hoping to hear from you soon I remain with much love your true friend

Esther Adair

Garden City
May 20" 1875

Dear Miss Christie: [Dyer]

I have just returned from the woods where I have been sitting on the bank of the river in the kindly shade of the leafing trees, pouring over the attractive pages of the blind poet. What a powerful pen Milton's was! I never realized until lately so clearly the beauty & sterling worth of his poetry. He writes alike for the lover of nature & of art; for the cold, matter-of-fact man & the highly imaginative; for the extremely practical & the most philosophic; — in short, for all.

Shall I send you Browning's Prometheus Unbound & more Shelley & Keats? Today we hear of fields of grain entirely destroyed. There will probably be very little raised in this section.

I wish we might read "Paradise Lost" together & take time to talk it over all we might choose to. There is no one hereabouts that I can talk over my reading with, & I am sure it would be very beneficial as well as agreeable to me to do it. I am very glad, however, if I can only get the books to read, and have not other privilege

The "Verdure-vaulters" have been quite extensively resurrected during the past week. In places they are very thick, but it is said these few compared with the numbers that hatched through the country south & west of us last year. They are reported to have commenced the destruction of the grain in a few fields, but it is yet impossible to tell how extensive their ravages will be. Last night I tried to destroy some of them by scattering straw for them to go to roost on, and burning the straw after dark. It is an effective way of getting rid of great numbers, but whether it will make any perceptible difference, of course, can not be known.

It seems to me, I never had such a mountain of work piling up before me as at the present time. I can't help wishing that I could work at a dozen things at a time, but I have not yet succeeded with more than a twelfth part of a dozen. It sometimes requires quite an effort to keep from ~~to~~ studying Sunday. What is the harm in it, anyhow?

d sent for "Arnold's History of Rome" the other day. As soon as d finish Virgil I am going at that, & familiarize myself as thoroughly as possible with its contents. It will take time & work but it must be done. — — — It is a long time since anything has been said by either about our reading, & as I for a part of that time have been (necessarily) somewhat irregular I thought I would see whether I have "kept the place". according to my reckoning, we read the first of Colossians today. Do that right?

What kind of fortune do you met with in regard to employment for next year? Why do you not study medicine as you suggested? In whatever you engage I heartily wish you the very best of success. God &

I have to go to Good Thunder's tomorrow & I'm going to enquire about the school there & perhaps make application for it. I am not especially predisposed in its favor but I may not have the right & idea of it. I asked Sawyer the other day to inform me if he should know of a school I would be likely to count. I would like the school at South Bend near Mankato on some accounts & think I will enquire about it- when I go to M. again As usual this letter is thoroughly imbued with Ego-ism,- but that's my nature.

Please let me hear from you wherever you can conveniently.

Faithfully

Rockwood

am at work through the day I often find my thoughts running toward you & myself wishing it were in my power to give you assistance in some way or other, or to do something to repay you in part for your kindness to me in the past or at least to show you, that that kindness was not wholly unappreciated. Your letters since I came from Carleton have given me a great deal of pleasure. It has been something of a wonder to me that you should care to write as often as you have, but I usually dismiss the subject finally from my mind, satisfied with the fact, rather than wishing to know the reason of it.

Rockbridge Va. May 27th 75.

My Dear Father;

Yours of 21st & 22d at hand, and am sorry to hear of the Locusts. Shall probably lose everything. Well, there's more than one to stand between you and want — so, take it cool.

I send you Tom's letter, which heretofore I had neglected to forward; and would say that I got the picture, and for which I am pleased & made mention to Dave or you. My correspondence is somewhat extensive and my work pretty hard. Recently I solved the Cattan problem in its most general form and forwarded to Townsend to show to Prof. Trowbridge of Harvard, who may ask me some day. It makes me mad to think of my teaching Common school for a paltry dozen, while men by the God's fill mathematical chairs at large salaries, whom I could teach like boys. I speak soberly. There are few of these Professors of Mathematics who have to look an idea of the higher methods & do respect. I have studied Loomis and Church on the Calculus, both Excellent works, Especially the latter,

have read Robinson's large work on the same subject, a work conceded for two difficult for the generality of colleges, and am now carefully reviewing the admirable work of Conkey — 500 pages on the Differential and Integral Calculus and Calculus of Variations — The largest and most comprehensive book on the subject published in America.

Well, I may, indeed I will get a better place yet. "Seest thou a man diligent in his business? He shall stand before kings."

There's this about it; I'll put myself forward every time, after this — for it's the only way in America.

Yours Affectionately

Alex. J. Christie.

Rockbridge Ills May 29th 1875

My Dear Sister [Sarah Chamberlain]

I wish you would drop me a line,
if nothing more than a postal card. Once in
a term would not be too often.

C. M. Torrat of Clinton, whom you probably
knew as 6th Supt (for he says he was acquainted
with you and Tom in Beloit), happened
along here several weeks ago, engaged in the
business of selling County rights on a washing
machine — the first thing of the kind he ever had
anything to do with. I was introduced to
him as a member of the Craft — and afterward
found him to be also a Templar and a Stranger —
so that we immediately affiliated for three
good and sufficient reasons. I took to
start to check and to save him but a short
time; but he told me as I left, that he
would do me a service if he found it in
his power. I intend to write him in regard
to the Clinton or any other School which may

be available for me. I quit sending out letters to Clerks, for I found by the responses, that I was too early — they couldn't tell anything about next year's prospects. Will send out a few more soon. Tom has been at Harvard and got Prof. John Trowbridge interested in me, who wishes me to graduate and engage for a year in experimental physics, and so from that into a Chair of mathematics. He cannot get enough men — for of the right kind for those places, and thinks I am the right kind. In response to his request, I sent on to him who will show to Trowbridge, my Solution of the problem of the Rainbow. I think I have added something to theoretical physics in this for it far transcends everything relating to the same subject which I have seen or heard of, and, indeed, leaves little more to be desired. By means of the Differential Calculus I show that the mathematical conditions exist for an infinitude of bows wherever they exist for one point out the relative position of the consecutive rays which produce them, and deduce two little formulae, by which all the elements of each color of every bow may easily be found, where the color is found on the heavens and where the ray must impinge upon the drop to produce it. In addition, I show that the deviation of the ray is in every instance a minimum. It will probably be in print this year, so for the present I will drop visionary schemes. I am still giving much of my time to mathematics, with the intention of teaching them in College before long, or attempting a reformation in the curriculum — perhaps both. Trowbridge points out a good way of getting into my element and a chair but I may have to wait a year. It will be a busy kind of waiting! Health good, school small — country place and boys all at work. I am well liked — but district not able to pay good wages. "All quiet on the Potomac." Drop me a line.

Yours Affectionately — Alex. S. Christie.

Tuesday. May 25th 1875

My Dear Sarah. [Christie]

Lonely Hours

Long Silence Needs Explanation. I am

perplexed at it. Awaiting with the

Greatest Anxiety to hear from You. More

Especially in reference to what You are

doing toward the payment of those Notes

I feel entirely deprived by Your by Your

Silence on this Topic, It will be impossible

for You. so far as I can see, to avoid the

payment of them Now, without Indelible

disgrace and dishonour. All rests the

Proclaimed upon the Note.

Why, if You have not as Yet found

Means or the promise of them. Why do You not

Try persistent Strong? It is My Opinion

that he would assist You. You could

enter into Arrangements. With him to

pay by installments from Your Salary

You will not by so doing lose

lose his Good Opinion. He would

probably conclude that your Embarassments have proceeded from an uncalculating Generosity and inexperience, or from anything else than a purpose to defraud.

Go to him. Confiding your trouble and Cares to him. You will not, I most fully believe, hear anything but pity and sympathising words from him. It is now impossible to avoid at least seeking every thing to Escape from disHonour, and from injuring your Friends,

These Grasshoppers here are eating up our Wheat at the rate of an Acre a day. I advise spreading Cedar Chaff upon the young Wheat to burn and intercept their progress We are in worse plight than our neighbours because of last years Hens breeking upon which the Eggs there laid, right in the heart of the Worm.

Anne Murphy Called on us Sunday. She had sent a letter to me before, telling me she had much pleasant News to tele me of You Yet she told me no other than your Appreciations by all, for your Work Amongst the Students. All this I knew before, and fully believed, on your account I invited her to Come again and visit us and be sure to Come at the time of your Vacation. All this with hospitable intent. But I have no special liking for the Young Women. the promises she made in her note to me. Were simply lures, to make us Go down and bring her up from Shaubolti. Notice I with deception, I was not deceived however, it is her want of discernment in thinking to deceive, yet I do not attribute any more duplicity to her than is Common to her Kind. You have not Even notified me of the receipt of Lois and Lovelys letters I sent You along with my own note to you.

Sarah I know not What to say to you. Your position is delicious, Waiting & Enduring any ingenuous Opprobrium such You Yet Learn to require treatment as if You were fully understood. What do you

seems to do in reference to this debt.
It is impossible that David Can
pay one cent of it, and Arnott Neil
not. Now take my advice, Borrow
from some of Your College friends who
will be able to raise the Liquidators
fees as You can pay.

My Dear Sarah It Grieves me
to here to Write to You on this subject
so terribly disagreeable to You and to me,
But this Cires cannot be postponed
any longer. and You must conquer Your
Repugnance to Speak to President Storey.
You must Carry Your Cross in an open
and Simple Manner. and ask some of the Strong
one's to help You. They may assist You to
bear the Burden, and so fulfill the Laws of
Christ. Above all Methods, Appeal to God to
Open a Way of Escape for You. if You are serious
and right at heart in this Matter, You will
not fail in Being Successful, I Write in
Great trouble this day on Your account.
and am ill able to bear it, forgive any
apparent Harshness as not meant.

Your Father
J. Christie

Oratama Mass

May 30 67.

My very dear Miss Christi: [Sarah]

Please accept
our many thanks for your kind
remembrance of our birthday.
I cannot tell you how receive
your letter it is one. I shall
always keep it, and often read
it and then be reassured of
your kindness, and friendship.
I will return Rhoda's
letter, and picture as you re-
quested but will confess that
I was sorely tempted to keep
them especially the latter, since
I knew you had one besides

this. Just as soon as I can get time I will have my picture taken for you (wearing my new tie.) We are all busy getting ready to move so that I have no leisure time either before or after school. My school is very pleasant. I have nine ten school ars and none of them are very horrid. After we all go down to the famous mineral springs and eat our dinners there.

When you stop in C— you must make an effort to visit them for it really is a lovely place. I wish I could describe it to you but you know I can't.

I received a letter from Sunny the other evening. She said that they thought some of going to California, the land of honies, but did not mention the time of departure.

I hope it is in the far off future don't you? or do you think it selfish to hope so?

The public school here closed last Friday. In the evening there was a session of the High-school scholars, and the teachers at Prof. Hall's boarding place. During the evening he was presented with a beautiful silver ice pitcher tray and goblets. I was very much surprised and pleased to meet both Sunny and Robbie there.

I called upon them yesterday afternoon. They were having a grand time.

I have not yet been able to see any one concerning school matters but will do so very soon. I do hope that affairs will be so arranged that you

will decide to come. You don't know how much I should enjoy having you here. Will you come if the place is offered to you?

I wanted to write you a long-er and a better letter than this but I couldn't. I don't know why I couldn't. I just might only tell what I felt.

Yours with much love;

Hilda Dunn.

Andover. May 30. 1875.

My Dear Father:

Your letter gave us great pleasure. Especially the part referring to Bessie.

I shall write to Sandy to send the two letters I meant for you: he has neglected to forward. They were nothing remarkable, however: the first, I think, gave account of the Spelling match in which I stood second last: the other was in answer to a question in Natural Philosophy he asked me, & which I had to go to Harvard for. I also told him then that he must come East next year & take a year in Harvard. The letters being so innocent, — as I hope all my letters are — I was amused at your earnest adjuration to "tell the truth without fear or favor" — I certainly owe you an apology for the infrequency of my letters to you of late. There is nothing I enjoy better than writing to you, except the reading of yours. But the last few months I have been more than ordinarily busy ones to me, and so I have tried to make one letter do for

yourself and Sandy. I am very sorry he has neglected to do what I requested of him. I think I must reverse the order & write you first. Yes, my life is indeed a most happy one; as dear & good home treasures as ever heart of man was blessed with: plenty of congenial work: the consciousness of growth in inner power and outward influence: the evidence that my efforts for others' good are in a measure successful, — as for instance when I hear a young woman being Examined for the Church ascribe her conversion to one of my sermons (this was very sweet to me.) ; the consciousness, too, that our bread & water is being made sure from day to day by the good hand of God: all these influences, opportunities, hopes, labors & putting forth of energies, together with the superb health I enjoy — these things make up a most happy life for me. And not the least Element in my daily joy is the thought that you are sympathizing & rejoicing with me in all things good. I should like wonderfully to see you this summer, but regard for the stern requirements of my duty to Creditors will not suffer me. Even a week's time away from my tutoring would be $20. out of pocket, besides the $30. it would cost from Chicago to Manhattan. So, great as would be my pleasure in seeing you, it must be foregone. But I trust there is a good time coming, when this battle of preparation shall be over, and you & I shall have time to chat again. Keep a chair in the new log house for me.

You want to know what I have been at of late. Yesterday was Decoration Day & I gave the oration at the Town Hall in presence of the old soldiers and a very fine audience of Seminary professors, Students, ladies & gentlemen. Have been up at 4.30 for two weeks, giving the morning hours to preparation of Speech — you will see it in the Lawrence American which I shall send you in a few days — My regular hours were taken by Hebrew & Greek, my two pupils (I have taken another (a second lately) and the Mission work. Committed it all to memory, & spoke, without a break, for 40 minutes. Never felt so well on the platform, & was most heartily cheered several times — Which is a good deal for

"God Bless you!!! What a name to go on the back of a letter from Indiana!!"

Stand old Andover. Tell Sarah the scene was a reproduction of the Beggs Debate at Beloit — I mean as regards the evident effect on the audience. The venerable philanthropist — John Smith — who in martime added
gave ten dollars to each Andover ~~Mass~~ Soldier's bounty & helped mainly in the Erection of Memorial Hall Library — was on the platform with the Ministers & professors. They all congratulated me afterward. Indeed, I should be ashamed to repeat the many hearty & sincere Commendations bestowed on the Speech. I mention these things because I know they will give you pleasure. Pecuniary results are to be at least ten dollars.

A week ago last Friday we held an Examination of Converts for admission to the Church about to be organized at our Mission in Lawrence. Thirty-one were accepted, and more are coming. The Church is to be called "The Riverside Evangelical Church" & is undenominational: the Confession of Faith & Covenant being the same in substance as those of Orthodox

Congregational Churches. Nearly all the Pastors of the City will be present with delegates from their Churches to bid us God-speed, When we formally organize on June 5. Father, I wish you could see the results of God's working in that place: it has been indeed a genuine Pentecost — a deep, quiet work of the Spirit, by which lives are changed. It makes me feel that this Pastor's work is indeed the most blessed of any to which a man can devote himself. Father, these things furnish the most convincing proof of the truth of that Gospel we preach: the power of the in-working Spirit displaying itself in changes of the affections of men's souls.

What need to spend time in discussing Chronologies? The Blessed Gospels are not Biography, not History. They are what Justin Martyr calls them, ἀπομνήματα, Memorabilia, Notes of preachers, more intent on didactic and Spiritual Ends than on any other, more intent on work

of Converting their Contemporaries than on handing down to posterity a Methodical account of the Externals of that blessed Life they had seen manifested. "We write that ye may believe". how often that idea comes out in John. Dont bring the Gospels, then, to the Standards of History or Biography: they follow higher laws of arrangement & Choice of Matter than those of either of these standards. Ah what nibbling at the husk! there is a present, almighty, Sin-cleansing, immortal life, which we may have: without it we shall perish, Even though We Could Know Every Event in order of the life of Jesus. You are too severe on Farrar, for giving up the hopless Chronological problem. I think he reproduces the life of Jesus with freshness & truth, & that is what we want. He is wrong with reference to John's question, as you say. For I do not believe the Baptist had such relatively slow motion for it as he argues for.

I studied that particular passage more than a year ago, & have an Expository Sermon on it, Containing things not found in any Commentator I have seen. I believe it was my preaching of this Sermon which led to the Call given me by the people of South Britain. I wish you could see it. The points I Establish are these - 1. The doubting question is John's own, not intended simply to give his disciples a Chance to satisfy themselves

2. John, at the time, really doubted as to Jesus' being the Messiah.

3. The ~~implied~~ high Commendation of John's Steadfastness implied in Jesus' address to the Multitude afterward, are to be applied not to John's faith in Jesus personally, but to his fidelity to the great purposes of his Mission as, (a) a preacher of Righteousness, & (b) a proclaimer of the Coming Kingdom: powers both of these said John served, as was proved by his suffering for righteousness' sake, & pour the very form of his question.

4. What was the reason for John's doubting? Not the sufferings he was undergoing, as F. puts it, not dissatisfaction at Jesus' refusal to deliver him from Prison — not any of these low motives, but — the Cause to which he had given his life, his Energy, his Enthusiasm, his Whole soul, the Cause of that Kingdom of Righteousness he had so Earnestly preached, & had seen inaugurated with such success among both Court & people — this beloved Cause seemed to droop & fail: Lust & Cruelty, the powers of the World, the Flesh & the Devil, — these, against which the heroic Soldiers of Righteousness had fought such a battle, had apparently Conquered him, — & Jesus is tramping about Northern Galilee with a few disciples, working a few miracles for the villagers when the times seemed to demand altogether different measures. It was the Cause which John cared about, — not himself.

5. Lessons: John did not know that the

Kingdom of Heaven Cometh not with observation, that its growth was to be like that of the grain of mustard seed, that it was to be through Gethsemane & Calvary that its greatest victory was to be gained, & through many tears, groans, prayers & hopings against hope of martyrs like himself was it to become established in the world. He did not know these things as even our Children of the Sunday School may know them, & so we, though it may be the least in the Kingdom of Heaven, are indeed greater than he.

Another lesson, the two Kinds of Doubters, - the John Kind, & the Pharisee, Sign seeking Kind, & the different ways of Jesus' treatment of their questions. What there is of this? it is a mere skeleton, but will give you the bones of my sermon. I think my view of John is far truer than Farrar's.

(As I am writing, in comes Mr. Bancroft, Principal of Phillip's Academy, to ask me to teach a week in place of a Yale Teacher, Classes - Latin, Greek, Algebra, Pay $25. Shall do it if my Term Professors will let me. He is gone to see them, and I shall know at 9 P.M.)

Mamma & Bessie well. — the Cattle Muchos of English & Greek alphabets & Numbers up to 12. The most remarkable memory & power of "noticing" things. ~~You~~ A dear friend of all "doggies" (dogs) Cats, horses & Cows that pass the window, & very affectionate, but Strong of will.

The Crowning perfection, in Mamma's Eyes, is, however, The Curliness of her back hair just becoming appreciable.

The answer to the name, already, of "Little Curlyhead." You see we are hopelessly Enthusiastic over our treasure, and we think we can see a little of the same feeling in Grandpa's Eulogies. Well, I think if you could see her you would say "the half has not been told me".

Mamma sends love, with me to all. I could write another sheet full, but — Art is long & time is fleeting.

Your loving Son Thomas D. Christie.

ORDER OF EXERCISES

AT THE

Organization and Recognition

OF THE

RIVERSIDE EVANGELICAL CHURCH,

JUNE 5TH, 1875.

ORDER OF EXERCISES,

BEGINNING AT 3 1-2 P. M.

1 Organization of Pastors and Delegates as a Council.

2 Statement by the Missionary and Presentation of Articles of Faith, Covenant, and List of Members.

3 Action of the Council in the Premises.

4 Organization of the Church.

a Reading of Articles of Faith, and Covenant.

b The Church will here repeat in concert, the following Formula:

We do now, in the presence of God, and of this Assembly, by virtue of the right inherent in every body of Christian Believers, constitute ourselves a Church of Christ. Professing His name, and devoting ourselves to His service, we acknowledge Him alone as the Head of the Church, and while we identify ourselves with no one branch of that Church, we do most earnestly and heartily declare our responsibility and pledge our loyal obedience to Him. We ask the fellowship of all Christian Churches, promising through Divine grace, to live in Christian charity with them, and to work in harmony with them for the common cause of our Lord. And may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, be with us all, AMEN.

5 Hymn 400.

6 Baptism of Infants.

7 Doxology and Benediction.

SERVICES OF RECOGNITION,

7 P. M.

1 PRAYER.

2 HYMN 151.

3 READING OF SCRIPTURES.

4 RIGHT HAND OF FELLOWSHIP.

5 HYMN 336.

6 SERMON.

7 COMMUNION.

8 HYMN 483.

9 BENEDICTION.

REGULAR SERVICES OF THIS CHURCH.

Sunday, - - Preaching at 10 1-2 A. M., 6 1-2 P. M.

Sunday School, 2 1-2 P. M.

Prayer Meeting, 7 1-2 P. M.

Prayer Meetings Wednesday and Saturday at 7 3-4 P. M.

Proposed

Articles of Faith, and Covenant.

Articles of Faith.

1. We believe that there is one God, who is revealed in the Bible as the Father and the Son and the Holy Ghost.

2. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God, and are our only sufficient rule of faith and practice.

3. We believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, eternally one with the Father; that He took upon Himself our human nature, and by His sufferings and death made an atonement for the sin of the World; and that through Him salvation is freely offered to all on condition of repentance and faith.

4. We believe that there will be a general resurrection of the dead, when Christ will judge the World in righteousness, and that the wicked "shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal."

5. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ established a visible Church on the Earth, the terms of admission to which are a public profession of faith in Him, sustained by credible evidence of a change of heart; and that its Sacraments are Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

[Addressed to the candidate for admission.]

This you profess and believe.

[Persons to be received into the church who have not been baptized will (generally) be baptized after profession of faith and before taking the covenant.]

Covenant.

[Addressed to the Candidate for admission.]

In the presence of God and this assembly, you do now avow the Lord Jehovah, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, to be your God, the supreme object of your affection, and your portion forever. You heartily confess the Lord Jesus Christ to be your only Saviour and final Judge, and the Holy Spirit to be your Sanctifier, Comforter, and Guide.

You humbly and heartily consecrate yourself to God in the everlasting covenant of His grace, devoting all your powers to his service, and you promise that by Divine help you will cleave to Him as your chief good; that you will diligently hearken to His word, observe His ordinances, and keep His Sabbath; and that henceforth denying all ungodliness and every worldly lust you will live soberly, righteously, and godly in the world.

You do now cordially join yourself to this Church, and engage to submit to its rules of government and discipline, to strive for its purity, peace and edification, and to walk with its members in love, faithfulness, meekness, and sobriety.

This you sacredly covenant and promise.

We now, [the members of the church rising] members of this church, do welcome you to our Communion, promising to watch over you with Christian love and tenderness, ever treating you as a member (members) of the body of Christ, who is head over all things to the Church.

"Now unto Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto Him be glory in the Church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, World without end. Amen."