James C. Christie and Family Papers

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Version 3
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Cambridge. April 2nd 77.

My Dear Father:

Thanks for your long letter of 24th and 26th ult. I cannot promise you an equivalent in return, but must at least let you know that I am still digging away at Quaternions – and that means a great deal. It means that I'm happy, and it means that some day I'll be awful. All my six men – one of 'em a hopeless case turned off by a regular Coacher – got through, and that in a class where 71 failed and were ~~conditioned~~ warned, i.e. one out of three. They were all well pleased with "what I had done for them", and I find that the number of "Forshey's who nod to me now is truly amazing. I hope it will not end in a permanent South-by-East kink in my neck – I'd rather have it go into my pocket – for I meet 230 of 'em every day. Well, the six have chuckled and played billiards ever since, and

the Calculus of Probabilities has been severely taxed to discover when they had any pocket money "not otherwise appropriated." You remember the boobblack who wore specs "'cause the shine he gave 'em hurt his eyes"? I did these fellows too well, they won't think there's necessity for doing much more this spring: But one of 'em whispered "Algebra" today with a far-off look in his eyes that added beauty to his faint, faint moustache and the waving curls that Angelina so much admires, and I thought there was a huskiness in his voice that savored a good deal of Arabian aridity. Well, I'll try to show him that if Algebra is the driest thing that came out of Hagar's bottle while it lay under the bushes, that perennial fountains are not far off. Palm Sunday I went with Mr Bierwirth (he was here for a few days) and heard Phillips Brooks in the grand Trinity Church. That's "his branch" – no mistake. Nothing like the churches of the old regime for grand combinations of flowers and devotional fervor, silks, satins, prayer-books, cloth of gold and words of deep contrition. There were faces there, lit up with the divine thought of a lifetime and of the ages, and others aglow with the diviner thought that Arthur de Reginald Montague was peering over his shirt-collar to admire her beautiful figure and swan-like neck (I've seen too many swans to like the figure) as she reverently bowed herself in silent prayer. And high up, looking down on the carved mahogany and prim propriety of the worshipping congregation and their magnificent adjuncts, perched the Choir, creatures of air and elements Etherial, chattering with each other, pluming themselves, and warbling warbling as though winging their way to the Island of the Blessed. The first really good singing I ever heard.

All very fine, all very fine; but – well, it's their business and not mine. The massive portals, the wide doorways of Trinity Church are evidently not the Eye of the needle we read

of: and so far as I can judge, they do not land a rich man in any other place than the broad, broad Broadway. Don't trouble yourself about these subjects, the more I see of the world and the church the more hopeless have for us poor devils. We'll get in, don't fear — detailed to fill up a quorum. Just put three sticks of wood in the stove for me, and thank God for the privilege of passing your own 'tatery. We'll pay our way yet. There'll be a composition of solutions to astonish the accredited formulae and their formalists. And if you are to vex yourself over anything — do it over our Tom and Harriet with their little child, dead abroad by a corrupt church simply to "take the curse off" their own shameful daily and hourly selfishness. Throwing their best to the wolves to save themselves from just retribution. Well, they are not gone yet — and I am down here on the coast. How would it do to turn States Evidence and give 'em all something to do at home?

Alex.

Glad that Uncle is on this pair.
I don't like it — it didn't amount to much
Some days after the letter and you have
probably got it. Yr other Lecture here.

Andover, April 2. 1877.

Dear Friend, [Alexander Chrestia]

I send you this day three more leaves of notes on that silly novel; I have read both of them now and declare that I never read anything more silly, more unsatisfactory and more full of wishi-washi talk. The German, the style, is good; and the novels may be recommended on that account; but, for pity's sake, gives us something that is a little more fascinating. I cannot imagine what made Mr. Emerton pick out such reading; what is said, the persons represented are true exceptions, not the rule. Especially „das Kind" is disgusting; all such things can, may happen, do happen; but if Mr. Emerton says that they give a true picture of German life, manners etc., he is one fourth in the light, three fourth in the dark. Such novels were written for Germans, who are able to discern which is which, but not for Americans, who are liable to take such excep-

Representations for the rule.

I don't know the author Herman Grimm; the names of the two famous philologists are Jacob Ludwig Karl and Wilhelm Karl Grimm. I shall try to learn who the writer of these novels is.

All well at home, all send their love.

Yours in friendship

Conrad Bienwirth.

Dear Brother Alex.

Conrad gives me permission to add a few lines. From his account you two must have had a fine time last week. Thomas and I had a good time. Alas. When are you coming out to see us again? I hope you will soon be homesick again so you cannot stay away. Tom is away preaching - expect him back today. You are a dear good brother but you must not worry so much for my account. I am ready to go where the Lord calls to do any work that is His work, so do not fancy I may be consenting against my will. You are entirely mistaken. God bless you.

Baby is better & her cough

Good night

Conrad

Andover. Apr. 3. '74.

Dear Father; I send a batch of J. C's lectures, hoping you will save them carefully for my coming in July. I have subscribed for the Weekly Advertiser for 6 mos. for the sake of the Monday lectures, & shall send to you as soon as read. Could get no more at the Adv. office than those I send you herewith. You will see these are J. C's like an ordinary Geology & also a few Sabbath lectures. Get them all if you can. But you will find them interesting. all well. Baby 22 yesterday. I am off somewhere Every Sab. preaching. See Alex. occasionally. He needs Cheering. Write him encouragingly. Love to all.

Yours.

POSTAL CARD.

ANDOVER APR MINN

U.S. POSTAGE ONE CENT

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

Jas. Christer.

Good Thunder

Blue Earth Co.

Minnesota

Cambridge Sp. 7. 77.

My Dear Lizzie, [Sarah Christie]

I have time for but a few lines. However precarious my means of life here may be, there is no doubt in my mind (and I am not given to hopeful view) of ultimate success if I faint not- and see Londonderry, Antrim and Tyrone forbid fainting.

Now, whatever success the wonder-working Pain may bring to me will be gladly shared with all rocked in the old cradle, and if the world seems now going against you, I wish you to keep up heart. I believe as I hope, that you are doing all that in you lies to rectify blunders in past calculation.

Justice, Wisdom, and Policy

alike forbid that either Uncle
Will should be involved in this,
or that Dave should be involved
more. I have, some time ago, told
Dave to see to the first part
of this. My first duty is to
help Dave and Father, which
I hope to be able to do to some
extent during the next year.
But as soon as possible (my
Arithmetic justifies no dates)
what is in my power to do will
be done for you, if you keep
to the proper financial policy.

In looking up schools,
if you can find any where
both of us could teach at
good salaries, let me know.
I intend soon to apply to
my teachers here for liberty to
offer to them in my endeavors
to get a position for next year.

They may assist me
to a tutorship of maths.
somewhere, but this is
expecting too much. Men
but gradually are helped
to such positions. We will
see. Have patience with
the few little children. They
represent, however imperfectly,
a school that I taught for
2 summer, and 4 winter terms.

My best regards to all of
them, and to their parents.
To Messrs Stevens and Eberhardt
and to their families, I owe
much. Mr Eberhardt has
done me many a kindness
during the last 9 years. If
I have a friend in the world,
it is him. (Gram. perfectly correct.)
Give him and Mrs E. my best
respects. Respectfully, Alex.

Andover, Mass Apr. 9. 77.

My dear friend, [Alexander Christie]

Yours of the 2d inst. received
and laughed over, may, roared
over. I'm afraid that your
prediction will come true,
namely, that I shall not
come to my journey's end, i.e.
speaking of the notes.
My Greek teacher, Mr. Coy,
has concluded to take a lesson
every day, going to make a deep
dive; and so am I compelled
to spend very much time on
my German; especially since
I am a novice in teaching
and really think that I ought

to pay him for practising on him, instead of receiving pay for an ineffectual cure.
But never mind, we don't take that so minutely. If I find time to complete or at least continue those notes, I shall only be too glad to do so, but, at present, I cannot promise anything. But if I have a right to say a word in the matter, I should advise you to stick to Whitney's.
Folks all well, send their love, and hope to hear from you soon.
Enclosed find $ 2.00 which will pay for the books I bought on your account, i.e. not for your sake, but I only mean to say that they were put down two nomine.
I have no change, and so let that be all right.

Yours in friendship,

Conrad Bierwirth

I hope to write again
soon. I keep sending a letter
now and again for they
really help keep me alive
Dare pretty as well
all well. Sarah not
very well. Must write to Tom soon as able.
I have not yet heard from Willie since I sent him the Books

and by them" became the "Head of the Corner" in this present Temple for the Nations.

I would rather this day lay down my life than that You or I should betray this secret to the World. It is often all an Open secret. But Who would dare to point it out. Who that Loves his Kind? let us be Still.

There is more Glory that will arise to You from keeping this to Yourself than in divulging it. And again, besides You have not as Yet seen all the Depths that is in it. for this thing is really a truth having its Roots in the deepest Philosophy. its roots are in the Eternal "Nature of things".

All that is in the Divine Nature has its Ultimate in Nature. And this is the Ultimate of the Trinity. All Soteriology also is hid in it. So may imagine that Spiritual things have Originates in Physical things it is the other way. Physical things are but the ultimates in Matter of the unseen an Eternal World of Spirit. Matter is but the outside ripple of the Eternal Effluent

The day will yet come possibly to you in which you will also build your own faith upon this Stone. (Vide, Genesis 49. 24 Verse) "From thence the Shepherd, the Stone of Israel" to this Dear peter refers in his first Epistle When he says "For we have a more sure word of prophecy to which ye do well to take heed, as unto a light in a Dark place, Until the Day Dawn and the Day Star arise in your heart" Sure are We indeed that this Light shines in a very dark place, but yet nevertheless it a sure prophecy of he that Was and is and is to come, to come to you yet Also. if you believe in that which You Know, as Abraham did. When Dying he worshipped on the Head of his staff. Seeing in the future the realization of these times in which the more Like When the Correspondence Spiritual is in full Operation in the World.

You surely Know of Correspondences as being the Laws of the getting Development of the Divine Nature ripple succeeding ripple from its Moving Cause in the Centre of the Infinite Circumference My Dear Son, take Contemplation by the hand

set down with her and await yet a little longer until she shall reveal more to you.

Be not perplexed at the Unlikeness in form of Ultimates and their Spiritual Causes, could one imagine for instance that the Three Cuniform Bones in the upper part of the foot had any relation whatever to the Reflective faculties in the soul of man? it is so however. Let us be Quiet. and Look up. Your Brother is in the Case of Superior powers and will succeed in the Highest Objects of Life. I pray you speak not one Word against the Faith; it has saved Many as it will all who receive it. for it is the power of God unto Salvation unto all them that believe.

I write this to you. not Mild and, but, Joyce with fear of your Wicked Question and Glad of your Welfare. Keep up Courage. Open Your Door to Hope. Look after Faith and go out in Good deeds with Charity, think not so much Evil of so many as the letter indicates you do. this is not Charitable nor true.

I sent the two Grapes by your Uncle to Grandmother Reid in Clymer. I had nothing else to send. you do not always Answer for whose you pluck any too they

Yours Sincerely. J. Florette

Cambridge 2 P.M. April 15th. /77

Dear Father;

I was down to Boston this forenoon to hear Parker Pillsbury lecture on "Revivals", at the Reform Museum Hall. I wished to hear that side, and get a glimpse of the men, such as Beaver & Meadman, Denton and others. The building stands within 40 rods of the Tabernacle, and the lower floor is rented to a Baptist Society for a Church, - so you see what contrasts we have, and what the need of men and money will do. As to the Hall, that is neither large nor gorgeous, just about large enough for a good village schoolroom, plainly seated, bare and box-like, pictures enough of Paine, Beaver, Meadman, Lord What-d'ye-call'em - and Paine again, to make the bare walls look barer and baser than before. The motto on the East side I couldn't read, not because of distance, but the light was unfavorable, so I suppose I lost a fine sentiment and not a little sum; the next one was the celebrated injunction "Love one another" with the "one" left out - a refinement of Ethics and of wit to which the centuries have fitfully been Equal.

The people, who very fairly filled the seats, were very much the same kind as are brought together in the village schoolhouses of the west to hear "liberal" and "spiritual" lectures - and indeed, the gatherings at Lowell were much like this, save that here there was a sprinkling of men who really had some little stock of information

There were 7 men and three boys to one woman
- either male or female. Elderly ladies wearing specs
and prominent noses, and, I presume, the brains,
to judge from their business air; young misses
of 37 and upward, with smiles and dimples on
their faces that looked as though they antedated
Eliam, or had been put in with the sabre at Water-
loo. One little girl, one, but she looked sickly
- and if she dies, what can they do? - for God
help me, and God help them, there wasn't a baby
among 'em, not one. But I leave criticism on
that head to Others. The majority were men, and
a large percentage Elderly men, at that, ("hoary
headed" sinners, as they say at the Tabernacle), the
greater part of whom had probably thought
themselves out of the church, a few had drunk
themselves out (in every sense of the term), and the
rest had sworn themselves out. Alice, I think
those who had actually got out by dint of fear-
less hard thinking were in the preponderance,
for no amount of drinking and swearing,
combined, would be apt to make so clean a
sweep of hair. Another century of such progress
as the Professor of Tonsorial Art
with the Dame Cut with Othello. I need not speak
of the younger men, with an old look, who are
in process of swearing themselves out of church,
or thinking themselves out of a belief in their
own existence; for if I describe the old men,
you will have the young men as they will
look 10 years hence, if this process goes on
"according to natural law." It may be a small
matter to some, but as regards hair, what
life-long disregard of the opinions of their
fellows should cause the few among those
old men who were happily enough to have any,
to come "to meeting" looking like so many
porcupines, or as if they were on the "inspiring
Stand" and had laid fast hold on the pole
of a battery! Are they so full of the "Negative

fluid", or are they Positivists? I am giving a good deal of attention to the folks. Well, I judge of creeds in that way, sometimes; and I say, Give me the Athanasian Creed, with all its anathemas, if we can't have combs and soap without it. Not fine dress, but, — "a decent respect for the opinions of mankind"! What is the use of a man's looking like the place he doesn't believe in? And then again, there is something lacking to men who look like so much scarred granite, blackened, broken, and seared, like the walls of a burnt city. They, life is characterized by pulse-throbs, and rounded outlines, by fluctuations and on degree of pliancy. These men stand firm as granite obelisks; but natural, normal men are swayed like the trees and draw their life from the element that sways them. I have thought that the very lack of trees is like the earth-drawn knowledge of men — never fully fit for much till elaborated by that "something" which cometh from above. Still, (I use that word again, though there was nothing virile about it,) there is something wrong somewhere to dry people up so. There were a few pretty good specimens of men, but not a woman that one could even call pretty, (and that was the first thing I noticed after reading the invitation to love somebody), unless it was the gal who sat down behind the organ and warbled out some "inarticulate melody with the voice of words" — as nearly as I could understand her,

a lullaby to a grown person, for
all I heard was an almost in-
terminable repetition of —
— Smile on, Smile, Smile on Beloved,
Sleep, Sleep, Slee-ee-ee-ee-eep
Beloved, Sleep" followed by 68
repetitions of that one expressive
word "Sleep", long drawn out,
and lastly by "Beloved" in
4 Chapters, 19 subdivisions and
a grand total of 157 syllables.
She was the only good looking
woman in the house, and she was
too impassively intellectual to
love anybody but herself. My
her lips were so thin. I would
defy a man to kiss her without
first biting her nose off to begin
with. So unlike those Methodist
girls, full of healthy life and
appreciation of the boys. With
all their attention to higher
things, I actually believe that
they would even marry a fellow
if he should "step over" and tell

'Em that he loved 'em. Dis
not past salvation, I'spose. The
gospel stands a chance of
reaching me yet. And let it
come, if it comes in that shape.
My heart is open to its gentle
influences; and the first time
I get a heavenly vision, —
off I'se go, preaching
(to Koolsy-Doolsy).

Now, I'se dispose of the lecture.
He made short work of his adver-
saries — cleaned 'em right out
at every breath. But he didn't
do them justice — no more
than Moody does human justice.
I'm an impartial judge — and
I decide that both sides lie,
and lie like thunder. There's
truth enough too, if they would put
it all together, to make a religious
system that would render possible
the conversion of everybody —
myself included — by those
Methodists. But I shall have
to quit this train of thought, or
Elementary arts be neglected.

Adieu

Andover, April 14th, 1877.

My Dear Friend, [Alexander Chester]

Yours of the 11th received and contents noted on blackboard.

Mr. Comstock and Mr. Steel gave up their lessons, but Mr. Coy takes the more, still, he will never be able to keep up this way. Miss Filber, my other pupils, talks about stopping pretty soon; new pupils are not coming, and another one whom I had "in esperance" will probably also back out. So, this makes me feel somewhat "solicitous"; your brother calls it "blue" because I believe in curling kindling in the evening, when you want to use it the first thing in the morning. He says, that I must not trouble myself about the future, that it will come out all right, that I, in my moods of diffidence, am somewhat like you. And, therefore, I thought I'd write to you and talk business in a colloquial style of manner and fashion.

Now, see here, don't you see? the thing is right here. Very well, don't interrupt me now, let

me go on in my argument. Of course, you know just as well as I do. Why certainly! All you've got to do is just to look for yourself, and don't think another poor fellow.

Here I am, indebted to the amount of $60.00, besides the tuition for this term which is called $24.00. This thing can't go on in this way. Moreover, I was given to understand that there is very little prospect of getting pupils during the vacation, for everybody has been working so hard that he or she wants a rest, and, for that reason, they go to the beaches to bathe. What are we going to do, now, we that have not had any work so far? They, perhaps, expect us to go to the beaches also and drown ourselves. If not, there won't be anybody left for us to work or practise on, anyway. Now, if I could live on July and August air, I should get ready to enter the senior class instead of the middle. I don't know whether that would be possible, or not. I haven't talked to anybody about the feasibility of this plan yet, but I thought, that, if the boys, as good Union men, allow themselves to be beaten by a Dutchman in Greek and in their own Mother's "English Composition," they might possibly yield some other points, besides. But, perhaps, the phantom which I, in my overbearing spirit, am prone to name "success", will prove to be a phantom merely. Well then, I must look out to get something to do during the vacation, and I want you to help me, if this bold speech become your lowly servant. I thought - and your brother consented - that I would put up a half a dozen notices in Harvard College of about this tune: "Stand back, my Lord, and let the parson cough."

A German instructor, native, may be secured for the summer vacation to teach pupils in class or privately.

No Irish need apply! Address Mr. Alex. Christie
15 Mt. Auburn, Cambridge

If you, now, would be kind enough, dear friend, to write out such a notice x times and tack them up securely on some of your bulletin-boards, you would greatly oblige a very thankful Dutchman. Write in large thick letters, so that the opticians don't get a chance to sell any extra eyeglasses for this occasion, for I don't believe in rushing their business without a discount or commission.

I am going to write out some new notices for Andover and advertise also. It must be done now, before people get their trunks packed ready for — who knows where and what? I hope, we shall see you soon. I want to talk to you about spending some time of the summer vacation together, you cramming German, and I still more so, that may be something. You see, I am looking away off into the blue mountains, and the longer I look, the higher and bluer. — If you should judge it proper, you might also talk to some of the German instructors there, and ask them if they know of any place where such jobbing yields a not-to-be-despised dividend. — Should you have any applications, tell them, that I am willing to go almost anywhere between 81, 88 North and 75, 99 South, that I should like to be sure, though, of not having to starve, and that I could possibly start a novice also in Greek or even Latin, but German must be the stronghold. If you get so many calls, why, hire an assistant, and I'll make it all right.

Folks all well, long to see you, come.

Yours truly,

Conrad.

N.B. There is a „lapsus linguae", or „pennae" rather in the motto of the advertisement, ought to read: „Stand back, my Lord, and let the ~~cough~~ coffin pass."

Dear Brother: Your letter of June
9th and also one also another Some
days ago. Your last was handed
to me by Frank Shallow. At the
Schoolhouse the other night after
four o'clock - while I was engaged
in the Examination -
exercise - so far as present results are
concerned - of drilling Ray Short
boy or her spelling lesson. For
which I had Effie - I had
a full school up to this last
week - Boys Eberhardt + John
Frank Shallow: Basil, Francis +
Eddie Stephens - Girls Ora and
the Smalley girl - I can see
that you have been methodical
in laying some solid foundation
blocks for the boys + they always
to plan speak of for with affection,

They showed the girl and the
ceiling to one whose the key flew
up the string + struck
ing it explaining something - also
showed with the same action &
motion another girl - on the wall
where the key struck just miss-
ing Alberts head. - They all seem
to like me & I have done what I
could for them - I am very fond
of Algebra myself & they see they
have never understood it or
liked it before as they do
now - I believe this first - commenced
amales you & could not get hold
of it for the short time you had
them, - I think it must be that
our mathematics are just waking
us - During the past year a
strong tendency in that direction has
been gradually developing & now
the feeling is so strong - that I
hope works of that kind to reading

I think of it with pleasure & with
contentment - It gives me the pleasur-
able feeling of having come into
possession of new powers - I even-
to your books & have taken out-
your Algebras & mine that you
had - also arithmetics & you be-
low - & I will master all
of them within the year - whenever I
can - I have mine different algebra
to work at - aside from the
geometry - Your remarks to Dave
of the insufficiency of the Professors
as instructors are true everywhere
as a rule - People are so
careless & lazy to master what
I have seen it - everywhere -
There were two good teachers
at Wheaton - Mr Wyeth & Prof.
C. A. Blanchard - the President's son
and he one at Carlton Prof.
Payne of Mathematics - & they
are the only good teachers

I have seen in my going about
& efficiency is the table. even
here they have every Appara-
tus + all the Appliances.
I am Reminded on Several
things - but as that I shall
Repeat as Leaches While I live
and - dividing any Energies Think-
ing of Medicine or anything Else -
Also I wishes to be a Scholarly
woman, Knowing thoroughly &
in details all that I Propose
to Teach - That in itself will
bring Promotion & We shall-
believeth - shall and - make haste -
My Experience is a varied one
& with - it has come a grain
of wisdom I trust - You must -
and - Things I am Cast - down -
Sometimes I am - & the thing
that troubles & Grieves me most -
as connected with - self
is - the fear of Continued ill
health - unfitting one for long
years of useful labor - such as

I look forward to - & am to
conceive of power to be readily {illegible}
carb- about - It is Equally pain-
ful to recognise & feel the
as the other - therefore omniscience
to the world of such recognition
is unpalatable - knowledge Robes &
positions. - I think you have
much need to be careful - a
very slight criticism from you
reported - as such things always
are - depend on that - would
spoil all your hopes of position
or influence towards it. - from
Professors. - People as you &
position owe you criticism
particularly if the truth be Tel-
l them from experience & give
your friendly warning. - The things
such as are usually Members &
when a sentence is out - There
is no recall - I know you are
very ready with - yours in criticism
& I fear it may spoil every
ambition that you have

& scholarship may claim. — may spoil your hopes, & you never know why. — I have seen much of such kind of work, both among women, but among men — & human nature is the same everywhere. — Don't forget what I said before — Power is nicknamed — of criticism. Yes let me & let me know & can find school where we may teach together — & think it could very easily do it — beginning early as this — but much as I would like it — I think it is your clear duty to remain where you are. — By leaving now you would defeat the very object for which you are there — and as I said before — if that be the with — shall not — make haste. That left is worthy your consideration — If you can possibly

stay there do so — & if you cannot then let me know definitely as soon as possible & I feel confident of being able to find a good place for you in Iowa. — Of course I may be disappointed — & think there is no doubt whatever that we could get a good position each in the same school somewhere. — But I do not think you should give up there unless you have to. — Let me know definitely however very soon — & possible — I shall write myself to go into Pasadena work again — until I am out of debt — indeed I do not think I ever will — until it be in a school of my own — (which may take place when I'm fifty) or in Pasadena & they are not Pasadena or Vassar — My work for some years will be public school, if I live — The

money as sure for a woman. — She is there for a woman. — She is there in the public schools in the best positions - they pay women nearly nearly as they do men for the same work - than there in the Colleges. - It will be hard work for me - but I am working for money and I like of hand work as me I have faced often before. - I suppose they will give me the Garden City work if I want a position in Mankato as Principal of a Ward school - if I can do as well there. There - I will try to do well in parking, can get back to there for I suppose they are sure - I got - the district here to allow me to have the two months here only that - I might get a summer term also - but - I have not been able to get one as yet - The schools about are all promised

grasshopper Law - among other pro-
visions - every man & boy over
twelve years - has to work one
day at work for five miles in
diameter - catching grasshoppers, &
the Naturalists have to see that
the Law is enforced - Dave as
Naturalist here - so will have his
hands full - for said to Julia Lately
- he ought - to thank Lord for the
privilege of having his own Calves.
Sure Enough - Josiah ought to be happy
so can - The bombs as that
those who do - don't - have suf-
ficiently wide vision to appreciate
how well off they are - I only not
soon forget - some of the precious of
mothers poverty - I saw in Chicago.
There are many reforms to be worked
out - yet - & work for every heart
- heart - that has a mind to -
do good to men - I am glad to
hear you speak of spending a
while sometimes - Evie since I am
writing - & now pass to our par-

& more Satisfied & Free- There must
be Schools for the multi-
tude of the people- & Connected one
way with the Common School Educa-
tion- Perhaps its is not feasible-
But- some time I shall work &
pray for it- Where boys may
learn trades & girls may also &
where girls all may learn the
care of house-keeping & perfection at
the same time that they are taught
Penmanship & Arithmetic- There will
then be less poverty- less sin & less
hell & disharmony generally when
everyone has a trade & knows
how to do well what he unde-
rtakes- It will improve Carpen-
ters & makers of shoes & the
whole sale will be less of Children
particularly- All this undivided
would be one instrumentality
anyway- I am sorry you insist
on going to America- It will be
good ground for the study of Whist-
ory but- so far as doing good is
concerned- they have as much
of the Devil there as they have
in America- & as a missionary field
from there has me last fall- they
did- it into there lives more than
they do here and the Churches- I
think that is the last day You
will find that a Lapsed soul is
worth as much as one from Asia
If he were going into Central Africa or somewhere that
they didn't have the Gospel already
& wouldn't blame him- As it
is I think it is folly- particu-
larly when there are as many
good reasons why he should stay
in America as that- I should-
His being a poor reason
reasons for staying if even greater
force- (A missionary said to
me that he would have his
sins opened to some things before
he had been in the work long
I ought not to have said that
above- The individual opened

& more - satisfied that time must -
[illegible] - schools for the multi-
tude of the people - & connected as some
is now with the Common School Educa-
tion - Perhaps its is not - feasible -
But - some time I shall write &
work for it - Where boys may
learn trades & girls may also - &
also girls all may learn the
art - of house-keeping & perfection at
the same time that they are taught
grammar & Arithmetic - There will
then be less poverty - less sin & less
vice & disharmony generally when
in your boy has a trade & knows
how & do well what he undertakes - It will improve Conduct
as it makes it dear & the
small sale will be less of children
particularly - All that undesirable
would be one instrumentality
anyway - I am sorry you visited
on going to America - It will be
good ground for the study of Philos-
ophy but - so far as doing good is
concerned - they have as much
of it here as they have
in America - & as a missionary also
you there told me last fall - they
did - it - into there lives more than
they do here in the Churches - I
think that in the last day you
will find that a Japan soul is
worth as much as one from Asia Minor
If he were going to Central Africa or somewhere that
they didn't have the Gospel already
& wouldn't - blame him - As it
is I think it is folly - particu-
larly when there are as many
good reasons why he should stay
in America as that - I should -
His being a new reason
reasons for staying & even greater
force - The missionary sent to
me that he would have his
eyes opened to some things before
he had been in the work long -
& ought not to have said that
above - The individual depended

to- told me a great deal in Confidence - that I am in the work Unwilling + have gone back to it - but-Mother not - to have said anything about it. Tom could do much more good in America than he can there - & benefit - the world as a whole - more - thereby. - but-I suppose he- she is sad. - Helen seems converted to- the thought that Tom ought-to go - and says it is a great-privilege - to be a great-privilege to work for Him in England!- It is a good work, but-every one can do it - & Tom being more than an average man, is needed in America. - The multitudes of the poor & the laboring - turn their eyes hopefully to America - even the pagan - & so they [illegible] - all the more [illegible] - Stay at-home & work hard & prudently - South & North - East & West - the Republic will be swamped. - Mark looks down a thing or two, & stays at-home - Enlighten as to the needful in general directions - He has had to read a little more than Tom, that's all & deals more in facts. - If Tom were over he would stay at-home - so much. Stop - write a line from Paris. -

I Early - but Dinf returns are not quite als in & I is barely possible I may get a school yet - Hy pay me $75. for the two months here as Dave is treasurer - he simply returns it in his hands - I allowing him out - I $2.00 per week for board & Thos found clothes -

Soon as school closes I go to Salts again - Salts & Mollie are both well - Salts is a good old man - Chief past & owned - I have Enos seem & is on Yellow Creek - I have seen him for a long time - Mollie is as devoted to his Comfort - as Ever (is) her way) - Dave seems Time - Considering he has - Emma is Stout & well - The Children are well - I endless Early every night & nearly always sing him to Sleep & dress him every morning & wash Face & Comb his hair before breakfast - He is a nice little fellow

He is continually on the "Hello Tommy" Donald is a great cat & heavy baby - & looks a good deal as little Bessie did when last - saw her. - Dave has in fifty acres of wheat - & will put in about - 150 more - The weather is very favorable - a drying wind & sun - Joe is over at Pardun City with Dahlias & Peyton Station is still Vacant - There was a long, hard rain or more in February & this a fierce purge up. & many things that - the grasshopper eggs were on. ground - People have been testing them & the Editor of the Review says in a late issue - that he has a thousand a pounds London & the eggs will hatch, east of the Blue Earth River over of that River. - Many things the same - I had a letter soon after opening & I am fooled that - Dave will escape the rest - on same way - A drumming dust - always empty - There is a man

Wheaton, Apr. 17th, '77.

Tuesday, 4, P. M.

Dear Miss Christie;— [Sarah]

We have been waiting a long, long time to hear from you and have finally concluded you must be sick or some other unforseen circumstance has prevented your writing.

However it may be I hope it is nothing serious, and that we may soon hear of your good health and happiness.

We are all usually well and though very busy are enjoying ourselves, as no one can help doing such delightful weather. The campus is beginning to wear a tinge of bright green and "76" is deepening in color. The peonies and tulips are showing themselves in the beds and everything

gives promise of the usual commencement glory.

Mr. Carter returned about two weeks before the close of last term. He wore a great deal of dignity at first but that has worn off and he seems much as he used to only he has improved. He sits at our table. Otherwise our table is as it was last term except that Flora has gone to Prof. Baker's to board and "we three" are alone this term.

Miss Hawley was quite tired out at the close of last term and went to her friends in Iowa. I received a letter from her yesterday. She seems to be enjoying herself completely and expects to teach this summer. I am glad she is to have a rest from study for a little while. The rest of the course will be easier for her as she will be regular.

Prof. Stratton is not here this term. He expected when he left to study at Yale or Harvard. I have not learned whether he has gone to either place. Prof. Fischer teaches in his room. He takes his Chemistry class. He has also the Astronomy Class. His teaching seems almost perfect.

Frances and I are both reading Iliad and Odyssey. They are like fairy stories. We enjoy them very much. I am also reading Tacitus.

Father was here in March. We had a charming visit with him. He staid longer with us than he usually does.

We expected to spend the week of vacation in the College but the very day the term closed Mr. Barber called for us and we went home with him. A vacation elsewhere was never so acceptable to me and never did I enjoy such perfect rest.

You remember the elder Mr. Grove

spent the last vacation at the home of Mrs. Coy. She was quite tired out at the close of the term and did not attend her classes for the last week or two. She is quite rested now.

She is President of the Athenian this term and Miss Bainum, Secretary. Our public meeting was a success. The parts showed a good degree of preparation but there was a slight hesitation on the part of one or two, in delivery. I think owing to this and that the audience was a trifle more restless than usual the meeting did not pass off so well as that of last year. Otherwise, it would compare favorably.

The Lit. Union has partially adopted a programme for the Exhibition. They have had one meeting

and indications are that everything will be done in a good spirit. The members seem to fear an eruption as inevitable and are careful to avoid everything that may occasion trouble in that direction.

We had the best meeting (Lec. Inquiry) of last Sat. Eve I have ever attended. Reports from fields were unusually interesting. Select reading by Miss Johnston. Miss Nash had an Essay - Life and Labor - and Mr. Boulis an excellent paper - The work of Mr. Moody in Boston. So you may know that it was good. Mr. Bainum - Miss Bainum's father - is to deliver the annual address this year. I beg your pardon for wearying you with such a long, gossipy letter. Hoping to hear from you soon I am

With love

A. Jennie Brothers.

Where this letter should be read. Last

Rapidan. April 17th 1877

My Dear Son.

This morning it raining, and David has finished putting in the Wheat. about 60 Acres in spite of the Grasshopper fear. Surely it is in Hope only that we sow this year: for the Insect that but one inch below the surface the Million Mouthed Enemy lies perdue awaiting the Green Blade.

I wrote Some fragmentary talk to you in a sheet a day or two since, and as it rains to day I am obliged to keep indoors. and fill the weary hours by talking thus next to you.

And first, I beg of You not to think of leaving Harvard in any hurry. I read your letter to Sarah, and judge You do not feel Comfortable in College or You would not think of entering into any Copartnership with her in Any school. I Give You my Advice not to Connect Yourself in Anyway with her. further than You have done. If the time should ever Come to You that You can help any one. her Especially. do it Without in any Way Coming near her for anything else than the simple assistance You mean to Give. I do not mean to say anything against Sarah. But, avoid being in any way mixed up in her affairs, or indeed in her Company. Fight Your own Battle Alone. There is a Mysterious defect in her Character that I cannot understand. a Chasm which Engulfs all my confidence, She seems to know the Truth. and Yet Also I can find Nothing Straight in her Conduct. Come not those into her Secrets. Keep free from her affairs. and Always Keep Yourself as far apart from her personally as You can.

Now I Warn you before hand. that if Ever You shall come under her Influence it will result in Sorrow to you. 25 Years ago I became aware of Great Danger to both You and her. if You should follow her Leading. and even if you think You Lead. it will be the same. She will lead all with Whom she comes in Contact Who put any Confidence in her. You think no doubt that no Spell of hers can lead you. You are mistaken. there is a Mystery of Darkness about her I cannot fathom, While at

times She speaks like an Angel of Light. Beware! Her paths are Crooked. and I if I could prevail with You I would forbid Your Establishing any connexion with her further than that You were born into. Darice is straight Tom is straight, and with them you need fear nothing to arise that might not be anticipated from what you see, But with Sarah, You Cannot Certainly say what an hour may reveal of the unsuspected or the unforeseen—

She tells me She has been telling You to remain in Harvard. Remember That She is not provoking You to be more Explicit and fully Commit Yourself to her power. and Also Commit Yourself to the Faculty as willing to Come to your Assistance Amidst Your difficulties. Good will turn up for You if You have faith in the Good. Hope in the God of Providence. and take Courage from these Emotions. from these Sources of Confidence for Faith and Hope arise from just perceptions of the Over Ruling Cause—

Sarah poor Woman has been Caught in her own Crookedness, and Lives a life of real misery. So much so that I feel Broken down in its Contemplation. She is becoming Prematurely Old. and more Sensible She is distrusted by all who know her is Overwhelmed at times With remorse at her own recklessness and disregard of truth and honesty.

Pity, Pity is the Emotion's She Calls up in My Mind Continually and remember All this misery She has to bear whether in heart and in deed She shall become truthful and honest. But She will not truly turn away from the deceitful way so long as She Can find persons or means on which to practise it.

If You then shall become joined Unto her and by your Conduct shall Give Sustenance to her by her borrowing from Your Character to support her deceitful ways just so much longer while You keep her in the Wrong Way. She must be Allowed to suffer until She touches Bottom and discovers that the Conscience must be Obeyed before peace Can Come. I believe She has a dim View of this truth now. Although not able to throw off the Organic Source of all her trouble. Born into these Prodispositions towards evil and not having received much Counteracting Education She suffers Evidently from the previous sin of others. Then let us Cover all up by the Mantle of Charity. and do What we Can to Assist her in the Conquest of Hereditary Evil By being judiciously Kind to her. by Giving no Opportunity to the Wrong Ways. and by applauding every Contrary Act. The Unseen Power Above all Cooperating. She will Yet, as we also hope to, walk in purity and Glory under New Skies and in a purer Shining.

I partly appreciate your desire to Get out and fill a position in some Educational Establishment. I can see your peculiar difficulties, at least some of them. The one nearest to You and which You feel Uppermost is Your dependance. it hurts Your Native pride to need and have to ask anything of others to even let Others know of Your needs. But You must Overcome this. it is not necessary that You should feel hurt by this You Can Repay. You Can help others Also If You shall overcome this feeling. But if You will not wait long enough. you will be compelled to begin Your Harvest before the field is ripe and so You will reduce the Yield. and so take away Your own power to do the Greater Good. I do not say to you to be Humble in the Low Creeping way. Yet You surely are Capable of a Proud and Honest Humility. which surveys the Whole Situation and accepts necessary help to Get out of the Hole, as a thing which is Alike honourable to the Helped and the Helper. None You disgraced in any way by having Your Rafts Canoes or the Rapids of the Minnesota by the poor Frenchmen's to be Willing to receive a Good turn is the surest sign that You would do one from a right motive. trample on the Grumbling of Self Esteem. When there can be no Loss of Self respect. Your attempts to develope Yourself by present Means is Quite Laudable. I have read of no Self made men who did not hold up their hands for help. and who yet were Self made. So for us that the Struggle and the desire, and Ability to Get up was originated in themselves.

Another of your troubles is the need you think you are in of Earning something for the benefit of yourself and others. and that you have not time for further preperation. But you must not think of Going into this fight with your weapons half Ground. Wait a little longer and then you will "need it down like tops o thriottes" So be patient. "46 years was this Temple in Building"

True Greatness is long Growing. Besides You need all the training of this Adversity to Educate you in some things else than the mere mathematics. Did Wellington lack one tho Consideration by superior Military Ability? I know not. But as much by dogged persistency and Endurance. Endure and Grow Strong. Learn to wait, and strike not until the Iron is hot. is just as there is to strike when. Besides, Give Yourself no Care for us here. I do not see but that all the Care is with You. David will get out of there trouble by himself. If Crops are Given us. if not, then all your Exertions cannot save us. I would advise you to be Quiet and Whittle a little to your self inwardly Giving ^ one Care to the Winds. they can easily Carry them. (do you see a spiritual Sense to this?)

All of us here enjoy the usual health.

David is Quite well, little Boy ditto. Emma do. Give yourself no uneasiness about us. But throw all your force to turn your own Machine Right. Uncle Williams went to Glynneu on the first of this month. and has written since. but says not what nor where he will be soon. He awaits Willie's Action, And While let me know as Changes come to him. I here not heard from our Willie since I sent the Books more than two months ago. I have written twice to him. and yet no answer.

I am Glad you have another pupil. Instruct you will soon have more. and You must Carry yourself with them as their true friend and do not let them see your superiority in the Branch you teach them otherwise than in Making up their deficiency. They, consider, may be Quite superior to you in some Qualifications of Mind or Heart, there is no room for any self Esteem in this World. So you will get in their Esteem in Spite of themselves. Compel them to Like You. and all will flock to you after a time. Competency of Soul is as necessary as Competency of Thought for Success. Consider also that you can receive nothing unless it is Given to you, that of yourself you really can do but little. and so Carry yourself in the full Conviction that all depends upon Gods providence towards you, as it really does. adjust yourself to this belief. do running parallel to the Nature of the Administration of Human Affairs by the Almighty.

May God protect you. Illuminating you in heart and intellect.

for your Continuely so far as I know

J Christie

Wheaton College Ill.

April 22. 1877

Dear Miss Christie

It is with anxious misgivings that I am prompted to do what under most circumstances would be a most delightful task viz: write you a letter. But under the present circumstances filled with fear as I am and these fears augmented by your long and continued silence I am at a loss to know how to proceed I wrote you a long letter soon after you went away. and how anxiously day by day did I look for the answer but none ever came and each day increased my anxiety and concern for you. and now for a long time have I had it in mind to write to you but those desires have never developed into action until the present time

could I have been assured that you were prevented from answering my letter by ill health and that my woes would have been a delight to you I should have written But as you know how foolishly sensitive I am sometimes and that I seldom write to any of my friends unless I first receive an answer you will forgive my selfishness. And now Miss Christie if you are still alive and and your health is such that you are able (All of which I most earnestly pray may God is true) May I not hear from you and if it be not more than one word that I may know of a surety that you are still alive, If you are unwell and are not able to write if I could only have a postal card either from you or by some friend stating your condition and whether you would like to hear from me I would gladly write. I would write more this time were I sure you would ever read it but as I rest in doubt

I forbear trusting however that all is well with thee and that my doubts may all soon be dispelled by some word from you I remain

Your most Sincere Friend

J. R. Simpson

God bless you forever.

Cambridge Mass.
9 P.M. April 23 - 77.

My Dear Father: [James Christie]

I was the recipient of three letters today — Yours of 11th and of 17th insts. and Sarah's of 15th. You need not be alarmed at any reckless expressions I may have made in a former letter. But I write to write more of this anon. In the meantime, I am glad to hear of the health of all — no one down sick, at least, and that Dave has got the grain in. Yes; there is nothing like sowing in faith and abiding the harvest with confidence — and I am glad that you have taken that view of it.

Now a word as to my present

work and I have done, for Energy is precious at this juncture. The Freshmen are preparing for Ex. in Todhunter's Algebra 28th inst. many of them are "conditioned" and many others in very bad plight. Last time I had six men in Mechanics, 1 of them is not coaching this time, the remaining 5 are again with me, and with them 6 more; so that I am Physician Extraordinary to 11 of 'Em. Made $9.00 today - 6 hours - and my note book tonight shows a balance in my favor of $45.00, just, with as much more booked for the ensuing 4 days - Yelch! Friday I shall have to whistle Maggie Lauder all day - do this time I like - for that day will furnish me a basis in facts for the Equation $10\frac{1}{2}$ hours = $15.75/100. See and you a X out of that when I get it - so that you can brag about what your boys can do. Well, these chances come not every day, - but neither did the showers of quails in the Wilderness. "Enough is as good as a feast" - its all we should ask for - and as to starving, I believe we have too much to do for that. Be of good cheer. You mention Robideau and the Rapids. Eleven years ago this hour he was carting my canoe round the Rapids, both of us

chilled with the fierce Spring
prairie Nor'wester, ten Days
miles before us, and nothing
to guide us but the roaring
of the waters, from which I
had so fortunately escaped the
day before. I had stood the
night before drying my clothes
at my camp-fire, and reading
from the now soaked and
coverless Robinson's Algebra
the Theorem of Sturm. How
little did I know then, in that
solitary wilderness, how
God (for I can say reverently)
was leading me!
Let me say again with Goethe,
"The future hides in it
Good Hap and Sorrow:
We press still thorow—
Naught that abides in it
daunting us—Onward!"
With many wishes for your continued
health, and Mother's,—Yours truly Alex.

Andover, Apr. 24. 1877.

My dear Friend, [Alexander Chester]
Yours of Saturday arrived last night. Accept my sincerest thanks for all your endeavours to help me; but I must caution you not to spend (waste) too much of your precious time on such exploits. It won't pay in the end. You seem to cherish a great deal of hope to see me at Cambridge soon; I tell you, that is very doubtful, to say the least. I like your scheme about entering the class in German, and using the boys for bill-posters; but I must, at the same time, look out that I get every thing I do get thoroughly enough. And so I think the best plan will be to go through this exercise

in its regular way. People here do not advise me to try to do too much. And, considering that I have to spend at least 15 hours per week on my German, they are right. If that were not so, nothing should prevent from trying the thing. Do not speak about it.

I thank you especially for seeing Pr. Hedge in my behalf, and believe myself that the old gentleman will be glad to help me if he can.

I am now earning $4.00 per week, almost enough to sustain me.

Today Mr. Bancroft, principal of our school, stepped up to me, and said that a certain gentleman, member of our church, gave him $5.00 to be handed to me. I was somewhat embarrassed, but I took them after all, and thought that, they were given in the right spirit — and there was no reason to suspect the contrary — they should not be refused, but also be accepted in the right spirit. Now, you see, we don't intend to get rich on it, but we only want to find the "Stein der Weisen", if we've got him, we shall be hunki-dori.

Glad to hear about your success in tutoring, and wish you so many pupils that you will soon have to move, and hire other quarters.

Don't you forget now * that you promised to come next Saturday. All well!

Yours in friendship
Conrad.

Alex; if you dont
stop writing those
funny letters we
shall all have to
get Corsets on to
save our ribs.

Be sure to bring
up the Ker. Store!
Those 5 O'Clock
hours are glorious.
We are delighted to
hear of the number
of your pupils.
Haec olim meminisse juvabit. Yours

Northfield, Minn. May 4. 1877.

Miss S. J. Christie.

Dear friend:—

I think I wrote to you last term, and have not had the pleasure of hearing from you since; I shall, however, take the liberty of addressing a few lines to you again to-day, hoping that, if they reach you, they may find you well and happy. The attendance at Carleton at present is not very large, but pretty fair for the Spring term, and as large as may be expected these hard times. (I think there are about 120). Emily, Thorstein and I are here plodding away after our wonted fashion, well and busy and happy too. Oren is teaching. Emily has an "oration" for rhetoricals this evening, and, as this is to be her first appearance on the "public rhetoricals", I think she is somewhat anxious, and a little scared. I have nothing

* I do not take part in the prize debate; Sawyer and Alexander, however will contend for the honor and the reward. I have had enough of it.

to do with rhetoricals this term, except to prepare something to edify the "dear people" on commencement day.* I think I shall try to say something on Northern Literature, perhaps more particularly on the "Eddas". I have only two studies this term, Christian Evidences and History of Civilization. I think I shall pass an examination in German grammar and am preparing for that. I have just bought William Morris's new epic "The story of Sigurd the Volsung and the fall of the Niblungs," and you may well believe that I enjoy it; have now read about half of it.

I am looking for a place to teach next year, and should like to ask whether you may know of any vacancy that you may think suitable for me. I should prefer a situation in an academy or a college as teacher or assistant in some specific department, Latin or the mathematics would perhaps suit best; or if I can not get such a place then a place as principal of a graded school, or as teacher in any good school with a reasonable salary. anything, in fact, that I can do and receive a fair compensation for. There may be vacancies in some one of our own institutions, in Decorah, Ia., in Madison, Wis., or even in St. Olaf's — but it is not yet certain, nor will anything definite be known till about the middle of July. And then, and Jewish I could secure a place sooner. I wish to have a year or two of experience in an American institution, if I can get it, in order that I may be better fitted for such work as my own countrymen may want of me, and also — that I may command better wages, — by the way, an item of no little importance. Should you know of any vacancy or have any notion that one may occur, will you be so kind as to acquaint me with the fact, or suggest any address to which I may write in order to find out? Or should you have any suggestions to make that you might think would be helpful, they will be most thankfully received. This is, as I understand it, a hard time to get good situations, and I act on the supposition that it is best to be inquiring in time and as widely as possible. Will they need any teachers at Wheaton? There are no news of much moment. I have the

unpleasant item to communicate that two boys here about 12 or 14 years old had a quarrel the other day in which one stabbed the other inflicting a couple of wounds, one quite severe, but not fatal or very dangerous. The victor (?) is bound over in $500 to appear at the Dist. court. The affair caused some little excitement. I am not sure of your present address, but hope this will find you if addressed to Good Thunder's Ford. Hoping that I shall not cause you great trouble by asking so much of you, and wishing you all possible good I am,

Respectfully, your friend,

T. T. Veblen.

Lowell, Wis. May 8/77.

Friend Christie, [Alexander]

I received six dollars from you yesterday and indorsed on the note of yours dated April 18th 1875. You sent more than you ought, but I have indorsed it so you pay a part of the Principal every time. I should have answered your former letter but mislaid it and have been very busy of late. My health has improved somewhat lately but am going down hill surely if not slowly. All the rest of the folks are well and send their best respects to you. We should like well to see you and have a good old chat. Write often Yours very truly, L. M. Benson.

Cambridge May 8 '71.

My Dear Father,

I sent you last night a paper containing Lord Derby's reply to Russia — a preliminary proof from the old and particular toothless Lion — and a Leslie's Caricatured map of the seat of war... The latter and the Leslie I bought for myself as the first money laid out for papers since coming East. England may engage in this, and possibly other powers;

so, while we cannot too much deplore the horrors of war, alle so unnecessary, we cannot forget that the ill wind will blow the people of the Mississippi Valley good — and you among the rest. if you first get an East wind to blow the grasshoppers into the great sea. I hope the health of all is good. I am quite well, and getting a little tutoring to do almost Every Day. Have been partly paid by the men I tutored in Algebra.

This has gone on but, book-store bill, interest to Dr. Benson, ditto on one of my notes in Audubon, daily expenses, etc; and as I get the rest, will make a small payment on principal of the same note in Audubon, and send you and Dave a little. I do not see any ready cash in the immediate future, but I do see honest payment of all our dues in good time.

Write me a short letter. I will write Sarah relative to next year, soon.

Affy

My love to them all, from Affectionate Son, J. B. Clarke.

Audover, May 10. 1874.

{Picture opens.
Kate & Sarah.

My Dear Father;

Thanks for the good long letter rec'd. this morning. I ought to write you oftener I know; the will is present with me, but how to perform that which is good I find not. I am up at 5 every morning & work hard every moment till bed at 10. While often thinking of you, and never ceasing to pray for you, it is a fact that I write but scantily, owing to the press of other matters. We must try to make up for all this silence next summer!

This morning we had a fine lecture, in Ch. Hist.) upon Tauler and the German Mystics of the 14th & 15th Centuries. It impressed me so that I went at once to our second hand bookstore & bought the "Theologia Germanica" of Tauler, the favorite book of Martin Luther outside the Bible. While reading it & thinking about the lecture, in comes your letter & your most just observations respecting the "scientific method" of Mr Cook. The Mystics all had the truth you hint at, that the things of faith absolutely transcend reason; and so, that no amount of mere logical acumen using the materials furnished by the intellect, can ever

find out the Almighty unto perfection. The Knowledge of spiritual things is given directly by a new spiritual sense, & it can be got in no other way. Now just here lies the great defect of the New England Theology, as I take it; the Infinite is not recognized in it; the effort is made to bring all mysteries down to the level of natural reason. One result is, that the average Congregationalist minister, Educated under Professor Park, is sadly lacking in true reverence; he knows little of the feeling of Worship. It is a fact, father, that the most joyless preaching ever heard probably, is about the only Kind of preaching one get here in Eastern Mass. There are noble Exceptions, but it is in the case of Old School divines. Our Prof. of History is one of them. This New Eng. theology does not feed me, and, so for the past year I have been deep in the writers of the Puritan period in Eng. Ch. History. Howe, Flavel, and particularly Owen. In these contemporaries of Milton I find the fons Et origo of the true Theological thinking. The average Andover graduate knows nothing of them, any no more than the average Collegian knows about Milton's Prose Works. My theme for Anniversary will be "Owen as a Theologian," & I hope to have something to say in it of this modern tendency of Theological Science toward what is little better than the sheerest intellectualism.

I honor Prof. Park as the acutest thinker, probably, of the age; but that was a good remark which a student made to him once at a public Examination here two years ago. The professor was trying to get him to give the argument, as stated in the lectures, against the old doctrine of the Eternal generation of the Son. The man couldn't, or wouldn't, give it; "Why?," asked the Professor. "The fact is, Professor Park, I don't dare to know quite so much about God as you do."

I do not think the war will stop in next Sept. Operations about Erzerum will be broken up, but the Russians will not get south of the Taurus. In the Crimean war they advanced to the very gates of Erzerum, & our missionaries were in great apprehension; but the result of the war was greatly to advance Missionary work in Turkey. I could show you this in many ways, but time forbids. I do not doubt that the present struggle will bring on great changes, but

it will not finish the Turk. England will not permit that. I expect to spend my life under Turkish rule, whatever may come to be the political status of Bulgaria or Even of north-Eastern Asia Minor. In my papers of Application sent in to the Secretaries of the Board last month, I told them I had regarded Turkey in Asia as my future field, but was willing to go anywhere that the general interests, should demand. The summer will tell; The men now in Turkey will be good judges of the Expediency of my going there in Sept., & so will the Secretaries. If I go not to Turkey, my next choice is Japan. Tell Sarah that Dewey, my roommate for a year in Beloit, is going with me to the Orient; his place will be Marsovan, 150 miles East of Marash. Kidder is going to Japan. He is with me here, Dewey is in Chicago Sem. Wife & Baby well. I send picture of latter, but a poor one because it is a copy. She is so near & being an angel that I look to see her at any time put on her wings & fly away from us; but whether she is here or in heaven with Bessie she is forever mine, & I thank God for them both. Alex. is beginning to reap the golden harvests I have always anticipated for him. Spent Sunday with him, & he nearly killed me with talk. He is a Titan trying to climb to the top of Olympus by heaping Pelion upon Ossa, — but he will fail, I hope soon enough to make him bow like the little child before the Infinite & kiss the Son before His wrath be kindled. The 2nd Psalm has a lesson for him, but he sees it not yet.

Rapidan, May 12. 1864

My Dear Alex—

Have read all Yours Whether to me or David, and am the more fearful that You are in a fair way of succeeding in all Your purposes, because You Can find & earn an honest penny in this Teathering Business, so must take Care of it. And continue to put all oars in the Water to pull for more.

How tell me are Tom and family All in Good health? I am interested something in Wrong there about I receive no letter from him. Nor any Boston Advertiser and I feel some how as if I needed to ask You of them.

I trust You keep Clear, not Recklessly Cautious that I think is Your Scylla, and Charybdis both. And yet necessity is upon You to sail through that dangerous Channel.

The one all as usual.

And now let me Cheer you by telling You of the Locust. they are not many. Egg's rotted by Wet Cool Eat by other Creatures and they are not in more in such force as the have been before. I think little White he lost by them in this Locality. Yet We are liable to have them come from other places of Course, but this is not Certain, and knowing that, We are liable to many Evils Which are Distant parts us. Why should We trouble ourselves about that which is not present? The Wheat looks Beautiful and is thick on the Ground promising more to be more than an Average Crop.

So send me some News Paper containing the full accounts of this Eastern War. and if any other Nations but Turks and Russians are Going to cross Swords.

I read the Daily Bulletins of the War of 1828 and 9 between these same parties and have a better Memory of it than of many Events not so far off. I desire Some Specially to hear from You as to how this Affair is to Affect Him.

I send You just a few lines You see. Not very Well and I hurry to Get this to Town to day. I therefore

Cambridge. May 7. 77.

Dear Father:

Yours of 2d inst at hand. And you may believe me I feel good over it — you all being in health and a chance of a crop. If there is a crop raised, the prospect for a good price is bright. I am just going up to the coffee-house for supper and will try to find a paper with an account of the repulse of the Russians at Batoum (neighborhood of Kars) and write about it to you. We sometimes get the news of these events in Asia Minor the day they happen!

Am taking measures to find a school for next year. I can carry on my pure mathematics nicely and have it count on my time here.

am just about earning my board now; but will get more to do shortly. The boys pay me in a desultory way, and I use it up about as fast as I get it, not failing to take good care of it, however, but will be able to send you a few dollars shortly. I am economical; but do not imagine that I am penny-wise and go half-starved. A horse can't work on the beans I'm breaking plow on mild-feed and moonshine. I'm turning over new ground, and it's grubby, and I must have my oats or "play out". And there is no danger of my working myself out the first year. No. No. I am

shaping my course to that, so far as I have control, there is to be no weeping over my untimely fate. I have been in the harness long enough to pull steady, keep my end of the Evener just where the name indicates, and be content with that. As Grandfather Bertie said — "There's a new day."

Prof. Eustis has given me liberty to use his name in obtaining a situation. I shall see Prof. J. M. Price tomorrow with same intent, and also to have his advice on what I should tackle during my year of absence. Saturday (19th have Ex. in French. Preparing for it.

I had occasion glance into
Thier's French Revolution.
Fairly sickened me, and
could hardly look cheerfully
at anything in the genus
homo line for a day or
two. The wittiest &
wickedest time the world
Ever saw. I couldn't get
over it like I had taken
my bible and read the
Sermon on the Mount
half-a-dozen times; and.
the fact is, Father, the spirit
that breathes thro' that sermon
is the true antidote for all the ills that
human flesh, frailty, and friendliness is heir to.
Hoping that this will
find you all in health
I subscribe myself
Yours in Cambridge
Alex.

Rapistan Spring.
Sunday May 20. 17

Dear Brother.

Yesterday your letter to Dave rec'd in which you speak of teaching next year - of advertising with W. D. Henkle, & C - also the war maps received - It will be very useful - Dave was over this forenoon & talked & amply helped him to understand the war status with the various complications connected - past - present & future. - Your maps was just in almost - countand expectations. - Farmers have done no damage as yet - noticable - but - They are threatening in some directions - & Dave is burning fallows They appear - He has eight or nine acres of corn to pull in yet - & there has been so much

rain of late & the ground is so wet - that the present is not good for getting it in in good time - Father is not strong at all - he is hardly as well as usual & thinks for some time - The rest are as usual - My health is improving I think - though when I overdo in any line either mentally or physically - I have the old reminders - If I were free it would not matter but as it is - the thought of being disabled brings the most intense depression at times - I say nothing of it - here of course - I am afraid of paralysis - it has threatened me since the second year at Carleton - The Doctor then told me I was in great danger & to use preventive measures continually - which I have done - but I was much overworked at Whalon & the symptoms were more frequent & strongly marked - it is my left side that is threatened - I am out-doors for exercise every day & walk much as possible - & have made most of the garden here with the double purpose of saving Father & the out-door exercise it has given me. I have not used the spade any just the hoe - & rake & with them I have made the beds & paths - We have quite a little garden - potatoes beans - peas - cucumbers - melons in both kinds - lettuce radishes carrots turnips & onions - also cabbages & tomatoes - I worked a little each day & Father helped me some of the time - Father is going to begin hoeing the weeds out of his corn & I think I will take an hour or two at that each day for the exercise - It is what I need - I think that with care & out-door life I will be able to do a good years work next year - Where I

cannot - tell - If you were to teach
I would prefer doing with you for
several reasons - First - because if
I were to be ill I would rather
be near some one of kin - next - I
want - to pursue that mathematics &
have your help & then - if you are
to be in a Public School - I could
be a great - helper to you - You
are not - made to govern well in
a School, & I am - I am the bet-
ter Jan at - general management - in
a School - that - I have Ever known
anything about - Your place as a
teacher is in a College - where everyone
behaves properly, or is supposed to -
If you are to teach for but - one year
more - & money the object - you will
make more in a Public School probably
- salary in even the wealthy Colleges, do
not - deceive much - If I could be with
you as Assistant - for this coming
year in a Public School - I feel sure
after a year's experience with me, that
they - would let - me take your place
as Principal when you went - back to

Harvard - I find they will not give a Principalship that amounts to anything to a woman - Even one having the experience that I have - and if I live, that is the kind of work I want - for a few years - I will never go into a poor College again (however enticing the work & it is so) until I am free & more. All the Western Colleges are poor & for lack of scholarship I could not take a place in any other at present - Did you receive two long letters from me - the 2d containing pictures - & did you answer either? Please answer this question - as I have a motive in asking - Please write soon as possible after receipt of this & let me know if it be your intention or wish as expressed in your last to me that we work together next year - If not - I will begin to look

for a place for myself - And if we are to work together - I would then write to Placer in Iowa - & direct you to the same if I find on investigating that it would be worth your while - When I decide that - I will from you - I stopped writing & making inquiries until I should hear your final decision - I ought - to have it - now soon as possible. -

What do you in vacation? I wish you could come home - It would be the last time in life in all probability - That we would all be with Father & Each other - Of Course, if you could employ yourself profitably there - I would not advise anything else - but - if you can to teach, next year & have nothing to do - through the summer it would be better for you to come West & make arrangements - I must close - hoping this will find you well & cheerful. - If they can help you to a tutorship in an Eastern College - you ought to take it - as it might be an opening to a good Professorship - but - do not - in a Western College unless in a State University - There might be one or two exceptions to that among Western colleges however - Please write soon as possible - Sarah. -

Cambridge Mass.

May 24 - 77.

My Dear Father;

— No time for
malice or for mass", but
just a word. I saw
my Epoch an article
in the Herald at the
Coffee House, marked
with pencil and sent it
on to you. I hear
and I see thro' mem-
and let me record again
with Old-time vehemence
my utter lack of faith
in anything Many of
them, or any body else
can tell me of immortal-
ity, God, Jesus,
heaven, hell, or hades.
The glimpses I got in
childhood during the

"Spirit-Rappings" are a thousand times as pure a word & prophecy as anything I ever saw or heard since.
And those phenomena were not without a large element of uncertainty. Father: don't let other men cajole you. As a general thing they know less about it than yourself. We are all in God's hands, and we must abide the issue. There need be no fear. They are groundless. The hearts of our little circle are not in a very bad condition. We sin; but not unto death. We are always struggling to be better. There is nothing devilish in our misdeeds. In the inner world, the world God-ward, there lie before us paths whereby to ascend. The other view is pure assumption on the part of men, and unnatural in the extreme.

These men are differ. There is no dependence to be put in them. "They say. What do they say? Do ye well and let them say."

That is my motto; let us all adopt it, and possess our souls in peace.

Examinations here, Dec. 6th. Monday 28th,

Physics June 5th. Touch
June 6th, Equations 11th.
Each day from 9 till 12
about to flee 11 with
You. You needn't
feel sorrows about that
time, for I Enjoy it. Expect
first marks, but nothing
high. I am now doing a
little tutoring in Mechanics
for a Harvard Junior, and
Monday will begin pulling
a Graduate of the University
of the City of New York thro'
ditto. Big nadeus to go
by! but the men themselves
are not savage Enough
to frighten a man who has
fought a Minnesota Mosquito
to life for life.
I swood, but I haven't got
a surplus $ dimes yet. We
will see what next week
does. How are the Boys,
Ellef.

No 273 Broadway & Boston
May 26th 1877

My Dear Cousin [Alexander]

I suppose by this time you have discovered that you carried off my Old House in your coat pocket! Since hearing from her Box I am not much pleased with that piece of rhyme building. The first verse especially seems out of tune with the rest If one could only write a poem like that rose window in Memorial Hall! Not for one to do that but that beautiful old man has brought back the beautiful dream - He said you know that sometimes one would write poorly but that the next time it might be

something "very beautiful". I have
have repeated those two words to
myself trying to recall the
number of this expression it
was "very beautiful". and every thing
from Him is and must
be so. but with the beauty and
refinement there is also the
perfect power. He is a King
The King. When you come in
sometime bring my rhymes
There is no hurry. I should
be glad to have you read some
of my sonnets. It seems to me
they have, some of them, more
of the rose window in them
than that Old House, and
I will send you in this, one I
wrote on Longfellow's poetry
a couple of weeks ago and which
I sent in the note I wrote to him.
I believe he was pleased with
it because he gave me such a beautiful
look out of his eyes and such a

kindly pressure of the hand.

Longfellows Poetry

A something of the silver star on high
Forerod which the gorgeous lark upsoaring
And something of the dewey blossom by
The lowly nest wherein He folds his wings
A sweet similitude of all sweet things
May mornings with their fragrance odorous
Eves of Autumn when Diana flings
Her mellow lights upon the golden sheaves
The music of an organ through the air
Rising and falling in rich harmonies
Ah did a man with head of silvery hair
Sit in the twilight bending o'er the keys
And a fair radiance shining far within
Leads through the darkness to the Life Divine
× the altar lights

Forgive this poetical interpolation to mathematics - My chief object in writing is to thank you once more for that lovely day at Harvard that "very beautiful" day Your affectionate cousin Helen Christie

Northfield, Minn. May 26, 1877.

Miss S. J. Christie,

Dear Friend,—

I had the pleasure, a week since, of receiving your very welcome letter of the 15th ult. & can not express my pleasure on receiving it; and you must accept my sincere thanks for the suggestions and information you were so kind as to give. It pained me to learn that your health had been poor, and I was almost sorry that I troubled you with the questions I asked for knowledge of schools, etc., for I fear you were not yet exactly well enough to undertake the task of writing such a letter, so long and so much was it. I hope you are well and strong

again now, and I know there are many more here whose wishes for your well-being are of the sincerest and truest. I have written to all the places you suggested, except Ripon. Prof. Sperry has formerly been connected with Ripon College, and he had before told me of the state of affairs there, and that there was no use of writing. I have not heard anything very favorable in school matters yet; have applied for a few schools, among others at Kasson, Mantorville, Owatonna; and at Elkhorn, Wis., but it will be some time before I shall know with what success. Elkhorn has a very good school, I hear, with a salary of $1000 to $1200. There may be a chance in one of the Norwegian institutions yet. I shall know sometime in July. The Academy at Madison, Wis., I think is doing well. They have 3 teachers. The "Soldiers' Home" there was bought by our Synod and this school, "Monona Academy" established in it. The St. Olaf building will be put up this summer, work will be commenced in a few days. Mr. C. P. Anderson of this place has the job. He puts up the walls and roofs them; the inside work is to be done next summer. On the 17th of May I spoke to the Norwegians and other citizens of Waseca. We had a good celebration, good music, a cheerful picnic, and several speeches; mine, of course, was the "oration." There was, I am almost sorry to say, a ball in the evening at which I heard they had a "good" time. I was not there, but enjoyed a very pleasant evening at the house of Maj. Young, E. W. Young's father. May 16th was one of the saddest days in Carleton history. Mr. C. E. Locke, one of our best boys, who came here last fall, drowned in the river with a few other boys, drowned notwithstanding the best efforts of his comrades to rescue him. His body was not recovered till the next

day, when it was found near the spot
where he disappeared. Word was immedi-
ately sent to his parents after the accident. at Gumbrola
The next morning ^ just after the body of
his son was found. You can imagine what
news this was to his father and mother, who
thus lost a promising only son. All exercises
of the college were suspended for the remainder
of the week. A sort of memorial service
was held in the chapel; and the corpse
taken to Gumbrola for burial. I saw Mr.
and Mrs. Locke a couple of days since; they
seemed to bear their sorrow bravely, and were
much helped and strengthened, they said,
by the sympathy shown from the teachers
and students of the college.

Decoration Day will be observed
here. Rev. Mr. Leonard, is the orator.
The botany and geology classes are
on an excursion to Belmont Falls to-day.

they must have an enjoyable time, as this is a very pleasant day. They started early this morning, and will not be back again till late. All the old students, and all the new ones too, are well and plodding along apparently as usual. My brothers and sisters are doing well. My health since the first week or two of the term has been excellent. Sawyer and Alexander have written their arguments, I understand. I know they have not yet written their orations. My oration has not yet been put on paper, I have been looking into all books I could think of for ideas on my subject, but have found about nothing at all; I am partly discouraged with it, but shall probably have to do the best I can with it with what ideas I can extort from my own brain.

I assure you that I am busy these days, and I trust you will excuse the hurry in which I write. If you feel able to write and have time to do so I should be very glad to hear how you are doing; I hope to hear that your health is good. If I find a place

to teach. I shall not wait long before letting you know. If the time comes when I shall have better leizure I will try to write a better letter. I hope you can be here at commencement, not that I think you will see any remarkable display, but because we should be glad to see you here.

Yours respectfully,

T. B. Veblen

New York.
P. O. Station L.

May 26th 1877.

My Dear Miss Christie.

I feel your letter, just to hand, must not wait answered, Things many things are waiting, my care and attention these unusual busy days, The Earnest Spirits which are Enabled To touch Hearts & heart To The Communication of Thought are To do The Grand work of organisation for us - and in This power lies our Strength for Advancement, and again Through This Course, comes The Growth for Humanity - You are clear and Shiney in your ideas of Women's Special work - The Healing Sphere - Intelligently and scientifically understood by Women I believe one of The Strongest and Surest Avenues - for Higher development in Humanity will be attained.

You must become a Member of this Association. Enroll under the heading of "Advancement of Women". It holds an Annual Congress - called in different sections of the country. and when Financially strong engages proposes to Report. These Meetings in Pamphlet - form - for its members and the Public - but its the Associations limited resources, have some years prevented said Report. We have some Copies of the 3rd Congress held in Syracuse this State. and last years Report is now in a Committees hands for publication. Price of 3rd 50 cts I will mail you a Number of the Woman's Journal - published in Boston and in which you will find information you desire - I am sure you will have a weekly feast - which you will ever retain. In writing to "Lucy Stone" Blackwell please mention, through whom, you learned about the good "Journal". It will please her - and myself also -

Helen L.D. Potter - address -
~~Redpath~~ "Redpath. Lyceum Agent Boston, Mass" Or Mary P. Jacoby -
110 West - 34th St. New York.

Emma Marweedel, was Washington last I heard - Think a letter would reach her sent there -

The 5th Congress - for the "Advancement of Women", will hold its sessions in Cleveland, Ohio - Commencing the 10th of October - lasting 3 days - 3 Sessions Each day. Could you make it possible To be present. I am sure, you would Enjoy every hour, and be surprised at the work already accomplished through this organization - simply by bringing women together, and freely telling Each other, the Yearnings of their souls - for something better, higher.

Surely attainable. I shall be pleased
to communicate with you, and with
more you name as a Member
your letter is sufficient Guarantee
of your fitness. The Assent to
Constitution - and an annual
Fee of $2.00. are the passport - &c.

In looking on my map of
Counties in Minnesota State
I find no Blue Earth Co - please
tell me in what part of the state
it lies - I like to locate my
far away correspondence
to make the acquaintance more
real - I shall hope to know
you some day - but be that as it
may. I am in spirit, yours
in the true Sense of the Sisterhood

Sophie C. Hoffmann

Cambridge Mass.
Sunday May 27th 77.

My Dear Father:

Two of my
sons to pay me early
this week. And I will then
send you an X by P.O. order
to Mankato. I dare hardly send
by registered letter. This will
necessitate a trip there; but,
you ought to spend it at
once for what you most
need. A little fresh beef,
a few canned peaches &c, &c,
Sarah could suggest what
would be ~~tasty~~ healthful
and to your taste. Do you
not think it would be well
to try the Effect of a little
lager beer in the morning,
just to start the digestive
processes in shape? I think

Two more of my sons have left home.

P.S. Delivered

your main trouble is, that all the physical processes lag, and then the raw material for thought processes comes along late in the day and you must run late into the night. If you could hit upon any plan of hurrying up the urgoc in the rooms where the Earlier processes are gone thro' with, the "hecklers" in the factory, there would be no need of spinning to late into the night. If the beer doesn't work, you can give it up: but I certainly think you should try a pint or two, beginning very gently.

I have an examination in Descriptive Geometry tomorrow, which I regard as I do my breakfast. My work has been steadily doing for a year, and there is no need of a cram. One cannot Expect very high marks at an annual Ex. in Harvard; but I Expect a fair one - and "fair and easy goes far in a day."

I now have, in the way of tutoring, one Senior in Mech. Another Senior begins with me ~~Tuesday~~ Monday in Anal. Geom. and a graduate of Un. City New York, B. Scient (now a classic Fresh in Harvard College) takes up Mechanics with me Tuesday. While one of the Freshmen whom I took through Mech and Alg. before, has just put down 24 hours between now and 19th prox. at $1.50 per hour. Tomorrow I am to see another, who will

want about 6 hours.
On the 19 June it Ends; but
up to that day, I will be
having considerable work.
I am taking measures
for a school, and as soon
as I get one, I will bor-
row some money I think
of trying Dudley Pray 6 $ for my
Second on $100 to send
west to help tide affairs
over. So, look at things
cheerfully, Even if the
grasshoppers are taking the
crop. They are not to bad
to Bashi-Bazouks and Don-
Cossacks!
There is some chance of Tom's
preaching a year at Mid
dleton. I hope he will.
If I get a school west of
the Alleghanies, I will be
apt to come home for the Sum-
mer, unless it pays me to stay here.

Father, I know that you
have often been troubled
over my stout denial of
all that seem hold Ortho-
dox, and seem have to
the simple truth, to engaged
themselves and others, to
firmly clung to forms dead
as Autumn leaves, while
crushing the opening buds
instinct with life and re-
sponsive to sunshine, — that
I hold myself not wholly un-
justified in saying much
in opposition. By whatever
process I may have arrived
at it; — whether by restless
thinking of the mathematical
kind, which rests content
with nothing but the truth,
stimulated by an awaken-
ing sense of sin within and
without, of the glories of

the perfect life freed from its thrall; or some other way, I hardly know myself; but I am just constrained to read the Sermon on the Mount and feast upon it as the sublimest truth I ever heard. That, surely, is the way wherein lies all our hope as individuals and as a race. I am trying to walk in it. I see no other that I should follow.

I have not space here to even attempt to explain my views on this momentous topic. But I do believe that, underneath all this tangled web whereat we all do weave in turn with unskilled hands, there lies a pattern of the final perfect to which all casts of the shuttle strictly conform. And some divine analysis might show how all phenomena in infinite diversity and contrariety are but the outcome of the application of formulae deduced from the Eternal principles of God's unchanging nature. In the world to come we may get a nearer view. I do not know. But whether Jesus of Nazareth were God or man, the Sermon on the Mount is the grandest, divinest truth I know. It is well that I face the mighty facts of this world where we are, and seek here the welfare of our kind as the arena of their first existence; but with that best preaching-teaching- I will yet,

blind, if I am spared, that best teaching - preaching. I wish that you could be endued with the strength of youth, that we might work together in this glorious field. But it can not always be here. We would not wish to change the plan laid down by infinite wisdom. But wherever we are, whether in the old world, the new world, or that newest world to which we all do journey with the sun, may it be our out to work for the Highest.

Hoping that this will find you all well, and with love to each and all,

I remain

Your Son

Alex. T. Christie