

James C. Christie and Family Papers

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Good Thunder Tuesday Evening Oct 1st 1878

[Christie]

My Dearest Sarah

I Cannot tell what you will think to receive a note from me so soon I will tell you the reason I write at this early date the threshers Came here this evening about five oclock and in all probability will be here untill the last part of next week Consequently it will be uncertain about me being in Mankato on Saturday next I intend to go if I have help Enough

so that I can be spared from the machine if I cannot go in to town on saturday I will go in on sunday if I do that I will get home in time to write to you sunday Evening you will know by this that I intend to watch the Postoffice closely for the mail so that I can answer your letters promptly you cannot tell how lonely I have been since you left here last sunday was a very long and lonely day for me after breakfast I came up to my room and got some news papers and read a while then I walked the floor but with all my effort to be and feel cheerful and happy I could not help feeling down spirited then I got your letters and read every line with great satisfaction Oh Dearest how strange I felt the morning you left here and when I pressed your hand and said goodby o what a shock I was so excited that I did not think to say good luck to you on your journey to Iowa City

but the good lord knows that
knows our harts knows that
in My hart I wished you
success good luck and a
safe return home we are
well I saw david last
sunday and ~~and~~ yesterday
also and he said they
were all well it is late
and I must close hoping to
hear from you soon and often

Yours very affectionately

William

P S I intend to hand this to the mail agent on the cars tomorow Enemy tell me all about your journey and the University

Wednesday Morning Dear Eliza Hale Read & Written last night after the Poem had retired to rooms I wish I could see you today this morning

Andover, Mass. Wednesday Eve, 10/2, 78.

Dr

Dear Alexander, —

You must have seen E. Tilton by this time; I understand he took quarters with Mr. Hayden. — That your lamp caught fire does not surprise me so very much if it was full of springs alias tinders or dirt, and if the little receptacle under the wick was filled with like matter. If this was so, I say, such conditions are, as I am told, apt to bring about an explosion. I congratulate you however, that your burning did not become what Virgil would undoubtedly call "ingens". — Alex, I hope that you will not treat me as unfairly and unsquarely as you did Mr. Pierce, but rather keep the money till called upon to return it.

One more thing; I am, saving your absence, a little out of sorts, or else the schools are; for I am sick of this hurrying and hastening in the pursuit of studies, as I see it before my eyes every day. All I have read and done in Phillips has been done in an agonizing hurry, or, in a hurried agony, if you will. In other words I have not been given time to digest what little of mental food I have been able to take in. In short I have made up my mind that if I can by any fair means stay out a year before going to Harvard I shall certainly do so and try to digest, as I said, and to make up my deficiencies in history, literature etc. I have often spoken to you of my great needs in this respect; but I see that by rushing on and through College I shall not supply them. Ah, my dear Alexander, greatly as I love America, I must confess that I have found in it little of that true enthusiasm for learning which is so common in Germany. Every body rushes on and on, and what is his goal? not so much thoroughness and completeness as a competency in the way of earning money. — Now, I am not hurry, and I will not be swept along in this rapid torrent; for I know that it does not lead to what I admire and long for. — When I saw you last, I spoke about staying a year in Germany. Since that I have thought how it would do to stay a year in Paris and learn French by the way. What do you think of this? I am pretty sure of going to Europe, anyway, for what I shall earn this term will enable me to pay a visit to the "old folks at home". And if I am tolerably successful during the last two terms

of the year I may, by borrowing a little money in addition, be able to spend a whole year abroad, or, at home, if you choose. I should certainly like to learn French enough to speak it. — This may seem to you like counting the chickens (by the way, is the plural of this word spelt with or without s?) before they are hatched. Yet I am anxious by longing for the end of this year to see home, that is one reason why I think much about these things; another one is that I shall soon be able to pay back some money to Freudenberg and that I should like to know one thing before I do so (and here you might possibly, be of help to me) namely: I should like to know how much it would cost a student to spend a twelvemonth in Paris. If I should find out that this does not cost too much I should just ask Freudenberg for extension on my indebtedness telling him that I should

like to have the use of the money for
a little longer time for this purpose.
But if I should find out that
the least amount required for a stay
of that length in Paris is beyond my
means, I should rather return the
money. You see that if I know
that a stay in P. will cost necessarily
x dollars, I can compare that sum
with the exact estimate of why earning
this year, and thus tell how much I
should have to borrow in addition.
And should this sum to be borrowed
be too large than I should content myself
with a short visit at home. — Now,
do you think that you could ask some
person there, perhaps Prof. Becker,
if you are sufficiently acquainted
with him, how much I should necessar-
ily want. To put the question more
definitely, I want to know nothing about
the fare across, nothing about traveling

expenses is. I care either, nothing about clothing etc, but only this: how much is absolutely required for 1) Board, 2) Room, 3) Washing. But, of course, you would not want to ask Prof. Booker how much a French washer woman charges a piece, and the like of that; but find out the lowest figure of dollars or francs on which a man can exist in that village from, say, the first of Sept. of one year to the first of Sept of the next. In short, find out all you have time to and let me know at your convenience. I am interested and should like to know because of the sum due to Freudenberg. — I am willing to run myself into debt up to 200 or 300 dollars, if I can get a year to prepare more thoroughly for Harvard and to get the French. But I should try the examinations at Harvard in June next, anyway. It will be almost impossible for me to get in there on mathematics; that subject wrecks me completely.

I from now, however, mean to go to College prepared and to come out, if not shining and polished all over, yet with a little more finish than the average. This may seem presumptuous, but I cannot help that.

Do not do this errand or job in haste, nor do it so as to inconvenience you, nor so that you will become in any way obtrusive to persons whom you do not know. If I do not find out through you, I may by some one else, so do not take too much thought concerning it.

A propos! If asked whether I want to visit a school there, you may say that do not mean to do so, but should

like to know what the tuition would amount to, and whether there would be a chance for me to exchange lessons with someone, I teaching English or German, and my "pardner" teaching me French. — I wish, however, to go (if I do go at all) so that I should not at all be depending upon teaching; it would not be safe for me to depend upon such an uncertain thing.

This strange letter, though a Philippica against Kate, was certainly not written with abundant leisure, "ut figura monstrat."

I am driven fearfully, Alex, so excuse this scribble; just time enough for eating, drinking and sleeping, that's all. Yours as ever

Joe will make me "exceeding wroth" if you send any more money.

Conrad.

At Home in My Room
Thursday Oct. 3. 1878

Dear Sarah [Christie]

Thought I would commence this letter today and finish at another date perhaps not untill Saturday will then as I expect to be in Manchester for the mail — Your very Welcome letter of Sept 29th Recd I was in the Post office when the Mail was distributed and took it out of the box Myself it was not in the box more than five minutes before I took it out. I retraced My steps homeward with a light Spirit

was glad to hear of your safe & quick arrival at Iowa City – having so many men about me at this time causes me to write hurriedly and without finishing my letter at once – Nevertheless my intention at last is the same – If I fail to answer no 2 Promptly you must excuse me for next week will be an unusual busy time with me – I have been threshing Barley one day it is yielding admirably well so far

Friday oct – 4th What a splendid morning this is bright Clear sunshine with the dew drops sparkling on the grass and weeds it carries me back to some of the mornings when you & I were going out for a drive – how glad I would be to see you & have a talk with you this morning – we are progressing with my threshing finely will finish next week Wednesday if we have good weather and no bad luck – I was glad to hear you were pleased with the appearance of Iowa City the wide Clean Streets & fine Residences & Church Edifices they are indications of good taste and intelligence I see it is a City of Considerable note almost 6.000 Population with seven News Papers and the County seat of Johnson Co – it has the

advantage of the Chicago Rockisland
& Pacific RR - I see the Iowa River
is Navigable up to the Place & Roads
& Water Navigation will have a
Tendency to develope the Place into
a large City - I think it is a healthy
Place on account of being on the
high Bluffs along the River one
must have a Clearing and
Commanding View of the
Surrounding Country I must
close hoping to hear from you soon
I hope you are well when you write
tell me all about the University
and the City Good Bye
Yours Truly William

At Home Friday Even Oct 4:th

Dear S. J. C.

Yours of the 3 d Inst
at hand by Buel
The number of My Box is
526. I will Post this tomorrow
at Mankato I will get small
box with lock one that I
can put in My Trunk to
keep the letters Secure I will
get the box at Mankato
Tomorrow - you can be sure
that no one will See your
letters but me I will Post
the most of My letters at
Mankato

Yours Truly

William

(Box 544)

Iowa City, Iowa.
Saturday, Oct. 5. 1878.

My dear father.

I write just a line or two to let you know that I am pretty well although tired. I have not begun yet to feel quite natural here yet. The close confinement & nervous work again along with change of Climate & of food all conspire to make me feel not quite well. I shall feel better when I have been here longer.

I went Monday Evening to see the place where I had pretty engaged board - but it was a dirty looking house, in a back street & I did not like the looks of the people, so I decided at once not to go there. I then went back to the hotel for my Supper & when I got there found P.P. Ames waiting for me. He had been looking round for me, as I had

requested & told me of several places
After supper I went out with him
& finally decided to board where
he did - at $5.00 per week including
all expenses - washing, fuel
lights & board. — It was the
cheapest place we could find -
desk & board - that anyways
decent & comfortable are higher here
than in any place I have ever
been in - The name of the family
is McCulla - Scotch Americans -
nice people - They have a number
of boarders - Three law students
one lady student - two University
students - two Academy students, &
myself - I find it very pleasant
only that there is more noise in
the house - particularly in the evening
than I like - I do not get asleep
until late - if it continues - I will
make a change of boarding-place
so soon as I am well enough
acquainted in the town to be able
to choose another place - I cannot
stand the noise & so many people
all around me -

I had a nice long letter from Sudy
yesterday - he is well again he
says - & is not - to work hard this
year - He is anxious I should prepare
for the Boston Spring examinations &
that is what - I have commenced
to do this week - I study all the
time I have out of School - I have
to be examined in Geology - & thought
I had brought Dana - but I found
I had left it out - & I have
written to Mr Stevens - asking him to
get it from you & send to me -
I asked him to do it, because I
knew he would attend to it immedi-
ately for me - & I was afraid that
Dave would neglect it; or would not
have time to go to the Ford -
perhaps you better tie it up for

him - as you are more accustomed
to such things — My P. O. Box is
544 — I hope you all keep well -
I feel very anxious about the
Children! Please write soon to me -
I had a letter today from Mr Stevens
written last Tuesday Evening, in
which he told me you were all
well - + I was glad to hear it -
Let me know if any word from
Turkey or from Uncle William. -

Affectionately -

Sarah. -

At Home Saturday Oct 5th 78

My Dear Sarah [Christie]

I call you Dear
because I feel that you are very
near and dear to me yes I
feel more than I can express
with Pen & Ink - I do yes I do
really love you My Dear yes I
love you the same Multiplied
by 4 or a great many figures
I loved you with all my heart
when you were here but
now you are absent It seems
to have a deeper & stronger hold
I am continually thinking of you
Dear It seems all that is dear
to me is far yes far away -
I have been to Mankato today
found in the box yours of the

first Inst I asked Post master him to look in Office for another one he did so & said that was all it is not numbered so I Cannot tell certain whether it is No 2 or 3 I think it must be number 2 I will go down to Mankato Tomorrow if No Preventing Providence perhaps No 3. will Come Tonight I hope it will - you Cannot immagine what a relief No 2 affords me. I was so anxious to hear from you again that I started to Mankato on ffth but got a ride down with August Switzer and a ride back with James & he did not say a word about you or any of your folks there hasnt anyone said one word about you to me they know if they did they would be treated with indifference and would drop the subject at once - I must say Dear the letter that I received today from you affords me more Pleasure than before all the letters I ever got in all my life - yes my Dear I am yours you may call me that - I want you To - I will get a Stove to Put in our room before winter begins Dear I am so lonely without you it seems that days are lengthening into Weeks & weeks into Months what shall I do my dear it seems so far ahead until Vacation I amnot feeling nearly so well since you left as I did when you were here - I know it is because you are absent - I have thought - every day perhaps the next day I would feel better and more reconsiled to your

being a way so far but no change
for the better yet I will try
to get over this lonely feeling—
My Dearest I feel just Grieved
at heart to think that I cannot
be with you the whole time
Buel is better Francis & Edwin
are well Stella is very well
I Spoke to her about that
Picture & Requested her to take
it out she didnot say she
would or would not if she
lets it remain there any
longer I will take it out
myself it has been only a day
or so since I Spoke to her about
it— the weather is just Splen
We have got along with my
Threshing remarkably well so far
all fine weather & no breakdown
More than met my expectation
I will tell you all about it

When we finish I am sorry
you went without your Supper
I wish I could have been there
with a Bottle of Milk and
Some Eggs Cheese Crackers
& My Dear I love you More &
more how Kind & good you
were to help that Poor Lady
out of Trouble Just right
if I were by your Side now
I would. But my arms around
you & Kiss you for it — did
you go Through Plymouth Town —
yes My Dear I got the boy Today
it is a fine boy it is about 8 x 10 Inches & 4 inch
deep with lock & Key you can
be at rest about your letters I
know that the letters locked
in the box & the box out
in the Trunk & Trunk locked
that they will be Safe there
I have not been over to your
Fathers yet will wait until

you think I had better go
There has not been any one sick since you left here they are having the Diptheria in Mankato and Vicinity it seems to be assuming a lighter form in the City there is a family near Eagle Lake that seven died when the fourth one died the Mother left the house & has not been heard of since the people are raking the Lake for her body they think that her reason must have been dethroned & she drowned herself —
I heard in Mankato to-day that Doctor Snow had treated over Sixty Cases without loosing one patient that is a feather in his Cap —
Dearest how I long for the Vacation when we are to meet

I will not say a word to any one about the Vacation Please dont write to any one here about the Vacation but me you do love me I know you do I have written all this by lamp light with a very poor pen and ink I must close hoping to see you at the time of Vacation if not before if you should be taken Sick Please let me know at once Dearest one Good Bye My love to You write often
Yours affectionately
William

Alcatraz Cays Oct Iowa
Oct 6th 1825

Dear Brother

I Make me glad to
receive your Letters they
let me know you have
your mail all getting along
on Farm I Pages I think I
Found a little Trunk I am
Glad to See him getting along
so well But he Must keep
out among st the Robbers
But the Possi Would run them
a Pony one - Make way your
Dogs for the Innocent Lam
Efferde I guess Tom Would
have shot a Few of them
rather than been Missing
at Home, and so Would
have Pure Shed. And
a Rifle and Means Cir-
cumstances alters Cases you
know —

Derek in Iowa City all
night and Sandy Poor Bella
has been Sick not so good
and David has got a Crop
of 922 of Wheat and a Boy
in Spite of the Hard Times
I take Note of all The nest
fixing the House and so on
Well dont go out This Winter
Without something on your
Head and Deep Reation
away at Night and Dr Reece
Poor Mormon rest in Her
Bed at Night ——
Wm has got his House about
finished 3 Days more and then
What he is going to do with
it I dont Know he has Let
his Farm out To a Scotchman
a young Lad from Arbroath
There are a Family of them
here all Farming here
Live in a nother House on the
Place
he was up at Monroe looking
for a School dont Know
Wheather he got one or not
he thinks I dont Know
But James I Know a great
Deal to be happy ——
Hellen She has been very
Sick in Boston and sent
a letter up to him telling
that She was Coming up
To Mrs Fords in Watertown
I dont Know What it all
Means But I believe She is
very Sick She Wrote her first
Post But dont Know What
he said = will see What Comes
Of it The House Costs a little
over 500 and I gave all the
Cumbers 212 Dollars
I will Wait like Duncan Mc
Calum and see What turns
up - did I tell you David —
Was in Beaverdam again
Deputy Collector & Revenue —

Things Looks Dont all
round me I will leave
this soon if Things does
not Take a Change What
is the use Anne Lying
there in Bed & Be
as Thos & They more Price
of me Thes Houses & Land
right- I Suppose But I
Think I will Live a little
While yet ——
Before Wreaths of Death
in Days Moines on The
Morning question you will
get A Letter Before you
Receive this Don't Think
Where you Know the
Invention Take a While
Coast But Be in Town
Sitting I Must Close I will
Write you again Soon yours
Truly Wm Christie ——
My Love to all ——

at home Sunday Evening

Oct 6 — 1878

My Dear Sarah [Christie]

I have just returned from Mankato I expected to get the letter that you wrote oct 3rd are you sure you directed it to Mankato it should have been at the office Sunday Night — in all Probability it has been miscarried — I have only received one letter at Mankato that is Dated oct 1st and one at Good Thunder and the note inquiring the Number of My Post Office Box I have Posted four to you Just one in the Care of the Mail Agent at Good Thunder I Two in

P.S. Office at Mankato yesterday it one today & counting this one will be fine you will get the three last letters I wrote you all at once I could not help it very well I would say more but bit you will Excuse me this time for I Expect to hand this to the Mail agent on Train if I should be late will Post it at Office in Good Time write Soon Yours Truly

William

Box 520 Mankato Minn.

Wednesday Morning

Oct 9th 1878

My dear Sarah [Christie]

Yours of last Saturday
Morning rec'd last Evening by
Brett & dont send by anyone else
for the mail I got one the first
one you sent to Good. Thunder
& Brett the two last & have rec'd
one at Mankato. I went down
to Mankato last Sunday afternoon
No 2 but I was disappointed
you say you have sent 5 or 6 letters
to Mankato for me I have sorted
three there for you My dear I hope
you have received them ere this
Stella & I are going down to
Mankato this afternoon & I
will call at your Fathers & get
your Geology & put it in the
Post-Office there this afternoon

You said you would like to know
both Text books I will send
them both by Mail — It is now
half past nine Oclock A. M. I
Not are nearly done Threshing only
one More Wheat Stack Perhaps
60 bushels in it I have Threshed
of Wheat 1270 Bushels of Oats 450
& Barley 700 Bushels had good
Weather & No break That was
lucky — I have Not done & Keep
the Number of letters you sent
for me and then I can tell
if I get them all I will do
the same — Do you love me more
than anyone Good Bye My dearest
Write often My love to you

Affectionately

Joseph Wilcox

No 5

Off Home

by Tuesday Oct 8th 1895

My dear Sarah [Christie]

How much I am
thinking of you & you know
how lonely I am without you
I am afraid you would call me
foolish I cannot help it I cannot
ashamed to own up to the fact
I am glad that I love you so much
I would not have it otherwise I
have been out this morning look
ing at your trees they are perfectly
Contented I think more of that
Swarm than any other one in the
apiary you know why Dear I will
tell you how lazy I have been
during all of my Wanderings I mean
up to this time I have not finished
yet but finish tomorrow

if we have good luck I have not
put a bundle on the machine
I have not pitched a fork full of
straw neither did I empty a sack
of grain into the bin I have
been at the house the most of the
time reading We have had just
splendid weather for threshing so far
how often I think of the nights
you made me regard to the weather
how nice it is to know that
your interests are with me and
mine with your my dear Helen
They finish I will let you know
how many bushels of each kind
of grain I had by measurement
how are you getting along with
your teaching at the University
I wish I could come down and
help you with your work there
are you well I hope you are Please
dont go where they have the
Typhoid fever I want you to be
very careful of your health you
will wont you my Dear I thought
I would write this & have it
ready for when I finish threshing
I will go to Mankato then I will
Post this letter the letters that
I Post at Good Thunder will be
Stiff and wont have those Pet
names by which I call you in
this But other letters Posted
at Mankato That is right
is it not My Dear When you
receive this Mat You will have
finished nearly or quite two weeks
of your teaching wont it be
Nice When you finish all your
teaching and Come home to Stay
with me as long as I live Have
you inquired about the marriage
license law in Iowa if you have
tell me when you write Or
before the Vacation when you
decide on where we are to

Meet Pleart dont Change it
and if you get there first-
Wait Until I Come If I
get there first I will Wait
Until you get there — I would
be very happy to Meet you before
that time if you think it would
be wise — It is quite Cool here
This after noon Cloudy & begins
to have the appearance of Winter
how glad I would be if you were
here to go to Prankato with me
when I get done Meeting — I have
not been in the Carriage but twice
Since you left here My Dearest
& that was last Saturday I
Sunday to go to Prankato for the
Mail Dont Pay Letters Do you
~~You~~ love Me every day alike
Good Bye My Dear My love To you
Write often if you are not Tired
Yours Affectionately William

Responsive. Octr 16th 1878.

Dear Son [Alexander]

I sent you a letter
on the 29th Ult. And Expect one from you
is now waiting for me at the Post. I suppose
Sarah has written to you lately. And you will
know that I now in Iowa City Iowa. Teaching
Mrs Stevens Called on me yesterday to
get Dana's Geology to lend to her
and he told me he was in Iowa Univer-
-sity. I Expected Basil was to have written to
you Sunday last or I would have done it.
The Grain is all in the Barns.
925 of Wheat, worth in market just
50 Cent per bushell. for this is Quality
all through this County. a most miserable
Crop indeed. And We must take our
another Year as she Can.

I recieved two Letters
recently from Thomas from Texas
all Well, dated about Middle of August.
In which he writes fiercely against
some disclosures he says you made
to Gen. the Summer before last. before
he sailed for the East.

2) Some of the "Arcana" as he calls them in Revision. I am Glad he views these things in this way. And very sorry indeed that You told him anything I did not Expect that. Would have done it. Besides he tells me that he is afraid You have also infected Even with Unbelief also. Do You know that this is a very serious affair to disturb Religious Belief? in most cases it destroys a Man. And in all cases it hurts a Man very much indeed. Had I known at all the dangerous nature of what I was to tell You. I would not have done it. But besides, at that time I was under influences which I could not control. influences which were opposed to the Good of our Race. Now there is Nothing in reality in anything I have told you. Which in itself is destructive necessarily of Faith in Christ. The destructive Element is in Humanity. and that originates in the

3) want of due proportion between Moral worth and intellectual perception in Man.
to the pure all things are pure. But the impure should only see those things which cannot injure them. Again. such things as I have hinted to you are but a very small part of knowledge, a very small part of the knowledge of the Universe of Created things. seen by themselves, alone, they are out of Joint as it were. and their true relation to the Universal Harmony of full perception is not seen. and therefore the Limited Mind of Man is not able to bear them unharmed. Not meeting implicit Faith in the Truth of Nature in the Mind. Not believing that Nature is the Revelation of God to Man Men receive such Truths to their injury. Because of their incapacity of Faith to believe that they are real revelations of the Divine Nature. The truly Great Men of the Ancient and Prehistoric times saw these things in their true relations and Believed them. of such were Abraham. Who through Faith in God and in Nature the revelation of Him. perceived by Contemplation

4) the prophecies of Nature. and Believing entered into the Joy of the fulfillment of these prophecies When as yet they had not taken Solace. They saw on their Day which had not yet Dawned and were Glad. and this was Counted unto them for Righteousness. Because it was Righteousness in the inchoate stage, originating as it did in Mental and Spiritual Capacity in them. for the conception and belief in of these Natural Revelations, Arguing in them Harmony so far with Nature and God. Creation as a Whole is the Manifestation of the Divine Spirit. of the Divine Thought in its Ultimate. of the Spiritual reality in its Material Symbol. and so on down into Particulars. as the Whole so each part. And how could it be otherwise; it is only that which is which can be shewn or seen. God can reveal only Himself. Because antecedent to All things, there was nor was anything else to be revealed. God is. and therefore these things are That We should know them but Nevertheless be to our Loss. ———

5) Knowledge cannot lie inert in the mind especially such knowledge, embedded as it is in the passional nature of man. It must work. and as the yeast is not arrested by fire. Goes on to the disintegration destruction of our food. turning it into poison. so this knowledge go on to the destruction of all Divine Life and Light in us unless also arrested by the Fire of the Holy Spirit. purging out all the old Leaven of the Animal Nature. and through faith of the Truth of these things. Lifting us into the Light and Life from which they originally proceeded. The first thing then is to Believe. to perceive that these things are True. and then to ascend from this first state to the next corresponding, to arise from the Natural. Carnal. to the Supernatural Spiritual. There is nothing that can save from the destructive power of this Natural Knowledge but its true Antidote. That of which it prophesys. the Spiritual Sciences. The New that was to come.

This is come and has come Lifting many

ten Thousands into a Divine Life. demonstrates the Truth of this Ancient prophecy.

I am afraid that you Veiled the Truth in Unrighteousness. Believing it Without Faith. / Receiving and not Believing. thinking that it is not the Truth. But the Inventions of a degraded priesthood of a degraded Faith. Such is not the Case.

You intended to divert Jew from going to the East by destroying his Faith by this disclosure. this is proof you did not believe.

But He having passed previously into that Higher Knowledge of which you are ignorant. and so having the Antidote Within. the poison would not work

Can it be possible that you have also called these things, to Counsel? God forbid.

Do you know that to do so is sin? is Criminal? it is really Devils Work and Veils have a Devils reward. —

Your Ignorance is profound. and on this do I base my hope of your forgiveness.

Any Dear Son You know not what you do. I forbear to go further —

And I hope you will in the present and future keep shut down in Oblivion Whatever You believe may injure any soul. to destroy faith in Christ is to kill the Hope of the World. and that also will destroy You — resist the Devil and He will flee from you. turn away your Eyes from these things. Look into the Heaven and it will be Veil for you.

I write in Genuine Earnestness. deeply impressed with my own Responsibility in this matter. trusting also for forgiveness in that I disclosed this Matter to You in the deepest ignorance of its danger —

To the Wise and Holy the True is also always the Good. While to the Unwise and impure the True may alone prove to be Evil. Unregenerate Humanity is unfit to see the Truth in a State of Nudity. pure Angelhood may alone look into the Open Book of the Universe. I tell you that you and I are in Danger of Eternal Condemnation.

I am more becoming aged & more Experienced a Great deal. More a little. Guess at much more. But of nothing am I so fully aware as of my own sinful nature. and the utter impossibility of escaping from it by my own efforts. There is no hope for one but in Christ. in that supernatural power which Lifts man out of the bondage of nature. If We shall trust in Him the Work will be done. He will be brought out of that bondage. Will receive free pardon. & will know it. Will feel it in our selves. This also is true. It may become a matter of knowledge to you by reading the biographies of the redeemed. all History & biography attests its truth - to a man who has read History Christianity in its advent demonstrates its saving power, the course of History has been upward ever since & more & more does Christianity take hold on the World & help its course. I trust you will ultimately be found working not against but with the power that will Eventually be Enthroned. not because it is to be Enthroned. But Because it is worthy to be -

Yours in Faith, Hope, & Knowledge.
J. L. -

Waterloo Iowa Oct 10th 98

[Answered]

Dear Mr Shearer

I received yours
so glad to hear you have been
so sick I hope you have got
right again you Must Excuse
of mine all well neer Toms
Father all well neer Toms
Letters 17 Pages all right.
~~good~~ Good Gale & you Dogs Mark
Way for The American Epistle
I Can't Think See that me have
got a young Turkey in The
Family I Tell you me do not
know what me have got to Come
To Le may get more a Doz of them
The Mail is Leave I must Stop
This State Some all right
(That Thing is all right
only take Care of yourself
in Hoste yours
Muncie W^m Shearer

1

P.O. Box 526 Mankato

Morning Oct 10th 1878

[Christie]

Mankato yesterday afternoon went

over to P O and found four letters

in my box all of them from my dear

dear one I did not read them then

I wanted to read them right there on

the spot but it was too late so I

waited untill after I got back home

for the least what a self denial it

was to waite 3 or 4 hours to read

them - It was 9 oclock last night when

I commenced reading them I read

them all over 3 or 4 times I was ever so

glad to hear from my Darling to know

that She is well felt like Crying some

of the time would have been happy

with you at my side - Dear do you

love me the thought of you being absent

Yes Indeed I do — your Christie

Do read my letters as soon as you receive them

yet all most two years grieves me terribly – there I am interrupted they want me at the Barn that is the way my time is taken up – One oclock P M it is clouding up and looks like rain My dear when on my way to Mankato yesterday I called at your Fathers he met me at the Barn & greeted me Cordially asked me in & he wanted to know who I had with me in the Buggy I said Stella was going in town with me the thought occured to me at once that he thought it was you I told him you had requested me to go there & get your Geology and send it to you by Mail he found it after looking some time for them he asked where you were I told him you were at Iowa City Iowa he wanted to know what you were doing there I told him that you were teaching I presumed in the University that was my impression I had not heard you say what school you did intend to teach – I wish you would tell me all about the School you are teaching how many teachers there are in the building My Dear Do you love me that is the most I am thinking about you Speak of Mrs Dressenwyler I have not seen her since you left her I think they have gone for I haven't seen Mr Dressenwyler for some time – My Darling do you want me to call you that I feel like calling you all the nice tender names that I can think of if I should call you by those names every time I feel like it I am afraid you would laugh at my weakness I want to say a word to you about those bad Dreams you Speak of you know what I think about dreams it is an indication that the Mental and nervous System is being over layed in some way – If I did not have any thing to trouble me but dreams I think I would get through this rough world quite gently – My Darling you seem to

be doubting the sincerity of My love for you how Can you My dear I wish you Could know how much how very much I love you I am thinking of you kindly & tenderly all the time that I am not busy at some thing about home I am planning also for our future happiness If I fail to do any thing you wish me to do you wont attribute it to a lack of love for you. Will you My Dear It is raining very hard — My darling your Speak in yours of the Seventh Inst about wanting $50 = My Dear did you not understand That I Could not let you have any more until the first of March next That was the understanding that dont matter I am glad to help you when I Can — you love me dont you I think you do I feel troubled about you all the time I have just paid out to the Workingmen all the money I had I hope you wont be angry with

But your Aurora Avild very sorry but can't help it over

Sunday Morning Oct 13th

My Dear the Morning is so nice
& I want to hear from you so
much I Will go down to day I am
not well but I think it wont
hurt Me to go - If well Enough
I will go down Again next
Tuesday My hand trembles so
this morning Pleas excuse poor
writing I dont forget to fix on
a time and place to meet as
soon as will be Convenient
for you Good Bye Again I love yo
Yours affectionately William

My Dear Sarah I will See what
I Can do in Mankato for the
way of getting fifty Dollars for you
If I Can get it I will Send it
the ~~first~~ next time I write dont depend
too much on it for I might possibly
be disappointed in getting it I think
you Can Expect it one week from Today
Good Bye again Yours affectionately
W Sloan

Saturday Oct 12th you will see by this
that I have been some time writing
this note – after the rain Thursday after
noon I decided to wait till Sunday
to finish this and take it to Manko
but I will finish this evening and
go down tomorrow – I can take one
of the teams on Sundays I would
have been ready and gone down
on foot to day – but I met with an
accident soon after I commenced
threshing of which I did not intend
to let you know about I went in
the field half mile from the house
to burn the Stubbles so I could plough
I set the fire & it burned nicely
to the out edge next to the fence
and jumped over the Ploughing
into the Prairie grass It was about
to get away I had a work to do then
& to do it quickly there was a bun
of willows near by that I went

to get to whip out the fire with
I bent them toward me & drew
the knife across the willows to me
and plunged the knife in my
knee severing a small artery it
bled profusely I took my pocket
hand kerchief & wound it tightly
around the limb above the wound
to stop it bleeding there I was alone
what to do I did not know I thought
of you Dear I looked all about & saw
Fred Stratton in hailing distance
he came over to the house & told
the men & they came up with the
team & carried me to the house
It is quite sore yet but it is out
of all danger I think - I cannot go
about much only with the carriage
Dear Sarah I want to say something
about next vacation you speak
of it in your note of the 7th Inst
I am ever so glad you thought
of it I had been thinking about it
my self - your plan of meeting
the last of November or the first
of December strikes me favorably
& think that would be a good time
about the 10th of November would be
more convenient for me any
time that suits your convenience
will be gladly & heartily accepted
by me & shall be absent from home
about the last of this month 2 or 3
days at a time on Evans account
& - D time will be out the first
of Nov he says he is going into
the Pinery hunting when his time
is out here & think we can come on
some plan & no one will suspect
I can have business to Mankato
or Minneapolis & more would
suspect - Do my Dear fix on a time
and place to meet & let me know
soon so I can be all ready at

The time I will have to close soon
I am allmost sick today I dont
feel avell Enough to Set up if
I dont feel better tomorrow Morning
than I do now I Shall have to give
up going to Mankato - I will go
if I Can be out of the house
Stella or Edwin Can drive the team
for me Stella & the Boys are well
Your Father & Nathan Dane & Family
were all well Wednesday write
Soon Do you love me Dear
Good Bye Yours Affectionately

Wilhamm

#33 Grays, Cambridge, Mass. Oct 11th 77.

My Dear Father:

I rec'd yours of 29 Sept. and read it with much pleasure and with an occasional Amen!, the Amen being strong and hearty in proportion as you kept aloof from stereotyped and traditional forms of thought.
I am getting on well in health, my liver having finally surrendered on condition that I take care of myself in future.

We started for Watertown on Wednesday morning 8 o'clock. I staid here in South Boston the Evening before. She will probably live a while at Mrs. Ford's and Mrs White's, with visits to Clyman but does not seem inclined to go to Iowa - at least not immediately. She said she would write me of things in Clyman - and I am very curious to know how the folks there are getting along.

Sarah, in her last letter, intimated

that stories had been circulated ~~in~~ Rapidan not much to the credit of Dave and me. Now, it surely isn't in vain that we have lived comparatively blameless lives, and if you have heard of anything worthy of notice, I should like to be informed of its nature. For I intend seeing Rapidan again, and whether I bring an olive branch, a horseshoe, or a six-gun battery, will depend somewhat upon the needs of that region. Mud thrown at me, or at anyone whom I know as well and as favorably as I know Dave, will be answered with hot shot, fish so soon as I can get in range — and I shall keep loaded to the muzzle till I do.

Today, after Prof. Byerly, Mr Wheeler (Instr. in Math. Sc. School), and myself had taken down Prof. J. M. Peirce's lecture on Binary Forms, the latter called after me that he wished to have a talk. So I stopped for him to pull on his old wool, and we had a tramp around the Yard together. The Peirces again! You know that Prof. Benj. Peirce was Superintendent of the Coast Survey for 7 years, and is now Consulting Geometer to the same — besides being the most eminent of American mathematicians and Senior Professor of math at Harvard. Well, the present Superintendent has written on "to him for a mathematician" with bodily strength, stomach, and plenty of mental" who is willing to begin as assistant (at 70 $ per month for the first year, while on trial) in the Dept. of Tides, and work up in the business, learning it in all its bearings, so that he may be fitted to take the position of Chief of the Dept. within a few years, since the present excellent Col. Whyler (I think they call him) is now 70 years old, and cannot be expected to last much longer than would suffice to help a younger man to the know of it. They want a man who likes, and delights in, plenty of math!

Paid J. M. Pierce — The pay is small — Especially so for the first year, but there lies before you a well-paid life position, one of the most responsible and honorable in our excellent Coast Survey; if it were a year later, I should urge you strongly to take it. And even as it is, in leaving it, you go to where the opportunities for scientific work of every kind are excellent," I wrote over to Benjamin Pierce. The grand old man received me as if I had been his own boy returned from a voyage to the Indies. He was fixed in a few minutes. "I will write on in less than 24 hours, and no doubt you will get it!"

This is how it stands now, and I will apprise you of further developements. I need not go to Washington till, say, Jan 1st. This will give me time to prepare on theory, and make it more likely that leaving will not forfeit my degree here.

Affectionately — Alex.

For The Inter Ocean.

A LAST GOOD-NIGHT.

A. CHRISTIE.

I summoned all of fancy's power that night,
To robe with joy the passing hour so bright,
For earth had not in dreams a single spot
Where fancy's footsteps wand'ring lingered not.

I bathed my thoughts in floods of tenderness,
And went, a silent prayer upon my lips,
To say good-by to you, a last good-night,
And linger near you, trusting all was right.

How hope lit up with glory all the land,
As tremblingly I sought to clasp your hand.
But, ah! a gulf had widened then between
Us, and alone you left me here to dream.

You stand on classic, upon holy ground,
Where hallowed seem the footprints all around.
There in that city of the thinking soul,
How gloriously beautiful the whole.

Majestic, too, those monuments of earth,
That prophesy a higher, holier birth;
With voiceless eloquence they speak to man,
Reminding him that life is but a span.

Remain a pilgrim, thou, at Holy Sepulcher,
Where perfumed breezes lofty branches stir;
Breathe thou those elements of learning still,
And slake at fountains rarest at thy will.

I only ask thy life may ever hold
Renown, and all of life's pure gold,
And breathe again the silent, heartfelt prayer,
God's love and guidance shield thee everywhere.

And may those elms whose boughs lend shade to thee,
In sorrow's storm a solace prove to be,
And may the trophies you have bravely won
Impart sweet peace to you when life is done.

Stockbridge, Wis., May 8, 1878.

of the Church of the Ascension was celebrated to-day, Bishop Smith, of Kentucky, presiding. A dozen clergymen were present besides. In the body of the church were William Cullen Bryant, Thurlow Weed, John Jay, and others. The services were very interesting, and the Rev. John Cotton Smith delivered a historical address on the church since its foundation.

MISCELANEOUS.

ATLANTA, Ga., May 13.—The General Conference of the Episcopal Church to-day resolved to establish a conference in Montana Territory. The resolution changing the boundaries of the Texas and Northwest Texas conferences was lost. Fraternal messengers from the Methodist Episcopal Church are expected in a day or two.

NEWARK, N. J., May 13.—The Reformed Episcopal Church Council have resolved to hold the next meeting in Christ Church, Chicago. The Rev. Mr. Sabine, from the Committee on the State of Church, reported increased parishes. There are 17,057 regular attendants, 5,808 communicants, and $800,000 worth of church property. The collections during the past year amounted to $280,785.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., May 13.—The Southern Baptist Convention adjourned this morning to meet in Atlanta, Ga., next May.

STRUGGLING FOR LIFE IN THE CLOUDS.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., May 11.—M. Lavelle, the aeronaut, attempted to make an ascension at Victor on Friday. The balloon was inflated, and when heated sufficiently, Lavelle stepped forward, dressed in tights, grasped the trapeze bar in his hand, and ordered the balloon cut loose. Unfortunately one guy-rope held fast, causing the balloon to careen frightfully before the cord snapped. The balloon finally broke loose, and, as it shot up with startling rapidity, swung the aeronaut with tremendous violence against the brick wall of a neighboring house. The brave fellow maintained his hold of the bar, and was drawn up the side of the building, tearing off the

Can I get all the music systems I need from the Arithmetics?

P. O. Box 544. Iowa City, Iowa.

Sunday Oct. 13, 1878.

My dear Brother,-

I will try to reply to-day to your letter of the 8th inst. Oct. 19. Sat.

The above is as far as I have time for - as I was interrupted by two young ladies who occupied the remainder of my Evening - I was glad for many reasons to get your letter & read it - - Bert - before I proceed to answer, will speak of the enclosure, the piece of poetry - Francis Stevens [redacted] read it - in the Duke Ocean Lark-Spring & spoke to me of it - The name - "A. Christie", attracted his attention. I requested him to bring it to me & he did - Father & myself both thought - from the reading - of the last verses particularly - that quite likely it was addressed to you - Have

you seem it- before I it this so.
I am quite curious about it- & im-
tended to have sent it- to you long
ago - Who is "A Christie" of Stockbridge
I am very glad to hear that you
are recovered again - I had the
very worst fears about you - If you
will only hold to this - & getting suffi-
cient sleep - I have no fear - that-
is one of the Universal panaceas
in which I have full confidence -
It does seem to me however, that-
the work of the year you have
marked out- for yourself - will be
sufficient- to keep you entirely applied
for more hours than will be consistent
either with sleep Enough, or good health
I do not at all credit what you seem
to think. That it was a disordered
liver & Kidneys troubles that ailed you.
I know better - The root- of it all
was in the nervous system - Of course
the whole system suffers if an injury

been saved if she had had Homeopathic treatment - And if Lou knew anything of the subject himself he would not permit little Anna to be given such quinine powders - The poor little one will be gradually weakened by their Allopath dosing - till finally she will not be able to withstand a severe attack either of natural or medicinal disease - Connie says she is a "delicate child" - I do not wonder - Men & women must go as missionaries - they should go to the work as those sent by the Mother Church & they must marry & have children - Let them not make martyrs of the little ones too - Let them give up the "world, the flesh & the Devil" or stay at home & take proper care of the little ones they are responsible for bringing into the world. I think Lou poor fellow will realize that before he has lived long in Turkey - I hope not - but I fear the very worst for the children - I have

has been done to many a heart - Kidney disease is often complicated with brain disease - or the reverse rather - The constant vomiting & continued shows clearly when there was no other sufficient reason for it - & if there were no other symptoms that it was from the brain - What kind of Doctors do you have there anyway - that they could not stop it & not allow you to suffer for "days" in that way - I could have quelled the most violent symptoms of that kind in half an hour - Try a good Homeopathic Physician Sandy - next time you're sick, just by way of experiment - I am quite certain You would never call again either any other kind for yourself or for anyone else if you could help it - I am thankful every day for the sake of humanity - that faith in Homeopathy is so rapidly spreading - Now if Lou had not been so much afraid of his wife Tempie - While he was in Beirut - he would have con-

mind sitooming himself in that direction - He commenced - but the war Union about it - & he was obliged to stop reading - Poor Tom - It is a well known fact - if people will only use their eyes - that Allopath kills two thirds of the children that die - with their strong, prostrating medicines - the delicate organisms cannot do battle with them successfully - If you are ever in a town where a children epidemic prevails - just be fair to all, & gather fact for yourself - note the number of each Doctors B school - as near as you can the number of cases of each & the number of deaths - then, after making all due allowance in all directions, where necessary, I am sure you will be fairly staggered - the large balance in favor of Homeopathy - Dr Scarlet fever & Diptheria of the Malignant type the old school Doctors seem to lose all skill & are seemingly unable to save more than a third of their patients - That is the way it went in Mankato this summer It was fearful - three & four children lost out of a family in several instances - & in one case - Seven out of eight were taken - in the last case - the poor mother went mad at it - is supposed for she went out of the house & has not been heard from since - It is thought she drowned herself - Dr Dornberg - the justly popular Homeopathic Doctor - lost but one case - & he was over burdened with work the whole season - Dr Mulick had attended during the season up to the time of my leaving 82 cases & lost but two. While the Allopaths about 2 or 3 Thunder & Mapleton lost many of which I have knowledge -

There is no doubt in my mind although no one can say about such things - but that Bessie might have

Medical Students - One Collegiate & one Academy boy - Write soon please - I get very few letters - for I do not wish to take the time simply to write to people -

Affectionately your Sister.
Sarah J. Christie.

written more in this direction than I ought - I will not have time to say all I wish in this way -
I am teaching in Grammar Dept - 37 scholars at $45. per month - My work is not Severe upon me - I get very tired at first - but it was more because I did'nt feel quite well, & everybody about me being strangers I am feeling well now - & all the leisure I have I study hard - preparing for Spring examinations in Boston -
There are several things I wish you would do for me - I would like you to get a new set of "Regulations" also send me this "Course of Instruction" if they publish one - I noticed in paper that many important changes have been made in this Course - & I would like to know to what & how such changes will affect the examinations, if any - Also would like you to find out what is this approved text-book in each department - for third grade

Certificate - That is the one for which I shall try - I have not as yet, but next week will begin if I can find teacher who will give me private instruction in Botany & German - I have been recommended to a good German teacher - but the time - I have not any idea as yet to whom I shall apply - As to the Electives - I have decided upon the first one for examination - That is if you remember - "The Eng. Language - it's Grammar, Rhetoric, Literature, & History" That will be the easiest for me to prepare on of any of the others - unless it be the last one - "Principles of Education, School Organization & Government, & Ancient & Modern Theories & Methods of Teaching, with illustrations of the best Methods of Teaching" - I lingered some time over that last, but I think that if we take into account "Methods" & "illustrations" that it would be the more difficult of the two - If you can & are willing, I wish you would do for me soon as possible what I have requested.

All will at home at last accounts all were on Wednesday of this week - so I heard from Mr. Simms - We sang Jane & Julia that day -

This is a beautiful city - people go into grape culture quite largely in the vicinity - The family where I live - shipped 40 tons this season mostly to Minnesota - They have a large vineyard - & also purchase to ship - The place claims 9000 inhabitants - The public schools are in excellent condition in all depts. There is also a Catholic College - St. Joseph's Institute, that has quite a reputation - also Nunnery or rather Convent School - besides which a good Prep. Academy - & the State University I must stop now as it is about tea-time & I must comb my hair first - Several boarders here - two teachers, several Law students - a couple of

U. S. Coast Survey Office.

Washington, Oct 14. 1878

My dear Chief,

Many thanks for your note of Sept. 30. I shall gladly employ Mr. Christie as we keep the plane open for him until January 10. or 15. when the pleasure from which you say of him & Brunet will be exactly the man I want. Give your plan due heed & arrange it

as you think. Inform me when date he can report here.

Yours ever truly

C. Patton

Please Answer.

Marash, Oct. 17th 1898

Dear A. I will not rest till I write you not to think of getting so costly a Barometer. Do not go over — any $8.00 — & if such good at that price do not buy at all. Shall answer your two letters soon. Mr. Adams of our Mission has left us for Boston. Try & see him. All well. long letter W.R. by D-graph. T. D. C.

ادارهٔ خيريهٔ عثمانيهٔ

1 NOVEMBRE 1875

Administration des Postes I. Ottomanes

Carte-Correspondance

SEP. OTTOMAN
20 PARAS

le 18

Alexander S. Christie.
158 Mt. Auburn Street
Cambridge Mass.
U. S. A.

$.40.50 Mankato. Oct. 19. 1875

Recd of W. L. Stevens Forty & 50/100 Dollars in full for a/c of A. Haulein agnt

M. G. Wieland

danger - I'll mail it & see what the Doctor says I thought. I wish you would write Sarah. -

Box 544, Iowa City, Iowa,
Saturday, Oct. 19, 1878.

My dear Father, [James Christee]

I am well & hope you are also. I hear by Mrs Stevens occasionally that you are all well. I have looked daily for letters from you & Dave but have not had none yet. I wish you had the experience just for a time, of being entirely cut off & Separated from Every face you Know or care for - You would then perhaps realize how I feel here. You would look & think even a little more anxiously than you do now for the mail. I tramp to the post office regularly. three times a day - morning noon & night. I was almost sick here for the first week. It was the new work & the change of air & diet. I suppose but now, I am feeling quite well -

Ask Mrs Stevens if she wanted more

I am in a Grammar Dept. & have so far, Enrolled 37 Scholars - I get-along with the continuous routine but it is a very orderly room, & the work is easy - I hear that Mrs Stevens has said that I was teaching in the University - I just vexed her - him about it - I cannot imagine what she could be thinking of to say so - I, for my part never even said the word "University" to him, & I told him distinctly that Mrs Lofgren had written me of two places in Public Schools I could get - one in Clinton & one here - & that I had applied at both places, & was offered, & accepted, place here but - that I did not know, that - Dept. I would have until I came. I think he must have been dreaming while I was telling him about it - I have given him a "going over" as they say, about it; It puts me in mind of a ridiculous light, when I am only in a little Gram. room.

This is a good fruit-country - Plenty of all kinds - cheap - The family here own a fruit farm - two miles out - & ten acres in grapes - They have already shipped 40 baskets, & 3 crates, mostly to Minnesota - They not only ship their own, but also purchase for the same purpose - They send a great many direct to Mankato - More still, to Albert Lea, Winona St. Paul & Minneapolis - The old Gentleman brought up a whole box to my room today & set it down, told me to help it & eat all I wanted. Nearly half a bushel in it - The children had fine ones & apples, - These that I have in my room - I have thought constantly this afternoon how much I wish you had them here - & for Sandy & Dominie too - Every big red apple I see lying round here & there in the windows - I want-

so much to give it to Donnie & Sandy.
I do wish you lived in a fruit-
country - It is half the living of the
people here - Their tables are laden
with nice fruit, or food prepared
from them, three times a day. -
While I think of it - I wish you
would send me that last photograph
you - I will be careful
when send it - by mail, or take it -
to you at Christmas, if I live till
then. - I have a pain in my left-
knee for about a week - night-under
the knee-pan - yesterday & today - it
has been very keen so I could hardly
touch it - It pains me when I walk.
I am not conscious of having hit, or
injuring in any way - I am terribly
worried about it - for fear it may
be something coming about - the joint-
to make me a cripple - I am going
to a Doctor about it - tomorrow or Monday
if it keeps as bad - I wonder if Mr Stevens
would marry me if I were a cripple?
I think I will hurry up & get him to
marry me at once, if I think there is any
danger - I'll wait & see what the Doctor
says I thought. - I wish you would write Sarah. -

Box 544, Iowa City, Iowa,
Saturday, Oct. 19. 1878.

My dear Father, [James Christee]

I am well & hope you
are also. - I hear by Mr Stevens occa-
sionally that you are all well - I
have looked daily for letters from
you & Dave, but have heard none
yet. - I wish you had the experi-
ence just for a time, of being entirely
cut off & separated from every face
you know or care for - you would
then perhaps realize how I feel here.
You would look & think even
a little more anxiously than you
do now, for the mail - I tramp to
the post-office regularly - three times
a day - morning noon & night. -
I was almost sick here for the
first week - It was the new work
- the change of air & diet - I suppose
but now, I am feeling quite well -

Asks Mr Stevens if he would marry me if I had to be a cripple for life.

Clyman
Sunday Evening
Oct 20th 1850

Dear Cousin [deceased]

I find Clyman just about the same as ever
It seemed good to me to
get back among old friends
Gen Burnett Lyle
rented Maj Miller's
farm for one year and
Gerrish is keeping house
for Mrs all kinds of
Sarah Burroughs
The Clowes have moved
into Gens house on the
Fullen place - and Maggie
and George are in Gilmore's
old house George having
rented Byrons land. Of
Mr Miller is dead you

know. I went over
to see the Reads yesterday
and left a couple of dollars
with Mrs Gibbs to be
used as she thought
best for Jess, Gibbs her
ex mate from you. The
Mc Lady seems to be pretty
poorly Mr Read
wishes to sell out and
go to Bryan, He says
Billie has bought some
land there and is doing
well at his printing
business. I left Reads
just about five o'clock
in the afternoon and as
I came by the catholic
church door through the
window the altar lights
burning alone amid
the gathering twilight

How strange that
seemed in this age of the
world. It was just as if
we had gone back to the
middle ages. Every thing
is queer in a town where
the priest is the only
man of culture and
learning, but I have
lived for it so long
it seems quite homelike
to me. I do not have
any thing to write to you about
that would be of interest.
I went up to our old home
and had tea with the folks
They have the dining room
carpeted and every thing
looks nice. The Irish
people are a fine hearted
and good in the town of
Clyman Aunt Jessie & the

but when among folks are
all strangers they are
the best behaved people
while they are all
members, the girls
never leave their
seats, they are
as meek as
I am
until school
is out, I do not
shall see
at least,
to play
Before and
Forget all
Hurrah
Dear Sir, Miss Smith asked
Later one of your friends
Yours Truly

Marash, Turkey, Oct. 23. 1878.

Good Friends All:

The Papyrograph has come! "The what!" The Papyrograph, that wonderful contrivance for copying any kind of manuscript. I am now writing this one letter; after it is written, with about two hours of light, pleasant work (just the thing for after-dinner exercise) I shall multiply the one into a hundred, each as good as the original. "How is it done!" Well, in brief this is the method: "The letter is first written in the usual way upon Papyrograph paper with Papyrograph ink. It is then floated upon water, and the ink being loosened is removed in the ordinary way of cleaning letters, thus making a porous stencil. This stencil is then lightly pasted upon the written side with Papyrograph color, and placed upon a pad of velvet, pasted side downwards, and, upon being pressed (in a common copying press) color is forced through the lines of the stencil and brought into contact with the paper employed for printing, upon which is formed a perfect fac-simile of the writing." So the advertisement describes the process: it is very simple, a child can use it, and yet see what it does. I am writing to all of you, — and could write to a thousand more, — with only one Effort of the pen. A hearty shake of the hand, then, to you all, good friends, and three cheers for the Papyrograph!

And now, as most of you have heard but little from us since we left America, you will find no fault if the first part of this letter is made largely personal. It is just one year ago to-day since we landed at Scanderoon and took our first taste of Missionary Experience. While I am

I think I shall never forget that sudden, horrible sinking of heart that I felt when first the reality of the life I had chosen stared me in the face there at Kaudeerom. To heighten my sensations it happened that on our way from the shore to the office of the American Consul we had to pass through a throng of about two hundred Moslem pilgrims on their way to Mecca. O those dark, fierce, sensual faces! not a gleam of any kindly feeling, of any spiritual life upon them, nothing that could show friendship in even the least degree for purity and goodness. What must the heart be behind those faces! And I had come to make my home for life among these men! I cannot describe to you the longing with which my heart turned at that instant to the dear Home-Land we had left one month before. Unconsciously precious seemed to me then the sweet light of our Western Christian Civilization; Home, friends, the Church, the School, literature, Christian fellowship, — how brightly they shone to my almost fainting heart. And they were all past, given up, perhaps never to be enjoyed again; here, in the midst of this hideous corruption and death was to be my place and that of my family. It seemed for a moment as if the thought could not be endured; as if I could not make the sacrifice. I think my face must have been pale as death; I felt weak as a child. It reminded me much of the feeling that always comes over one in the old Soldiering days at the first sight of the Enemy's line of works just before the battle. At such moments, before the soul's Energies are summoned up at the call of Duty, Every thoughtful man I Ever Knew has been willing to confess himself a very Coward. Imagine, then, the fearful sinking of my heart when

a letter awaiting us at the Consulate told us of Mrs Bickford's death of small-pox at Marash. It seemed that nothing certainly could be added now to deepen the gloom nothing on earth. At such moments the active powers of the soul refuse to put forth their accustomed energies; the man goes forward mechanically, pushed on by previously acquired momentum, like a ship whose engines have suddenly stopped. Happily, we are so constituted that at just such crises we find something within us whose firm utterance is, not, indeed, "Forward!" but simply this, "Vestigia nulla retrorsum, not a step backward." And simply because we cannot go backward we do advance, though with teeth shut hard, and all the craven heart within us quaking with fear.

Then, in brief space the Lord, held fiercely with force to the front, rallies again its active powers; the man feels the mighty Engines Start once more; he says to himself, "Begone ye craven feelings! Onward! for very shame." And then comes the sweet Exhileration of victory. Everything high and worthy within us rousing up at the call of Duty, and springing forward with abounding joy sits the path pointed out by her commanding finger.

I suppose that every Missionary Experiences at one time or another this inward struggle of which I have been speaking. To one it comes when he first faces the question whether he will go into Missionary service; to another at the moment of parting from friends or native land, — but at one time or another every man going into such a work must fight a real battle in his own soul, and conquer once for all. I now see that in my case the issue had never been fairly faced before; I had made the decision without much struggle; I had parted from friends with so light a heart that the thought of it reproached me afterwards, — but the exercises of my purpose were not thoroughly subdued, they were only waiting a favorable opportunity to throw themselves upon me, and when they came they came in force, and I feel impelled to say that they nearly overcame me. Such was my Battle of Assaye.

"May I not say in entire confidence, dear friends, that that quarter of an hour's Experience — for it lasted no longer — has enabled me to understand Gethsemane as I never did before? That awful and mysterious utterance "This Cup" has now more meaning to me than it had before I drank the

bitter; bitter dregs of my own cup there on the shore of Isles. A like experience has never come since my whole life prove that Love has been one continual song. At the very close of that hard struggle of which I have spoken, there came such a glorious revelation of Christ as filled my whole being with exulting joy. I remember especially that when we were ascending the steep pass (the Syrian Gates) that afternoon on our way to Beilan, I was full of thought of the scenes those cliffs on either side had looked down upon. "For twenty-five centuries," I said to myself, "this has been the path of armies. The host of Greece, of Persia, of Parthia, of Rome, of Egypt, of the Crusades and the Moslem have swept through this Pass, each host following its peculiar military Ensign." And then my heart leaped up at the thought of the Banner under which we were marching through the Syrian Gates, and of the Captain who was leading us on. Rev. 19: 11–16. Glorious Immanuel, Who would not follow where Thou leadest, Mighty Conqueror of the Nations!

The spring of Friends, to-day, I would say that since this hour one year ago today I have had more rich and full and blessed Experience than ever before, of Christ

love of Christ which passeth knowledge. He has been near me, consciously so, and His presence has given me such joy that often when journeying I have been compelled, so to speak, to break out in songs of praise as I rode along. O Friends! I wonder if all who read this letter know what I mean when I speak of these things. O that this Joy of the Lord might become the strength of all your heart, as it surely will when you put yourselves without reserve into His hands, take up your cross (each has his own,) and follow Him.

The year has been full of blessings to us. My wife and myself have had most Excellent health, with but slight exceptions; and our little Anna (now nearly three years and five months old) has recovered permanently, to all appearance, from the ague which hung upon her during many weeks of last winter. On March 17th our boy was born, and although brought near to death by small-pox when only three months old, he is now thriving as finely as any parent could wish. My work has been in great part the study of the Turkish language. It has been and is yet a very difficult work; but I am thankful that some progress has been made, so that I now converse with considerable ease, and have

began lately to teach a class of young men in the Sunday-School. In addition to this study of the language, I have been able to help Mr. Montgomery a little in our Theological Seminary. As most of our young men studying for the Ministry have a passable knowledge of English. Last year I had a class in Dwight's Theology, and am now teaching Eight men in Hebrew. If you add to this a tour to Borja last Fall, and nine trips, over the fifty-four miles of mountain and plain lying between this place and Aintab, (mostly on business connected with the College at Aintab), you will have a pretty good idea of my first year's work in Turkey.

Let me now close this letter with something practical. We have here just the beginning of a Seminary Library. For the purchase of new books the Board has for a few years past granted us about forty dollars a year, so that the library is growing slowly. Still, we could use to good advantage a far larger number of books than we have now or shall be likely to have for many years unless the Library Fund is increased in some way. I write therefore to try this plan: Once in two months I will

write each of you a letter the size of this, adapted for use in Missionary Concerts as well as for private reading. To send in such letters will cost me for postage and writing materials about fifty cents. Now if you will pay me a dollar for the list there will remain from it fifty cents for the Library Fund; and if there are a hundred of you we shall have fifty dollars a year with which to buy good books. What say you Friends! I would not for anything diminish your regular contributions to the Board, nor enter into competition with the Missionary Herald; but it strikes me that the plan I propose may be helpful in stirring up an interest in Missions, and may do great good here — without being objectionable on either of the above accounts. In my next, two months hence, I shall give some account of the Central Turkey Mission and accompany it with a map. If the plan please you, Reader, send your name and P.O. address, and one dollar to my brother — "Alex. S. Christie, 158 Mt. Auburn St. Cambridge Mass." If you write to us here, as we hope none of you will fail to do, address (with 5 ct. stamp) Marash, Turkey in Asia, By International Post, Via Constantinople." Wife joins in love to all; Yours in the Good Cause, J.D. Christie.

Retrospect.

This letter goes to one hundred and forty of our friends, and they will share it with many more in their respective localities. We did not know there were so many of you until we actually reckoned up the number of your names. Thanks, thanks to the great Friend of all that you are so many! And hearty, wholehearted salutations to you all. In writing of this letter questions over prayers for you, as I sit reading, we hope yours may be ascended for us.

There are many defects in both the mechanical and the literary execution of this writing, toward which I hope you will be charitable. Better success next time. This Retrospect is a needful diversion. I have struck off these pages at the rate of six a minute; think of writing a three-page letter like this in one minute and a half! This invention and cheap International postage are great helps toward the fulfillment of the prophecy, "Many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased."

Give us your help, Friends, in bedecking the

Good-when there is convenience of it—to pay postage. Many
thanks to you.

a much-needed Theological Library here, and I will help to increase your knowledge of this most interesting Mission Field. Please notify of my intention those Pastors or other Christians of your acquaintance who would be likely to welcome such assistance in quickening missionary interest in their churches. "Back numbers" of these letters can always be easily supplied, as the stencils are preserved and can be used again at any time.

Thomas D. Christie.

My Dear Father;

This is a wonderful age, isn't it! The whole world seems to be coming together and looking in at each others windows. The postage on this letter costs me only one cent and six mills, as we buy the stamps with paper-money reckoned at par, while that paper is bought & sold at the rate of 100 in gold for 325 in paper. It seems incredible that so small a sum will insure the carrying of a letter from Marash to California! Then the Papyrograph! I cannot praise it enough. We have hosts of friends to whom we promised letters: to write them by hand would be an endless work, and this new invention comes happily to our relief. All doing quite well: I am just taking the care of our 2nd Church upon my hands: Turkish will have to move down now from my

[Oct 25, 1878]

Friday, 10 P.M.

Dear Alexander, —

Mr. T. tells me that you had a pretty severe attack of your former complaint. Sorry you by all that is dear to both of us, by our friendship and our common interests to take care of yourself, and not only that but that you come out here if possible and take a rest of a week or two in order to recruit. It ought to be possible to you. Mr. T. will give you money to come if you should have none;

and I have more here.

What is money, ay, what is knowledge, Alexander, if you have not health. Come, surge age! says Virgil, come out here and do not try to cheat nature, non vult decipi.

You know that every body will be glad to see you, and every one also thinks that you ought to rest. — But how shall I persuade you? Think of your aged father, he would be sad to know how you treat your own self. — As to money, I say again, that I claim it as the privilege of a friend to assist you to the uttermost of my ability.

Longing to see you

Your Conrad.

Mr. S. S. Christie

Witness of Mr. E. Tilton.

Andover, 10/27. Sunday A.M.

[1878]

Dear Alexander, —

Yours of Friday reached me yesterday, or rather, last night at 7½ P.M.; it was then too late to send off a money order; and I was very sorry for it, too; however, I ought to have sent you some ere this, for I might have known that you were on the dry land. Enclosed you will find $5.00 for your own personal needs, and $2.00 with which I should like to have you go to Sever's Book Store and buy 20 copies (no more and no less) of that little pamphlet which gives an extract of Whitney's German Grammar and is now being used by that section of the Freshman Class to which Mr. Tilton belongs, and perhaps by more of them. The latter can tell you all about it, if you see him; if not, you will find the right article anyway, I think, by means of my description; the thing has no name and as it is difficult to call it

something. The price is 10 ¢ per single copy; if you have the courage to ask whether they make a deduction for buying twenty, well and good! They told Mr. Tilton that they would sell 30 cop. for 8 ¢ a piece; what they will do with 20 cop. is hard to tell. I want them soon, ay, immediately, if that is possible to you; and I should prefer to have you bring them in persona; else send them by mail, and let me know what you paid for them so that I may know what price to ask from my pupils. — Thus far for business. Now, while I am glad to hear that you intend to visit me, I do not rejoice at your idea of making preparations for a loan in Mr. Thompson's name, and breaking up house keeping at Harvard. However you are not very concise in this respect; you write about staying up at H. and sitting up at Wash. Now, how in the world can you expect me to figure out "at what time?" Oh! I long to see you and have a talk with you; there are thousand and one things I want to speak about. — Thanks for the information gathered from Mr Booker! 400 ¢ is just what I figured on, yes, sir, exactly that. I have not yet given up the idea; and am thinking, or rather, trying to think up sources whence to borrow money which is a task "haud facilis" as Virgil would say, by no means easy. Yet, somehow or other, I hope to be able to carry it out. As to skipping the Freshman year, I know not what to say. It seems feasible and yet not feasible, just as you look at it. We will talk about that. Come up to A. now, and do not leave me any longer in this uncertitude. I wish that I could send you

[illegible] more money, but, at present, I am myself not very well supplied. I have thus far taken in 249 $ this term, and I look for 130 $ more toward the end of the term. I sent H. E. Freudenberg $ 35.00 the other day; my board is paid in advance up to almost the middle of February; my rent is adjusted till Jan. 1st; coal and wood are bought and paid for; tuition of this term paid etc. etc. „Mein Herzchen, was willst du noch mehr!" — Well may you exclaim: "Oh! for Professor Churchill!" Our Phillips boy, Mr. Firman, class '78. took a jerque in the Freshman Class for reading, than at Harvard, I mean, at Athens, yes, sir, on the very acropolis! I knew he would soon begin to clean out things there when I heard the Juniors and Seniors read last June. — Letter from Thomas, dated Sept. 12,. Marash; they are preparing to remove to Marash into a new stone house on the hill; all well. You can imagine what the contents of T's letter are; creeds etc.; else I should send to you.

Yours as ever, not exactly impecunious, but "busy".

Conard.

Saratoga Winona Co:
Minn: Oct 27th/78

Dear Brother, [deaf] Your Letter to me of the 18th ult: came to hand yesterday, and I must say it was gladly received. We are glad to hear of your welfare, and that you are still this side the veil, indeed as far as we are concerned here it seems as though we were completly isolated from all our kith and kin, and are as it were on the outskirts of creation, but I do not feel much on the "Ragged Edge", nor am I particularly insane, or "working" I were dead" on account of the state of affairs, or an account of the miserable crops of wheat I have had this season although it is hard to tell how whence where money will come from to buy for the Boots and clothes my family must have, and like wise not to be forgotten "Mr Cucumber". I would like to give an I O U, not with the intention of never paying it but to obtain in two years at most, and so forth, wheat weighs 52 pounds to the bushel 9 bushel to the acre 11 acres not worth cutting, market value of what I have cut and sold 55 cents per bushel, of 60 pounds,

Oats. 40 bushel to the acre 7 acres.
market value 18 cents per bushel,
Paid 23 dollars and 60 cents for thrashing,
3 le: for harvesting and hand for help. Stacking
and thrashing with my own labor. has paid
30 dollars of interest on money and some
other things besides. and wonter to be had
yet and we are now somewhat short on
bread and seed for the incoming season
such is life. with me and mine, I do not
know how they are fixed out west, have
not heard from them lately, when I do get
a Letter it is so full of preach. or about pratic
that do get out of all patience, although I do not
let Father know how I feel about it,
now I have given you a very concise and truthful
view of my present status. and I suppose you
were to write and tell me I had sinned,
and that so and so had not sinned. you
would do just as Father done one time, with
me, Now as to my family The Laddies are
all well, and doing well. and our Lassie,
is also well. in fact there is not a healthier
family in the united States than mine,
I am at times a little out of sorts with
Rheumatism. or Piles, but not to be serious
Dick,

But I suppose you are anxious to know my Views in regard to Your ideas of the Peculiarity of the Universe, Well Sir I do not doubt it all as has not done for some years, and let me tell You it is not new by any means, when I lived in Wisconsin at Uncle Williams, I procured a book called Mahomets Electrical Theory of the Universe, in which the Views set forth were given in a different way, and also the doctrine of Evolution was taught therein, But Christ ianism has given it rather the Spirits of Men & Women made more perfect in Knowledge, has given me some very useful Lessons, on this very Subject, and Still do teach that we will change in identity, or be worked over again and again, and infinitum as You do, although I must admit, I am plagued at times when I try to think of living Eternaly and acquiring Knowledge continualy, and keeping my identity forever. I have summed up a formula, like this Man is finite in his powers, infinite in his desires, and has all Eternity in which to grasp and Expand this

now the foregoing seems verbose it does carry a contradiction in itself, but you may see what I mean, now what would this living over and over again amount to, if we were to be just the poor weak things we are, for one of Capts characters, holds out the same idea he was a ship Carpenter, and a Scotchman and he was the butt of the ships crew, on account of telling them, that in 2000 things Over 24X thousand years, they would be doing the very same thing over again, they were standing and soon and on Periodicals, for ever and ever

But Why are you going to Washington, are you changing for the better, is your dad Superintendent at Harvard, how is Tom and Connie, and the Little ones out in God forsaken country Please write often and do let us know all about them

Mary is well and as hard working a woman as you could find, ever patient, not often discouraged, but this year she feels somewhat blue and I do not blame her, in fact it seems as though we would never get our noses off of the grind stone, but Life is a School I suppose and but Legal theft and social Sinners are at fault, or we would be better off, than we are, this year there has been 4 000 000 000, bushels of wheat raised in this Country besides 1,200,000 000, bushels of corn, and yet people cannot have enough to eat, or wear, Give us a retribution rather than sporadic continuance of such things

Yours in all truth J Williams & Christie

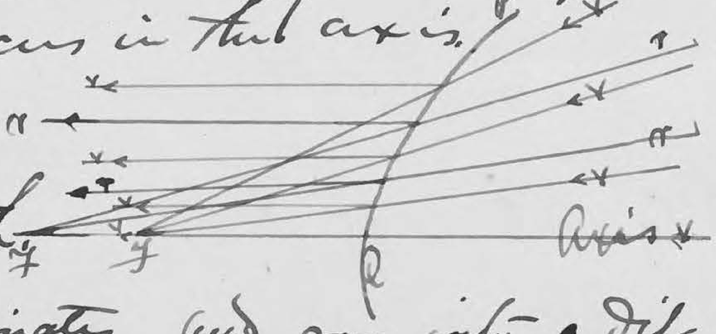
The Student's Saturday Night.

[Oct 28 1878]

My Dear Father — You are probably in receipt of a cheery letter from Paris, a "quadruplicate" of which I rec'd this morning, read, and in ten minutes had posted for Andover, to that young Hanoverian who now seems almost a brother and one of the family. I need not comment on Tom's letter. He is still admirable as correspondent. I feel that there, if nowhere else, he stands forward among the foremost ranks. You remember how it was during the war. I am glad that we saved his letters then, and I hope that it will be managed that Everything sent from Orient may be preserved. If your copy is always quite legible, why, that will do. But rather

than lose a word, I will copy them all, if necessary. The copy I get is sometimes very trying to the eyes, and not to be depended upon for the future.

Today has been quite a day for me. I think I wrote you that Mr Hall wanted help in Meth. About Christmas - and I surmised that it was in getting up his Thesis. Well, Mr. H. called in last night and wanted me to give about 3 hours to working out the geometrical dispositions to fulfil the conditions of his New Theory of Vision. I was taken into the secret - necessarily: and indeed I must truly say that I was immediately interested not a little. For although Mr. Hall's geometrical conceptions were very vague at times, on the whole the idea was an excellent one, and may prove of importance. It would be hardly fair to go into details. Even with one so distant, nor would it be practicable to betray him utterly - the thing is so intricate. The first matter was to determine the form of a lens which would refract parallel to the axis all the differently colored rays proceeding to different foci. I set about that today. And first, to determine the surface which would turn into parallelism to the axis all the rays of one kind - say violet - proceeding to a focus in the axis.



AB is cross section.

I started first with Cartesian co-ordinates and ran into a differential Equation of 1st order & 4th degree, the Algebraic Solution of which might be Extremely difficult, and the after integration would probably be impossible. With little hope of improvement, I tried polar co-ordinates. To go, and time spending fearfully. I bethought me. Mr. H. is not bound to determine the exact geometrical form. The microscope reveals no form of any kind - the matter is too minute for the best instruments, and what really devolves upon H. in support of his theory, is, to show that such a form is possible, and assume that Nature has chosen it. If it accounts for the facts and cannot be proved untrue - why, that is all that can be expected - that is all that is possible, and that is more than Young, Helmholtz, Young, or any one else does. I determine that all the roots are not imaginary, that is, that solution will give

at least two, perhaps four, real values for dy/dx, and integration will give two or four real surfaces, which may be all different, or all coincident. I am sure of at least one surface — and that is all I need care for. Note now, I am not able now, I might never be able to determine the form of that surface: all I know, and it suffices, is, that such a surface can exist.

Again, I show that the Equation of that surface contains one, and only one, variable parameter: wherefore one and only one condition can be imposed upon the surface (to which condition the variable parameter adjusts itself and becomes henceforth fixed), that is, in addition to disposing properly of one kind of ray — any which it can dispose in the same way of only one other kind. What is proved is, that a surface can exist, which will throw into parallelism to the axis two kinds of rays, tending toward two different foci, but cannot adjust the other kinds. In the figure, I have drawn a violet and two red rays. However, a lens right for red and violet, could not be far

wrong for the intermediate colors, and practically, indeed very accurately though not absolutely, the surface fulfills the required conditions. Mr. H. is to read his paper to-morrow (Sunday) before the Club (Drs. Bowditch, James, Etc.) and afterward publish. I will read before it goes to press and revise mathematical statements. There is no mystery about this higher analysis. The beginner thinks there is, and when one hears a mathematician talking of the curve of intersection of two imaginary surfaces, and saying furthermore that this intersection of two imaginaries may be real - as real as any line-fence in Rapidan — it sounds like Magic. But though it has wonderful power, there is not a trace, not from for the slightest trace of a shadow of Abracadabra, Aladin's Lamp, or the other mysteries about it. Its power springs from its reality. It really conforms to the make-up of this Universe, and hence is able to lead us into the secrets of the orderly Cosmos.

Calculus rests upon the Infinite, all forms of higher analysis do likewise. But what is more common than the Infinite, the unlimited, the boundless, the endless,

the ever-changing, the age-enduring, the never-ceasing? Stand where we will, in any one of an infinite number of places, are there not an infinity of directions, in which one might travel an infinite distance in an infinite time? These, and the like, are the infinites of the higher analysis, As to imaginaries in mathematics. They are but Algebraic Expressions for given conditions, or for resulting conditions. Just as an Equation $x = a$ or $x = 6$ is a statement that ~~that~~ John paid a cents, or 6 cents, for apples after having bought a given number of oranges at a fixed price; so $x = a\sqrt{-1}$, an imaginary expression, simply lets us know that John could not have done any such thing, there being conditions incompatible with each other — as, for instance, the number of the ~~apples~~ oranges and their price being in excess of his money. And so, when a mathematician says that all points at infinity lie upon a straight line; if he be a half mathematician, or have so great a veneration for his book ~~it~~ as to interpret it "just as it reads", he will, mayhap, stupidly wonder and adore, he may dance about for joy, or go up and down openly professing and glorying in his nonsense; but, otherwise, he will know that such a monstrously absurd thing cannot be true, and, hence, cannot be proved true. It may be ever so fruitful a principle; one may, by using it, demonstrate propositions with a stroke or two of the pen that would by other methods require chapters; nevertheless, a man with horse sense will die at the stake before he can swallow such a proposition — that all points infinitely distant lie on a straight line, called the line at infinity. For these points, however far off, lie all round him and above and below him, and no straight line can be drawn all round him. Therefor, there must be something wrong in the reasoning by which such a proposition has been apparently established, or some looseness in definition, or haste in laying down axioms, or too great readyness to grant postulates. His perception

that a straight line cannot be drawn all round him, nor that a line, having neither breadth nor thickness, can contain infinite space, is direct, axiomatic as his own existence. The establishment (so called) of the proposition propounded for his acceptance, has required a dozen axioms, a thousand definitions, and six or ten years of Edification liable at any moment to dangerous Error. What can the man do? Take off his hat and swear by the Great Geometer, who, in a normal and healthy way, made right lines straight and squares rectangles, that there is no truth in it, and he does not want it to be true. He would feel uneasy if it were true; for then what might not happen. He would then feel that there is no God. That the use of "the line at infinity", as if that line contained all points & hence all space at infinity, lead to true results, does not necessarily prove it to be the line at infinity, not a great many things told of it. It does prove, however, that in all likelihood there is a truth, and an important one, wrapped up in all this mystery; and on

a more careful Examination, it turns out that there is no absurdity about it; that in fact the Geometer doesn't use the line at infinity at all, but a certain Algebraic Expression, a form in symbols called "for short" "the line at infinity", but which it would take a clear-headed professor of mathematics the better part of a week to give its real Christian name; and that it is a case in every respect Analagous to calling Richard Defoe Montague Scraggins, Dick, when you have to call him to dinner and do not wish to lose your own. So, again, no clear-headed, really Enlightened, and conscientious mathematician would wish any of his hearers to base his salvation upon the sublime mystery that any two circles intersect in four different points, even though the circles be concentric, and that all circles, great or small, near or far, around, above, or below, all pass through the same two points, and these two points, common to all circles, lie at infinity. That is only Dick's brother Harry — not the Old Harry by any means — and his full Christian

name, though not unpronounceable, is seldom pronounced, the more brief Harry, less euphonious and liable to ambiguity, serving all practical purposes much better. But they were'nt baptized Dick and Harry, mind that, nor are Dick and Harry known to the Law. In law, and in fact, Harry and Hank are not.

I believe that the most of these holy mysteries would share the same fate as the mysteries of mathematics, if subjected to as rigid scrutiny. Either, they would prove to be palpable truths (when you get near enough to touch them) at present quite misunderstood; or down-right nonsense in every possible sense. There are no mysteries. Many things are only half seen, most things are not seen at all. But when once clearly seen, we see nothing to wonder at more than the links of a chain; and that on the Queen's neck is, as a chain, exactly like the one on the watch-dog. Why, the mathematicians could deluge a thousand planets with holy mysteries, (I repeat, everything else is a holy mystery, or there are none.) And the time was when they swore each other on the holy Evangelists to keep the holy mysteries from the vulgar. Didn't Tartaglia swear Cardan in 1539 (March 25) to keep forever secret the solution of three cases of Cubic Equations, and before he did "to write them down in cypher, so that no one, to the end of the world should ever be able to find it out"! ? And Briggs of Oxford, when he journeyed from London, may have had some misgivings whether Canny Johne (or Jhone) Napier would tell him "owt" about it. Talk about supernatural knowledge? Can't Huggins — in spite of the stupidity of his name — tell you any morning how much salt the man in the Moon has thrown into his porridge, and whether it is hot or cold? And when there is death in the pot, can't Bunsen tell everything about

it (Except who put it in), though the pot were in Syria? "And more money!"

Many of the ~~most~~ more difficult things are in reality the easier. The circus rider would slide off the horse if the latter stood still, and the mathematician who leaves the arrow to take care of itself and traces the path of a comet through the celestial spaces, has left a very difficult for a very easy problem. But to the vulgar, the man who can measure off a comet's tail like so much calico, — and a great deal, ten thousand times more accurately — and tell where Jupiter's moons are morning, noon, and night, is a flour-house of mystery. I hope that this general dissemination of knowledge will go on, until men will get together and agree that there is no longer any mystery for anybody to be the sleek custodian of; that there are many facts, of which the more we know the better, and how they stand correlated; that man himself is only (and that is a great deal — how much?) a link in the chain, that Jupiter, instead of going to his own place, was always in it, and that necessarily, for no man can get out of his place, no

more than a planet out of its orbit; and that Ministers of the Gospel are made like shingles, but out of poorer stuff — all of which I can solemnly aver.

The greatest of all questions is, — While this Existence goes on in the usual way, how to preserve it in its normal relation to all that is about it. I don't think that man should worry over the next world. He will, as a rule, get there soon Enough, and, as a rule, he will be heartily sick of this one before he leaves it. But his Endeavor should be to be practical, to live a healthful life, and leave the world after him a little better than they left him. Ergo; the sun having gone South in his old determined way, deaf to all invocations, and ruled by laws of which the folks who "rolled the Psalm to winthysties" knew not of, it is most fit that we throw more bottles of sunshine upon the hearth, breaking the bottles, and as the disfettered forces chase each other up the Chimney, let us thank God for what we have and that our neighbors also have, and wait patiently for the Spring — the Spring, which renews our youth, and the most glad and gracious of our many gifts.

Very (late) truly (used up) Yours, Alexander.

(copy)

33 Grays Hall
Cambridge, Mass
Oct. 30, 78

Dear Sir,

Professor Peirce has handed me yours to him of the 14th instant. I should prefer to begin work with you on the last day you mention - Jan. 15th - as that would permit me to finish term here and take a trip home. Please inform me if this meets with your approval.

Yours very truly
Alex. S. Christie

Hon. C. P. Patterson
Supt. U.S. Coast Survey
Washington D.C.

33 Grays Place,
Cambridge Mass Nov^r 1^st 78.

My Dear Father,

Yours of 18^th ult. has been here for some time awaiting an answer. In the first place you put altogether too much reliance in the etolaric character of what I have in my possession. It is an open secret, I doubt not, to many; and certainly I know that much of it is so. Again, as to its importance. I regard it as an improved doctrine of itself, and as not conclusively proved to have been the doctrine - true or false - of the Early Christians. In short, too little is known of the matter - to permit of establishing any doctrine, and too little is known of the Early Christians to warrant our ascribing any system

whatever to them. Still, here are some very curious analogies, and Enough to make us suspect that these are the unearthed roots of the open-air Doctrine. I feel pretty sure that from some such knowledge of Nature and some such hypothesis of analogy between the seen and the unseen, perhaps more than one (if they be not allowed) of the great religious systems have been evolved. For, I laugh at the idea of man's possessing anything that he has not obtained from his own individual & collective Experience, from Earth, air, sea, sun, fellow brutes and fellow men, in a world where, believe me, from all Eternity no voice hath spoken Greek but man's alone. Does man direct the ox by lowing? Or does he talk English to him, and let him learn it, assisting at times to interpret it with a goad? God does'nt talk Greek, nor Hebrew. He talks his own language, and man must learn it, or never understand. To avoid being misunderstood, I would prefer to say Nature. I utterly reject as childish, as a relic and an evidence of a pristine age of savage simplicity and blank ignorance, the anthropomorphic idea of Deity.

The All, spread out before Sense and Reason, is infinitely vaster than that we should sound its depths. No man hath fathomed anywhere the profoundness of its Geheimnisse, its Arcana, which are Eternally such. Let us say with Von Haller "In's Innere der Natur dringt kein erschaffner Geist" — Into the Arcana of the inner, of

Nature penetrates no created, no
ouch shapen, Spirit. I have not, nor
have you, and more, nor have
they the priests, nor has any
man since the world was. The
universe is the Sphinx, the Sphinx,
and who shall answer a single
riddle? My quarrel with
the priests is, that they say
they know the whole play. They
know when the curtain first rose,
they know all the acts that led
up to this before our eyes, and
they know when the curtain is
to fall for the last time. They
say they have it all in a book!
There can be but one true
record of this momentous
history. As the present positions
of the planets, with their respective
motions, tells the whole story of
their past, the whole story of their

Julian, so with everything. Man cannot read all, but all is spread out before his eyes. Sky, Earth and air ~~big~~ full of legend, and Every drop of ocean hath its tale of ages long faded out in the infinite azure of the past. Celestial Spaces, far out beyond where Richter's heart grew faint, are peopled with prophets of the coming time, Seers and Soothsayers — for all Created things are such — but think you they speak Hebrew, or Jew-degraded Greek? I stand up in defense of the majesty and dignity of the Deity and his divine Economies. Let the gibbering priest and Ecclesiastic harlequin slip down and out and eat his mutton with less A blasphemy. The high altars

of the Almighty are blazing suns, comets and meteors and fragments of broken worlds with myriad Etherial pulses rush thither for the sacrificial offering. Are not these for the healing of the Nations? Away! thou impious mimic of thy Creator, put up the bloody knife, return the kid to the pasture and the young kid to its dam, and get thou to some ~~useful~~ and not some wofully damaging occupation! What! does this insect, man, say that he hath revelations from the very heart of things! Does he believe it himself? Watch him now, The Ancient of Days hath told him the story of this hoary world, in chapters, with marginal commentaries. Here stand open to his gaze the Eternal purposes! God is speaking to him audibly! Mark you now, my Father, that man will lay down the book and answer to a call to dinner!!!

Could I but hear the music of the spheres, could I but understand the unsyllabled speech of Deity, and knew it lawful to listen to what Earth and air and ocean and the celestial orbs are telling of the divine wisdom, omniscience, and the Eternal purpose; think you that I would, or could, hear my name on human lips? Think you that I would answer to the call? Would, could, any living man, but stand and listen? The heart would cease to beat, being, in this world at least, would fade out, but the spirit would be oblivious to all else until oblivion to all.

Don't you be frightened about
letting the cat out of the bag. Some
man put the cat there, and
a wonderfully mangy animal
it is. It will thrive best in a
dark cellar and will never
get used to the light.
All scriptures are of human
origin. Man knows nothing of
the Future. Let him, however,
if he have his senses about him
look forward with hope. The
good God will never use him
half as badly as he uses himself.
Is God a devil? Then he will
do his devil's work. And
when bearless boys tell you
otherwise, bid them go study
the Economics of pleasure and of
pain and try to guess nearer
their meanings. For my part, I
no imperious priest stand between
me and the sun. Yours in Ignorance
& Hope — Alex. S. Christie

U. S. Coast Survey Office.

Washington, Nov. 2d 1878

Alex. S. Christie

33 Grays Hall,

Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Sir,

I have received your letter of Oct. 30th in which you name Janiy 15th as the date at which it will be most convenient for you to report at this office. This arrangement is satisfactory.

Yours respectfully

C. Mathewson

Supt.

Andover, Mass.
Nov. 6th P.M. 60'd.

Dear Alexander;—

Enclosed find $14.00
more to follow soon
I hope.
Busy, busy!

Hurrah for Butler!
Hurrah!!

Bet jabers! he is a bruiser!

Yours as ever
L. Conrad Bierwirth.

CAMBRIDGE, Nov. 7, 1878.

Mr. A. S. Christie

To the Harvard Natural History Society, *Dr.*

To ~~Annual~~ Initiation Assessment now due, ... $2.00.

Received Payment,

Charles F. Batchelder TREASURER.

Please remit by mail or otherwise to Charles F. Batchelder, Treas. *Cambridge, Mass.*

University of Minnesota
November, 17th, 1878.

Miss Christie, [Sarah]

Dear friend:

The old familiar hand appeared again a few days ago. The promptness of my reply will be enough to assure you that your letters bring pleasure with them, even though they contain so little about yourself, at a time when they would be expected to contain much more.

We are plodding on up here in the same old way. Study, recitation and pluck make up our chief diet, flavored of course with various kinds of recreation and amusement. Lately, our class has been kept in a state of constant and more or less intense excitement over the elections of for the class honors. I cannot give you a history of the campaign which has just closed. The first place (the valedictory) was gained for my very intimate and highly-valued friend, Mr. Keyser, of Mankato.

I congratulate you on your brother's complimentary success in the race. It will be a doubly good fortune if it has the effect of bringing about what I have so often heard you wished for, that you might live with him.

What I said, or suppose I must have said in my

last note to you seems to have made quite an impression on your mind. I have really had no intention of going on a farm in the future. I thought of doing so chiefly because I knew that I could in that way add a great deal to the pleasantness of my father's and mother's life. But my selfish ambition has, I fear, crushed out all generous and filial thoughts of that kind from my mind. But I still look forward to the time when I can contribute directly to their happiness. If I study law that time is moved farther into the distance than it would be if I were to go and live with them immediately. As you say, a lawyer's life will be more congenial to my nature than a farmer's, and if my parents live, I hope within a score of years to compel them to be proud of me as a lawyer. (You are accustomed to my egotism.)

Miss Knox received the letter sent to her.

Julia & Hattie are both in the University and are well & doing well.

As Ever

Your friend

Theresa J Rockwood.

all the trouble you have taken for me - but - I have now given up all idea of attempting Boston schools + Sandy, I have decided not - to teach any more after this - I am not able nervously to bear the strain - I have taught too long already - I am a worn out - woman - + if I secured a position in either Boston or Burlington - I would probably break down completely in the course of a few months - I am going back to the old thing - I am going to study Medicine - I cannot get over the hankering for it - + I am to be happy in that - yet - before I die - I shall get - a place in a hospital in a large city soon as possible - If you can help me in that direction, after a time, when you get - to Washington, I shall be grateful - You are kind that to propose that - I go to Washington - + after a time - say next - fall, if I can have some kind of a place there in a hospital

Box 544, Iowa City, Iowa.
Saturday, Nov. 23. 1878.

My dear Brother, [Aleck]

I have three letters of yours lying before me, + for the life of me I cannot remember whether or not - I have written to you since I received the first one - It is Oct. 20. it only a note - enclosed names of Prof. Philbrick + Mr. Pike about - Metric system - You speak of sending pamphlet by Prof. Eaton but - it has not arrived - You probably did not find it -

The second bears date of Oct. 22nd in which you speak of Strickbridge "Doggrel" + kindred subjects - I imagine that - one of the women you refer to - must be Helen - I don't like to think so because she is a Christian - but - I fear me it - is so however - Whatever my own family have been - the luck

of womanly modesty + common sense in those directions, has been one of them in the highest degree. — In this woman however much she may suffer will never be guilty of those things. —

Your kind letter before me is of Oct. 29. in which you speak of my studies — formerly in particular — + of your anticipated fortune in being appointed to Washington. — I am glad because it is a good thing financially for you — + both still because it will be a change, + I think your state of health demands it. + this comes just in the nick of time — God is good — + so, I am pleased + proud because it is an indication of the estimation in which you are held.

There is not much injustice in this world, after all, in the long run; every individual gravitates naturally + finally, to his own place. I am quite anxious to know if you are going home this winter before proceeding to Washington + just exactly when. I wish that you could for Father's sake. It would add some years to his life. He leads a very lonely life, + is beginning to feel somewhat as so many people do when they get old — that he is neglected. If you can afford it at all I hope you will go for a couple of weeks. — Please write immediately + let me know your plans, for my movements will depend somewhat on yours. — That is about going home at Christmas. + when, etc. — Please do not neglect to write immediately letting me know exactly as to your plans for coming home etc. — I am obliged to you for

Andover, Mass.

Friday Night. Nov. 24, 78.

Dear Alexander —

Now as the man who begat Mathematics — and I — — — well I got 0 (which means Zero) on this last exam. i.e. I did not hand in my paper at all; because I could not do a single one of the 5 questions he gave us. I am Conditioned; hence: I've got to make up; hence: I've got to buckle down to it; hence: Cannot go to Cambridge during Thanksgiving recess. If that is not mathematical, I should like to know what is. Yet it is not strictly so; for, since I am willing to make another future of it, I think that I may be up on Thursday a little before 12 à midi or later to stay till Friday 12 à midi

and no later, spending Fr. D. forenoon
in Boston on some urgent business when
I should be glad of your company. I
have to buy a few things, namely, and to
look at many more.

Enclosed find what, I told you, I
could not procure for you.

Till then please to find the man
who inspired into Loomis the 4th
Book of his Geometry and get a
pair of brass knuckles ready for
me, we'll have a set-to; and if I
don't inspire something else into him
I shall be willing to forego my Thanks-
giving Turkey.

I'm waiting for the Morse Prize,
and shall be obliged to compose an
Address for our Society bracelet, till
Dec. 13.

Yours as ever,

Conant.

Brunswick, Nov. 25, 1878.

My dear friend Christie: [Alexander]

I will attempt to give you a brief account of my wanderings since you last saw me.

I reached Cleveland and Berea on Thursday morning, remained in Berea until Saturday evening, then went to Medina, staid there over night, came to Brunswick yesterday noon, and reached home last evening at about 5 P.M. All things considered, I have been and still am in good spirits.

I expect to go back to Berea to stay a few days, but I do not know yet about that. After that, it may be that I return to Cambridge

as suddenly as I left it; but I don't know. There are things that lead me to believe — and I certainly hope that I shall soon return; then again, there are other things that seem to make ~~it~~ a chance for my not returning: I simply don't know how it will be.

Your friend,

Anton Leiter.

Address:

Brunswick,

Medina Co., Ohio.

Marash, Nov. 26. 1898.

My Dear Father; Your long & interesting letter of Oct. 1. came last Thursday. I cannot answer it all now, as I am busy getting ready to start for the coast tomorrow to meet Mr. Marden & escort him up. But I will do what I can for you on the passage in Luke. Seeing your great need of a good Commentary on the N.T. I have just asked Alex. to send you Olshausen, 6 vols, and Stier, 8 vols: I know you will be delighted with both, especially if you master just a little Greek, and you will be saved from much fruitless speculation as to the real meaning of many a passage. I have also asked him to send you Robinson's Eng. Harmony of the Gospels, (very valuable), and Ullmann's work on "the Sinlessness of Jesus"; this latter I wish you to read, and then send to Mr. Hutchins, with a line telling him to forward to me for our Library here.

Lk. 20: 34–38. Your difficulty with the first part of this passage would have been easily cleared up if you had only looked at Matthew's and Mark's accounts of the same words of our Lord, Mat. 22: 30, and Mk. 12: 25. Our Lord meets the Sadducees' question by saying: "people here marry, but after the resurrection there will be no marrying. Why? because there will be no need of renewing the race through the birth of new souls, as there will be no more death. They will be like the angels, like God, in this respect, that there will be no such thing as the marriage relation known among them." I know that you suspect there is here a declaration respecting the unmarried in this life, that it is only the celibate who are to be raised from the dead; but there is no such thought in the passage. It only says there will be no marrying in heaven, for the simple reason that there will be no need of it. Look at the parallels in

Mat. & Mk. Luke says, "Those accounted worthy (see 2. Thess. 1:5) to obtain that aeon and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry &c"; Mat. "For in the resurrection they neither marry &c"; Mk. "For when they rise again from the dead they neither marry &c." The passage in Lk. means just the same as the other passages, & they all refer to the state of things beyond the grave. V. 36 in Lk. ought to be translated "for they cannot any more die," i.e. here is the reason why they marry not: the purpose of marriage is propagation to repair the waste made by death, among immortals it is no longer necessary.

They cannot any more die, "for like the angels they are, and sons they are of God, (these two clauses carry the same idea) because they are sons (i.e. partakers) of the resurrection."

See good explanations in Olshausen and Stier.

Most of the Greek in these two Commentaries is turned into English; but wherever you mark a translation of Hebrew, German, or Latin quotations, just make a note of the page &c & send one — I have the books here.

I am writing in a great hurry, with my class writing an Examination in Hebrew in the same room, & you will therefore excuse a short & somewhat confused letter. That is good news from Alex: he must be with you by this time, as he said he should visit you before going to Washington. We are concerned about his health; he has been a spendthrift, trusting that the good inheritance ~~would~~ never be exhausted, — but there is an end to even a large bank acct in time, if it is drawn upon profusely & recklessly.

All in excellent health here: I start by the mountain road tomorrow for Alex'ta.

Hastily but affly T. D. Christie.

33 Kirkland St. Cambridge Mass. Nov 19th 78.

Dear Father;

This has been a very strange, a very busy ten days. Poor Leister, The Ohio man who stuck by me so when I was sick Leister, facile princeps in the Junior Class in Harv. Coll. and boy for the ablest man here, has broken down, his trouble taking the form of deeply seated religious insanity. He may get over it, for he had a like attack two years or more ago, and we have done everything that could be done to bring him out of it. He is now in a better state than for several days, and starts home tomorrow at 8 A.M. A very strange case - perfectly harmless, yet in danger of becoming otherwise, and on every

question but one, and even there methodical. I have done nothing for several days but manage him - Prof White and all other friends putting his case into my hands: for however it may come, there seemed to be no one else who could enter into those deeper, gloomier labyrinths with him. Leisler is strictly logical, sincere, simple, abounding in sterling honesty of soul and that Teutonic veracity which I find nowhere else. I followed him for hours as, to others, he seemed only to talk transcendental nonsense. "Who can minister to a mind diseased?" Henceforth I divide men into two classes. The one have their troubles and difficulties within six feet of the ground, the others have theirs above that line, and the latter are the difficult cases. Leisler was in hyperspace, striding round and round on the line at infinity like a mitte

on a broomstick. I found difficulties for him to contend with within six feet of the ground, and that is saving him. He thought he was contending with God, and who could expect him to do other than die in despair? I got him to fighting the Faculty of the College, and now he is cheerful, for he thinks he can win. He is going home to plan his campaign against them, and will probably become dane in the doing. Why, he sat there in the perfect monotony of utter hopelessness, with high Heaven frowning upon him. Nobody could move him from that terrible position. Suicide was his only hope. I shall never forget it, the crank of the engine was at the "dead point". He is past that now and I draw a good long breath. He betrayed none of the passions of men. It was awful - the overwrought brain. Sunday night I got him

mad - mad at the faculty. Then there was hope for him. Yesterday he cried like a boy, felt disappointed, got angry, etc. Since which he has been steadily improving. "Nothing too much!" Leister's cardinal mistake is that he has not a special illumination. "That" inner light" he knows he has not followed faithfully and feels that the judgment of Heaven has fallen upon him. He is too exacting, too eternally logical with himself.

We all feel very sorry over this and are hoping that it will turn out well with him in a few weeks.

Ask Dave to write. How are all? Tutoring will probably begin soon. I do not hear from Sarah, does she write home. How goes the S. affair. If Allah will have it so - why, Amen! What do you think of the Rep. ticket? It shows how we may bulldoze without a shotgun.

Love to mother. I am well - of - Alex.

Rapidan, Blue Earth Co, Minnesota. Nov 26th 1878,

My Dear Alden

I have received two letters from you recently, Nov 1st and Nov 19th. the first one containing some deep thoughts strongly Expressed indeed. all of it going straight to the Exaltation of our Idea of the UnKnown God.

But Why do you find fault with the Author for worship from? It is simply impossible for Man to Conceive of any Being possessing faculties higher in the Scale than His own to Which adding infinity in all direction We have the God we can Conceive of. But to think of God in this Way is not to have any God worthy of the Name. Christianity alone of all Religions of the World as yet has given us the Highest Ideal and that Personee must be infinite-ized Human. the perfected Man. this also is the only Ideal which can benefit Man as Man. Besides being to Man the only conceivable, All inquiries into the Constitution of things, shows that the Wisdom is like our own. Which is Embraced in them. and that good is their Ultimate End. it would be an Absurdity to suppose God was not in some way like unto ourselves -

It is Written that "God made Man in His own Image", and some Men have said that Man made God in his image - I think Both are true. for this reason. that the Image of God being implanted in Mans Consciousness as Human must necessarily shape itself to Man as in His own Likeness. and of Course it has been an Image which has Varied in form according to the Development of man. the Degraded races have Conceived of God as a Gross and Low Human Being of unlimited power. Christianity presents Alone the perfected Man to our thought and Causes us to Conceive of God in that Image. You feign on the Infinite Difference between God and man. the Christian Embraces the measurable Likeness. your Idea of Deity is like a Mathematical Abstraction. incapable of being either Loved or Feared.

you take cognysance only of that incomprehensible side of this Being of which we can predicate nothing but Wisdom and power. I see the side also which is in response to my Affectional Nature and I fear God. I Love God and believe that He also responds both to my fear and my Love. And I know that my Belief is right. That is, is Consonance with the Fact. The Evidence of the fact being, that I feel the Response from God in myself. it arises as a soft Radiant flame of Light. I cannot describe it otherwise. it seems to arise from the Regions of the Heart up to my Head. Hers I try to describe it the Love to and from God. Fear of Him also seems to arise in the same Region and goes through me up and down like a flash causing pain. While there is a sensible diminution of strength or force. A negative feeling. Visibly contrary to the sense of Love to and from Him which always is Calm and Strengthening. You will tell me that these feelings are natural to all men, perhaps. Well they are for aught I know in some degree. the feeling of fear Certainly is. But I am doubtfully of that of Love is at least in the Way in which I speak of. I know that it has more than once or twice been misused in the Supernatural

But whether I be right or wrong in these Experiences, that is in the Conclusions I draw from them. Yet we cannot do other than think of God as in Certain Ways of His Existence being like us, if a Mans Work gives us any Key to his Faculties and Qualities. We may fairly reason that God does so also. and from them we see that he must have thought as we think: for in many things he has just such Contrivances as man has for the Effecting of the same purposes. and just in proportion as we think as he thought while we think right. as Effect our Object. Nevertheless there is that in us which tells us God is not to be thought of as Being so like unto a man as he is unlike him. there is that which tells us the Difference is infinitely Great. unsearchable Let us Glory in the fact that He however much he may differ from us is Yet appreciably Like us. And this Appreciability is the Ground from which we deduce His Relations to us. He is Unquestionably our Father and our Health lies in giving Obedience to Him. this is so in the Natural Order. and in the Supernatural it is the same. But you say He does not Speak Greek or Hebrew. that is also my Opinion. Nevertheless He is not without Speech. the Creation of the Faculty in man must also be possessed of the power to Express Himself—

He is not a Deaf Mute. But possessing the Root principle of all Expressions. Also Speaks in a Mode to us Incomprehensible and in such manner that every Man hears in the Language in which he was born. if not otherwise intended. Let us not be foolish — either in trying to Understand the Speech of the Allmight or in thinking that He is Dumb. He has but to Will it and we perceive as he Wills that we Shall.

But You are Quite right in Reference to the Creature in the Nose of the Neck. It ought to be Locked up there and the Key thrown into the Well. Possessed of Teeth and Claws it can only Lacerate Whoever Handles it. It has never Yet let out on any one it did not Hurt. Whoever has even seen it Has been Prowling in Dangerous Places in the Dark. ~~Hideous~~,

"Vile Repulties"

"Leisters" Case is indeed very pitifull let us take it just as he sees it however. I am inclined to think it is the true View of it. Surely let us grope as we may for the causes of it. the Secondary ones. Still it is clear it was a Judgement. even although wrought out through Natural Law. and if recovering now We shall say the Judgement has been removed by the same means. Even on Your View of things it has been a Judgement pronounced by nature for Excessive Action in one Direction. take you Head. with You I say "Nothing too much". Providence early fixed on my mind this Warning. because I find you very much need the Caution. in My own Case Providence has saved me more than once from the terrible penalty. Ah! I pray that God may restore this Young man to his Normal Condition. and Make him Yet Great. But in the while let me tell you on Condition of his Obedience to the "inner Light" Do you know that Joseph Cook fell into the same predicament When at College also and had to Quit for two Years?

None rightly Name you been Named! So many times You have been instrumental in the Saving of Others.

Now Do not forget What the Priest said! "He Saved others. He cannot Save Himself"

May God protect you, Giving you Wisdom and fear
of Him. fear of Breaking His Law. and Insure you until
you Learn to Love Him. for that is the perfection of
His fear. Your Letter May God be Gracious to Him 7 1

That Republican Ticket? I have seen in Old Europe
the same policy taken many times. but in other forms. I here sees the same
in Clayman in Repidan. The Ballot in General has no Existence in the
United States. and I am a little Rebel you went for B. B. the Republicans
of Cambridge would think you are a little impracticable. That is all. Your
protest would go for nothing. the practise you Condemned is followed by all parties
I should not have been pleased at you by a Great deal if B. B had been Elected
Who wishes to see the Democrats of the Democracy rule? The ruling party. there
is the Money power there many faults. But their sins are tolerable, in compar-
ison to what would be the Ignorance and savagery of the Democrat.
the selfishness of Capital is very Great. and will be punished yet there
is no doubt. But the selfishness of the debased and ground down
multitude. would be Brutal. You may like to see it put in force
Exhibited. after that you will tolerate almost any means to keep
it in Order. —— Sarah and Stevens are a Compound Riddle
to me. She tells me in a Letter and did in Words before he went away
that she Loved me Stevens. He has told me also that He Loves Sarah
and he acts like as if he did. I do not understand it. if it had been
my own Case I would have dashed through all obstacles at once
and settled the whole thing ~~at once~~ by marriage. Stevens seems
to be in Dead Earnest. and I am afraid that she knowing that
she is Rooted is playing him on the Line for her own profit
if so she will have her reward in a miserable old maid hood
without friend or Lover, She is a Born Jesuit on to my prosperous
is an insoluble substance. David and Family are all well. and his
last little Boy is a one of the nicest Babies I have ever seen. Red haired
a fine Oval face. a Good nose. and a pair of Large deep. Very deep Blue Eyes
tell in shape. and Exceeding Keeney of his Age. Weighing now 16 lbs at 3 months
old when Born. I am very fond of this Baby indeed. Wheat at from 30 to 45
it is dreadfull. You must send me just a few post stamps. just a few. I know you
are poor also. in hope and patience Your Nabb. I Remain

33 Kirkwood, Cambridge, Nov. 29.

[1878?]

Dear Father:

I intend coming home. I feel that I shall not be in so good trim to go direct to Washington for my thoughts nice be on home more or less. Now I want to be at my best when I land among those Experienced Computers and Mathematicians. Again, I really owe it to you to see you. A year from now I hope to see you in Washington. We can room out of town on a horse-car line, so that you can sleep, and a few cents - say 3 - take you into the city, to the public buildings, the library (350 thousand vols) &c.

to a trip to the Blue Ridge
the hill country about Culpeper
Court House, Fairfax, &c, and
an occasional run down the
Potomac to Fortress Monroe
and the open sea — All this
will renew your youth. The
Supt. of the Coast Survey is an
old naval officer, and then
no "scientific cruises" in the
government service will neces
need to pay for tickets. In fact
Coast Survey Steamers will
occasionally be making the
trip. But we will talk
these matters over in a
week or two. For the present
Good Bye

Affy

Village in the Cilician Plain
Sat. Evening, Nov. 30. '78.

Dear Ones;

I left Marash on Wed. P.M., & shall rest here till Mon. Morning. Six or seven hours riding will then carry me into Aleppo, & Tuesday Morning I shall start on my next from Today. The ride hither has been most interesting. We followed the plain south from Ak for six hours on Wed. & stopped for our first night in a village on the west edge of the plain, at the entrance to one of the passes through the Amanus. Accompanying me are our servant Hagop, & Ali Thayrun Aleppo who act

as Cavass for Mr. H. when he attends to Consular business; Ali goes with me as guard, rides Mr. H's strong bay horse, & is armed with sword & revolver. Besides these there is a caravan of about ten animals carrying merchandise to Scandaroon, & some of them destined to bring up Mr. Marden's family & goods: three men accompany them. That first night was quite cold, & so all the animals & men were put under cover in one room, the only one we could get in the village, we in one corner, & the horses & mules standing pretty thick through the rest of the room. Many of the Caravan animals carry small bells, & these kept up a jingling all night; the horses neighed & stamped, the muleteers snored, the fleas were

numerous & active, — & so I
know you will believe me when
I say that my sleep was rather
broken that night. Long
before dawn we were up, had a
cup of coffee, & in the gray of
the morning plunged into the
wild defile leading up through
the mountains. I wish you all
could have been with me that day!
Such glorious mountain scenes
I never beheld upon before. Cliffs
peaks rising on either sides, the
slopes covered with forest of
oak, pine & sycamore: numberless streams of bright, sparkling, cold water; great herds
of Syrian sheep & goats feeding
in the valleys & on the slopes of
the mountains; the air cool
the sky clear, the birds flitting
through the thickets, — all was

most charming to one fresh from the Devils Head Pass. After a march of 8 hours in a N. W. direction we came out into the great Pass known in ancient times as the "Pylae Amanicae", the Gates of Amanus. Through this Darius marched to meet Alexander at Issus. It is a half mile in breadth & quite level for most of the way through. Directly across the range of mountains: we hope that a R. R. from Aias, on the Bay shore 8 Leagues north of this, will soon come through this great Pass, & go via Marash & the Euphrates & so to the Persian Gulf. At the junction of our little pass with this greater one is the little village of Bagche, & there we speak our second

night. Leaving the animals to occupy the Khan, we got a room all to ourselves, & with the Khan keeper in one End of it & we in the other, passed a very comfortable night. One incident occurred however which might have had serious consequences. The big horse broke loose at midnight, & began persecuting my two. Then these, not a few that made us all up. You are aware we almost Eat all our Riding horses in this country are stallions: they fight terribly when they get together. On this occasion their screaming was something terrific. The two men rushed to the door of action: all three horses were standing on their hind legs, like the

representations we will see
of circus performances at
home. Ali mounted on
the advertising placards
among them, when my gray,
who had just got a hasd bite
pon the hip, seized the man
by the shoulder, & before he
knew his mistake gave Ali
a bad wound with his teeth.
I had Pain Killer with me
very fortunately, & have been
dressing the place every day
since. My little fellow was
wild with rage & pain, or he
never would have done such
a thing. We have been more
careful of the horses' fasten-
ings since then.

Yesterday morning, leaving
Baghje, we followed the great
Pass eastward to the Cilician

Plain, which we entered almost
at its extreme N.E. point, where
it runs up between the Taurus
on the North & the Amanus on the
East. Knowing something of
R.R. surveying I was much
struck with the easy access this
Pass will give to the interior
of the country. Only light grades
will be necessary, & for by far
the greater part of the way the
road can run almost in a
straight line. Wood & water, too,
are in the greatest abundance.
Mr. Cameron, the Assistant Traffic
Manager at Beyrout a month ago,
with a firman authorizing him
to look out a feasible route for
a RR connecting the coast with
the Euphrates & the Persian Gulf.
We are expecting him over in Nov.
& I shall speak to him of this great
& easy pass. Such a road with

help all good interests in this part of Turkey: as a minister of the Gospel I shall rejoice to see it coming through the Amanus.

I saw two castles of the robber chiefs subdued here by Cicero nineteen centuries ago, — one of them a position of great strength, commanding the pass. The rocks are full of fossils that tell of a still more ancient history. I wish Alex. would look up the Geology of the Amanus for me & write me, or send me a book containing information on the subject.

During half of yesterday all of today we have been riding over the great plain of Eastern Cilicia. Glorious mountain views north & east of us: the plain

itself almost wholly uncultivated, though it must once have been a garden, & may be so again. You cannot go outside of the road into the needs at almost any place without seeing signs of ancient life, bits of red tiles & pottery, & occasionally a fragment of marble, or the ridge that marks the line of aqueduct or wall, or a piece of road that shows the Roman hand, or at [illegible] a stream a ruined bridge of similar stamp. I wish I could send me Cicero's Letters: he was Proconsul here, & wrote much to his friend Atticus about the country.

We passed a miserable

night in the Khan at Osmani, little sleep for the noise & the fleas. But for tonight & tomorrow we are in a more comfortable place, the men upstairs, the horses below, & many of them tied to orange trees in the yard. Here I see my first real orange grows, & a charming sight they are. The fruit is just setting & is beautiful to look at upon the trees. The people bring all we want to eat for nothing, & I had half a doz. buy a hundred Enormous ones to take to all with us, — cost 2 paras apiece, that is, 5 for a cent! At Bagkeh the froth froze upon our horses' bit: here the sun is so hot that we use our umbrellas for comfort.

Snow never comes into this plain; & it is so hot in summer that most of the people run away to the Mountains. Have travelled in sight of the Gulf of Scanderoon today, and it is only two hours from here to Pais where we track the shore, thence 4 or 5 hours along the beach to Scanderoon, passing by the Ocene of Mr Coffings murder in 1862. We have had to be on the lookout for robbers during good part of our way, but anticipate no trouble, as we are well-armed. It reminds me of old times to see the caravan halt before entering an ugly defile or piece of woods, that front & rear may be got well together, & that the men may get their weapons ready.

The great Storm.

We have just had such a tempest of wind and snow as the memory of "the oldest inhabitant" of Marsh fails to parallel. Our Minnesota friends will know what it was like when I call it a "Dakota derie" in which the tremendous fury of the wind made up for the Extreme cold accompanying its American counterpart: the mercury here never fell below 15° above Zero, but the wind displayed a savage fury such as non of us Ever saw equalled, and the whole air was absolutely filled with driving snow. On the day & night before Christmas fell the first snow of the season, to the depth of about nine inches or a foot. Christmas Day was pleasant, and so was the succeeding night until about four in the morning, when the north wind began to rise. By daylight it was blowing a hurricane, and so it continued until a little after noon, when the air cleared of snow, although the wind howled savagely through the day and night; since then we have had

four or five days of pretty severe cold, in striking and somewhat unpleasant contrast with the Indian-summer-like weather of the past two months. The great storm came on so suddenly that many men and animals were caught at unawares by it upon the roads, and we now hear of several dead bodies having been found in the snow-drifts in various places. There are stories of sixteen dead men having been discovered near the bridge over the Jihan, a few hours N. W. of us, and of five or six in another place, — but there is doubtless great Exaggeration in these accounts. However, the storm, hitherto unprecedented in this part of Turkey, has destroyed, doubtless, scores of human lives throughout this region. The poor people are clad mostly in ~~thin~~ cotton, and with little or no protection for the hands and feet; their food is of such a character as to give them but little vitality; their courage and presence of mind soon fail them in an Emergency, — and so a storm at which a Northerner would laugh might prove fatal to multitudes here.

They tell of a party of Christian muleteers who some mounted soldiers found quite near the city,

Still the storm was raging. The poor fellows were ~~utterly bewildered~~, huddled together, crouching down to escape the dreadful wind, and with no speek of courage left in them. The zabtiehs with their whips and the stocks of their carbines actually drove the men with repeated blows into the city and saved their lives.

Rest to come to our own Experiences. Our houses are well up on the mountain slope to the north of the city, and we got them for the full force of the tempest. Mr. Montgomery's house, and the seminary building in which we live, are both in an unfinished state, and must remain so until we get the word we hope for from Boston that the appropriation for which we asked has been voted us. In default of glass we had filled many of our windows with white cloth, — and you can fancy what shoot work that howling fury of a wind made with the frail substitute. Some windows had shutters, & several of these shutters are now lying in various parts of our yard, along with bricks from the chimnies, tiles from the roofs, and debris of many kinds. Our rooms were soon filled with driving snow: things were already in a

bad state when we latrines worked up in the morning, — snow everywhere, and not a stove in the house, in which a fire could be kindled. So we just bundled up the two babies and dashed across to Mr. Montgomery's with them. There, although the south parts of the houses were full of snow, yet two rooms in the south end were comparatively tight, and the stove worked well. The Martins managed to keep a fire going in their sitting room, although three chimneys were blown from their house, one of them crushing in the kitchen roof, and in the upper part of the house the wind and snow had their own way for a time. Food for all three of the families had to be cooked and eaten at Mr. Montgomery's and to increase the interest of the occasion we had with us as a guest Mr. Henderson, English Consul at Aleppo. For two days Mrs. Montgomery and her good Armenia had us all on their hands, while we men busied ourselves in preventing or repairing damage from the blizzard, — shoveling snow out of halls and rooms, nailing up windows and doors, making our poor trembling stoves as comfortable as we could &c &c. I changed my thoroughly soaked clothes three times that day. One of the men-

servant, managed to reach us from the city, but so completely used up by his exertions in facing the storm as to excite serious apprehensions for a time with regard to his recovery. Mr. Montgomery's family with his son Elisha tried to bring us over milk for the day: but they were utterly "beat out" before they could reach the gate, and had to leave the milk - cans in the snow and get down the hill for their lives. The rage of the wind just outside of our wall was simply awful: no mortal could make head against it. The snow filled the air so thickly that although the seminary building is only a rod or two distant from Mr. Montgomery's house, there were times when the one could not be seen from the other. At 3 P. M. the belfry of the First Church went down, fortunately without any damage to the house to leeward of it, in which were Mrs Coffing, Miss Spencer, and the twenty girls under their care; the bell itself, also, was not injured although all the machinery for working it, and all the wood-work of the belfry, were broken into fragments. Not soon shall we forget "the great storm" of Dec. 26. '78.

J. D. C.

(ca Dec. 1878?)

You last p.c. rec'd. Do not work too hard, and drop us a line occasionally.

"Ca Va" Dear & fam

Dear Conrad.

You need not think that this is the missionary letter due at this time for it isn't. For Christie is at work upon that, and hopes to get it off soon. The other missionaries here wanted him to unite his account of the storm on p-paper so that they could strike off a few copies on the kapatyrograph and thus save time. All four Mission families took dinner with us on Christmas also the British Consul. Yesterday & today we have been ~~receiving~~ New Years calls. Probably not less than 700 (700) have called. This is the one great holiday of the year for our Protestant people. Twelve hundred met in the largest church in the city, yesterday for a service of prayer and praise.

The Children have quite recovered from their attacks of sore eyes. One would go far to find a sweeter or more winsome child than little Anna. Emerson is a fat, hearty jolly boy. - the very light of his papa's eyes, and a favorite with everyone. One of the Theologues is teaching me Turkish. I write in Grammar & Reader every day and as you may imagine, am quite busy. but never as I was in Andover - work mountains high and no prospect of clearing away the half of it. We all enjoy excellent health and are as usual happy and contented. Had a pleasant visit with the Consul who is a young Scotchman, as ever. S. C. B.

Box 544, Iowa City, Iowa,
Sunday, Dec. 15th 1878.

Give one yours
truly address
please & learn
not - address
correctly - this time.

Dear Buell,

I have been thinking
of writing to you ever since I
came down here, & today I
have finally decided to send
you just a few lines, & I
trust - you will reply very
soon - I shall be going home
a few days before Christmas &
will want - to speak to you as
I go through Plymouth - if agreeable
to you - I didint - like the idea of
going by without - seeing you - &
that - thought - has helped me to de-
cide to write to you - Your father
wrote to me that - you were learn-
ing Telegraphy - I have been afraid

it might not be just the thing for you as regards health. I hope however, I am mistaken. I shall you are satisfied with it, now that you are fairly started. I trust you are well & enjoying the change. I am glad you are among friends & relatives.

Your father says he has told you of our engagement. I hope you do not feel unpleasantly about it Ruth. If you did, however, I could not blame you. It would not be natural if children should be pleased to see anyone in the mothers place. I do not expect to take her place, no woman living can ever do that, Ruth. I can speak from experience, but I will try hard to be to each of you the very best friend you have. And if each of you will accept of me as a friend, I will be thankful. Please let me know if you have heard from Francis, & if you have his address let me have it. I am very sorry he went away with Joe. Either one would have been better off alone. I think.

Do you know what their plans were when they left, as to their final destination? Your father had received no word when I last heard, day before yesterday. Brother Sandy has rec'd an appointment from the Government on the U. S. Coast Survey, & has to go to Washington in January. He is going to try to come home for a few days first, & may possibly come this way & go home with me. If so, you will see him as we go north. It is doubtful however, if he can come, at the time I go. Please write soon. Tell me about your work. Sincerely Sarah J. Christie.

Box 544, Iowa City, Iowa.
Thurs. Eve. Dec. 5. 1878.

My dear Brother, [Alexander]

I recd the 1st day your letter telling me of your plans about going home & this afternoon I have just recd yours of the 2d. and saying you are not going home - & of Doris troubles & that your traveling expenses are to be sent to him. Now let me say a word to you before you come to any such final decision. There are several reasons why your presence there for a few days would be worth more than much money. In the first place although not first in importance Diptheria is in the immediate vicinity. It has been raging with great fatal

-ity in Mankato all summer - Mr Stevens writes me that it is continuing there at present - (there was a lull for a time) with renewed violence & fatality - I received a letter from him yesterday, in which he tells me that it has gotten out to the "Swede settlement" in the woods, near Ney, that not more than two miles from Davis - There have been many deaths there in the Swede settlements. three out of one family by the name of Anderson - Now it would be wonderful if Davis family escaped - When it once enters a neighborhood, it sweeps it, it is very contagious & infectious. This season it is unusually malignant - They call it - "black tongue". If the children are not taken with it before New Year, or soon after that time it is more than I hope for - You must make your arrangements to come home. Mr Stevens also wrote me that Dennie has had another lung attack, but is now better - Before I came away I left - medicines for the children & directions for their use, in case of Dennie's lung trouble, or scarlet fever or Diphtheria to take until a Doctor could get there. I have written to Dave since twice to use disinfectants freely &c. on account of Diphtheria - but it is so near to them now - that I have no hope scarcely - Soon as I got the letter yesterday evening - I went to the bookstores & told them that the disease was in the home neighborhood & that I wanted all they had on Diphtheria to read up on - They lent me several treatises both Allopathic & Homeopathic then I went to Dr Comfort Howard's office. He is Dean of the Homeopathic Med. Faculty here - He told me in general of his treatment & lent me several books. - I intend to read all & take notes - so that I may be prepared for the terrible times that I fear

ahead - This is first - reason why I want - you to come home -
Another reason is - That - it - is probable That - Ellen Carr will be there at - the holidays - She holds a very guilty affection for Dane - There is no mistake about - that - Emma is jealous of her + yet she tries to keep on Emma's good side - by the best - means possible - she showers her with presents - hats, necklis, cheap jewelry, &c. - There has been some scandal about - them - Yet - I believe with all my heart - That - Dane is innocent. For these reasons (to say nothing of Dallas,) You ought - to - be there for a few days - And now, the best - reason of all - financial matters, your presence would be worth much more + your advice, in arranging matters. Than your traveling Expenses could possibly be - (I want - you to burn this letter, + not - to speak of contents to anyone -) I know nothing of Dane's affairs neither does Dallas - only this I know he

really Dane is ignorant - & shows it - although he is a good & tenthousand times better than most men. But - business men look at external appearances - Now, I know Dane right - about - all these things. Surely your presence & help at home would be worth ten times to Dane (to say nothing of poor Father,) what the $50. of traveling expenses would be to him. I must - stop - drop me a line when you get this please. I wish you would change your mind - Affectionately -

Sarah.

owes Wilbur Stratton $100. He did'nt tell me - but - I heard Wilbur talking about it - to Martin. I suppose Dane is troubled about - my financial matters - I have written to him twice since I came asking him to write at - once & let me know what - arrangements he had made, but - he has not written. I cannot - possibly let him have more than $50. & that - not - until I go home - I earned $290. while there last - year & he got - all but - what - was actually necessary for me to get - from him for shoes, stationery &c - $25. would cover all. I went - without - decent - clothing since I have been here & have been obliged to clothe myself - under clothes & all - I don't - object - to it - at all - but - I don't - understand it - there is some mystery about it - to me - Dane cannot - be in such trouble & straits all the time about my affairs - I cannot - make out - what - under the sun he is in debt - so much for, living as they do - Father says he knows nothing

about it, & doesn't understand it. It cannot be possible that it is all about me. He has an excellent farm. has the use of fifty eighty acres - Father never sees a cent of money, (& Dane never tells him anything) except what you or Lou gives him, or what mother drudges & saves out of a little butter-making, or something of that sort. Remember Sandy, I do not complain but I do wonder. Poor Dane has been kind to me & if it were in my power would do anything for him or his children - but Dane is soft & is stuffed full of low ideas by his wife & the Strathie wretches.

He doesn't seem like a Christie some of the time to me - when he sits down with some of the dentish tribe, & chimes in with their low ignorant talk & ways - It is, to me, horrible at times.

~~Bad~~ The innocent Fred seduced a nice little Scotch Irish girl by the name of Stinart that the old Devil his mother got to work for her & bragged about it among the boys of the neighborhood - & he & his mother tried to convince people that the girl was to blame - The child came to school to me - she worked for her board - Oh they are a parcel of wretches - miserable vicious, scrofulous & vile -

To go back, I think if you were home you could advise Dane - He would tell you what he would not tell to tell me or Father & it all about my affairs & it cannot be possible.) You could help arrange matters - (there is half in that) in such way as to stave off things - You would know how to look at men & how to talk to them better than Dane does, & if they saw you with him it would be all right. Now

Berea, Dec. 5, 1878.

My dear Auntie:

Your letter of Nov. 25 was received some time last week — a short time after I had written to you. I was glad to get your own letter as well as that of your brother. I intend to try to find some one who is interested enough in this work to take advantage of the proposition he makes. I should do it myself, but I have no money.

There is one point in your own letter to which I must object — but really I shall be criticizing myself and not you. You speak of "my system": Now, I feel that my words and actions have done just what a man's words and actions always do, they have shown what I am not

what I ought to be, or wish to be, or appear to be. If I had followed the light as I had it, no man would, it seems to me, ever have made the mistake of talking about my system; for, I should have had no system, and furthermore, men would have felt that they had have just as good a right, and just as good opportunities, for finding the light and the truth as I have. Had I done as I should, men would not look to me for help but to God himself.

But enough of this; if I have not made my meaning clear in what I wrote, I can do no better just now.

I am in B. since last Monday, and expect to remain here some days more. I am, among other things, trying to help my sister into better ways of study, exercise, &c. I have had to learn all these things without having the help of a brother or sister or friend who had been through college himself and could help me, and now it gives me much pleasure to try to help others at those points where my ignorance cost me heavily in the past.

But God grant to know when I am coming to C. Well, the future to me is black as night; I know nothing of it ~~& so~~ so that for all I know I may go to C. soon, or never, or late. I know this that, however it turns out, it will be much better than I could make it turn out if I had my own way.

Let me hear from you when convenient

Your friend A. Leister

Topeka Dec 6th 1878

My Dear Alex:

Yours of the 29th
Ult to hand. Indeed would like to
see you before your going to the Capitals.
and Should not Write to any one about
against it. Yet is there trouble
about up time it must isolate
you is more Likely to Come Home,
and that you are aware is the Curse
of the Family. With Your own Exception.
All of them alike are or have been
over the Ears in it almost. I shall
be exceedingly Glad to See You Here.
as to ever seeing Washington
it cannot enter my head. I have
not been off this Quarter Section since
I last saw you more than one mile
only once to the Pond for Some Apple Trees,
Even if I went there I could not be
able to Believe it. and would Put it
down in Memory as a Dyspeptic Dream.
However all this may be I must
Say that I rejoice that you have
received a Situation. We need

Bread and a few other things.
and it is a Blessed thing to be
Conscious the one Earning them
Honestly and Honorably.

You will find
so much better that you depend
not on others. The Comparatively small
salary will seem Large to you Beeause
Leaving no Burden of Obligations
behind it. The Man who discharges
the Duties of his Service is truly a
free Man. and You will feel
free. I am not very Sanguine
that you will Get off very far in
a short time. it is likely you will
find many connected with the
Coast Survey Living in the same
hope as yourself. and if Politics
and Partition reap Most of the
Way the Greatest Intellectual and
Moral Capacity will be the deter-
mining Power that will Ascend.
But these Partitions and politics
will probably influence Promotions.
and if You Cannot rise in Grade
by these You must conclude not
to be disappointed if You should not
ascend very Rapidly and You must
not be discouraged. Worthiness alone
receives Promotion permanently.
try is all ways to Become Worthy
and trouble not your self about the
Worldly distinctions of place and Office
if You can discharge the Obligations
resting upon You. Work with an Eye
to the Eternal Verities. And the Eternal
rewards. for goodness and Righteousness
Alone are Eternal.

Mother tells me how to
say to you. to be sure to Bring Home
with you any Cast off Clothes you may
have about you. they would be useful
at home to make up again for some
of the little Boys. Pay attention to this,

Sarah told me a few days ago
by letter that she was Coming Home
at Christmas. and so all of you will
be together once more. that you
also may be all together in one mind

One one Will to do the Right thing
in all Cases is My Greatest Desire.

We Have had the
Wildest Weather possible for the Season
Until this Morning. Nice cloudy Storm
from the North West. We Practized in
Giving the Cows a Bit of Hay it is 6
Inches Winter. No Snow on the Ground
yet But the Roads Hard and Frosty -
Sarah has been Expecting
a Letter from you and I write to Hope he will
get to Goodthunder to day. or to Morrow.

She Shall be all Ready to Go from
from the Sergeant to Albert. and so Will
Alexander. & Christie. Lonely. as he called
Mainly to Nothe a few days ago when He asked
Mrs Mc Name. Donnie is a fat Square
Chunk of a Boy like your Uncle William
Christie use to Was. and Little Daisie is
a Handsome Nice Baby with a pair
of Wonderfully Beautiful Eyes. Real Heart
in Poverty She must Say so. a fine Oval face
tall. probably over two feet, and fighting Weight
16½ lbs. 1 stone 2½ lbs. God Bless them
and theirs all. Nelle She will tell Some
I hope About Me? Good Morning
J Mc Nicol.

Rapidan. Dec 13. 1878

My Dear Alice

Your Most Excitedly Urgent Letter to Daniel to have him remove his Children away from Home surprised us very much. The same Mail bringing also "another of the same" from Sarah. Led all to think that Jim Stevens had been telling her of the troubles with the Diseases in Blankets! So setting her on fire. and the Wandering along the Arbor to you— is it not so? There seems to be no Special Danger. After all, save the Deptheria has done done killing of Little Ones in the City. Quite a number of them too.

But there is a peculiarity about it which is this. it is Mainly confined to the Low Grounds, Having also kept out of Town along the Bottoms. in Several Directions. & there has been no Case as yet up on the High Prairie to/or as We have heard. Besides all this, it is Abating in Mankato.

There is no Alarm amongst us about it. indeed We never think of it Unless We read the Weekly Notices of it in the Review. Give Yourself no[t] about this Matter.

Sarah also sent along 3 Sheets of Letter filled With Advice. Medical and Sanitary, but filled also With fear, Alarm. Excited Terror. Now What use of all this? Why such dreadful Excitement is enough to give Every body Dipthna. every thing that has a throat. Stone Jugs and Tea Kettle — We are all As well as ordinary Health No infections Near us So far as We know, only this dreadful infection of Fear which is Coming in upon us from the East and South West. Well We take Medicine of Common Sense We have enough of that to treat ourselves at least Homeopathically. and We take it in ten Minute Doses. Besides. let us in the Exercise of Judgement have a little Faith. We also hope Keeping our powder Dry. So far as We know

fear is the Worst Enemy of Safety But We have None of it!

Your Letter Alarmed me for you So Excited. Showing as it does how Easily you are to be Stricken With Panic When in ignorance of the true State of the Case. Keep Cool. Keep Quiet and fear not. there are Some things to which are More to be feared than Death even. Above all things let us have Confidence in God. His Providence is Always Good. We While turn aside the pestilence if that Would be the Best. Nor is it a particularly unhappy thing for People to Die in Childhood. They Cannot be taken When they are better prepared to Die. I write None of this to Reprove you. not at all. But to Show you that the Danger is small and that it is not troubling us.

You Will also have Alarmed Willie and Mary. and Just them into a Speck of trouble.. they are as you say also Exceedingly poor. I had a Letter from Willie Last Week telling me he Sd. only 9 Bushells per Acre that Year

He tells me he does not know how to get the Children clothes for Winter Having sold all to satisfy Creditors at a very small price. I must write to him this morning also, to remove the trouble from them that they Separate. I will see as well if as David and his family are I should be much Respir. Let David in your next to send that You sent to him on the Diptheria account, to Willie. It would remove many small burdens from him. Your forgetfulness of self in Prayer is agreeable to me and your so much helpfulness to others is all well. And I delights in making You feel easy about this affair I ought to write to Sarah too. and must probably to Moscow. the Arrival of the stamps enables me to write some more. do not send any money to me. I can do without. although have not seen one cent from this years Crop. I need but little. Having food and raiment. a spare on sheet and and daily more concerned about you all than any thing else personal. I wish much that You Mind more Calm in Spirit. More Cool. more easy minded. See the Quietness of Nature, the Sun Shine Brilliantly this morning and the Dust Earth Cool, as Composure can decorate and no noise there but the Sound of the Sea Kettle.

Please tell Lee I am writing down in the Letters What you allude to as to Mary Gill & the Green Peas

Box 544, Iowa City, Iowa.
Thur. Eve. Dec. 12. '78.

My dear Sallie,

Your letter is rec'd, & I was extra glad to get it - especially so, as you tell me you are all well. Since I have heard about Diptheria, & think all the time about the children - I have dreamed of them every night - since. - For instance, last night I dreamed I was there, & Dave was angry at me for not seeing to them, & I ment- & examined their throats & found them inside of both Dennie's & Sandy's completely covered with false membrane - it looked like grey leather - I am fearfully troubled about - them all the time for the disease seems to be everywhere this year in the West - & is so very fatal in its work. - I do hope Dave will use the

line & Alcohol as I told him.
I cannot write but a line
as I am so tired tonight - I
would'nt have written till
Sunday, if I had'nt wanted to
send you a few stamps - but
you need'nt send Tom's letter
to me at present - If I go home
I can read it then, & if I don't
it will be time enough to send
it then - I trust this will find
you all well - I am very tired
all the time - & will be glad of
a rest, for I don't feel well
lately - You said nothing about
the cranberry sance - Did you get
it, I am very glad to hear
that good news of the Children.
I wish you would write me a note
Soon as you get this & let me
know how they are, Affectionately
Sarah.

A Merry Christmas to All!

33 Grays. Cambridge Mass. Dec. 16-78.

My Dear Father;

I was glad to get yours of 6th inst, and to find that your better judgment counsels me to do what I have finally determined upon, viz, to forego the pleasure of a trip home for the present. Besides my not wanting to go appropriate quite a deeun of money, I would also like to spend a while in Washington and see what is the character of my work before coming to pay that anything is attained. Perhaps I will be home in the summer, if all goes well. But I am Especially anxious that now should get away from the farm for a year. There you have been for — is it possible? — 32 years, and seldom off the farm save to go to mill! This, after a touch of city life, seems to me a good deal like being banished to Siberia. Now I feel that a year

or even a winter in a different climate, among men, near mountains and sea, with a chance to look day at the backs of half a million books, with greater variety of food and conversation — for there are many men with many ways of thinking, — all this would renew your youth. And it would be a great pleasure to me. I should like Prof Benj. Peirce — who has been a sort of father to me here — to come to town while you are there. He is very simple and common sense in dress and conversation, lays all signs of his peculiar gift aside, and is fond of religious speculations, always looking behind the seemings of this peripheral world for traces of the Eternal Verity. I think that he really likes me, and certainly I like him. Always glad to see me, and always ready to help me to a knowledge of the truth. He carries a little pencil in his vest pocket, and writes on the back of an envelope or anything else he can lay his hands on, when away from the desk. In going to the Capital, I shall not sever my relations toward him on, but shall always, so long as both live, regard him as my teacher, and profit by his instructions. He is just two years older than you are, having been born in 1809. How is mother's health? You occasionally speak of her as if as usual. When I leave here I shall send on a trunk or box home by freight, containing a few clothes, blankets, bed-curtains, &c, for which I shall have no more use, and which may prove valuable at home. I have a good stock of blankets, all nearly new. Also a Greek Lexicon and some Greek books, New Testament (English & Greek) for you, in accordance with Tom's request, so that if you have the strength and inclination, you can read the books in the original. The Lexicon is the best and most recent edition of the best, and will come handy in looking up words, even if you do nothing in particular with the language itself. But this is Sunday night and I must get a good long sleep. I never sleep well — from 9 till 7! and am a new man. A card from Lizzie says Tom preaches in Turkish! Wonderful gift of tongues. I don't see how he does it, and linguists here say it is most remarkable.

I wish to have Emma & the children pay a visit to

Mary & Willie's till the Diphtheria passes by. I hope they are already over, for that scourge is dreadful. As to money matters, we will get through, though it will take an effort for a series of years. I am very glad to get to work again after living this precarious life for over two years — the most precarious life one can well imagine. Fishing has certain elements of certainty in it that are wanting here. In the first place you are certain there are fish somewhere. Now there may not be a single man needing tutoring in the whole University and it is useless to look. And even if it isn't a good day for fishing, you can dig angle-worms almost any day — and who doesn't know what a calm assurance that the fish are already caught always accompanies that process?

I see by papers that there has been a great snow storm in Missouri and Southern Iowa. I know you had your share of it. I should hope it would clear the air and put an end to that Epidemic.

I am very anxious to hear what has been done about it. Affectionately — Alexander.

Saratoga Winona County

Dec 15th 1878, Minn

Dear Brother [Alexander] Your letter of the 8th
ult came to hand yesterday, and you counted
just right, in thinking it would be all
right in having Emma and her little ones
here, We had a letter from Father Colby, and
in that he spoke of the whole family as being
good, and there was not a word about
disease of any kind in that section
or in Montalto, But for all that, there may
be danger, and so today I will write to them
and see what they have to say, of course Dave
knows just how we are here, for there has been (he was here last winter) not
Change in the way of novelty since then,
but the will makes the way in a case of
this kind, and I have not the least doubt
we would get along very well if a little crowded
But I really hope there is not any reason
for alarm, there are not any cases in the
part of the state of diphtheria or any other
Epidemic I am glad to hear of your brighter
prospects, and hope they will keep Yours

for all you expect. for I am sure you deserve all you anticipate. We are having very pleasant winter weather. and just as sure as shortly it is well for us it is so,

have you seen or heard of the new revolution in Mathematics inclosed you will find a clipping. and if I could only see something more about it and also about Lockyers discovery in regard to Hydrogen (the little girl is helping me to write and you see how it is) I would think of seeing something interesting. How complex. and multifarious are all the compounds of matter and yet I have reason to think there are not more than two dozzen considerable bodies to start with. but I will have less care and anxiety perhaps in or about new year and then I will try to write you a letter or some one of these things that may interest you, we are well hope you are and wishing you a happy and prosperous new year

I am Your Loving Brother

William L Christie

Andover, Mass. Sunday 12/22, 78.

Dear Alexander, —

Enclosed yow will find — no check this time; for my ~~creditors~~ debtors hold back — but one of my cards which yow will please take to some establishments as a sample for 50 others to be made after this for 8 f. 9 I believe this is the price I paid before. There is a place in Washingt. Str. 612 or 712 I imagine or guess;) it is on the left hand side come up the street from the depot (Post & Maine); yet yow will find some other place where they will print; bring them with yow on Thursday when yow come.

Moreover, please to find out whether I can get enter Harvard

at New Year 1880, if I should
pass a satisfactory examination
for admission in June 1879;
and if so, whether one is entitled
to make use of the loan fund;
and whether one could possibly
get a scholarship at the end
of the Freshman year, i.e. 1880.
I have changed my mind somewhat
concerning my plan of going
to Europe. Shall tell you all
about it, as soon as you come.

I received Th's letter strange
you a few days ago, but no word
from you whether I should read
it on or not. I inferred, however,
that it was to go to Lee Centre. — Miss C.
has come, frank, free, easy and
simple as ever.

A merry Christmas and a
Happy New Year! Yours as ever,

Dimmer.

Prime, Bolton Co;
Lowa.

Sunday, Dec. 23, 1878.

My dear Brother

You will be surprised to see this heading - I am on my way home from Lowa City - I started yesterday morning expecting to make close connections & get home last night - I was foolish enough to let a friend in Iowa City a student - go to the depot for me to find out about trains - instead of going myself - He reported all right & not - until well into way, did I learn from the conductor that the train went on farther than Cedar Falls & would not go on again until Tuesday morning!! When I arrived at

Cedar Falls, I inquired for freight-
trains & started an hour after on
board of one, arriving after a
very tedious trip at this place
about 9 o'clock last Evening. It
stopped here to remain over Sun-
day & Monday morning at
6 o'clock goes on again & I go
with it, & arrive in Albert
Lea just ten minutes past
3 P.M. & just ten minutes
after the ~~train~~ passenger train
on the Southern road has started
for Wells! So I suppose that instead
of getting home in one
day, I will not arrive until
the Evening of Christmas Day! You
can readily imagine my vexation
& dismay at discovering the state
of affairs. My only hope of getting
home on Monday night is this.
The Engineer of the freight train

boards at this hotel, & I am
going to try to persuade him
to make that ten minutes &
get me into Albert Lea in time
for the passenger train going
to Wells. I will be all right
for Monday night at home if
I can persuade him to do that.
He is an Irishman by the name
of Connelly, so I have more hope.
It will be necessary too, that
the conductor be willing, of course.
I finally concluded to go home
anyway. I am getting about
Diphtheria, & want to see the children.
I have'nt heard from home
for a week, so am in the
dark about all of them —
I hope you have decided to
come home. The last letter I
had from ~~to~~ Father, he told
me how happy he was to think
of seeing you so soon & told

me to be sure & come too —
HE will be much disappointed
but- you know that —
I am tired & vexed & nervous
so no more now —

Your sister affectionately
Sarah,

Mon. A. Ins Car the Freight train
Conductor says will
make the train wait at Allegh
Lea in time for me.

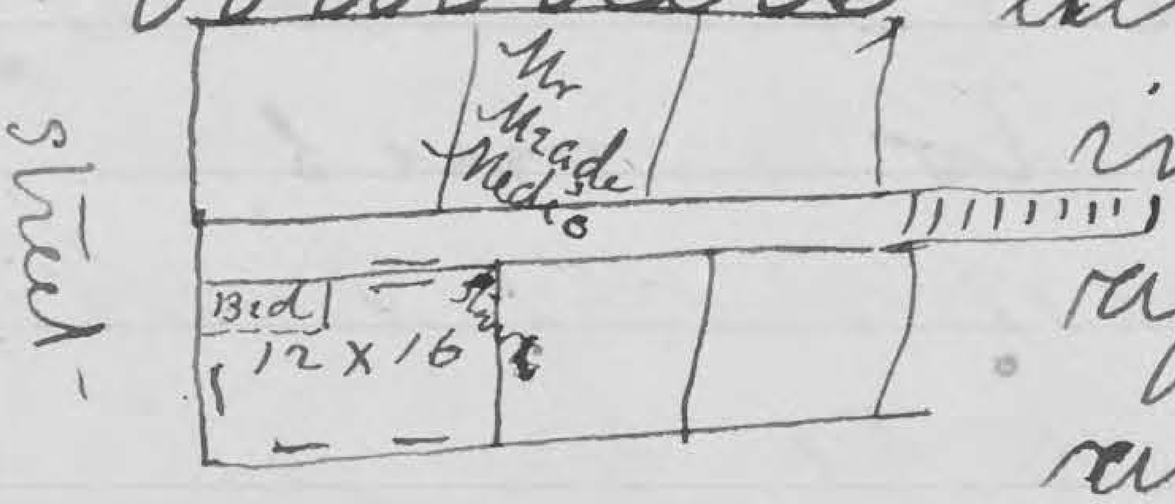
Iowa City Iowa
Dec 26 – 1878

Dear Miss Christie, [29]
Lectures over last
Friday and I felt that I
was a new being, a changed
creature, a school girl set
free. with no lessons, no
cares, no tasks to cast their
shaddows across my path
for two whole weeks to come
I went to my room piled my
books on the table, shoved
it into the farthest corner
of the room, laid them

"Good by" for two whole weeks while I visited the various places of amusement, and resorts of the city for recreation and rest. Postals brewery was gone over to day - The walls of the saloon are, as Prof Clapp stated he had heard they were, beautifully frescoed, and in strange contrast seems the floor scattered over with sawdust The building, imposing in structure without, contains much waste room within. Many rooms containing little but cobwebs, hanging from the rafters of the ceilings, and covered with dust In one room we discovered three deers heads with horns, a buffaloes, an elks horns over five feet in length with five branches, eighteen inches long - and the heads of two antelope their clear eyes seeming to look with pity at the work going on around.

And what have I done in refference to rooms. I have made no definite arrangements as yet. When do you return, I would if possible like your assistance in deciding as you are to share them with me, I find none near the lecture rooms save for a price beyond my reach, except the

one at Mrs Lo Millers and
also in the next frame
near where I met you
Friday morning and of
which you spoke. A neat
room up stairs, facing the
street, furnished about the
same as Mrs Millers, but
the walls and curtains
neater, no closet, no
woodshed, no noisy
boarders, all noisy ones
inclined to dance
after nine P M
are turned away



price, $1, 00 a week, Mr Meade
occupies a room across
the hall and other gentlemen
are in two other rooms
I am undecided, dont like to
have my wood snowed under
neither do I relish the idea
of carrying it up two flights of
stairs. write me. Minneapolis Box 477

Rafsadan Mann
Mon. Dec. 30. '78.

My dear Brother, [Alexander]

I write with the children around me, & cannot write but a word. All are well except Jurhaps Dave — He has had a bad pain in his side for several days — it is almost entirely gone now. But he doesn't feel quite as well as usual — He is round about his work & business, of course — but is not really well — He says he would be well enough if it were not for pulling about his debts, & I believe it — He says he wishes you had come home, but would be ashamed to, he says

to have you come & find things in such bad shape yet- He told me himself. That aside from my debt- (which does not- push him at present) that he owes about- $500. ~~dollars~~ That ~~are~~ is due none.- Let- me tell you what- I think, (so near as I can find out- from Dave & Emma -) It- is this- if he had $200. in hand none he could stave off the rest:- If it were possible, (but- I know you are in debt- yourself & hard up) that- you could borrow that- for him none he would be all right- & happy- Even $100. would see him far through - All are pushing him. but- none threatening to make him pay, except- John Ray, & that; for $60. a note in his hands.- I told you he owed Wilbur $100. That- brought him into trouble a short- time ago. Wilbur bough a yoke of cattle & gave Dave's note in payment- The man cashed it at- the bank & then they came down hard on Dave, & he had to sell, & take & scrape to pay it- & did so- but- you see he had'nt- calculated on that- & it- knocked him back a good deal - Emma told me about- it- herself & a good many other things that- she said Dave would'nt- like to tell either to me or you - She says he is ashamed to let- you into details so you must not let- him know anything I tell you. I know I have helped Dave by coming home - Emma says so- He was so discouraged - & down-

hearted- I dwell- on the fact- of home
thankful he should be that- Diphtheria
had not- come to them- That- debt- or
poverty was nothing to death- also
that he knew in truth that- he,
was an honest- man - & was doing
the best- he could - & not- to be
afraid to look his creditors in
Mankato straight- in the eye &
tell them that- he was doing the
best- he could & that- was all
he could do- He went- in Friday
& got- them pushed off to a little
except- John Ray - who says
he must- have that- $60.- but-
Dave came home feeling much
better & happier - I brought-
him no money - except- to purchase
some flannel for the baby &c - for
I was forced to give it all to-
my creditors - When I came away
from home, they knew I am
Earning & come down on me.
The fact- is that- while I was
teaching here at- home - I lied
to them - making it - appear that

I was unable to work - so that Done might get - what there was neither am I sorry for it; & would do the same again under the same circumstances.- The children are in splendid health, & they are have good warm clothing - They are wonderfully fine children.- I think there are none like them anywhere - Father & Mother are well also - & Emma, I never saw looking better - They have plenty of good beef, bread & potatoes. with rye coffee.- Father has his tobacco & mother her tea - I no more will write again soon as possible -

Affectionately -

Sarah -