

[To Buffalo NY]

Edinboro Feb 5 1885

My dear son Alfie

Will I have just got settled down to write after the closing exercises of the Potter Literary Society. Exercises of both societies were free this term I attended this evening to be company for Lissa (whose school closed to day) & I had a good time till the Piper business was settled by my paying 25.00. I had to raise the money in next years rent so of course I had to rent the Parlor for next term to keep myself in shoes & pay taxes & also give up getting a carpet. If I had not paid it they could have made lots more costs got out an injunction & sold the house & lot - it being a quit for labor & being for the family for you know she never washed a piece for students for when I was washing for them I myself did the washing & washed at night after my day & sewing was done & supper was over. And now through the hot weather I must cook & eat in the same room but I have the cool shady porch to sit in & shall do my washing up to this Grandpa's farm as cold deed signed etc. Now don't you worry my boy but just stick close to your study & work & enjoy yourself for I shall come out all right. I know you are going to miss Bentley wonderfully but he is not far from you & excursion rates will be so cheap that he will come down & see you often.

& your work & study will take your time through  
the week & Sundays you will write to us  
The Boys played for the society to night & they  
made most excellent music they have improved  
wonderfully. You will have to practice pretty sharp  
evenings to keep up with them I was in at Aunt  
Lizs this P.M. she sends her love & says tell Algie  
to keep good courage & stick close to your work  
& one of these days you will come out ahead of  
them all I am down getting meat at the market  
& milk at Thompsons but you know this is another  
day a coming & I don't feel a bit discouraged  
for I know I can earn my living if I have to  
& one of these days I have two boys who will be able  
to keep me without work & not only able but both  
willing & glad & just that thought gives me new  
courage & zest so I can sing over my work & not  
get weary or hardly. Lousiana Now Beately is gone  
I want you to write often & longer letters telling  
just how you are getting along

Your loving Mother

M. D. Jones

Edinburgh

(i. l.)  
DUBOIS & DAVIS,

—DEALERS IN—

↔ Sewing Machines, Oil, Attachments, Etc. ↔

NO. 9 SOUTH MECHANIC STREET,

Bradford, Pa., Sept 7 1887.

C. H. DuBois. }  
S. C. Davis. }

W. E. Waters

Dear Mother & Brothers,

I arrived safe and sound in this city of sin last Tuesday about noon. I saw Grandpa in Carry Tues. morning and I suppose he got my umbrellas all OK, excepting the handle and I have that. Please send it to me by express to #9 South Mechanic St.

I have spent most of my time in looking around getting acquainted with the city. Will Valentine is here and also an old student named Willie Kincaid. I called on Pt (Clark) Smith Tuesday P.M. and was well entertained. I met her husband Lee W. Smith, and found him a very pleasant fellow. He used to attend school in Edinboro in 1869.

They have a very pleasant little home. We have a pleasant office

but haven't a very good founding  
place at present. We have a business  
room: but it is quite pleasant.

I have hardly got on to my  
duties yet. Dubois is out with  
a machine and Father is starting  
an agt. at Southport.

I can't think of much to  
write. I am all time so busy that  
I haven't yet had the time & good  
opportunity to tell father what you  
wished me to. Brill probably won't  
until Sunday.

I am well and in hopeful  
spirits

Your Affectionate Son and brother  
L B Watson

Bradford Dec



C. C. McNAMARA, PROP'T.

## CENTRAL HOUSE.

BUS TO AND FROM ALL TRAINS.

Conneaut, O. Mch 27 1882

My Dear Mother:

Feeling a little lazy Saturday  
 must to Eagleville and visited with  
 Florence, Elva and their husbands until  
 Monday noon. Found Elva able  
 to sit up and walk across the room  
 with an arm to support her.

Her baby is a mite. I tell you.  
 Wraps, baby and all only weigh  
 5# 6oz. - and the baby is a month old.  
 It is a boy as you already know and  
 seems to be a strong healthy baby.

Elvas back is very weak and she  
 walks at an angle of 45°. I enjoyed  
 my visit very much, and got back to  
 Conneaut last night at 7 o'clock.

I found Lova's telegram and was

to Shall's immediately. He said he  
~~had~~ expected a man from Cleveland  
and we waited until train came  
and as no man came we sent  
telegram for Lew to come. Shall  
rec'd telegram this morning that  
~~man~~ had started and ~~so~~ he came  
told me and sent telegram to  
wait using my name. Now you  
can explain all to Lew and he  
can't blame me any for <sup>the</sup> delay  
and sudden changes subsequent.  
I'm sure & glad ~~both~~ anxious to see  
you and you will have a good  
~~visit~~ if you ever get there.

I am invited to Cannon's for a  
little Euchre and I must get  
ready. So Good night

Your affectionate Son

L. B. Waters.  
When L. B. does come if he does come  
have him bring the trunk

to receive of ans

12/21/89

J. B. Waters Esq  
Dear Friend

Yours and the  
pictures rec'd are O.K.  
I haven't time - I might  
- much less fine fine  
weather and a grand  
time. Xmas & Eva is  
- soon - we will consider  
- the weather etc.  
- at home now in  
for the winter well  
- recently I would like for  
- to come out here  
- for one had a few and  
- to see you

... the so reports of  
... probably a ...  
... well then for a  
... by ...  
... usually ...  
...  
...  
... The ...

Edinburgh Sept-27 1883

My Dear Sam

I wrote you a long letter  
the 16 inst & sent you the Lali papers  
& enclosed a \$1.00 bill in the letter  
& I have not heard one word from  
~~you since & have become so impatient~~  
that I wrote a Postal to Louche but  
concluded that I'd better try you  
once more, now don't fail to write  
by return mail if you are at  
Jamestown when I shall direct  
this letter I am so worried about  
~~you that I cannot sleep even to~~  
your anxious Mother

M. E. Waters

Edinburgh

Eric Co. 76

Buffalo Dec, 9/1883.

My Dear Mother:

Your two letters are rec'd all ok. I am out of employment at present, expect to go to work tomorrow.

That is I have a chance to go into a ~~gallery~~ and take % of the receipts for my work. It is an old gallery but no inside work has been done in it for some time. The man (Bliss) having devoted most of his time to outside sewing, I am a little dubious in regard to it but nothing else offers and so I expect to try it.

— I put new sleeves in my shirt today and will probably put new ones in another as soon as I have time.

I did a real neat job for an amateur.

Had a chance to work on machine-made but wouldn't as I want to stick to photography. I have a chance to meet a gallery in Aurora for 100<sup>00</sup> per year.

to see it. I am sure an island I hardly know which way to go. I mean land. I have a very pleasant place to board. Folks are quite kind to me as they always are when ever I stop. In winter I always succeeded in getting the good will of my different landladies.

I have a chance to buy McDowell's gallery in Cambridge. He wants \$200 I don't know how much stock he has but told W. J. L. that he (McD.) had more than W. J. L. had. The price is very reasonable.

But I am not anxious to get to Cambridge. I thought I might go there if I could meet his whole outfit reasonably. I do not care enough about it to write to him; was in hopes business would be good enough with me to allow of spending holidays in Edinburgh but it will be impossible.

I wanted to be at home but can't see my way. I thought over court would suit a fine especially as rather said he might send it to Eric & have it colored to suit.

It won't be a bit too large another year I don't think. I wanted until today to write hoping to be able to tell you how much I was getting in my good permanent "parish". I am going to pull through some here and am sure to come out all right in the Spring. Every one is complaining of no business and dark weather, which makes work short.

Your affectionate Son  
L. B. Water  
204 Swan St  
Buffalo N.Y.

GOOD SAMPLE ROOM.

FIRST-CLASS LIVERY.

M. DORMAN, Proprietor,

# COMMERCIAL HOUSE

BUS TO AND FROM ALL TRAINS:

Conneaut, O. *March 31 1883*

*The first thing*

*for the first time*

*in the history of the world*

*and the first time*

*in the history of the world*

*in the history of the world*

*in the history of the world*

*in the history of the world*

*in the history of the world*

*in the history of the world*

*in the history of the world*

*in the history of the world*

*in the history of the world*

*in the history of the world*

*in the history of the world*

*in the history of the world*



M. DORMAN, Proprietor,

COMMERCIAL HOUSE

BUS TO AND FROM ALL TRAINS.

Conneaut, O. 188

It is a road out of the way as it is
... near tail of the inside ... at the ...
is a young ... .. this
and is on the ... ..
his family, wife and two children, into.

Do you know what ... ..
interest ... ? "She" has ... ..

I have taken ... ..
... ..

... .. at 3 o'clock
... ..
... ..
... ..
... ..

C. C. McNAMARA, Prop'r.

## CENTRAL HOUSE.

BUS TO AND FROM ALL TRAINS.

Conneaut, O. Nov 13 1883.

My Dear Mother:

Your welcome letter of the 9<sup>th</sup> inst. just recd. You have recd. my letter written Sunday and know that I am not ~~ending~~ ~~to~~ ~~stay~~ right away. I am more and more satisfied here and as I give good satisfaction to C. Carson I will stay on.

I am not making large wages but am managing to make a little more than expenses. Carson wants me to buy in with him. He makes this offer. If stock inventories less than \$1,000 pay \$300 down and pay the other <sup>(if it must go)</sup> \$200 when the business pays it to me. If stock goes over \$1,000 pay \$400 down and bal. when the business pays it to me. A pretty good

offer, Time against time and  $\frac{1}{2}$  profits  
mine. But he wants a partner so he  
can get out into neighboring towns and  
take orders. So the best of the work would  
fall on me the same as if I'm in with  
L.H. I don't want to go into partnership  
with anyone who has to work  
as much as I do. God knows I'm lazy  
enough. Some time I will go into  
some busy country town and try my  
hand at cutting out. I get a little  
experience and then will probably go into  
business in some good town or city,  
or cut for some firm. Clothes in the air.  
In the meantime does your money  
to your best advantage and if business  
is good here and Curran keeps me I  
will be able to help you some should  
you need it. I am well and con-  
tented. Mrs. Curran is in the shop  
when I left this morning. I shall  
write you soon. I must close. Your letter

C. C. McNAMARA, PROP'T.

## CENTRAL HOUSE.

BUS TO AND FROM ALL TRAINS.

Conneaut, O. 188

She said that your mother not to  
~~be unkind to~~ ~~will~~ ~~keep~~ ~~your~~ ~~watch~~  
 over you. Mr. Carson says "You tell her  
 you are among Christ's members."

A couple of new came in the shop to  
 (Mr. Fobus ~~another~~ ~~just~~ ~~before~~) and invited  
 Mr. Carson to take part in a strictly  
 private party in Cleveland Hall. Mr.  
 Carson accepted, as his wife has to dance  
~~and so does he, and~~ ~~turn~~ ~~of~~ ~~around~~ ~~and~~  
 introduced me and I was invited, and  
 my name put down on the list.

It is being got up by a couple of <sup>married</sup> ~~young~~  
 respected ~~men~~ ~~and~~ ~~they~~ are endeavoring  
 to get a crowd that will ~~entertain~~ themselves  
 in a ~~most~~ ~~infantile~~ ~~and~~ ~~unwise~~. Such  
 a crowd that will pay as strangers to get

acquainted with. The dance is to be a  
week from Thursday (tomorrow).

My father-in-law will be somewhat  
disappointed at my now arrival but  
I can't help it. I have my best interest to  
look after and I think I am doing the  
best by staying home. I will be home  
in a week or two <sup>to stay over Sunday</sup> if every thing goes  
satisfactory. Daisy will be pleased with  
Cassidy's paper and think we will get  
along first rate together. It is quite  
muddy here. Side walks and crossings  
are scarce but will be more plentiful  
before fall. A niece of Mrs. Curran's will  
be here next week. I saw a picture of her and  
it is pretty. She is a violinist. Dr. Harris  
(dentist) lives up stairs over shop and has  
a daughter that can sing lovely.

From my window I can look into a side  
window of a house and see a very pretty  
girl quite ~~affectionate~~ <sup>affectionate</sup> Lou  
L. B. Waters

C. C. McNAMARA, Prop'r.

## CENTRAL HOUSE.

BUS TO AND FROM ALL TRAINS.

Conneaut, O. Apr 3 1883

My dear mother

~~Just~~ ~~welcome~~ ~~letter~~ of the  
~~14th~~ ~~inst~~ was rec'd today and as I  
 didn't write Sunday I will answer  
 immediately. I suppose you are  
 in quite a mess at home mowing  
~~repairing~~ papering, etc. Wish I were  
 there to help you out. I am busy  
 part of the time. I commenced a  
~~sack coat~~ ~~trousers~~ Saturday morning  
 and today at ten o'clock I hung  
 it on the wall completed excepting  
 sewing on the buttons. As a favor  
 (Carrie is sick) I am making the  
~~rest~~ ~~rest~~ commenced at 3 this P.M. will  
 finish tomorrow by noon without  
 working hard. Monday we sold a

→ Spring overcoat. Today a man brought  
his own cloth over (we means Carson)  
gets \$15<sup>00</sup> for making & trimming.

will stay here with Carson as  
long as I can make a little money but  
it has been mighty little since I have  
been here. ~~It has been terrible cold all~~

the time but has been much pleasanter  
this week so far. I suppose I will see  
Uncle John about the middle of this <sup>month</sup> ~~week~~

I rec'd a letter from Edinburgh saying  
that Sammy Keyser is dead. Please  
write me the particulars. He was  
up & around when I came away but  
had been sick. What does Alfie talk

of doing after graduating? I shall  
propose to father to send him to  
Cleveland Ohio to graduate in violin.

The landlord just says "Tell her to  
come & see us she will try & treat her  
well. The patch string always hangs on  
the outside." He is a good fellow.

Good night your affectionate Son  
J. B. Waters.

Edinboro Apr 2 18.4

Mr A.E. Waters

Last June our son Alfie had to have a graduating suit - & I boug. them & when you came to Edinboro you told me in our son Bantley's presence "you would pay me for them & to let you know when I needed it - to let you know" or words to that effect - if I remember correctly & now I need it - & I would like it very much. If not the whole, at least a part of it. And the next time you are in Bradford please send me feather bed & Pillow as you are not using them. Our son Alfie is just out of shirts

Mrs M. D. Waters

Erie Pa

Edinboro

Pa



Buffalo N.Y. Mch. 27. 1854.

My Dear Mother

Your favors of the 25<sup>th</sup> recd  
recd all ok, and I will incur both  
at one shot. You seem rather despondent  
yet in your last although written  
only two days after the first one in  
which you gave me to understand you  
were getting along all right enough.

In regard to Niles bill give order on  
Dorr. In regard to \$5 for alpio coat  
~~coat or suit which it was asked~~  
alpio to write to his father for it.

I will not be ambassador  
between you & father any longer.

I have held that office for quite  
a number of years and now I  
positively decline or rather resign.

I know nothing about father's financial  
matters but he says he is hard up

and isn't making anything. He  
intends going to some other place next  
week. It is right that he should pay  
you the \$10, and he should also send  
the cloths you want. But I would  
rather (if I had it) send you a hundred  
dollars than ask him to send me.

Now you see just how I feel, and  
if you can manage a little while  
longer I will help you. In the  
mean time if you want anything  
from further for God's sake ask  
through some one else for I am tired  
~~and sick. I wish I could~~ ~~not go to~~  
him for any one. If Alper want  
take the office write to him direct.

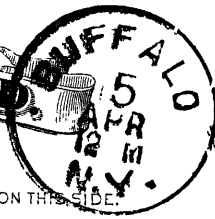
It isn't your business to split the  
wood and you are a fool for  
doing it. You know I don't sym-  
pathize with you at all when you  
suffer from doing such work. If you  
want like to split it why go it.



but when you are suffering don't  
come to me for sympathy.

You may think this a cold  
letter written from a cold heart.  
'Such (the latter) is not the case for  
my love is just as strong now as  
in my most loving days if not  
more so and my thoughts often  
very often wander back to home sweet  
~~to~~ and now I there I would help  
clean house and split the wood but  
that would be about all I could do  
and one can't afford to pay big  
~~wages for so little work~~. I must stay  
where I can make at least a living.

I have strong hopes of getting a  
job at operating in a new gallery  
wages \$15 per week for first 3 months  
\$20 for 2<sup>nd</sup> 3 months \$25 after. I may  
get slipped up so keep it to yourself  
until I am certain. It won't take  
effect until May 1<sup>st</sup> any way and



NOTHING BUT THE ADDRESS CAN BE PLACED ON THIS SIDE.

Mrs. M. D. Waters  
Edinburgh  
Ohio

Buffalo 4/2/84

Dear Mother: Either I have neglected you or  
you: me I haven't heard from you for over a  
week and I guess it is about a week since  
I wrote. You never acknowledged receipt of  
Photos. You must have said them some time  
ago. Alfie is talking about coming to Buffalo  
I think if he waits awhile he can get in  
with me. Of course I know it to him of father?  
If I can get him in with Stuart by  
leaving I will quit my job and hunt up  
another. Stuart is a good photographer and  
what Alfie learned of him would be worth  
something. Write to your affectionate Son

L. H. Waterhouse  
207 Duane St Buffalo N.Y.

Buffalo N.Y. Apr. 7. 1884

My Dear Mother:

Enclosed you will find some of the needles and the letters you sent me. Why you should take the pains to have it post marked and then sent under cover where our address is the same and where father gets his mail before I do is more than I can tell. As it happened this time he brought the letters over to me and had I opened it immediately I would have handed it to him.

Now as it is I consider that I would be asking indirectly for the money and I absolutely refuse to be a "go between" in any way, shape or manner. I can't make out what prices John S. Goodell wants. Who is John S. Goodell? Does he live

Pa. or N.Y. when you give an address  
it is always necessary to give the  
state. Alfred knows it is father's  
wish to have him attend school and  
is perfectly willing to bear the expense  
but does not want him to go against  
his will as it will only be throwing  
money away. Father went to a  
neighboring town today but don't know  
how long he will stay. Will probably  
be back by Saturday if not before.

Had a letter from C.S.P. telling me  
of his grandmother's death and a little  
business. The kind fine are not  
only 2 correspondents and the  
correspondence between Char & I continues  
about business. Be careful of the  
photos I have some more to send  
soon. Your affectionate Son

L.B. Waters  
207 Sumner St  
Buffalo  
N.Y.



Buffalo March 24, 1884

My dear Mother:

Yours of the 18. inst. rec'd  
Saturday. You have undoubtedly  
rec'd a letter, a postal, and a package  
of photos since writing your letter.

You will probably be better served  
for your rooms (taking every thing into  
consideration) by writing to Storace there  
by writing to students.

I would have been very glad to have  
seen Mrs Braun and she would have  
had but a short walk to the Hallway  
only about two squares and three  
short ones. I hope Carrie will call  
on me if she has time. By the  
diagram I sent you, you can easily  
explain where I am. I think she will  
come into the New York Central depot.  
If so it is on Exchange St. She will

have to walk east to first corner which  
is Michigan St. and then south two  
squares to Seneca. If she comes into  
the Erie Depot she will only have to  
walk up two squares to Seneca as the  
Erie Depot is in corner of Michigan  
& Exchange. I guess it is just as well  
to let Pittsville property skip as we  
will find plenty of use for our money.

I saw about \$12 or \$10 in Edinburgh I  
will have enough in a couple <sup>or three</sup> of weeks  
to pay it and then I will send you  
some regularly. Keep a staff up for  
under lip for we will come out of  
the large end of the horse yet.  
Goodnight

Yours affectionate Son  
L. B. Waters  
504 Swan St  
Buffalo N.Y.

Inclosed find my last letter  
from Chas. Jones & Co. of  
Buffalo N.Y. of course means the  
Buffalo News in person Co.

Buffalo N.Y. June 9<sup>th</sup> 1884

My Dear Mother

Your kind favor of the 4<sup>th</sup>  
inst. was not recd until a day  
and as I was not over here last  
night I have not answered heretofore.

The most depressing subject in  
Buffalo at present is the weather  
and such weather snow & blow,  
blow & snow. I tell you it is terrible  
Merchants are hiring sleighs to  
carry the snow away from in  
front of their stores and it fills up  
nearly as fast as it is hauled away.  
Roofs are loaded when the wind  
doesn't catch it and many are  
afraid they will be caved in.

Mercury runs up and down

quite unexpectedly, In fact it is  
a regular Lake show winter one I  
haven't realized since living in Erie.  
A sharp cutting wind from the ice  
It is fearful. Last week Wednesday  
~~I think it came of clear but biting~~  
and in A.M. about 7:30 I stepped  
out to clean snow off my printing  
windows. It took me about 5 min  
but my feet haven't been so cold  
before for a good many years. You  
know I used to be troubled with  
chilblains but haven't been for 3 or  
4 years. I got them so cold that I  
have been troubled a little ever since

Father wrote Alfie here to proceed  
in regard to money order, and G. B.  
has lost a customer. Henry Lewis  
will have his advice from the P.M.  
here and so I think a duplicate  
order can be procured.

Father's shirts are all OK, I put in a new pair of sleeves for him and he is fixed. In regard to money from Father I can give no encouragement. You know how he feels. I will send you as much as fact as I can. I did a statement from T. V. N. and will probably be able to send them the balance in a

couple of weeks. I own some other little debts ~~which~~ <sup>which</sup> I will soon be able to pay and then I will send you some money regularly.

I am getting 2<sup>00</sup> per week board. ~~but~~ <sup>and</sup> am learning enough to make up for deficiency in salary. I expect an increase as when I went to work I only expected board.

Of course I don't wish it known how <sup>or rather how little</sup> much I am getting. I am working for an A. N. S. photographer and he wishes to leave me in entire charge in the spring as he wishes to get out and recuperate

I don't mean that he will leave me  
to do all the work as that would be  
impossible but will leave me to  
do the most important part of it viz  
operation and looking over the rest.

~~Business~~ is rather slack at  
present on account of weather.  
Every one is or seems to be sunk  
in. And now I guess I have said  
my say. You will get this  
about Friday. Don't be discouraged  
about finances for I feel that a  
good time is coming.

Your Affectionate Son

L. D. Water, Jr.  
\*204 Superior St  
Buffalo N.Y.



# Permanent Instantaneous Photographs,

*Stuart's*  
186 SENECA STREET.  
Liberal Discount to Professionals.

STUART'S  
BUFFALO DRAMATIC AGENCY.

Buffalo, N. Y., July 6 1884

My Dear Mother:

Today is raining Sunday (A.M.) and I have been in Buffalo a week and still no letter from you. I wrote to you Tue. or Wednesday so you know I am all so. Stuart & wife are at the Park today but I guess they are not enjoying it very highly. I am running the gallery for 15% of what I make but will not get such as I have only made 3 negatives.

Stuart said the other day he didn't intend to be here Sundays at all and would either let me run it in that way or lock it up. I accepted the offer and will probably run it Sundays hereafter. Some Sundays it will pay well others not so well. It rained Friday P.M. and the speeches were made in Academy of Music

Wford has just come in and says he is  
~~going out on the R.R. with one of the boarders~~  
tonight. I advised him to stay at home but  
he is anxious to go and so has gone.

I guess I have written all I can  
think of and have thought considerable  
for a rainy day.

Your affectionate son

Stewart  
204 Swan St  
Buffalo, N.Y.



# Stuart's Dramatic Agency,

— AND —

"PROFESSIONAL'S" PHOTOGRAPHIC STUDIO,

No. 186 Seneca Street, Buffalo, N. Y.

*To the Profession throughout the United States and Canada:—*

*Feeling the need, in so large and growing a City as Buffalo, for a legitimate HEADQUARTERS where theatrical people can meet and make known their wants, and also a place of REFERENCE FOR MANAGERS seeking talent, I have decided to open the above named dramatic agency, and intend to fully post myself in matters of GENERAL INTEREST TO THE STAGE and its surroundings. I will be in communication with ALL RESPONSIBLE MANAGERS and members of the profession, and shall keep all WANTS and APPLICATIONS for dates and talent on record. Files of the best dramatic papers will be on file and at the people's disposal for perusal. My charges for services shall be moderate to both manager and employee.*

*For years I have made a speciality of producing CHARACTER PICTURES which are known to stand SECOND TO NONE IN AMERICA, and at prices that all can afford to pay. Samples of some of the best known Artist's pictures in the Country always on hand and negatives carefully stored.*

*By strict attention to business, I feel that the SHOW WORLD will acknowledge this Agency is a filling of a LONG FELT WANT, and will prove a lasting benefit to all interested. Correspondence from members of the profession and managers and dramatic agencies throughout the United States earnestly solicited.*

*Address,*

**Stuart's Dramatic Agency,**

C A STUART, Proprietor.

No. 186 Seneca St., Buffalo, N Y.

Edinburgh Dec 1 1884

My dear Son Alfie

Yours of the 24<sup>th</sup> ult. just received & I hasten to answer it. I got out my writing materials to write yesterday then I thought I had no "letters to answer & no particular thing to write about" so I just put them away. Miss Horace & family have just gone with their last load of goods into the new house & David & family are coming in this week so I'll not be alone long & the students have just got settled in the parlour. So I have come down in the house Grandpa & Grandma got home late Thursday night both feeling well having had a first-rate good time while gone. Least Hamilton called on me this eve having driven out the stage for young Swift who was sick. He said he would not dare go home to his wife without having called on me he was looking well.

Old Mr Austin was married Saturday  
to the Mrs Leubertson who used to live  
up next to Whites & who went from here  
to Meadville Bill Austins wife has at  
last packed up her things & left for  
her friends in Cleveland She & Bill  
have not lived together since last Spring

I think you know long before this the  
~~reason~~ I did not write that Sunday  
& also that Harry is on the gain. Able  
to sit up & have his bed made by you  
want Andy to write you answer this  
letter & tell him so The woman at Ben  
netts is still living & there is some  
prospect of her recovering Such folk  
seem to live when good folks would  
die do you know Eddie Krin is a  
first-rate good boy & he has taken  
George's place with the boys that is he  
goes with the older boys & seems to  
take well why don't you drop him a  
line he would be glad to answer it  
you did not say anything about his  
wearing any underclothes Tell me if  
he does & what socks he wears

Your loving Mother

J. Water

Edinboro Sept 25 1854

My Dear Wife

Yours of the 21<sup>st</sup> I saw & read  
last-wednesday & Lou & Bentley came  
Thursday & saw Harry & M & sure I  
your mes. - ge but - Mr. Wilson was gone.

The rest attending, but I did not  
& failed to deliver the message but will  
do so this week Art Eckles I'm not sure  
I guess he has gone back Lou & Bentley's  
letters were a great-great-comfort to me  
for they told me of your love & care & I  
had brooded here alone so much that I  
had begun to feel that it mattered but

little what became of me almost forgetting  
for the time my precious Boys & their  
love for me. I have read your letters  
over & over again & the love & hope in  
them will give me courage for a long time  
to come. Did I tell you that Perry  
Gil. & I had a honey talk about the

"Dentist" Business? well, Mr. Dickson he  
said that - to a good Dentist one who stud<sup>ies</sup>  
well & understood it well the Business  
was well: worth \$3000. a year & to a  
first class Dentist from 3 to 4 hundred  
dollars a month is not that worth  
working & studying hard for?

and - Ruhama Clara & they start - or 10.  
next Thursday & expect to get to Mettoon  
Sat - morning & stay over Sunday with  
Uncle J. As folks Lena stays there she keeps  
the Gillaspie School. Monday evening

He is just been down after me with  
met - Runny Dickson who asked all manner  
of questions about - you which I answered  
in the best of my ability He has grown  
considerable since I saw him last -

It was months to the 11th it says are you  
still by coming up? Don't let the gas  
hinder you for I can send you the  
money to come with & finally too it will  
only come & you may not always have a  
mother here in Edinburgh to come & see & I do  
do <sup>in</sup> my boys - remember the next  
best - thing to remind you is getting a letter  
from you for which I look every day  
Your loving - Mother

M. J. Watson

Buffalo March 2, 1884

My dear Mother:

Your kind letter of the 26<sup>th</sup> ult. came to hand in due season and like all the rest of your letters met a hearty welcome and a quick perusal. I was surprised at the choice the Edinburghites made for Burgess but guess there will be plenty of time for it as Wilson is not rapid in his movements.

We have had a visitation of the same "cold snap" I guess for it has been terrible for the last few days. The air is filled with snow tonight but it looks more like frost falling by the electric light on the curves. I was just down to the dry-gate to get some negatives to finish my paper which is all prepared for tomorrow's printing. I have fifteen <sup>in in</sup> 10x12 negatives, ten 8x10 negatives.

By 6<sup>2</sup> x 8<sup>2</sup> negatives and 25 cabinet  
negatives to commence on tomorrow  
Oh yes and five 14 x 17 negatives I  
can't begin them all tomorrow but  
will have to do what I can and work  
them all in during the work.

The German of Mc (learn out the C) (add the  
a and you have it correct) had a  
Nations Carnival in Music Hall  
one week and many from there  
have come here to have photos in Estimote  
Stewart makes one large one for the  
first lady to come from each booth  
and that with the actors & tricks make  
a large amount of the 10 x 12 negatives.

Of the cabinets he generally makes two  
positions of each one that order photos  
and so far I have one cab. frack  
from position when I get them  
all I will mark them and send  
them to you and you can see whether  
I have imposed in my printing or not

Buffalo N.Y. Febry 25. 84.

My Dear Mother,

Your <sup>copy</sup> of the <sup>very</sup> next envelope  
circular and all etc. You have probably  
read my letters before this and con-  
sequently know all there is to tell.

I am still working for Stuart and  
am well. I see W. H. Conwell was elected  
constable. Give him my congratulations.

The Register I do not know or at least  
do not remember. I also congratulate Horace

- I think he has got a nice nice girl for a  
wife although I don't - acquainted with

her who will do Staufers work if all  
of his girls leave him? Does Underwood  
still work for him? I would like to work

for Andy just long enough to have one  
good fight with him. Who is doing  
Staufers work? Does Will still clerk  
and sew? Has Carris got back?



What is Cliff doing? How is Grandpa  
Paoma getting along? Does Grandpa's  
back bother him much this winter?  
How are all the folks? I suppose of  
course they are all well as you never  
say anything about them and you would  
be likely to mention it were they sick.

It doesn't seem as though it had  
been eight months since I had seen it  
but such is the case and liable to be  
as many more before I see it again.

Yesterday I patched my breeches and  
fixed the lining around the arms of  
my coat. I am pretty well fixed again  
now but have got to get a new tree  
as soon as I can. This one doesn't  
do duty as it once did. I wish you  
would get little receipt for making clean-  
ing stuff. I know the ingredients but  
don't remember the proportions and I  
want to make a little to clean  
my clothes & furs. How if L.H. 1

You can arrange them to suit yourself  
around your rooms and then you will see  
as much of the carnival as I did. Do not  
let them get lost or soiled.

How did it say when Miss Swift's kids  
goes? Don't Carrie making a very long  
stay in Canada? (Who does W.H.'s work?)

I knew when I first heard of Quincey's  
licence that it would be a bad thing.  
Not only for young folks of r but for  
himself. He is naturally a good hearted  
boy and is well liked generally but  
his licence will hurt him considerably  
although it will enable him to pay for  
his property. W.H. took a decidedly wrong  
step in treating to drinks and I know  
it didn't please Cora at all. She is as  
nice a little woman as ever lived and  
I am afraid W.H.'s political success thus  
far will only prove a downward stepping  
stone for him she. It may not God  
knows I hope it won't for during the

months I worked with will I learned  
to love him almost like a brother for he is  
a good hearted, kind, and obliging boy.

I am glad I left Calumet when I did  
for I was removed from all temptations  
of that sort and haven't even smoked a  
dozen cigars since leaving. How well will  
Stuart the test? For it is a test and a  
hard one for him as he is called upon  
to investigate every afternoon and evening on  
account of his musical abilities. I only  
hope he may come through it all as  
safe as I have. May his musical talents  
bring a blessing instead of a curse to  
him. I think maybe I can work him  
in the gallery with me as Stuart will  
need more help this summer. Say nothing  
to him but sound him carefully.

~~That~~ ~~he~~ ~~couldn't~~ ~~get~~ ~~the~~ ~~books~~ ~~for~~ ~~the~~  
retail without agreeing to work for them  
and being inspectors. I was out to  
see my little girl today. I could write  
about her good points all night. She is  
a perfect gem for innocents and — but I  
won't commence. When I come to commence  
next I will bring her with me and you can  
judge for yourself. Mum is the word. The block  
according to my brother reminded Stuart was uncovered 10 days  
ago. I am glad Mum again is the word. It is just midnight  
these after pleasant days of recreation  
not to be un der stood or mis under stood

won't or doesn't want to tell you  
what it is why ask Carrie. She has  
a book with the same recipe in  
and will let you copy it for me  
willingly. I am sure.

I haven't seen Steve since the night  
he got back and it is a shame for  
he wasn't feeling very well that night.  
I intended to go down Sunday but it  
took me longer to repair my clothes  
than I thought it would. Do you  
remember that I went to Bradford for  
some needles and Father sent me a  
London needle, I think. I don't know  
two or three with me and wish you  
would send me a paper. I think  
there are two or three or more papers  
around. They were in the machine  
drawers. I don't intend to send a  
dollar to the co. that sent the circular.

Your affectionate Son

L. P. Waters  
207 Duane St Buffalo N.Y.

S.

Printed 6 sheets of paper today and  
sentitized 6 more this eve for tomorrow

~~It is a stormy night and new rain~~  
and around all day. I have just got  
through as I take my morning paper  
keeper until 9 and then do my  
work. It is now eleven o'clock P.M.

I used to sleep my paper in morning  
but had to get up about 4:30 now I can  
sleep until 7. Besides if I am  
working from 9 until 11 I am not  
~~out strolling around and running~~  
chance of spending hard earned money.

Goodnight

S.D.W.

Edinburgh Oct- 24 1884

My Dear Son Alfie

Some of the 24 came to hand last-evening & I had quite a time reading it- while to night my eyes are so much better I can read it quite easily though they pain me a good deal yet- But Frank Cunningham says it all comes from my tooth- & I think I shall part with that this week & to-morrow I'll fix your overcoat- I've not been blind the past-week only I couldn't see we have had quite a cold snap & snow all the past-week & a heavy frost last-night but its much warmer to day I see weary every day but he works hard untill 10 or 11 o'clock almost every night- & Sunday is all the time he has, He is sure to write you to day. Grandpa & Grandma intend staying untill they get ready to come home, which may mean nearly all winter they did not-

know anything when they would get-ho<sup>me</sup>  
but Grandpa could never see it long  
away from home Georgie is still at-  
or was the last we heard from him  
Now my dear Boy tis no disgrace for  
any good boy, to get-homesick, & I think  
it would speak ill, indeed, of a Boy  
or of his home & companions, who did  
not get-homesick the first-time he  
left-home & when I've said anything  
about-you would like to see Edinburgh  
I've also said that you'd probably  
in a little while be just-as homesick  
to get-back to your work. & Mrs. Pringles  
Boy I would not willingly own, that  
I had raised a boy up to manhood,  
who could go out-away from me & home  
for the first-time in his life & miss  
his home, nor mother. There would  
necessarily be something wrong about it.  
I could write "more & more" but will wait  
till next-time  
Your loving Mother M. D. Waters

I am trying to get everything out of the house  
in the shape of rags & work so as to be ready to  
help Bently when he come & also be ready at a  
moment's notice to come & make a home for  
you & him you cannot know how lonesome  
I am or how I want my boys in two months you  
will be here as soon as I get Pa's socks finished  
I'll send them & your gloves I want you & Brother  
to write very often while Grandpa's folks are gone  
Your loving mother  
Edinboro Dec-19 1884/  
Eric Co Pa

~~My dear little Boy~~

do you know tis  
only eight weeks to day since I was  
in Buffalo & it seems 8 months  
Grandpa & Grandma have gone  
Uncle John's family have gone &  
it seems as though the Goodells  
were pretty well cleaned out of  
Edinboro You speak of Georgie they  
had their cords cut in her heel & ankle  
& Dr. Webster says she must not attempt  
to walk for 6 months so she whole winter  
confines her to her chair only as they  
take her out riding her foot is kept in  
a plastic shoe we have a new minister



& he is smart - you ask why Melner has  
Andy instead of Guy well he had to pay  
Guy \$12 pr mo & Andy works for 9 & Guy  
was rather independent - in his way &  
manners & did not make a good salesman  
Guy went to his Grandmas but I under-  
stand he is all right with his Father.

---

The Kitten knocked down a stick of wood  
& made me jump Johns folks got to him  
in just 2 1/2 days from starting from 2  
they are delighted with the country well  
I have popped some of the old Pop corn to  
day & it popped tip top there was only 2 1/2  
bu of the new the seventh spoiled the crop  
how I wish I could send you Bentley &  
Georgia a pan of corn already popped &  
a pk of the old corn to Pop I guess you  
get letters enough from Edinboro for about  
every other girl I meet - tells me they have  
written you or just got a letter from you  
always some word from & about you  
I am going to Ben tomorrow & next day  
for Little Joe been coloring & cutting Carpet  
sags & will get my Carpet more next week

I am trying to get everything out of the house  
in the shape of rags & work so as to be ready to  
help Bently when he come & also be ready at a  
moment's notice to come & make a home for  
you & him you cannot know how lonely  
I am or how I want my boys in two months you  
will be here as soon as I get Pa's socks finished  
I'll send them & your gloves I want you & Broth  
to write very often while Grandpa's folks are gone  
Your loving mother  
Edinboro Oct-19 1884/  
Eric Co Pa

~~My dear little Boy~~

As you know tis  
only eight weeks to day since I was  
in Buffalo & it seems 8 months  
Grandpa & Grandma have gone  
Uncle John's family have gone &  
it seems as though the Goodells  
were pretty well cleaned out of  
Edinboro You speak of Georgie they  
had their cords cut in her heel & ankle  
& Dr. Weber says she must not attempt  
to walk for 6 months so she whole winter  
confines her to her chair only as they  
take her out riding her foot is kept in  
a plastic shoe we have a new minister

Edinboro Sept-18 1887

My Dear Elsie

I have waited before writing you to see Milner have been down three times & failed as yet - to find time will see him before closing this letter Saw Harry who says he was going to write right away but the girls had been writing you a long letter & he thought he would wait awhile we are having delightful weather cool & pleasant - no frost yet - & potatoes in cellar Beans pulled & shelled Corn cut - & a nice lot of Popcorn what shall I do with it -? & also with the dry? Daver's folks have a little girl baby she came

her Tuesday night Aunt Rehana  
will now be starting west in a few days  
I think if you would only write just  
once more about it. I'll begin to understand  
that your name is Alfred. But I never  
called you that & it is hard work to get the  
hang of it. Harry says he is going to write  
you this evening this week is the fifth week  
of school how time flies will I've been down  
to Milnes again & this time succeeded in  
finding him in he says the strings he  
sent you were far superior to the ones you  
had before for violins & you got them at cost  
per Box & doz for each as you had before  
& let him know when & how many you  
want & he'll send them I am very lousome  
about from Monday until Monday again  
sitting down to table & no one to speak to  
no book to read Aunt Lib was gone when I  
got home & has not got home yet so I  
cant go in & see her Grandpa is talking of  
going west this fall but I don't believe she  
will go now don't mail but write & write  
often to

Your loving Mother.

M. D. Watson

Edinboro Pa

Edinboro Pa. 10. 18

My dear Albie

Well after awhile I find  
time to write you but am a winner  
too much to be very witty so I  
tell you in red. <sup>1</sup>at door Mrs W Williams  
is bad at a time of no particular

consequence & wait until Sunday &  
write you a long letter. The citizens are  
so mad for god knows they are just  
tearing up facts or something else  
you see they miss me when I've been  
gone two days. You should have seen  
the parade we had here yesterday. Mr.

You see Henry Mitchell & Joe Duber  
(who is a Scott Republican) had a bet  
& the one who was beat - was to wheel his  
opponent from cut us in a wheelbarrow  
down to Biggers (or vice versa) & give him  
& his invited guests a supper the procession  
to be preceded by the band & yesterday  
at 4 PM it came off Joe had a big

man decorated with flags & ribbons & a  
Scott banner The Band played & Joe &  
Henry followed & she had a fine time  
The guests were Henry Ditchell & wife  
George Taylor & his woman Joe & Annie  
Huber I have written all about the  
undresser to Bentler did intend  
to roll tie up & take it to the office  
~~his evening but find I lack the~~  
ambition to do it So you will be one  
day late in getting it but better late  
than never Ed Winters has lost his  
place at the Hamiltons Geo found  
his fingers too sticky Poor boy I feel  
sorry for him no education no  
character weak eyes & not very  
strong what will become of him  
~~His mother is still serving in Bradford~~  
Charles Cooper has not been to school  
since last winter what do you think  
of that for a Proffer boy well tis after  
9 o'clock & I hear my bed calling  
me & I must go Good night-

Your only mother  
Mrs. J. Watkins

Oct 6 - Oct 22 18 /

My dear friend -

House of me & ...

on Friday & found me at home having  
given up work yesterday on account  
of being up the night before with an  
ulcerated tooth but I attended to it  
so faithfully yesterday that it is nearly  
well to day but my eyes are feeling  
very badly probably from being broken  
by my sleep I am sorry you had any  
trouble with me but I mistrusted  
a good many things while there and  
you probably have your own reasons  
I do not forget there are a great many  
things that has to be borne in this world

and Alfie by all means get along  
with your Father & stay with Dr Poole  
untill you are finished It would break  
my heart & make me sick if anything  
should happen to make you leave there  
now for you have a good start & it is  
such a good business stick tight  
to it & your mother will try & see that  
you have a little spending money  
& one or two letters from home every  
week I am glad you have lots of  
work to do for it will fill your time &  
mind & make time fly fast. There  
is no better cure for home sickness

than good steady work & I guess  
you & Brother both have that, remembering  
my Precious Boy you have got to earn  
your own living & help earn your  
mother's in the near future & I have  
studied the matter & can think of no  
better or surer way of doing it than to  
study & finish up your profession



will be earning something & will feel  
in a better humor I will mend up  
your overcoat - & send it the first of  
the week Mrs Anderson stopped in here  
last evening & asked me to go to the  
masquerade with her the girls each  
had a ticket & did not dare to go...  
So Mrs A & I went - it was the first time  
I ever saw a pair of roller skates, Proff  
Cooper was there, Mrs Lehatley was one  
of the skaters Mrs Geo Helrick & C & C  
Mr Millner had an Organ there  
The new Editor (Mr Loman) played the  
violin Henry voice andy Harry &  
lots of the boys came in at the un-  
-masking & I came away - fine

Got a line from Grandma today they  
got to mich, all right & were having a  
nice time Ned Goodell was one of the  
skaters what do you think of that?  
We have your cats at present & I  
should judge from Al's appearance  
the promise of more which must be very  
encouraging to you & B of the Paper

show you will be independent of  
every one & make a good, cheerful  
comfortable, home for your mother  
who is waiting patiently & willingly  
for just that thing Now my dear  
Boy don't let impatience & a little  
~~temper~~ throw you out of such a  
Position as you have you might  
hunt for months & not find another  
so excellent - a one as you now occupy  
and times at present are hard and  
money scarce your Father is probably  
short of funds just now & be better  
supplied when he comes in again  
Look at Harry Perrod I think he is  
in a great deal harder place than  
you are & when his trade is learned  
he may drudge day & night, & then  
not earn  $\frac{1}{4}$  the salary, you will earn  
easily now do not get discouraged  
but be faithful to your work & in a  
year will soon be gone & then you

Stops coming let me know & I'll  
see to it but I guess it will not  
find just as soon as he gets his  
business settled up goes into  
Benson & Brainards Office at Erie  
to study law. Guy McLaughrey is at  
home he & his Father having made up -  
Henry force is still in the store with his  
Grandpa By the By Mr D claims that  
one of my Boys got a pair of shoes thru  
some time ago which have not been  
paid for I told him I thought he  
was mistaken do you know any  
thing about it? Marvin McCallums  
new house is finished a new stone  
walk on both streets & they will move  
in next month shall I rent the Parlor  
next term or shall I use it myself & keep  
two fires I has rained all day & is still  
at it & will probably end in a snow storm  
we have had a lovely fall I almost wish  
I had gone on a visit to the coast

But I thought I could make a better  
use of time & money Proff Leopold drove  
his horse to Erie a few weeks ago & it was  
taken sick & died him one bill \$47 &  
I have heard since that some of his  
friends raised the money & bought  
him another but however he got it  
he has a new horse died & write you  
that Lecharie had quit school & wouldn't  
go any more but had gone to work &  
was hauling lumber & stone & working  
on & around the new house like a  
good fellow You know they wanted to  
make a graduate of him in his youth  
what is the matter of Bentley I wish  
you would tell him I think he is  
forgetting his mother for he don't write  
nearly as often as he used to if tis  
lack of stamps I'll send him some  
for I'm rich yet - do you know I felt  
very grateful to him for not letting  
me go to Mrs Stephens for for two just  
as well as it was

Your loving hoping Mother

M. D. Waters

Erie Co Edinboro Pa

Buffalo Nov 30, 1884

My Dear Mother

Your kind favor of the 20<sup>th</sup> visit me all OK. Today is Sunday the last day of November and the first snow of Buffalo came and nearly gone. Well cold and I have just been turning it up at a lively rate and my fingers got so raw I had to quit. I see by all accounts that Benoit will make a lib of it if he has no drawbacks Well I am glad and cold feels much better. I am quite well and most comfortably dressed. All I need to make me a dude is a overcoat. Mine is good but looks a little shabby with my "new suit". But never mind when next winter will around it is to

be hoped we will be able to buy  
four or five more ones. I am  
warm and that is all that  
is ~~would be~~ necessary. When  
Summer comes I won't need  
any more. Alford is practicing  
a new piece (new to him).

Bigger Student Waltzes.

His fingers are tougher  
to it than mine and  
he makes me pick out bride

Georgia Mrs. I am over to Mrs.  
today since two o'clock and  
I am in the dining room in  
basement writing Alford is sitting  
table for music next and I  
wouldn't disturb him. Our kittens  
have grown wonderfully being  
nearly as large as old Daisy.

Weather has been ~~since~~ dark and  
consequently my work has been slow  
The 25 it snowed and blizzard all

day the ~~day~~ <sup>day</sup> passed as 26 years  
ago. My pen & holder are strangers  
to my hand and so I have hard  
work writing. I wrote a congrat-  
ulatory letter to McChesney & Colyons  
and Ma answered it. Rec'd  
answer 24. She is well and as  
happy as possible under circumstances  
newly married - but among strangers.

Father is all right had a cold  
but didn't ~~feel~~ <sup>feel</sup> ~~him~~ <sup>him</sup>. I didn't  
hear him complain very much.

I hope to have pleasant day tomorrow  
as I am behind in my printing.

I can't think of any news. We  
thought first that Mrs. Smith was  
Mrs. Rues' grand daughter Maggie  
Parshall but we have given it up.

Your affectionate son

207 Seward St. Boston. L. B. Waters

Buffalo Sept 21 84

Dear Mother:

I received your letter yesterday and am answering it today so you see that isn't waiting very long. but I don't like to write about nothing and that is all there is to write about at present.

I don't know what I care what you do with the cows just so you keep enough for your boys if they should either of them come to see you this winter. Congratulate Dave for me. tell him that if I was there I would be glad to smoke off from him!

Yr aff Harry That no matter if all the yuks in Edinboro should take a notion to write to me I would



read and answer his first and  
would much rather hear from  
him. Tell him not to tell the  
girls about it though.

Tell Milner I havent  
broken the first length of one  
of these strings yet and it  
has been on long enough to  
break two of the strings that  
I can get here and tell him  
to answer my letter to him.

Now dont forget to  
tell Harry to write to me I  
havent heard from him for  
over six months.

I received a letter from  
Minnie Greenfield and one from  
Opal Hummer and answered  
them both Friday. Tell Min  
Anderson I would like to hear  
from her dont say any more  
to her than that I can say to  
her when she is your loving son  
alone

Tell Dad & Della I would like to  
be there and see them and give  
my relatives and love him write  
me when you see some  
of them

Buffalo, N.Y. March 6<sup>th</sup> 1884

My Dear Mother:

Your of 4<sup>th</sup> inst recd yesterday and I told father of its contents and will let the matter rest with him and Alfie. My advice to you is don't worry. If he has no love for school it will be worse than useless to send him or try to force him to go.

Enclosed you will find a letter that I was sure was snatched. Don't think I have just written it tonight and dated it back as I had to do when writing to you for such is not the case in this instance. I guess and hope Alfie will come out all OK. I have been up to the cop show tonight. The first amusement

I have time to for about 4 weeks.

I hadnt any idea of going but

~~wasnt~~ ~~was~~ acquaintance ~~or~~ ~~my~~  
was over to father's room and he  
proposed going and so I went.

I dont have to deliver paper  
tonight as I dont print Saturdays  
any more but ~~retreats~~ ~~and~~ ~~and~~  
operates instead. The weather is  
still cool but a little softer  
tonight than last night.

Dont worry about alpin

Your affectionate Son

L. D. Waters

204 Duane St

Buffalo N.Y.

Wexler's City, N.Y. 10<sup>th</sup> 1884

My Dear "Cats" -

Your kind welcome letter of the 3<sup>rd</sup> inst. was all right, although there was some delay in delivering it after it reached this C.O. I had read of E.W.'s failures in the evening news, but hadn't heard the particulars.

The weather has been most terrible dull and heavy and has been the cause of my having to work for the last two Sundays and today.

Street does quite a business for theatrical companies and the orders have been rolling in from all points. I am very anxious to get things well printing now, not for at least one week of good bright weather. If I ever saw it I will be able to get a good start again.

What will the McCall do if E.W. is closed up entirely? How is it

all going to be fixed? Irish, Chas  
would come to Buffalo. It might have  
to lay idle two or three weeks as Steve  
and I had to but he would surely  
find something to do before long.

Steve was down to see me today  
and said he came near going to  
E. Saturday. It boards at the same  
place with an engineer that runs  
to Erie and had he started out Fri-  
night instead of Sat. morning Steve  
would have gone with him as he would  
give him a few rides or expects to  
do the work but I don't send any  
thing with him as he goes on a  
freight and they don't stop very  
close to the depot. Gainer is at  
East Aurora. I expect him back  
some time. This work and will find  
out his intention. What does Jim  
Armstrong intend doing? Is it the old  
man (Gainer) who has bought the land  
or is it the older boy? I thought it  
the old man. If so his help won't cost  
much for he has two or three boys  
I believe. I suppose he will turn it?

into a religious paper and then it  
went for worth half a damn for news.

How does Alfie get along? In some  
of his letters he spoke as though he  
was sure of going to work for Milnes.  
Then of a sudden he changed and  
was not at all sure of it. Was he and  
Milnes had a fall out? How is the  
old cat and what about some kittens?

I wish I had two or three other  
kittens here. Now when she has some  
more be sure to keep ones and  
raise it. You know the cat is getting  
old and may die and it would  
be too bad not to have some of her  
kittens around. Wouldn't you rather  
have a cat that was raised in the  
family than take up with a stranger?

Think what I sure need don't put  
it off for the old cat may quit  
raising young ones. I can't see  
where I will be able to see I again

but hope to make a visit Commence  
next. My correspondences still  
continues with the friends and many  
explanations have been recd. A visit  
is very earnestly requested and will  
be made sometime inside of a month.  
Grounding things roll on smoothly in  
the meantime. I shall have to  
see the Governor again before making  
any engagements. I want to look her  
in the eye while the explanations are  
made. I am such a liar myself I  
have but little confidence in others.

Georgia Stephens is the nicest girl I  
have met in a long time. She is good  
and as innocent and true as a dove.

Mary of her name. Write soon

Your affectionate Son

L. B. Lott  
at Dover N. H.  
Beverly

Headquarters for Managers  
and Artists while in the city.

Leading Dramatic Papers  
on file.

All business transacted with  
promptness and impartiality.

C. A. STUART, Prop.

# Stuart's Dramatic Agency,

— AND —

"PROFESSIONAL"

## PHOTOGRAPHIC STUDIO,

186 SENECA STREET,  
BUFFALO, N. Y.

Nov 20 1884

Character Pictures SECOND  
TO NONE IN AMERICA.

Samples of all the best  
known Artists before the pub-  
lic always on hand.

Negatives carefully stored.

C. A. STUART, Prop.

### READ CAREFULLY.

For-mutual-protection to-Managers-and-Artists:

This agency promises to recommend no Unknown or Unworthy parties, but will faithfully transact all business intrusted to this office for the interest and protection of all concerned.

Good-wardrobe and business-as-represented are necessary to perfect all engagements through this agency.

All parties doing business with this office, will please give time for reply as far ahead as possible.

Dramatic Artists state each line of business. Lowest-salary desired.

Specialty Artists give full particulars regarding your-act. Also state whether you can play in dramas, and what line of business.

All Artists having special photographs, lithographs or pictorial printing, give full-particulars regarding same.

Amateurs booking at this agency will only be recommended as amateurs. We will not misrepresent any partie's ability.

Parties misrepresenting their ability, shall be ever after barred from doing business through this office.

Managers-will-confer a favor by notifying this agency of any parties failing to faithfully fulfill all conditions of their contracts.

All parties booking at this agency must send us their proper, PERMANENT address, to insure our being able to reach them at short notice. Also keep-this office posted while en route.

All telegrams sent in the interest of manager and artists, must be paid for by same.

My Dear Mother:

Your favor of the 20<sup>th</sup> rec<sup>d</sup> rec<sup>d</sup> this evening. Now when in the course of human events it becomes necessary - why it becomes necessary to send the (?) so say I. If a fellow has nothing to write shouldn't he write 0? I wrote a letter the other evening but I was almost crazy with the papermint cure disease that I don't know now a word that I wrote. Father traded a \$5.00 book you up for a bow for Alfred. It is quite pretty and Alfred says it is a good one. Use your judgement in regard to sending postal. If you don't need it I see of no reason why you shouldn't not it. You have your own good judgement which is better by far than mine. When I told Alfred about Mrs. Woods he says



"Pity it didn't break her neck." - I only say. 'Tis w.  
fate it didn't strain her ~~to~~<sup>tongue</sup> so as to lay it up  
for 90 days. Weather is bad - yet but brighter today.  
Have only averaged about 50 per day this week.

No news from my New Orleans application yet.  
Quite warm tonight. Out without any overcoat  
and didn't feel at all uncomfortable.

See Harpur or Will at once and see  
if they intend sending samples. I want them  
by Xmas, as much sooner as possible.

We are all well and happy except  
Alfred. Father has traded back for board in one  
place for room in another and Alfred has to  
take it out so he is growling in about this  
style "board over here, room over there and  
work over here". They <sup>(room & board)</sup> are close together  
and only about  $\frac{1}{2}$  square further from work  
than Mrs. D. so I guess he won't suffer any  
as he has good underclothes and a good warm  
heavy overcoat. This is all

Your affectionate Son  
L. B. Waters.

204 Swan St  
Buffalo, N.Y.

Buffalo N.Y. Apr 14<sup>th</sup> 89

My Dear Mother

Jim<sup>son</sup> heard from Joe<sup>son</sup> in  
and all etc and would have been  
answered some had they work not  
kept me up later than usual but  
you have rec'd a letter from me since  
writing so it is not quite so bad.

Enclosed you will find some more  
of the needed. It is unnecessary to  
say that what I send is yours to  
use as you see fit. <sup>not</sup> thus <sup>corrected</sup>  
have seen Steve before he left.

Alfred has probably heard from  
Father as he showed me a letter  
rec'd from Alfie wanted to know what  
to reply. Not knowing I couldn't nor  
didn't say. Now I say tell Alfie  
to get ready to come inside of two  
weeks as I shall have father and

for him by if not before that time  
Father is in Wilmington and  
may write Alfie from there. What  
he will say I can't tell nor does  
it make any difference as my way  
will be followed. As soon as father  
gets home or back here I will have  
him write and send Alfie money. I had  
quite a talk with Stuart and although  
he says won't write while before sending  
I haven't the least idea but what  
Alfie will get in here - especially if  
weather keeps good. I am corresponding  
with a photographer in Rochester  
one in Washington DC and one in NY  
and have talking with another one  
here and besides Stuart wants me  
as long as I will stay. If Alfie  
comes and gets in I will probably  
stay until he gets a good start.  
Yes I intend to be home during  
commencement although I told Steve

I might not go until Christmas.  
I won't get a new suit this spring.  
The cost of the last suit is at the  
depress \$1.00 to have it made black. I will  
get a new back dining in vest &  
sleeve linings in coat I have a new C.O.V.  
total cost \$1.80 besides my time.  
Then for the same amount I will  
make a new C.O.V. of the one I got  
from Harp which is also a greenish  
but will have it made brown.  
Pants is all I will have to get new.  
Economy is worth they say and I  
am going to practice it, and see  
how much money I can send you  
during the year.

Yours affectionately  
L. B. Waters  
204 Swan St  
Buffalo N.Y.

Buffalo Sept 4 1884.

My dear Mother:

Yours of the 29<sup>th</sup> ult <sup>or so</sup> was not rec'd until Tuesday.

I do not expect or intend to pay your household expenses in Edinburgh for father will do so. I haven't the least idea of increasing my expenses in any way that I can possibly avoid until I get to earning more money than at present - consequently I will not furnish a room this fall or winter.

Alfred has a good room and so have I. My place is very comfortable and furnishing a room as I want to furnish one will go deep into the money.

Can't you get Lighter to

build a gallery in Collins and  
hire me to run it for him?

There is large money in it.  
It will pay larger interest than  
loaning. Mon. Tue. Wed. Thurs  
very busy. Today I am through  
very early. Re touches is sick I  
guess. Mrs. Stuart has been quite  
sick. Some people in this world  
ought to die. I direct this to  
Merton's with directions to forward  
in 5 days.

Your affectionate Son  
L. Brewster  
207 Swan St.  
Buffalo

Alfred rec'd his letter at N.Y.  
the same time. He is boarding  
at Mrs. Stephen's again since  
Monday Sept 1<sup>st</sup>

L. B. W.



# Permanent Instantaneous Photographs,

*Stuart's*  
186 SENECA STREET.  
Liberal Discount to Professionals.

STUART'S  
BUFFALO DRAMATIC AGENCY.

Buffalo, N. Y. Jan 4 1884  
My Dear Mother:

I was somewhat surprised to see Alfred last night as I wasn't looking for him until tomorrow.

As I worked today I haven't seen him excepting a minute or two and consequently haven't heard a word about his visit. He doesn't act exactly as though he had had a time equal to his expectations but it may be he is tired and caught cold.

Today's "Express" contained a special from Curry, which grieved me very much indeed. Even now the tears come to my eyes when I write the (possibly) news to you. Ellen Cole my best friend is dead. She went to the worlds exposition at New Orleans

with some friends. (I suppose Western friends) and became separated from them one day. Well, when Ella was found by the police <sup>two days after</sup> she was unable to explain her adventures and died soon after. She had been drugged and outraged. Poor Ella! Her life has indeed been a short life with a sad ending.

We do not realize the truth of the saying "In the midst of life we are in death" until one of our friends near our same age is taken away. Ella wasn't quite two years younger than I and you know how much I thought of her. Write me in regard to Alfie's visit whether he enjoyed himself or not and in what manner he conducted himself while there. I have just written to George McChesney and hope to get farther particulars.

Your affectionate son  
L. B. Waters

Buffalo  
204 Swan St. N.Y.

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and Artists while in the city.

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C. A. STUART, Prop.

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Negatives carefully stored.

C. A. STUART, Prop.

Sept. 7 1884

My Dear Mother:

### READ CAREFULLY.

For mutual protection to Managers and Artists:

This agency promises to recommend no Unknown or Unworthy parties, but will faithfully transact all business intrusted to this office for the interest and protection of all concerned.

Good wardrobe and business as represented are necessary to perfect all engagements through this agency.

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Dramatic Artists state each line of business. Lowest salary desired.

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Yours of the 4<sup>th</sup> just rec<sup>d</sup>  
all ok. I you didn't receive a letter  
I ran one at Mont. as in you will  
probably find it in Edinburgh as I  
told P.M. to forward if not called for in  
two days. It is most terribly warm  
here in the city. In fact it is hot.  
Tomorrow I have 40 negatives to con-  
vince work on. I didn't print last  
Friday as the negatives were not returned.  
I retouched nearly all day and yesterday  
and another young fellow was also  
working so I am in a fair way to be  
busy next or rather this week. Stuart is nearly sick  
with a bad cold. Mrs. Stuart is well enough to be  
around to stick her finger in the  
I inquired at a place where "rooms for house keeping"  
were wanted and they only wanted \$25 per month for  
3 medium sized rooms, and you might possibly be able



to earn \$100 per day by sewing hard. If I were earning  
enough to pay the expenses or if I had to pay them  
I would have you here, but as it is I consider Edinburgh  
cheaper and better. I will be there during the month  
of June I think, making visits. I may stay longer  
or shorter as business is good or bad. If I can meet with  
any success at all in the surrounding country I ought  
to have about 2 months work.

If Collins wasn't so close to Buffalo I would try  
to talk Dayton into starting a gallery there. The profits  
would pay more than interest on loans.

I haven't any more to say. If you wish to  
run up to Buffalo from Hamburg, why do so. If you don't  
have time to write you know when to find me.  
Alfred.

Your Affectionate Son  
L. B. Stearns

of I. C. C.

Buffalo N.Y.

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C. A. STUART, Prop.

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— AND —

"PROFESSIONAL"

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Character Pictures SECOND TO NONE IN AMERICA.

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Negatives carefully stored.

C. A. STUART, Prop.

Nov. 9<sup>th</sup> 1884

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My Dear Mother:

Of course I know I am not owing you a letter etc

In fact you owe me one or two and I am really getting anxious in regard to your health. Are you well?

You must remember I have no correspondents except you and from hear you have ceased and I so if either fails to write the others letters will keep you posted in regard to health of the absent one. Now neither of us have heard from you for a week or more and how are we to know

whether you are sick or well unless some of the neighbors are kind enough to inform us?

I suppose you have got the two portraits from Decker's Co. Now are all well that "all" includes the two cats their names are Jim Blaine and Brevé Lockwood.

Democrats are very jubilant with a  
big "J". Surely hope the may has cause  
to be successful before many days. I am surprised  
at the work of Landyghes. He is capable of  
making a better photo for I have seen better  
work come from his gallery.

Yesterday and today sun has shone very  
brightly; but I didn't work today. I  
fixed up my clothes a little and slept and  
read. "Reminders (outside of professional work)"  
my desk. Professional orders all filled to date  
except two small ones for 1000 each and  
they will be shipped to Chicago Wednesday.

Monday's mail may bring in new orders.  
Write soon and give news and prospects.

Your affectionate son  
L. B. Waters  
c/o Swan 1st  
Buffalo N.Y.

# Stuart's Dramatic Agency,

— AND —

"PROFESSIONAL"

## PHOTOGRAPHIC STUDIO,

186 SENECA STREET,

BUFFALO, N. Y.

Nov 19 or 20 1884

Headquarters for Managers and Artists while in the city.

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C. A. STUART, Prop.

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My Dear Mother:

The pkg. of underclothes and two letters recd from you since writing.

I took my two pairs of paird drawers and left the rest for a good. I have got what pepper-mint-cure. Baby's have it

consequently I must be a baby. I got a

piece of mountain in my eye this

P.M. and consequently my eye is

no not a mountain but sore. I can hardly keep it open. Business is

rather slow with me as it has been

such dark weather. It is only 8:30

now and I am so tired out doing

nothing that I am going to get into bed as soon as

possible. Stuart is down stairs sawing away on his

violin. I left gallery at 4 o'clock this P.M. had

twenty frames going all day and only got off 30

prints so you know it must have been very

dark then.

I haven't heard from W. J. Louché nor from my  
application yet so can't give you any further  
particulars. I am behind in my work but  
not very far. The ladies are getting up another  
Carnival of ~~entertainers~~ <sup>authors</sup> and Mrs. Stuart is to  
represent some character of Longfellow's. Mrs. Stuart  
proposed Hiawatha. I said it would require a  
short dress. Mrs. Stuart said "Yes Indians only wear  
a rag around them" and he thought she would  
make a good one. Tableaux, then exit me  
and curtain dropped - I guess. It might have  
been Stuart instead of curtain.

With Goodnight,

Your affectionate son

S. Brewster.

Don't work too hard.

You may have to hire a  
nurse for yourself.

[TO BUFFALO NY]

1884

Morlow's Leonard Aug 8<sup>th</sup>

My Dear. Dear Boys

As the days go by I miss you more & more. And more & more do I dread going to my lonely home in Edinburgh I am earnestly urged to spend the winter here by more than one family of our relatives but I'm so homesick already & want to ~~be on the~~ go. You must not think my going to Buffalo has made me more lonely for it has not for I took more comfort than I had known since I had my two Boys with me two years ago this winter I have been thinking constantly of some way by which we might be

together again would not it be possible  
to rent a house & take roomers or boarders  
I could work like a hero or a horse or  
any thing strong & willing if I could only  
have my Boys with me But if that is out  
of the question write me often & I'll try to  
bear with patience & courage what I must  
bear Aunt Martha sends an urgent in-  
vitation to you both to come up & stay  
over Sunday with them they will meet  
you at Springville anytime you name  
Mr Simons wanted me to make inquiries  
in regard to ~~Collins~~ <sup>Collins</sup> & Photography I did  
so. there is no Photographer or Gallery at  
that Place & prospects good If you write  
right away direct to Mortons Cornus Erie Co  
N.Y. But I think another Sunday will  
see me in E—

Your loving Mother

M. D. Waters

[TO BUFFALO, N.Y.]

Edinboro Sept-10 1884

My Dear Boy Alfie

I am here again  
in Edinboro arrived last evening  
& now a red-hot afternoon am writing  
to you Tuesday morning Uncle John  
went to Hamburg & I intended going with him  
& going to work but changed my mind &  
came home & our folks say I came just in the  
nick of time for to day Grandpa has gone  
to Erie to meet Uncle Dolphus Mary & Dora who  
are down on an excursion which goes to  
Niagara Falls & they stop over at E & return  
Friday P.M. so if I had not come just as I did  
I'd have missed seeing them Lehas Wood  
sent me Bentley's letter by Uncle John & said he  
would call on my Boye the next time he  
went to B & he goes there quite often he is  
an insurance agent at Hamburg on a salary  
of \$1200.00 a year & he rents his farm for \$300.00 a  
year reserving his wood lot & house, which Uncle  
John has moved into to take care of the just  
finished & cost nearly 4 thousand dollars



you will probably get full particulars in  
that. The Boys are all inquiring after me  
Boys knowing that I've been to see you  
winnis R. has received your letter & seems  
very proud to tell me of it. I told him  
you hadn't rec'd his other letter enclosed  
a letter from Gibson which I found awaiting  
~~me & don't remember seeing him at all but~~  
I do remember telling you to by all means  
have your teeth put in good order & if Pa  
didn't pay for it - I would now shall I write  
Gibson asking him to discount it - or shall  
I send amt - in full if he makes a big  
profit. he could discount the bill & not  
lose much nor hurt him any you &  
Brother talk over the matter & let me know  
the result. I have the money we have had  
a cool pretty day the result of last night's  
~~storm~~ Does Millin owe you anything  
yet? if not - I'll pay for those strings

Your loving Mother

M. D. Watson

Edinburgh  
Per,

will write B in a day or two

M. D. W.

[To Philadelphia]

Edinboro Apr 24/1807

My Precious Boy J. J. J.

~~After some missing - I find~~  
time to write you again I came  
home from Carris run - time has  
& now even very hard at work  
ever since trying to catch up  
with my work & consequently  
am feeling pretty tired & am  
to die but will recover from  
it shortly. Spring comes on  
slowly to day the sun sh<sup>is</sup> is  
but the wind blows sharp &  
cold I have lots of work to do  
in the back yard & garden  
but it is almost impossible  
to find any one at leisure  
this time of year but Daniel

Elder Kim has promised to  
work for me tomorrow & next day  
& I'll try & have some one else  
hunted up by the time he is  
through John Tesner & Sam  
Gillaspie are going to Lodi  
Kansas in a few days when

Bruce Duple is established  
in a Brokers or Loan Office  
& is just coming money his  
Father says loaning money  
at from 20 to 35-Perct- on joint  
mortgages you ask who are lending  
here & what they are doing?

Well Ham Gibson is here &  
not doing very much as his  
work does not give satisfaction  
Jamison from Cambridge  
is here three days in the week  
& I guess he does the most of  
the work I think you will find  
work without any trouble & I

know there is some family  
work being kept for you but  
I don't know as it will pay  
very well. I want you to go  
right to work & pick up every  
old deed you & your Father  
has got that is past wear or need  
mending & bring them  
home with you you have a  
number of shirts here now  
that are all fixed ready for  
wear Bently will be up & make  
us a visit while you are here  
& we will have just as good an  
time as we know how Miss  
Nellie Grand was married this  
week to young Powers if you  
know who that is for I don't  
believe folks live in W. Duple's house  
where Andersons folks used to  
live I am glad you have lots  
of work & I am so rejoiced

over your decision not to marry  
in my opinion it is a very  
wise conclusion Old Lu is a  
greater etc than ever & I wish you  
had not to keep her in your  
old Bachelor house excepting for  
I know she & her little would  
be lots of company for you  
she lays gawking & sinning  
on the rug in front of the stove  
now Prof Cooper came through  
the examination bright as  
gold & with more honor than  
ever & Edinburgh rejoices with him  
School is passing off very quietly  
& pleasantly this term of which  
four weeks have already gone  
Mrs Bram as she insists on being  
called is off canvassing & is going  
to canvas all summer days she  
won't work in any ones kitchen  
so E.M. boards at Henrys

Your loving Mother  
M. D. Waters

Edinburgh March 1 1857

My Dear Bro. Alfie

As the month of May &  
has been raining all the day  
it is discouraging as it is a  
warm rain & we have had a  
great deal of work  
I have had some one at work all  
the week cleaning up & getting  
ready to make garden & not-  
near done yet - & no fences built  
as yet - & no lumber ordered yet -  
& I have both of the alley fences  
to build entirely & my fence  
between Russell & Middle in which  
must all be built as they are all  
to - I was at Mrs. C's on Saturday  
P.M. & had a pleasant time Charlie  
took his one wheeled Horse with him  
to travel this time so that will  
be a great pleasure to him His  
mother said that his last terms  
report was very promising every

study being above 90. He will be found  
in streaks as you probably know  
my pen scratches so I can't write  
with it but - in nit, the election  
school officers comes off tomorrow  
10.11. & Mrs Le is worrying over  
that & will worry until she knows  
the result - I should think that  
Charlie Burghfield & Miss Denton

had been so easily removed from  
Stimboro that they would never want  
to show their faces again.

Prof. Outlow's <sup>to</sup> Miss is here waiting  
she is very young & very pretty & has  
very nice clothes & seems to have  
taken a very great liking to  
the town & I would tell the reason

it - she would take any winter  
to go to St. Albans & to visit her  
mother - now that I see those things  
it is gone by the time you get here  
my Pansies all winter filled?

... and soon  
... ..  
... ..  
... ..

[To Philadelphia PA]

Edinboro May 15 1887

My Dear Son Alfie

Your letter of the 8<sup>th</sup> with its welcome contents was gladly read and I sincerely hope you will have a pleasant summer but I know you will miss many of your old mates but you will have to make Charlie Cooper answer for the rest as he is to be home at that time & besides I have some work for you to do as well as your studies Doc Jamison is done here in Edinboro & goes to Leroy to remain & no one wants

Gibsons work bliff Cornell  
says Edinboro would be a  
grand opening for a dentist  
what-work can you find  
to do for your father? & what  
time does your next-term  
of college open & dont forget  
to bring all the old & mind-  
-able clothing with you

Did I tell you that Annie  
Babbett was learning the  
tailor trade? Bentley sent  
me a nice box of slips this  
week & I think that most-  
of them will live. he is  
coming home the last of  
June or the first of July  
to make us a visit Monday  
ev & I have worked in the yard  
all day untill both hands  
are badly blistered but not  
a seed yet gone into the

ground I have not been  
able to sow this summer so  
Bentley poor boy has been  
sending me every dollar  
he could spare & I sometimes  
fear that he sends me  
more but I make it do all  
I know how for the improv-  
-ment of the home & he will  
sometime in the near future  
get it all back. Tuesday ev  
will the garden is all in  
but I am used up it  
is just-begining to rain  
so we were just in time  
Hoping to see you soon  
Your loving Mother

M. D. Water



[The 3rd of 210 111]

Edinboro Dec 11 1884

My dear Alfie

Now this will be the second letter to you this week & this is but little to write School has started very encouraging for the winter term. Board at Hall only 1.50 per week but they are grubbing at least at their board nothing but meat potatoes & Bread & Butter No Pies Puddings sauce or cakes which makes it pretty dry fare

Harry Perrod walked from his bed to a chair yesterday for the first time so you may know he has been pretty sick. He cannot talk right along he has to stop a breath every few words. But he says he will be ready to have a good time with you when you get here. Frank Atwater & Maggie Paster were married last week & Rufus Hawkins & Dode Jones stood up with them what do you think of that. Tommy Atwater his Father has been

married about three months. You ask  
how it happens that I was at Grinnum  
well because she wanted me & sent Mr  
Grinnum after me & I always go whenever  
she sent for in sickness George is at work  
in Franklin for his uncle gets \$40 per mo  
& his mother says he spends it all as  
fast as he gets it. He was very overbearing  
& ugly ~~at home~~ but his Father writes him  
often & thinks him the best Boy he has Eddie  
is at work in the Independent office

I concluded to rent the Parlor deciding  
I could get more out of the \$18. than I  
could out of the room for three months  
Seeing I was alone & got my sleeping  
room but for nothing, & the time might  
come when I would like to send my boy  
a dollar & I am earning nothing

I want you to write & tell me if your  
Brother is wearing any of those cotton  
flannel underclothes that I sent you now  
Bentley need not think he is going to quibble  
round & get away from that question  
I want it answered. Your letters do me  
lots of good & I want you to keep it up

Three weeks from to day is Christmas & I'm  
looking for you the Saturday before Xmas  
but I've told no one. Your loving Mother  
and sister

Edinburgh July 11 1888

I Dear Alice

<sup>at</sup> <sup>in</sup> <sup>the</sup> <sup>case</sup> <sup>is</sup> <sup>de</sup>  
& I have det<sup>r</sup> <sup>in</sup> <sup>near</sup> <sup>all</sup> <sup>of</sup> <sup>our</sup>  
messages Eva is not here she left the day  
after <sup>her</sup> <sup>return</sup> <sup>to</sup> <sup>see</sup> <sup>her</sup> <sup>mother</sup> & has not yet returned

Mr Millner left an <sup>order</sup> <sup>at</sup> <sup>John</sup> <sup>Wendell</sup>  
yesterday & it is uncertain as <sup>to</sup> <sup>if</sup> <sup>it</sup> <sup>will</sup> <sup>be</sup> <sup>made</sup>  
-in a sale He wants you to write him

what you wrote about Grandpa died him  
lots of good what would you <sup>do</sup> <sup>with</sup> <sup>the</sup>  
bird if you had him? you can have  
him if you want him I don't expect

~~to go back to Sagerstown before Sept.~~  
& perhaps not then in the meantime I'm

fixing up my clothes & canning a little  
fruit I have 6 qts Strawberries & 3 qts  
Red Raspberries & 2 qts cherries & want  
to put up a little more is if my Boy  
come to see me I'll have some saved  
for them & I want my Boy to see

For that they have a mother in Edinburgh  
who loves them dearly & wants to hear from  
them often all about they are doing & how  
they are getting along, I suppose Buntley told  
you all the news but I send you three  
papers for fear he might have forgotten some  
Edinburgh is so quiet in Homerick Mrs Anderson  
has a club of 14 & expects more. Minnie has  
been away & has just got home & expects to  
go again. Missie Kenyon sends her best  
regards & in fact all of our Boys are  
inquiring after you whenever I see them  
Mrs Barnum goes to Cambridge next Monday  
to cook for Dalim & gets 1.00 per day how  
long will he keep her? Old Daisy is in a  
flourishing condition could you dispose  
of 8 or 10 bottles? The new organ across the  
way is striking out a new reading  
discord & ill close

Your own Mother  
M. D. Wallis

Eric Co Edinburgh  
Ray

Buffalo N.Y. Nov 20 1884

My Dear Mother:

Your kind letter of the 14<sup>th</sup> which I read in due season and tonight I spoke to father about the cloth. He gave me direct answer and I am at a loss to say what what. He hasn't taken an order all the while and feels blue.

He goes into the country some place next week to see if he can't do something. He expected the great Mogul (Hubbard) here this week but he hasn't come and sent letter that he wouldn't be here until next month. I have paid P. & H. and will soon have my other little accounts settled and there I can send you money each week not much but at least a dollar.

You might have affix write the necessity of having cloth for the de- front articles needed. The weather has been quite pleasant for the last week - although it is returning tonight (part rain part snow) I hope and look for an early spring.

I saw Steve last Sunday eve no it was the night he got back from E and he wasn't feeling very well.

I haven't had time to go down since but will go down tomorrow night or Sunday. I rather expected him to call in this past night (Thursday) as it is his night off.

There is when I have the advantage of him as I have every evening unless there is a rush in the non-touching business as there was this week. But I have to get up much earlier unless I prepare my papers the night before from 7 until 11:30

E.W.F. doesn't deserve much sympathy according to my way of thinking.

I don't have to front tomorrow or Sunday but will have plenty of work to be performed today. Office to make negatives to stretch and today's work to finish up. It is a busy life and I surely wish I had a good gallery and a good trader.

I rec'd a letter from Everett he was from The Star Clothing Store and wanted me to work with him on steady employment.

I told them I had deserted the trade and would be forced to decline.

As I don't want the letter I decline it. Kindest regards to all.

Will write of times hereafter. Don't seem as though I want two weeks without writing. You must answer letters now.

Your affectionate son  
W. Rev. 5 + 12-1-1907







Tell Lou to keep away  
from the church and  
be sure he is sorry, for  
in a few months he  
and I, for I am an  
Estimable Foy, will have  
the laugh on the newly  
converted since & and  
then they can't say of them  
say that he is a back-  
slider.

I have just received  
a letter from father that  
wishes me to get along without  
any money until December  
and my allowance is  
\$5.00 per month and that pays  
for fire & everything, so I am  
afraid that I will have to  
fall on you for more money  
instead of paying you  
what I owe you but I

their spare time is spent  
in sporting & praying  
By & by they will form  
a band of Salvationists &  
and call themselves the  
Salvation Army and hoot  
and howl like so many  
Hannu fools. I have heard  
from all of my unconverted  
correspondents since the  
crack struck Edinburgh and  
obtained a pretty good idea  
of the great new work on  
hand. That don't speak  
any too highly of the good  
Christians' ability to write.

"Suffer little children to  
come unto me; and  
they came, ~~to the daughter~~  
like lambs to the slaughter

a new experiment how  
will they like it, when  
they get over it. So they  
sing "I want to be an angel".  
I'll let them do the  
experience as it is, without  
any barriers, only to suppose  
it will be a rather dull  
Christmas to me if I  
come to Edinburgh, unless  
the stage has passed, of  
which I sincerely hope  
will be the case. And you  
let your life pass off  
as many of the things  
as I possibly can.  
see if they can stand  
temptation when I get  
amongst this band of  
God's children. I wish  
all sorts of excess to the followers  
of the Lord Jesus, I mean  
to be saved & c.

10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15

Bradford Sept. 26 1855

My Dear Mother

Your favor of the 23  
inst. recd all OK.

I have an important  
communication to make which  
may seem rather reckless to you.

I have this morning offered  
J. H. Waddell \$1000<sup>00</sup> for his half  
interest in the firm of D. S. W.

I offered him \$500<sup>00</sup> down &  
\$500<sup>00</sup> in 3 months. He has  
neither refused or accepted but  
will let me know this P. M.  
what he will do. Now I had  
a talk with his partner before  
making the offer so that I  
havent offered too much.

In fact W. hesitated before  
saying anything & I

point blank to take \$500  
down and \$500 in 6 months

Do you see he isn't anxious  
to sell at my present offer.

Now he may want more  
down than the \$500. The business  
pays about \$3500 to \$4000 per year.

Dether would like to have a  
partner who isn't hard of hearing  
so he could attend reception  
now in his (Dether's) place some  
times when I is busy at some  
thing else. Now I think it a  
good investment even if I  
have to pay \$1000 down.

But I thought if I could get  
it half share that you could  
easily raise the first half.

and the business would nearly  
if not quite pay the second  
and what I lacked I could  
get from father. Now I  
want you to see as soon

as possible how much you can  
get and how soon you can  
get it. I may have to pay  
\$750 down. But if you can  
get \$1000. I have thought the  
matter over over before making  
my offer, have watched the  
business pretty closely and  
feel very confident that I am  
running no risk except from  
fire, and that is a risk we  
all men who own property.

Let me know as soon as  
possible the very best you can  
do in this matter. But

Don't worries if you  
feel the least bit shaky  
in regard to it, because  
if you doubt it won't be my  
my love for you.

Your most affectionate Son  
S. R. Waters

Box 320. Bradford, Pa.

P.S. I have an offer of \$12<sup>00</sup>  
for work from Morand of Eric  
which I will accept if I  
cant buy, but prefer  
to buy ~ Now you have  
got the whole business.  
I wasn't going to write  
this letter but you see I  
cant keep good news from  
my mother.

B

607 0758  
11  
11

Buxton. Aug 17 5

Dear Mother

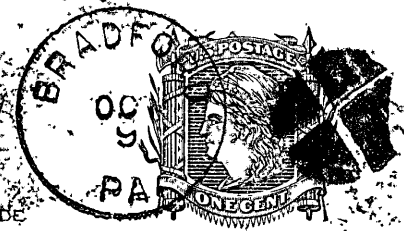
After all these years  
I'm one for you with  
your past letters  
thrown in so I an-  
swer to you and expect  
my answer to my other  
letters at the same time  
than this one. I  
of you I see you  
a letter now and  
then. I hope I have  
changed my name  
and now I am  
with a jewel

who works right  
across the road from  
Ed. Custer Book store  
we room on Tolson  
street near Michigan  
not nearly so far as  
my other room and  
don't cost me any  
more than that old  
and a much larger  
room and a stove  
in and makes room  
comfortable. I am well  
acquainted with my  
room mate and like  
him very much. I  
wrote father about the  
Lyson affair and  
haven't heard from  
him since. I don't  
know why he don't  
send me money

Bentley has helped  
me out and I am  
just getting along &  
that is all. I am  
working very hard  
most this week & last  
that is I am kept  
busy and haven't any  
time to sit around  
I call that working.  
An old view was in  
the office last Thursday  
and wanted an extra  
and under Platt  
by Saturday night  
and we had in  
promised that I don't  
touch it yet well we  
did them and I  
worked hard to finish  
them and now  
the old snipe wants

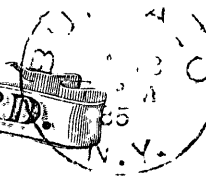


Open Office hours  
from 10 to 5  
We will all mount  
them on black rubber  
so I have them to do over  
again. Well they are  
well on the way toward  
completion, but the  
old duck might have  
said black rubber  
in the first place  
and saved some  
money and time  
considerable work,  
There is nothing going  
on in the city. I  
wish you would hurry  
that Sunday excursion  
along and be sure to  
sout back out when you  
start and write Betty  
& I in good season and



NOTHING BUT THE ADDRESS CAN BE PLACED ON THIS SIDE.

*Mr. M. W. Waters  
Edinboro  
Pa.*



NOTHING BUT THE ADDRESS CAN BE PLACED ON THIS SIDE.

*Mr. M. W. Waters  
Edinboro  
Pa.*

My dear Mother  
Bufford Oct. 8, 1850.  
All well. I go to Buffalo  
next Monday. Thence to Erie or Schuylers  
to work in Erie Monday Oct 14.  
I shall always see it when  
I stand the Independent press. To  
in Erie. I shall from father he is well.  
Yours in haste  
C. W.

Address in Erie will  
be 427 Beach St. I will  
probably see you before going to work.

Buffalo, June 18 53  
Dear Mother:-  
I cannot  
come before Tuesday or  
Wednesday. Too much work.  
I have not quite a seven  
acres on my hand, will  
delay me some.  
Affectionately  
Your son

Buffalo Nov. 29 '85

My Dear Mother:-

I am using pen & ink again because I happen to be in my room instead of in the office and it is easy to get there and hard to find at the office I received a letter from Bentley and was surprised to hear of his move. I got his letter the day before I received yours & knew what there was to fear before your letter came. I received the money all right and it has gone for rent so that I am all right so far. I am doing nothing today except lay around and wish I was home

which just doesn't help me  
any or get me one Tip  
-ward Editors, What are  
all the folks doing and why  
are they not writing to me  
as they ought. Here the  
revivalists left Editors ---  
and who are the ones  
that did not go in and  
have their sins washed  
away. I wish you  
would write more about  
grandfather and grand  
mother you hardly  
mention their names and  
you know I am always  
anxious to hear all  
about them and how  
they get along. I am going  
to write to father soon  
So Good Bye  
Your Affection  
H. J. J.

Bradford Cas Nov. 24 1880.

My Dear Mother.

Yours of the 13<sup>th</sup> is at hand enclosing a sample of goods from L.C., the valise, shoes, and in fact everything need all over, before leaving Eric and I ought to have written before but I couldn't.

I got here Saturday night 9:30 and found plenty of friends and lots to spare. Sunday I came over and took possession and took in \$2.00 yesterday the same but nothing today. I haven't advertised any as yet for I have been busy cleaning up. Everything was fearful nasty. I haven't seen J.H. yet and don't intend to look him up. When he wants to see me

her case call. The weather still  
continues bad but later it will  
be better soon. I intend advertising  
special inducements for next  
30 days and see if it won't induce  
people to call on me. I am  
~~not~~ ~~interested~~ ~~in~~ ~~them~~ ~~at~~ ~~all~~

was in Erie and if I can't  
make it I'll be in ~~the~~ ~~area~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~  
at night and will come and  
settle down in ~~the~~ ~~area~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~  
see the action to (see). I rather  
intend to do so as soon as in the  
morning. We see that our motion  
viewing is set in my rear

and so I'll see to it that  
I try it and see. I am still  
at a "thrust" I have more at hand  
of the channel so we can see a lot.

They haven't troubled me yet,  
I guess will get along.

No box of your most affectionate  
Wm. H. Bradford  
Wm. H. Bradford

Bradford Sept 21<sup>st</sup> 1885

My Dear Mother

Your favor of the 17 inst. rec'd and as it was impossible for me to get away Saturday I telegraphed your orders to have tel gram telephoned to Edinburgh so you could get it about 8:30 if it was such a liability which they said would be. If not you were disappointed in Buffalo by not meeting me. I couldn't have any more to do in my place Saturday as I have been having as much business on that day as during all the rest of the week of late.

I will get parts fixed up here. I found the watch to check the work made no particular reference of



am not ready to wear bags yet.  
I don't think pants are to  
be made baggy if this style  
is a little larger. But no  
more need be said as I won't  
change the pants. I will be in  
Edinburgh inside of two months  
and will probably see my  
order for a suit. I may see  
them sooner than expected  
but will for them in 2 months  
or a visit anyway.

Weather is fine since  
suit.

This is at the

time,

and date  
of the  
at

to see

Send love to the folks

Bradford May 15-1880

My dear Mother

Yours of the 14 inst  
~~just read and damnation~~ the  
impulse of the moment so you can  
see how such damned nonsensical  
ideas affect me. What in hell  
and damnation do you want to  
go west for and what in hell  
will you do when you get there?

You know damned well I  
won't listen to such a stinking  
absurd idea so for Christs sake  
and mine shut up. If you  
have got the water from so  
bad why pack up & go without  
a word and against my  
~~father's~~ wishes. But for heavens  
sake don't keep harping it to  
me in your letters. I do this

the consolation you want? -

You always had a track of hoping on a subject disagreeable to me until I swore to make you drop it. Ever since a year ago nearly you have kept up the western racket and I have borne it patiently and now I will be damned if I will listen to any more of it. I can swear from not tell you stop it but stop it you must. I think you had better come down here for a few days. Grandpa can get a rig and drive you to the depot at C for the early train and you get here at 12:30 without change and only costs \$3.35.

Your living will always be paid for and it is cheaper in E than any place I know.

Your affectionate son  
S. J. [unclear]

Do long as there is one  
Christian in the family  
that is the star of heaven  
the world will all be  
gathered to out the man  
the end

Give  
him  
the  
same  
power  
of  
the  
cross  
of  
Christ  
to  
drive  
out  
the  
devil  
from  
the  
house  
of  
sin

Buffalo Nov 5 '55  
My dear Mother

I have been thinking  
of you & laughing over some  
of the old letters you  
write me you are still  
the same old girl  
and so are the boys  
from an creek is both to  
you & me

It is a great  
privilege to write to you  
of the new year have named  
I have bought a lot last  
Great and it is our work  
at the the good will has  
been required and the justice  
and it is a great joy to

little hill. I know, they  
will be as they were before  
and go to heaven when they  
die, as well as any one else  
if there is such a place. Why  
you write as if the ones  
that were on the road to hell  
were all safe and sound in  
the arms of Jesus. Tell you  
this wasn't any of them  
that were very bad, bad  
enough to condemn them, as  
you write, and they won't  
be any better six months

~~from now than they were~~  
before. For at the first trial  
they will be found wanting  
and there are lots of folks left  
to help them back to the old  
life. The faith in the Lord  
says it isn't going to save  
them unless the assurance  
the force of man and taken

coming Christian out of love &  
changes my mind into love  
love and faith in them. There is  
at that, you must love & have love  
words to be a Christian  
words to be a Christian  
words to be a Christian

his little fo. reversing the  
ear and back then. It  
whenever they get where  
they will be tempted and  
he isn't going to do that,  
I'll no speak of Jesus that  
you know. I'm writing me  
this - Jesus, I think  
it will be time enough  
to be preached to the Old (or  
the Lamb when water has  
no further effect on me.

But if you can get Harry  
Perrin and Arthur Dwyer  
to join the band of Holy  
Spirits now being formed  
in the brightened tower of  
Edinburgh I don't know  
but as far as you might  
get me to think of it.

But I would advise you  
not to go to either of them  
but let the Grand Mogul  
Chief Saint, or whatever  
you call him take them.  
I should hate to have you  
setting up as a reformed  
Sinner, and asking them  
if they loved Jesus. For  
a reformed sinner is either  
a hypocrite or else the  
reformation don't last long.

Now if you belonged to the  
Catholic church and could  
get them to take the veil  
while under this Holy influence  
then they might be saved  
for they couldn't help them-  
selves after that, but I  
guess that is the only way  
to save the new found followers  
of Christ. I wish I could show  
maybe they would make a faithful

Buffalo July 28 '85

Dear Mother

Your affectionate  
letter came to hand yesterday  
and the perusal of it did me  
good. But I don't refer to my  
birthday because a whole year  
gone by and so little accom-  
plished - you don't know how  
I feel when I look back as I  
do now instead of forward as  
I used to. Well it is another  
year gone and nothing done  
try and do better this year and  
that settles it. I have made  
a great many resolves and  
what have they amounted to  
and what will they run our  
amount to, Time only can tell.  
I am going to try and keep  
a diary and see what it  
will hold one year from now.  
The weather is very warm  
again today and I will have  
~~to do something~~ Father has  
not sent me any money for  
some time back but I am

get things along nicely enough &  
keep close. Now the first time  
an excursion goes to Chautauque  
for a Sunday just drop a  
postal to Bentley and one to  
me and come on the excursion  
we will meet you if we get the  
postals and after you have  
sent them don't back out  
as you generally do for we are  
both anxious to see you and  
do not want to get disappointed  
etc. I expect I will send  
two or three dollars in this letter  
which I have saved and  
~~put together from what~~  
Bentley has sent me and I  
have saved. So keep it for  
me and maybe I can add  
to it a little now and then so  
that I will be able to come  
home for Christmas & New Year  
maybe. Well I don't know  
of any thing more to write so  
I will close. I have just  
finished a letter to Bentley before  
this. Your loving Son  
Alfred



Bradford Aug. 24<sup>th</sup> 1885.

My Dear Mother:

After long waiting your favor of the 19<sup>th</sup> inst is recd and I am well pleased to hear you are not sick as I was almost afraid you were and yet knew you were not for some one would have written me if sick had been the case. Don't worry about the money as it will come out all right in the end.

I haven't heard from W. J. for two weeks and consequently am not aware of what he has done or is doing. I have applied for a job in Bowling Green Ky and Northampton Mass. Don't much expect any reply from either but no harm done in applying.

I shall stay here this winter  
whether or no at least I don't think  
I shall. At any rate I will take  
a vacation during the 10<sup>th</sup> of November  
whether I have another job or not.  
I have my eyes open constantly  
for every chance of change and  
improvement. I am getting tired  
of Bradford simply because business  
is so dull I am idle more than  
for the time. I don't like that  
very much. I would rather have  
enough to keep me busy at the  
same wages. Has it heard from  
Alford for nearly 10 days but expect  
a letter today. No signs of my  
excursion to Buffalo as yet. I am  
afraid I won't get there until  
I quit here for the purpose of  
making a visit. Time will  
tell.

Your affectionate son  
L. B. Waters

At 2, Bradford Pa

Buffalo Sept 14 '75

My Dear Mother:-

~~When I heard from you~~  
I don't know  
last but I have an idea  
that I owe you a letter  
and so I'll be  
waiting for you writing  
to you. I was counting  
up and sorting my letters  
the other day and I found  
~~that I had more letters from~~  
you than all the rest put  
together. I begin to look  
forward to their return  
and wondering if it  
will ever come and  
how glad I would be  
to see you and the rest

so as to make it 5,00  
which I can just skin  
through on. But I told  
him I needed a new  
hat and shoes in my  
last letter and I haven't  
heard from him since.  
I was glad to see you  
and sent my overcoat to  
you by him. Please fix it  
right, and send my  
gloves with it, when you  
send it, ~~I guess~~ I can  
get it cleaned and pressed  
here just as cheap as in  
Edinboro. Well I will  
stop. Write soon to  
Your loving son  
Alfred

Edinboro February 19 1885-

My Dear Son Alfie

I have nothing really to write but as I am going to sit up awhile to keep from freezing I know of no better way of employing my time than by writing to you you know I wrote you Sunday & I have so far received no answer from it - Yours of the 16 came to hand yesterday & I have not answered you but I know he is kept very busy & in all probability will be as Tom has plenty of work The Independent will tell you who were elected to the different offices here in Edinboro much better than I can & we shall probably know in a short time who goes into the P. O. J. B. Taylor called ~~himself~~ into his office yesterday said he wanted to talk to him about the Piper case said he did the only thing he could do & that was gave them a judgment & that he supposed Grandpa did not know it but that in '82 there was a law passed that any debt for labor less than \$50. could be collected just as a tight note could if a person held only just enough to cover it & he expected they would issue on it any day Now I should not think there could be enough left to keep house with after the Sheriff had sold \$20. or \$25. & costs so I shall go out to work or come down & stay

with Aunt Martha. There would be one advantage  
in my coming down there I could see my boys  
~~often~~ you ask after the neighbors Aunt Let is sick  
with a very severe cold & scolds furiously every  
time I go in there because I stay away so but I go  
in every little while Grandpa & Grandma are all  
right but Grandpa is failing I can see that I shant  
have him to go to but a little while then what  
shall I do? I can only pray he will be spared till  
~~I can see my boys~~ I shall be glad to get McDonalds  
works for I like his writings As I told you before  
I am at work on my rug & Grandma is helping  
me but we have hardly made a mark on it as  
it is very slow work I am glad you are learning  
to economize for "Economy is wealth" while "The  
~~love of Tobacco is poverty & Ruin~~" and if you do not have  
the money you will need be forming a clean pure  
habit that is, letting it alone & how glad your  
mother will be to have you do that; words cannot  
tell your mittens lie here in the drawer would  
you wear them if you had them do you & Bently  
wear the underclothes I sent you I want you to  
make Bently help wear them just show him he has  
got to

Your loving Mother

M. D. Waters

Eric Co

Redinboro



Bradford Sept. 6<sup>th</sup> 1880,

Mr. Atean Mother:

Your letter of the 2<sup>nd</sup>

was indeed when it was written  
and so I wasn't feeling the  
brightest and as it was raining  
so no business could be done

I threw myself on the couch  
and thanks to no one I feel  
asleep now so for the time for-  
get the trials and vicissitudes of  
life. I know it must be a  
lonesome life for you in Edinboro  
but I can't better it any more.

I am trying all the time  
to better my position and am  
hoping daily now for answers  
to an add. inserted in it

Photographic Engraving, N.Y. has not  
received your letter which  
ago sending samples of work and  
photograph of myself. I have not  
heard from you for over two  
weeks although I have written his  
~~last letter - finally~~

I do not hear from W. H. Nichols.  
I hope to see you. I won't  
write much because I am  
not in the best of spirits.

A new schedule of prices  
takes effect Monday and I  
think it will soon reduce this  
gallery to nothing. Low prices  
is what has kept it going so far.  
 Hoping for the best  
Darius

Yours affectionately  
L. B. Waters

Box 202 Bradford Pa



Bradford June 14 1885  
My Dear Mother:

Yours of the 7 inst  
is before me and also a letter  
from Alfred. He wrote me a  
postal to remind me I owed him  
a letter and I was surprised  
when I looked the matter up to  
find I had neglected him so long.  
Well I made his heart  
glad by sending him a V  
to go to Edinburgh with and the  
promise of another while there to  
get back with. Now the boy  
wants a suit of clothes and  
father will probably get him  
some next month but I think  
you had better let him get a

suit of L.H.C. on your note and I will pay for them. Of course they must be good but not expensive. I think maybe he would like the brown like my coats. I would like to visit

Tadousac and would if I could do so without losing my time. The expense outside of that would be but a trifle.

Neither you nor Alfred have ever seen Bradford and I see no reason why you can't both come here. You take the early morning train at Cambridge and come through without change getting here about noon.

I will keep my present room until after commencement so Alfred can sleep with me.

Waddell & I are talking of getting a room together which

reduce expenses a trifle.

I had a bonfire of old letters a few days ago and saved the blank half sheets. It seems ~~impossible for me to get~~ any reply from my Dubois letters I have written to several parties there but not hear as yet returned answers although I enclosed stamps.

It takes two days & costs \$2.00 to go there and back so I want to find out whether the thing is worth or not before going down.

I can't say that I have any objection to your going on a visit even to your Aunt Sally's in the far west.

But you have never put it in that light before

You have always mentioned  
it as though it was a  
choice between wet & the  
poor houses.

I think a visit would  
be a benefit to you but  
it must be limited. None of  
your yearly visits.

Have every thing nice for  
Alfred.

Your affectionate love

L. Brewster

Bradford

Atoro

Pa

Give him what he  
to eat. wants



They are not made with a  
wilt nor any watch-pocket  
but I could overlook that  
although I need the watch  
pocket very much.

These pants are large  
~~enough in the seat for~~  
well for Uncle John, easy.

Now How could L.H. do it.  
The brown ones were a nice  
close fit. Why shouldn't these  
be the same? I asked for  
the same except in length.

Is it necessary in order to  
make them  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. longer to  
make them larger every way?

It will probably cost me  
a dollar or more to have them  
altered to fit. What shall I  
do? Waiting to hear from

I remain

your  
This last night I was  
sorry about it.  
Your affectionate son  
L.H. Watson  
Madison

Dear ray to your parents  
Wp + Mr. Bridge that I  
called to his kid when  
"Good Bye" (at least seems  
not for me. They were all  
shook, which surprised  
me that I should have been  
there for

Fairfield, Neb.

May 14, 1884.

My Dear Mr. Water,

It would be impossible  
for me to tell the  
number of times you  
have been in my  
thoughts since our  
return home, and  
I thought to have written  
you immediately after  
arrival, but when I  
told you that since  
my return I have been  
delivered by thirty nine

Different callers —  
here comes one more  
Rev. Harwood, pastor  
of the Congregational  
church

Well! his game, we ate  
maple sugar and went  
out and played a game  
of croquet. What would  
I do but think of  
that I wonder, an  
unmarried man too —  
I have been taken  
by surprise, altogether,  
the hearty welcome  
extended from old  
acquaintances so far  
surpasses my expectations  
that I can only say

"I didn't know I had  
so many friends."  
They range from the  
Bankers and Merchant  
wives down to the  
domestics which we  
have formerly employed.  
You know we left Edinburgh  
Monday morning — April 20 —  
and while probably do not  
know what a pleasant  
surprise awaited us in  
Cambridge. A family  
by the name of Miles  
formerly from here,  
were living there, and  
recognized me as I was  
passing along the street.  
Mrs. Miles was a member

to my character. It is nearly  
information in regard  
Wm & Mrs. McKee; per  
I & children in my opinion  
I would hope the people

of my S. S. class for some  
time, they know me  
well, we stayed over  
with them until  
next day, and were in  
Fairfield, Thursday 6 o'clock  
A. M. The journey home  
was very pleasant in  
every way, it being a  
through train passengers  
became somewhat acquai-  
nted, the children made  
friends all along and it  
seemed as though we were  
especially favored with  
kind attentions.



Franklin is very kind to me, we nearly every day  
I shall be obliged to you to send me  
Clean dress  
Mrs. G. H. Miller  
Franklin  
hard work, is a Bohemian, she can understand  
but little I say to her  
but watches movements  
closely & soon gets the  
idea of what is wanted  
of her, she works for  
a \$1 per day & care

do more in one day  
than an ordinary  
girl would do in three  
It is very difficult getting  
domestics & any  
kind of house help  
at present.

As to an opportunity  
for you to come west and  
make it pay it is as I

anticipated, - a 1<sup>st</sup> class  
dressmaker could make  
money here, and is very  
much needed. There  
are several rather inferior  
ones, but a W I would  
take the most of the work,  
There is an opening for  
a good hotel, other branches  
of business are well  
represented, You had better  
come and try the dressmaking  
Come and make me  
a visit any way, so far  
so good kind when if you  
thought best to stay so  
much the better.  
According to promise I  
will tell you as to home

and I must share  
think other than that  
you and your dear  
mother, like I shall,  
come to us in our common  
to pray.

and surroundings  
All is now quiet and  
peaceful with us, Oh!  
that the rude waves  
of unhappiness which  
have so often tossed me  
about, may give me a long  
sweet rest, And yet I would  
not complain for He knows  
best who overrules all for  
the good of his children -  
His beloved. You do not  
know how precious the  
Dear Saviour seemed to  
me while the ~~light~~ days  
seemed so dark in E...

(As I think of all our  
I feel most grateful for  
your presence, your smile  
and hair down and a gentle  
me in any way, and I shall  
always think so kindly of  
Mrs. Buckley & her household.

I find there is a good  
deal to say - how much  
pleasanter would it be  
could we sit side by  
side in my cozy little  
sitting room, hand  
clasped in hand and  
soul meeting soul.

May 21 - A hot  
interruption has been  
the cause of this long  
lay over of my letter.  
Have been to work all  
day cleaning house  
the woman who helps



Bradford July 6, 1885.

My Dear Mother

Your favor rec'd all  
at once I have just written to  
Alfred at Buffalo as I  
suppose he will be there  
as soon as the letter gets  
there. I haven't very much  
to write but the little is  
good news viz: all photography  
galleries must be closed  
Sundays. The leading ones  
draw & sign contracts to that  
effect and will invite all  
others to sign. If they refuse  
why the leaders will force  
them to close by law which  
demands places of business  
to be closed on Sunday  
in this  State of Penn.<sup>a</sup>

Do I am free to go  
on any excursion  
Sunday. why can't we  
then meet either at N.F.  
Bridg. Brad. Chat. L. or King  
Bridg. some Sunday?

This is all.

How did Alfredy suit fit  
visit him, what price?  
How did he enjoy his visit

Yours affectionate love

A. D. Waters

Bx 20. Bradford

Dec

Bradford Veg. 30" 1885

Mrs Dr. M. M. M. M. M.

Don't you see a

---

all that will work just  
the same. Saturday was a  
loss day. I took in \$18.90  
which was ~~\$17.15~~<sup>\$18.15</sup> more than  
I did the other whole 5 days.

At about my weekly rate of  
loss running away to him.

I want a pair of faucets  
and I want them by  
Saturday if possible.

I never noticed until  
today how badly these were  
soiled and faded in front  
down the fly. They look bad.

I will have to have them  
cleaned and killed, at least  
they will be dry etc.

These pants are all right  
except in length. I want  
the next cut from  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$   
(about  $\frac{3}{4}$  I guess) of an inch  
longer. Two hip-top-waist  
pockets, half lined, you know,  
~~These pants have neither~~

straw or taken up wonderfully  
so the goods extra well  
springed. Don't send samples

Don't get brown or any one  
color unless black a dark  
mixed is preferable. Medium  
weight to show you know  
what I want without  
explanations for me.

Yours truly  
L. B. Waters

Bradford  
Pa  
Box 21

G. A. CARSON,

# MERCHANT TAILOR,

Dealer in Every Variety of

FRENCH, ENGLISH AND DOMESTIC SUITINGS.

Full Line Gents' Furnishing Goods. Suits Made to Order a Specialty.

Edinburgh Pa  
Connecticut, Ohio,

Dec 18 1885

My Own Son Alfie

I intended sending this letter  
this morning but I went down to New Bedford  
yesterday PM & to go for meeting in evening  
& when I came up from prayer meeting the  
P.O. was closed so I could not get an order  
but you will get it in good season now  
enclosed find slip L.H.C. Coppin from Ripley  
paper so you will probably get to Erie on 12/20  
& ~~perhaps Diggers will see you there~~  
If you have to stay in Erie all night as my Cousin  
you will go & stay with your Cousin George at  
Aunt Carriss old home & have George come  
home with you for Christmas or all man  
see Miss Minnie Greenfield after you  
whenever I see her You will not have to stay  
in Erie all night I had almost forgotten  
about the stage leaving Erie on the PM

So you can start from Buffalo in the  
morning & get here at night I shall  
keep this letter untill the Southern mail  
comes in & then if I hear from Bently  
you will have the latest news from him  
I'll send a letter from Bently to night so I  
can not tell you the last news in regard  
to him but I did get a letter from you  
did you think my dear boy that if  
~~I could raise the money I'd let you~~  
stay in Buffalo all alone for your  
Christmas & I stay in Edinboro all alone  
for mine no. no. we are not compelled  
to do that yet & if we are prudent &  
saving I hope we never shall be

Enclosed you will find a  $\$$  which I  
hope will only do you as much good  
& give you as much comfort in using  
as it does me in sending it to you  
~~my precious boy so come home & let~~  
us have a joyful Christmas while we  
may & you might as well bring along  
some more of those papers if you have  
them & I'll read while I'm popping corn

Your loving mother

M. D. Waters



The Nickel Plate will sell all  
cheap Excursion tickets  
forward to all stations  
on the line on Dec 23 24 & 25  
also on Dec 30 31 & Jan 1 1886  
all tickets good to return on my  
name until Jan 4<sup>th</sup> inclusive  
and at greatly reduced rates  
Ripely Local Review

Edinboro Dec 6 1880.

My dear Son

Of course I shall have to write my boys to day for it is Sunday & a very stormy, snowy Sunday. It has snowed all day to day & yesterday the same. The roads are pretty much all cut but the folks are out with sleighs & cutters to church. It was so stormy & no roads that I stayed at home. Only two more Sundays & you will be at home. The revivalists left here over three weeks ago I can hardly tell you what the young folks are doing or are going to do. I get out so little but when you get home you can find out & let me know. Did Quetty say anything about his coming home for Christmas or his letter to you? or is that his busiest time so he can't come? I should suppose he would have to have his work out before Christmas. We are going to have something at the M. E. Church for Christmas but I hardly know what. Charles, Leo, Geo, Chas, Prondy, Bill Prondy, & Rob Cornell, Will Cornell & wife & Aggie Culbertson & Ruder girls & we joined the Presbyterian Church & enough more to make 21. I don't know what more I can write in regard to Grandpa & Grandma but that they are well & happy & comfortable & have got a cow & are making butter & that's about all there is to tell about them. As for Harry he is working day & night again & will probably until after Christmas. Lex has no help but H & B & they are very busy times are hard work scarce I get the papers you send & read the whole of them though I think it a terrible waste of time don't you?

tomorrow takes one week from December & you will soon know what Father can do for you you did not tell me where he was I hope you are studying hard remember time rolls fast - & I do desire above many things to see you fully prepared for your first course of lectures next fall I have not heard from Bentley since I wrote you before I hope he has not been disappointed in finding work in his gallery to keep him busy for he would feel it terribly this cold stormy evening with the wind outside shrieking & howling makes one feel very blue & lonely for all I have such nice warm quarters. But such weather makes one think of my broken scattered family with such feelings as almost break my heart - & only yesterday I was trying to think that I was beginning to get used to it. You said while here that you thought you knew where my missing Dickens was, his little "Dorrit" that is missing if you find it - I'd be very glad of it. Henry Lewis is still in the P. O. & he may stay there until the next Presidential Campaign when you will be old enough to vote & we will have a change of Party in the White House. I try & send you two or three Independents this week though you will not find much in them I believe I told you that Lewis, Leeper & Tucker had all got into their new houses & there is a two story building going up where that little building was between the main block & Frank Greenfield's Temple is building it - for a bank & Bruce is to have his Justice' Office upstairs no more this time. Bring me 10<sup>lbs</sup> worth of oatmeal when you come it is so much better than I get here go to Sidney Shepard & Co & get me 4 "Barber" Sifters if you can get them for 1.00 - I'll try canvassing for them after the holidays. Your loving Mother  
M. D. Waters  
Edinburgh Pa

all come out - right - get -  
of course I find that but I think  
yesterday & was not - what a  
own notes but - school commenced  
hoping I could tell you that - my  
Wednesday evening will I hope -  
Edinb. Aug 16 1858 -

My Dear Sir

Well I thought I must write  
if I have no news to write. Daves folks move  
Tuesday. I've been very busy  
trying to get material & straighten  
around in time to show up  
students I had no chance to write

to you but I hardly expected my  
before tomorrow but I do not  
come in tomorrow. You mean I said  
the school for - till 16.90  
& all & have them received - in full so  
you so good & I use at a long time  
doc. about you. lectures. &c. The end is  
the - honourable & well read that

attempts at a course of self-education is  
just so much unnecessary expense that  
three examinations were very rigid that  
the more science you got before you went  
there the better but that Dr. Poole ought to  
know just when you stood but you could  
not go there ~~too~~ not informed. And now  
I tell you that any time that Dr. Poole thinks  
you are well prepared to enter college I'll  
send you. So will be your own ambition  
or lack of ambition that stands between  
you & promotion or between you & success  
I would like to see you & Bentley  
together & we would take it all over  
& perhaps in my way, only we want to be  
sure we are making the best use of  
every penny we spend until you get  
through college in the mean time  
Study & Study hard so that when  
your trial comes, you will not fail  
what does Dr. say? & what does Bentley  
write? I'll write you again soon.

Your loving hoping Mother

M. D. Watkins

Edinburgh

Edinboro Aug 7 1888

My Boy Alfie

You know that I  
owe you no letter yet - still I  
write you for I am so anxious  
about you I suppose you hear  
from your Father occasionally &  
also from Bentley but I know from  
experience that their letters will not  
take the place of mine. I suppose you  
know from Bentley that he is coming  
home for a visit in a few weeks  
~~that I wish you could be at home~~  
together but I suppose I shall have  
to wait for that - we had a wet rainy  
forenoon but it is delightful this P.M.  
if we were all sailing on Lake Lehat  
to day what an enjoyable time we  
would have - It was a mistake about  
the train to go on the hill since we

no babies there yet. For three of four days I have been most wretchedly -  
lonesome & unhappy I could not  
drive it off but I have had a good  
big cry to day & I may feel better  
O! dear O! dear how I want ~~someone~~  
to live with me someone to speak  
to someone to sit at table with me  
But now I sit down alone to my  
lonely <sup>table</sup> if I step out I come back to  
a lonely house no one to greet with  
a smile in the morning no one  
to wait & chat with in the evening  
alone all alone & instead of getting  
~~accustomed to it~~ it grows harder  
& harder to bear & I am thinking  
seriously of trying to get a place  
to work this winter or a part of the  
winter when I can earn a little some  
thing & not be alone. Have you  
written to your pa in regard to  
Gibson Bros bill Dimple said yes

terday that Gibson told him to  
go on & collect it of me. now shall  
I pay it - or what - is to be done? You  
know I am willing to pay it - & you  
at the same time know that I  
should pay it - & had I not better  
pay it than have any fuss. Gibson  
is going west in two or three weeks &  
his bills must be settled up before  
he goes I have almost given up the  
excursion on account of cost - but  
if I succeed in renting my rooms  
I shall feel more free to come

School begins the 18 of Aug only  
one week more of vacation & Davis  
folks wont move untill tuesday  
or wednesday wont I be in a  
rush to move, settle, clean house,  
&c &c in three days? Ans Your over  
coal is fixed your mittens almost  
done your cuffs made & done up  
& the ribbon bought to cover your

tires but moving is just on the  
program & it: should I not come  
~~down here shall I get them to you?~~  
~~at home~~ altho' when  
~~she is here~~ I only had a chance to nod at  
them Lewis wife has not come home  
yet - I guess she is waiting for him  
to send her the money. The story is  
all around that Henry Dorcis Mother  
is just on the point of marrying  
man by the name of Stancliffe from  
M. Kears Mrs D told Aunt Let yesterday  
& Aunt Let told me so I have it  
pretty straight I guess Henry thinks  
of going west shortly after they are  
married I am looking for your  
letter

Your loving Mother

M. D. Waters





back door as I have got to grade & fill  
in there to keep the water out of the cellar  
for you know it runs in & it rains  
will it is over four weeks from Thursday  
out to commencement so you will be  
starting for E in just about four  
weeks from tomorrow if you are here  
for that day if you come up & Bently  
don't come up with you ~~maybe~~ you &  
I will arrange to go down & stay a  
day or two <sup>with him</sup> on your way home  
Grandpa & Grandma are well & are  
building a bedroom 10x12 in the  
corner <sup>the</sup> next to Adolistic & turned  
that east window in the kitchen into  
a door to get into the bedroom then  
they will not have to use the Parlor so  
much we & we been having some very  
warm days but to day have had to keep  
in all day & no comfort - Oh Alfie I do  
so want to see you I am so lonesome my  
heart cries out for my child  
I am so alone alone but only four weeks  
and if it is best for you to come I shall  
see you Geo Stetson is to be married Monday  
we next to Lippie. Rest of Cambridge  
Love loving M<sup>th</sup>  
M. J. Waters

Edinboro Oct 11 1877

My Dear Alpi:

Some of the 8 came to hand too late to answer yesterday, so I write to day & you will find the money enclosed I hope it will not be too late to answer your purpose I suppose your Brother is with you by the time you receive this please tell him ~~not~~ not write him until after I have seen him & he is settled in Erie night-before last we had our first frost - but not severe enough to kill the flowers I have bought - a new #16, Parlor stove I hope to save some wood by it - Joe Herrick starts west - to

morrow morning if you are home  
for Christmas (& I hope you & Aunt  
will both be here) you have only a  
little over two months to wait - you  
forgot to send the length of your  
drawers Dave Weller is shut up by  
the Sheriff. Aunt - Ruhanna killed  
a rattlesnake all alone & sent the  
cattle to Georgia Grandpa & Grandmother  
an well & all the rest of the folks.

Lilly Salry is married to that old  
bear of hers by the name of Bartlett  
I believe well "I leave Ben" to tell  
you the many things I forgot to  
I know you will have a good visit  
with him

Your loving Mother

M. J. Prater

Edinboro February 10 1880

My Son Alfie

I have been looking for a letter from you for a week past. But my not getting it does not deprive me of the privilege & pleasure of writing & so I write yesterday it was raining & thawing all day & raining when I went to bed last night. But when I got up this morning it was about as cold as Greenland with a good breeze and it has grown colder & breezier all day untill to night. one would freeze in getting from here to the corner. Denny received a letter from her mother yesterday in which she says that J. A. & wife had been & made their visit & gone they came Friday & went away Tuesday that J. A. got her a \$5.00 rocking chair & Lorinda got her a bottle of Warner's Kidney medicine for presents & J. A. hired a carriage & team & took them all out riding & got three dinners at the Occidental Hotel at Sedan City. That J. A. got Lorinda a gold watch & chain for Christmas present & each of the girls a finger ring & a pair of bracelets

Eddie & Elmer are both at work at Kansas City both handling freight Eddie gets \$4.00 pr mo & Elmer \$5.00. J. A. was looking for land for the boys he had \$15.00 to invest for them

Tell Bentley that Frank Drummors is dead

Stone cutter's conscription Perry Hills who was one  
of the graduates last-spring is dead you know  
him Yesterday was the day for granting licenses  
in Erie & 18 citizens went from Edinboro to prevent  
it. Wiggins, Bennett, & Leutter all applied but not  
one got it so no one has a legal right to sell  
their neighbor prison in Edinboro Lemp Sipps  
& wife are about-parting on account of Rate  
Roberts of whom Lemp is jealous Rate worked  
for comp but he kicked him out & so it goes  
Hiram Pior is down again had another hemorrhage  
probably will not stand it long E. M. Twichell & Son  
have bought up all their creditors He paid all  
the New York cos 5<sup>cts</sup> on a dollar & 10 all around  
here 20<sup>cts</sup> on a dollar so again it is E. M. P. & Son  
& their business is on a better basis than it has  
been since before the war Wednesday evening  
well I've waited this letter all day expecting  
one from you to answer & you know with what  
result This morning the thermometer stood  
36° below very very extremely cold & some were  
told the coldest that was ever seen in Edinboro  
it has been very cold all day hardly any one  
stirring tis a little warmer to night Elder or Rev  
Williams leaves here in the spring for voting the  
Republican Ticket I shall write no more this time  
but finish in my next Your loving Mother

M. J. Walters  
Edinboro Pa

Edinboro June 9 1885

My Son Alfie

My Precious boy your letter calls for my warmest-sympathy & you know you have it- now I'll tell you just-wait with-patience untill you get-home & then I'll get-you a good suit-of clothes & see that they are well made & you can select-just-what-you want- Don't-get-discouraged but-just-remember that when you get-things<sup>th</sup> there you will be independent-& hold your fortune in your hands Why Alfie if it were not-for that-hope of mine for you I should just-

go wild, as it is I am clinging  
with a fast-hand to my patience  
& waiting & the time will not seem  
so long after it is past - Now just  
brush up your clothes as well as  
you can & after you get home you  
can get a new suit & have them  
to wear back. Do you want me to  
send you money to come home  
with or do you expect it from Pa?

Grandpa & Grandma are well & are  
looking forward to your visit with  
much pleasure. Don't forget that the  
school closes the 25<sup>th</sup>. The final  
exam' commenced this morning  
write to Bentley & have him come  
when you do or else you & I will have  
to go down & see him for you know  
we must all get together tomorrow  
& consult & plan & where is there a  
better place than Home you know  
what to write write often

Your loving Mother

M. D. Walter

Edinburgh



Edinboro Sept 29 1885

My Alfie

As yet no letter, & as you & I've been home for more than a week I received a letter from Brother last night in which he says he has an offer of \$12. per week from Moravia of Erie which he will accept should he not buy in where he is which he thinks quite seriously of doing - soon as I know what he decides upon doing I'll let you know Heyerl in first-rate spirits Hazen was married last Thursday evening to the Annie Walker. Received just from another letter from B he goes to Erie so he will be nearer us both - do you know I have been wanting to come & live in Buffalo ever since I was thin it has been in my mind continually. I wonder if I could buy out-cust? I believe

I could make additions & improve  
-mints & make it pay & I could raise  
some by taking in sewing al-  
-odd times Sunday Oct-4 1888-  
well I had promised to sew for  
Lew the next day after I was  
writing this letter when he in  
the afternoon I heard as I thought  
a familiar voice in the shop I sprang  
to the door & just then was caught  
in the arms of your Brother. He  
came up on business & went back  
yesterday morn so he stayed two  
days with me & of course I did not  
finish my letter & in the meantime  
I received two letters from you  
Buntly will go to Erie & he will be so  
much closer you will probably see  
him quite often I received a ~~letter~~  
from you last evening Buntly  
brought me a number of books &  
over 70 Stereoscopic views in  
& around Bradford Kinga Bnig  
we have had just the loveliest  
weather untill last night it com-  
-menced to rain & it has rained  
the most of the day to day & I have

had to keep a fire all day for com-  
fort- I guess we are about through with  
our fine fall but no frost yet & I have  
just beautiful boguts all over the  
houses I have only part of my Popcorn  
hushed but every thing else is har-  
vested I have every thing nice & very  
comfortable but Oh Alfr I am so lonely  
but the Family I have here are a great  
comfort- a God fearing & church going  
pleasant & praying people but they  
are not my own My Precious Boy  
how I wish you would get out to  
church once every Sunday just  
think nothing in the world would  
give your mother such deep joy  
as to see her boys on the road to  
Safeti. preparing for eternity &  
now is the only time to do it the  
only time you are sure of yesterday  
morning (Little Alwood (or Pifer)  
John Alwoods (or all wood & he was  
called wife was talking to me Gibson  
when she as Mrs G thought) began to  
sit down the floor was wet from mopping  
Mrs G said don't sit down there you  
will get wet- she slid on down to  
the floor Mrs G went to her & she

was dead heart-disease Dr said  
so in life we are in the midst  
of death Have you got your overcoat  
fixed yet? I want you to measure  
the drawers that are of the right  
length & send the measure to me  
& be sure & keep your feet-dry & warm  
& toast them well every evening  
before you get into bed & get into  
bed by 9.30 without fail I am well  
& feeling in good health & spirits  
when I sit in my rocking chair  
I've only to look up & see Bessie but  
I've no picture of her to look at now  
Should I not have? when mother  
cannot have her boys should she  
not have their photographs or some  
likeness of them? Think it over &  
tell me your decision

Your own loving Mother  
M. J. Waters  
Edinburgh Pa.

Edinburgh Dec 13 1882 -

My Dear Alfie

I received a letter from B. Monday eve  
that so grieved me that until I had time to recover  
from it I felt I could not write such a letter as  
I would desire to write & so I waited B says he  
thinks it will be impossible for him to come home  
for Christmas & of course that disturbed me more  
than a little. But I suppose he is probably earning  
but little & thinks it best to be saving of it. So I'll  
rejoice if I see but one boy but I did want us three  
to consult together on the prospect of another season  
& what I or we had best do. Neil Hawkins & Nell  
Roberts were married last Wednesday evening &  
gone on a bridal trip. Charles Reeder has sold  
out his furniture store to ~~Thomas~~ Atwater &  
wants to sell his house & lot & go west. Geo. Hamill  
has opened a little grocery store in one of the  
Gibson buildings. Students' House I believe if  
it is as well as dall Swift's it will make an  
independent living. What do you hear from your  
Father & where is he? I wonder if he intends to pay B.  
back the money he was paid out if he don't it will be  
rather hard on B. Every church is going to have  
a Christmas. I was up to Grand yesterday to a chicken  
dinner you see they don't intend one of their chickens  
will die without my having a hand in. The students  
have kept coming until there was a few days ago  
206 the largest winter term for some years. Old  
Daisy is so fat she can nicely waddle & is fearfully  
lazy she gets fed at both tables. Aunt Lib & Grandpa  
mills seem as well as usual & send their best regards  
to you are you getting along with your anatomy?

you say nothing about your studies & progress lately  
& you don't know what a source of interest it is to me  
I feel as though not only your future but mine also  
depended in a great measure on the use you make  
of your time while with Dr. Poole, why would it not be a  
good idea to say you will devote every leisure moment  
to study as it occurs through the day untill you  
have given so much time each day to study I hear  
that Dr. Hume from Cambridge is going to come there to  
E & go into the Dentistry line with a Partner (whose name  
I have forgotten) each one to stay in E one week & each  
one to stay in C one week changing each week I know  
that Dr. H. used to be called a good dentist

I would not be much surprised if B came over  
to E in the Spring & went into business for he may  
come to the conclusion that the rolling stone gathers  
but little moss. Grandpa's stomach is bothering him  
again & there are so many dropping off this winter  
that he thinks he may be counted one of them  
before Spring. I want you to go to the ice store & get  
me a calendar for 1886 if you have to buy it is  
I intended sending you \$1. but I have nothing but silver  
& so will have to wait (Tuesday eve) I received yours of the  
9<sup>th</sup> inst. last evening it confirms what I thought in regard  
to Bently I am sorry but it must be put up with. I think  
he thought was for the best & he has hardly had time to get  
to work yet & folk haven't found out he is there I think you  
will hear from Father all right before Christmas so keep  
up a good heart & do your best. I am very glad to hear  
you are doing so nicely guess I'll keep my teeth for you  
Skill I am earthing just nothing this winter which makes me  
feel a little blue but I hope Spring will bring us better times  
& will try & wait for it with Patience  
Your loving mother  
M. D. Waters

Be sure & bring your violin &  
a mouth organ if you have one but  
I suppose you can get one at Millers  
Be sure & bring your violin.

Edinboro June 16 1885-

My Dear Boy Alfie

Yours of the 12<sup>th</sup> inst. came to  
hand last evening & I take this time  
to answer. I waited until this evening  
because I thought I might have something  
from Bently to night but did not - you  
will find the  $\$$  in this letter & I want you  
to come by the way of Erie & come out on

Stage with Swift & tell him I will settle  
with him for he still owes me \$4. & said  
he would be glad to carry myself or  
friends on Stage to pay it as he was  
so hard up for money you had better  
bring a trunk for you will not have to  
pay any thing extra on cars just

check it & what Swift carries is just so  
much clear gain put in all the old duds  
you have & what can't be mended can go  
into carpet - I am glad you have spirit  
enough to wear your own clothes if they are  
ragged & it may shame your mother into  
getting you something decent - come up  
& try it - I'll tell you all about the G. Bros  
when you get home what has Father gone  
to Massachusetts for? Who is he working for  
now? Lena starts next two weeks from to  
day Grandpa expects his only Sister  
to come & see him this summer she lives  
in Iowa I have no news to write & I can  
only reiterate what I have already  
written time & again be faithful to Dr  
Poole & his interests for only in that way  
can you be faithful to yourself & your  
manhood. Remembers me kindly to  
Dr Poole & he has my most sincere thanks  
for his kindness to you

Your loving faithful Mother

M. J. Waters

Eric Co

Edinboro Pa

shall I do with them 3 blue one & 1 blue & white  
she is a proud cat-Edinburgh May 10 1880-

My Dear Alfie

I received your letter  
of the 5<sup>th</sup> inst. Thursday & should  
have answered it the same evening  
but was going to Erie with Grand  
pa ~~the~~ next-morning so I pul-off  
the letter will be sent to Erie &  
had a cold ride & yesterday Sat  
it snowed & thawed & snowed  
again all day & to day is wintery  
Harry has at last gone to work  
again but he looks pale & bad &  
is very hoarse I don't think he is  
fit to work but I'm full & the  
work must be done I got cloth-  
for pillowslips & sheets in Erie  
I am almost out & some stockings  
& a dress for myself just what I  
had to have as I was getting too  
thin to go out - I am almost-crazy  
for work but seem to be helpless

Yesterday in what  
corn  
Old Dairy has four chickens



is finding it - nor am I feeling  
very able but still I would never  
something if I had the work  
Mrs Beam is out-canvasing I may  
follow her example I guess Leo H  
is doing his full share of the business  
as for the Patterson & Aender business  
you will find it better explained  
in the "End" than I can explain it.

Prinds have turned in & helped  
Patterson buy it out & he is running  
it with Nelly as clerk & you'd think  
her Patter was a millionaire to see  
he air Grandpa & Grandma are  
well & are thinking some of going  
down to Uncle Seymour this summer  
Should they go Vey will call on you  
~~You will see in the "End" that Grim~~  
folks have moved to Frank's  
Eddie went with them Grima will come  
back & sell out his business as yet no  
one knows who our new P.M. will be  
but the general supposition is I will  
be Jim Proudfit there is no news Edinam  
is dead or stagnated for such a wretched  
Pen Ill. ~~Love~~ Your loving Mother  
M. D. Waters

Edinboro March 5 1848-

~~My dear Joseph~~

Yours of the 3<sup>rd</sup> is

before me & as you see I have no  
to write. But tis Sunday so I shall have  
to write I believe the moving is all  
done on our street & we have lots of  
new neighbors although there are many  
of the old ones left. Pattersons & Reeds  
failure is all the talk yet tis hardly  
known yet how they will come out  
but of course they owe considerable  
more than they are worth.

Low Keul took his goods to Cam-  
bridge Friday & Geo Hamilton & Will  
Cornell followed him with a bill.

of \$23 in Hamiltons favor & of course  
Lew would rather pay it than have  
his goods stoped & he paid it - & the  
result was that Geo. & Will. both came  
home sick & both stayed some  
house yesterday & Charly Culbertson  
helped the clerk tend Geo's grocery  
We had the same change of weather here  
~~we speak of~~ Harry is going ~~to stay~~  
with ~~the~~ Canny was down yesterday  
having some teeth filled & Perry Gibson  
told me that he offered to take one of  
the Edinboro boys & teach him the Prog  
but if he came he must behave him-  
-self & let stimulants entirely alone &  
the young man said he did not believe  
he could do it & hold out - so he did not  
take him how is that? He has orders ahead  
in his order book 4 or 5 days ahead & I said  
he had to send away 4 or 5 while she was there  
So take courage learn your profession ~~thoroughly~~  
~~come & work here in C & live with your~~  
lonely mother of course I hear from Ruel  
he likes or thinks he will like his job  
very much He takes possession <sup>or goes to work</sup> to day  
but his pay commenced last week  
I may run down & see him this summer  
if he don't come up if I do I'll probably call  
on you or send for you to come to Bradford  
while I am there we are having all kinds of  
weather to day first rain then Sunshine  
& this evening I have heard the first

thunder of the season What is Mrs  
Stephens going to do now that she  
has sold out? How is her health?  
Will she stay in Buffalo? If not what  
will Jimmie do? And what will Georgies  
do? What would such a place bring in  
~~Buffalo?~~ What kind of a man is Max  
Leuster? I wish you could make up  
your mind to drop the most of  
your light reading & put your  
time in practicing on your violin  
instead & making good use of all  
your time Ah! Alfie you cannot know  
how precious you are to me How anxious  
I am to see you making progress  
in every good thing & dropping the  
worthless & the useless. For life is so short  
there is no time to fool away my dear  
boy if you would only remember  
that. Ah! how I long to see you graduated  
& finished & one of the best of your  
profession. And for that - you know

you must not only work but you must  
drudge & your mother feels for you  
that you can well afford to do it -  
Ah if I am here what a proud mother  
I shall be when you receive your diploma  
& my precious boy if you lose your mother  
(I know you do) & love to think of her  
whenever you feel tempted to make a  
~~poor use of your time or do anything~~  
your conscience does not approve of  
may the thought of your loving mother  
& the prayers she is ever offering for  
you keep you from wrong & help you  
to do the right. You know my boys  
are all I have & my mind is on them  
day & night. Don't neglect your music  
I am afraid Buddy will neglect his  
practice now that she has ~~sent~~ you to help  
him write him good ordinary letters  
for he is inclined to be homesick.

Be kind & pleasant to your Pa  
don't forget what he is doing for you  
& that he is your father & my precious  
Husband & though I shall probably never  
see him again I want my boys to love him &  
care for him when old age comes creeping on  
for their own sake & for their  
Loving Mother's sake  
Edinburgh Pa M. D. Grates

Ed: box March 22, '35

My dear Sir

---

Letter of the 15<sup>th</sup> mailed  
the 19<sup>th</sup> is before me I know just  
how lonesome you must be and  
I can only repeat the advice al-  
ready given as a cure for home-  
sickness & loneliness "Keep busy"  
The new band or orchestra I hardly  
know which by name the electric  
make first rate music & are very  
diligent in practice I am very  
sorry Mrs Stephens is still confined  
to a sick room for it is a tedious  
wearing place to be. Who takes care  
of her? Who helps Jennie & who does

The housework & baking can't be  
done in rooms? for there is a sight  
of work in that house & no one  
can do it - all what is keeping  
you back? she ought to be  
wiser to do as much as she ever  
could in this time & I think the  
only way is pretty same well  
I have not of. ~~Students room~~

ly & then but I've had a  
time to win it - all at one  
time. Amblers went with last  
goods yesterday even  
as not yet home yet for Bunter  
has got into the mill at Orange  
a brother user takes his place here  
we are having colder springs than  
only ~~26° below zero~~ <sup>26° below zero</sup> this morning  
& it's colder. But it's only  
a few days to the first of April & we  
have a warning - before  
we heard from Bentley & he  
is not going to stay with W.J. for he  
is able to go to work again if you may  
see in paper from yesterday  
W.D. Watson

Edinboro Nov 11 1885-

My Precious Boy Alfie

Your welcome letter  
came to hand this morning &  
I hasten to answer it - I went to  
church before the mail came in  
& when I got out of Church the ~~mail~~  
was closed out of 150 or 175 - consequently  
you must not expect me to remem-  
ber them all I only intended to  
mention a few in whom I thought  
you would be interested in &  
thought I had mentioned the  
two Greenfield girls I only tell  
perhaps 1 in 10 I will now mention  
a few who have come forward since  
I wrote you last - & so many of them  
have said to me "O how I wish  
I wish all were here" we would have  
him with us Frank Wade, Henry  
Vorce, Guy McLaughery, Harry Pennrod,  
Belle Reeder, Rufus Craft, Allie Reeder,  
Sarah Leonard, & many more but

Some of them will probably write you  
about it. I write you now so as to  
put you on a right understanding  
with the facts so you may know who  
you are writing to should you  
write to any of these & they all seem  
to be in a great hurry - Lew is alone at  
the ship. How I hope they will bring  
Miss Grandy & Grandma are well.  
Grandpa is talking strongly of going  
to St-Lawrence Co this fall but I hardly  
think he will go I guess I'll have to close  
for if I write any more will only be  
about the meetings for that fills the  
minds of all

Your loving Praying Mother  
M. J. Frater



Edinburgh Sept-1/1888-

My Dear Miss

~~Yours of the~~

3<sup>rd</sup> we came to hand last evening & I  
contents enclosed. I'm sure you will be  
I can only reiterate what I have  
said. "If Dr Poole says you are  
fully prepared for your first course you  
shall go & I can readily raise the money  
& I ask you to get on as best  
for you to go for just as soon as you are  
able to support me you must have one  
with you so - where for then alone I shall  
go crazy & if we have to put the time off  
very long you will have no mother to  
live with you so let me help you while  
I can I want to see you & Buntley together

Someday & I think we must manage  
it - I can come to Layton & you & Bently  
can meet me there if we can't - could  
just talk the matter all over  
then we would know just what was  
best to be done & what we could do.

I spent yesterday PM with Mrs. [Name] &  
she asked many questions about you  
& sent you her love two or three times.  
They are not in their new house yet  
but so will be in a few weeks.  
I do my best by it -  
my rooms are not rented & I am in this  
house all alone & a lonely time I have  
of it I tell you. I am a  
you might as well come I have  
[Name] & that will be the company I take  
do. So, [Name] & [Name] & [Name]  
must be just as well & saving now  
as possible hoping that when you are  
of my age the necessity will no longer  
exist - Your loving Mother

M. D. Water

Edinburgh Nov 28 - 1888 -

My dear Son Aifie

I am in receipt of two letters from you since I wrote you but I was waiting to get a bill changed & to hear from Bentley so I could tell you he had got settled & at work for ~~from your letter I should judge~~ you did not know that he had rented a gallery & gone back to Bradford. Dismiss nevertheless true & I've not seen him since you have but he intends meeting you here during the holidays so gather up your courage & be ready for a good hard visiting time well sprinkled with Popcorn, only a few weeks from now & it will be starting or started so as to reach home for Christmas we are having regular winter weather now several inches of snow & snowing steadily all the time. But when it commenced the roads were the mudiest you ever saw just a partridge almost-but deep I have been fixing up Bentley's shirts & socks putting new sleeves & bands to the shirts & new heels to the socks

now when you come home pack up all  
of your old dudds & bring them along  
& what I can mend & fix up I'll fix  
& what I cannot I'll put into carpet bags  
I will have your flannel drawers ready  
for you when you get here Thursday  
A letter from B last evening declares  
him settled in B. & his house cleaning  
done & he gone to work & much <sup>more</sup> better  
contented than in Erie will I took my  
dinner at Grandpa's & had chicken of  
course I was invited up to Danny's but had  
promised Grandpa first - enclosed you will  
find \$3. don't worry over asking for it  
but be thankful as I am that I have it  
for you if you live you will sometime  
be able to return it with compound interest  
& I don't intend to worry over asking you  
for it but ask right out loud

Love from Mother

M. D. Waters

Edinboro Mch 26 1885-

My Boy Alfie

I have no news to write  
only that: Eddie Grimmer Andy Dwick  
-ell & Sammy Hawkins were drunk  
yesterday & I am so glad you  
were not with them. Of course you  
know that Bently has found work  
in Bradford but for how long he  
couldn't say Grandpa & Grandma  
are well & feeling well I told you  
Grandpa had sold his farm to Stone  
The students have come & got settled  
how I did hate to spare that room  
this time. But I'll manage some way  
& we can't have much hot-

weather before school closes I don't  
want you to think of leaving Dr  
Poole if he does not - push you ahead  
you will be all the more thorough  
& the best - & only way is to do with  
your might - what your hands find  
to do that is your best efforts when  
it will be well done & 'tis only the  
Polished - workman: who reaches the top

of the ladder have patience & perseverance

I am so glad you are going  
to practice on your violin it will be  
a help to you in so many ways

I do expect you & Bently home for  
commencement - remember we are  
not going to live always here & we  
must see each other once in a while

I will write you again Sunday So

I will close for this time keep me  
informed in regard to the health  
of my boy & his Father & be kind &  
pleasant - for you know not how soon  
the day may come when every unplea-  
sant word will be reported of with bitter  
tears

Your lonely but loving Mother

M. D. Water  
Edinboro Pa

Edinburgh Apr 22. 1885-

My Dear Son Alfie

Of course you know that I owe you no letters but still I must write for I must hear from you I asked Tom a ~~thousand~~ questions in regard to you & then wanted to ask more He says you have a "soft-snap" then if you know what that means & that if you know when you are well if you will stick to it.

Bentley writes very encouraging letters & I really hope he will do well though the times are so hard you will see in the "Independent" that Al Millspaw advertises their store & stock for sale How I wish I was able to buy it - Mrs Millspaw's health is very poor & she is not able to attend the business at all & as don't like it - But they have

made considerable money than

I rather expect - if I am able to go to work for L.H.C next week but - I am afraid I'll not work very long unless I am feeling better than at present - Harry is sick again not able to work if he don't take better care of himself he won't stand it long. ~~There is no news to write but~~ just - Edinburgh is Dull Duller Dullest

This is the fifth week of school & the largest graduating class we ever had when you write tell me of your Father's health & of our own Grandpa & Grandma all well I am going to put a new plank in front of the other lot next week but I don't just know when I shall pay for it - but that will be all right for Ma is willing to mail for his pay & I can pay whoever helps Grandpa put it down

Write to Your loving Mother

M. D. Waters

Edinburgh  
Pa



Edin v. - Jan 8 1855

My Precious Boy

Love - & mine & in can  
to na a extend. & I will be ever of so  
you will be sure to get my little miss's work

Harry wants you to write he has gone to  
work again & says he stands it first rate

Law Kent & wife came home yesterday & of  
all the ~~several~~ ~~days~~ of the ~~mess~~ ~~last~~  
evening - it made night hideous Mrs Law  
brought out cakes & Mr Law brought out the  
cigars There is no news to write I am very  
sorry for you for I know what it is to be  
homesick but as I told you we were before  
work is the best cure I know of And as in  
that idea of yours of going with Bentley

in the spring I think if you can suit time  
be not a much rather wait until you  
get through & go in with yr. for this is  
by, at the most money in your possession  
& a higher grade of labor & surely would consider  
that quite an item No. 1, is it? I was no one  
to decide I should stay study study work  
with you enight. Make a success of your  
~~passions then take your Brothers in with yr~~  
& let the waters & thus be one see - Dentist in  
the city in which yr. reside & to be first & yr.  
will be far ahead of yr. Bros & they are  
consuming money & have each a farm & lots  
of money out at interest - Do you know  
you are at the very business I desired to have  
yr. learn & I should feel terribly to have  
you forsake it No. No. Keep up your courage  
& ~~passions~~ next Spring when you come  
home your time will be more than one  
third gone & the hardest part of the work  
done I received a letter from Bently Tuesday  
which I'll answer Sunday & find out what  
his opinion is on the subject without telling  
him mine write me soon I'll write yr.  
again Sunday Your loving hoping Mother

M. J. Waters  
Eric Co Edinboro Pa

Edinburgh Jan 28 1885

My Dear Son Alfie

Well at last - the long waited for letter has arrived. I've looked for this letter noon & night for nearly two weeks I think & have wondered what I had said or written that was not acceptable. But at last it is here & I'll answer it forthwith. First - I am very very glad that you are studying & filling your mind & brain with something besides trash.

I hope you are done & forever done with all that wild & worse than useless trash. You are to make a man & for that purpose you should be imbibing into that brain of yours something solid good & useful every hour of your life.

Mrs Anderson was in town & spent the evening one evening last week she said they heard from Eva & she was happy & having a gay time & would not come home for all the talk they could get up in Edinburgh & furthermore Mrs Anderson said that Max did not take Eva to Erie that Eva went Wednesday morning as we know she did & that Max did not go until Thursday & went on business that had nothing whatever to do with Eva & that L.H. Le started the story that they went together from the fact that he had to hurry up Max's suit & it was his conjecture that they went together.

Mrs Anderson cried like everything while telling me & wanted to know if I had heard the stories & as soon as she heard of them she had written to Eva & wanted her to come right-home but she was so stubborn she would not do it & I can't see what right she had to rent Pa's room unless he consented thereto or did not pay for it - but if the room he occupies is comfortable & has his bed & pillows it will not make much difference to him as he can skip up a flight of stairs like a kitten you would not think it possible he was a man of fifty years we are having terribly cold weather the thermometer runs down until it seems that it could never get round up into comfortable weather again & we are having lots of snow & good sleighing The Seaside Library is just as good as I want - & just as good as I want to pay for & I want any of Mrs. McDonald's works as I have none & any of E.P. Ross but "Barriers burned away" which you brought to me. Harry Bone has read all the books you left here I suppose he has read night & day almost - Harry Perrod told me yesterday that he was going to skin you that he wrote you one week ago last Sunday & had not heard from you & that Andy Trichell had written you since that time & had got an answer, so look out

I wrote a long letter to Bentley at the same time I wrote you but I hear nothing from him why does he not write? I suppose he told you or showed you a plan of your house & how I proposed with his approval to arrange it so it would be more comfortable for two families what do you think of it? Do you suppose I'd ever get it paid for? & would it not be comfortable? For unless necessity compels me I shall never tie myself to such close quarters again though I manage to get along very comfortably for the winter I could never stand it during the hot weather I have had two or three chances to rent my rooms for the next year but of course I, while I live, will have to have a room to live in

Arza Bullock's family moves into the Holistic home she goes to Grandpas while Lasse moves into the house Arza now occupies this is going to be a great deal of moving around when Spring comes Joe Henck leaves Edinboro but I forget where he is going Mrs. Jennie Rimmer who went to Erie to skate last Saturday & who was taken sick on the way home & had to be left at McKean was better so she was able to be brought home yesterday P.M. so much for Roller Skates

Proff Russell of Cambridge after having his house & lots & conservatory given to him by his Father-in-law & the citizens of Cambridge during the past year has run in debt over &

about his income so he thought he had got to leave Cambridge. But the citizens called a meeting one day last week raised a subscription paid his indebtedness & put him under bonds not to go into debt beyond a ~~certain~~ amount so much for Prof Russell's management

Now Alfie I have a pair of mittens just such as I sent Bently already to send you if you will wear them they lay here in a drawer waiting for you now shall I send them? I was going to send them two or three weeks ago but thought I would first find out whether they would be used or not just speak about it in your next we are having a very cold severe winter here & J. W. writes they are having an unusually cold winter than. Hattie McWilliams is so she is out again but Mrs McWilliams is no better & will probably never be any better & is not likely to stand it but a little while Minnie Bogus is still here but all the good looks she ever had are entirely gone I actually did not know her when I first saw her & I used to think her pretty but now she is really coarse looking Old Mr Snyder is canvassing for a book says he can get no work & no subscribers & don't know what he is going to do I tell you times are very hard here & there is many a poor fellow longing for spring now write me a long letter what you are all doing &c &c. Your loving Mother M. D. Waters  
Edinboro Pa



home & let the others go to the theatre. Trichell property & the papers are all  
without you for in our circumstances signed he pays \$2.000. Trichell's folks  
I think it would not be right for you to spend your money in that  
manner of course occasionally buying my groceries any where and  
~~to go to an extra play & mail paying cash for them & sending in~~  
~~not say no but save your money you may bill every 30 days & getting it~~  
will need it for a better purpose. I have been doing

I have seen Moul' Burchfield in which is quite an advantage over the  
rigard to the snow shovel & he is <sup>make</sup> going to make one one just like  
the one you made (which was stolen from our shed) tin & all for 40<sup>cts</sup>  
Edinboro orchestra. As Milspar did

The Edinboro Independent has ~~not got any yarn~~ & I've been over  
been bought by Sam Phipps. M. town again on a vain errand.  
Langhorns son in law Maggie Phipps I have not seen any magazines  
Dathis who gets out his first paper - yet - but am not quite out of reading  
this week. Our new P.M. is Dr Wilson matter yet - are you going to send  
who is going to move the P.O. up into Kabaro to me or have you use for  
his office & let his wife run it - it - Dan Roland is no better & tis very  
How will that suit Cooper & the students doubtful about his getting up  
Smith-Proudfit has bought the - we have been having a little than



Edinboro Feb 2 1885

My Son Alfie

Of course I have not had a letter from you & I should not write but I have been a good girl to day & so should be allowed some indulgence & pleasure. Therefore I am writing to one of my boys I write to Beatty but so filled the letter with business there was no room for news so the news & scandal falls to your share. Well Grandpa got a letter from Mary Goodell last Thursday saying that J. A. & Selinda started for Sedan Kansas one week ago this morning & was going to stop over at Kansas City & spend a week or 10 days with Elmer & Eddie. Hannah Adams who was my cousin Hannah Goodell (Pa. will know her) has a boy baby. They have been married some 17 years are rich & this is their first Boy or Baby either Mrs Williams who was shot here at Beannetts is dead. One day last week four of the Edinboro (yes four of these ~~girls~~ were discovered in a room at the Hall very drunk Miss Nellie & Kate Roberts Miss Rophe Leavors Miss Kittie Greenfield & Miss Opal Hummer. I think that this is about all of the flying <sup>news</sup> that will not get into the Independent. I sent you your Buffe Ring & Buff Buttons some time ago but you have not acknowledged the receipt of them. Did you



get them? Tuesday finds a warm thawing afternoon  
 & every one & their cousins is out sleigh riding  
 we have been having very cold weather & every  
 pleasant day is made use of. Your letter of the  
 1<sup>st</sup> is at hand & contents noted. I feel to sym-  
 pathize with Bentley's face for if it begins to ferment  
 as you do over the moustache it is laboring to  
 sprout. It <sup>big</sup> must be mortified over the progress  
 it makes & you know mortification is very  
 dangerous. You must have missed receiving  
 the big letter I sent you last Thursday or feared  
 to undertake the job of reading it & have laid  
 it one side to await your next summer's vacation  
 I'll try & not write so much another time.

Oh! Algie I get so many, so lonesome, so so  
 homesick, or sick of home sometimes when I  
 get to thinking of you & Bentley. If it were only  
 so we could have a home together. I feel that I  
 could make a pleasant home for my boy than  
 they have ever thought of & it would be so sweet  
 to have some one of my own with me. But then  
 I am very comfortably situated as I am and  
 I did not mean to say what I have said do not  
 let Bentley know that I wrote this for I get along  
 very nicely just where & as I am. Dave & Panny  
 are both just as good as they can be & all of my  
 neighbors are more than kind to me.

course wanted to know what was in it. How you  
 were getting along &c. &c. & when I read the part  
 about him & Grandma he was as pleased as  
 a boy with his first pair of boots. You say noth-  
 ing of how you are getting along. How many  
 hours do you study a day? How much time do  
 you give to music? How & where do you spend  
 your Sabbath? How & where do you spend each  
 evening? Do you keep a diary & in that manner  
 account to yourself just how each hour in the  
 day is spent? If not do get one right away  
 & jot down in it each evening how that day  
 has been spent. It will help you to take better  
 care and make better use of your hours & a few  
 years from now you will really enjoy looking  
 over & recalling the time spent in Buffalo.

You say nothing in regard to the mittens  
 would you wear them if I sent them to you  
 just right writes to the 10<sup>th</sup> of April & I am  
 looking for Bentley before that & he may come  
 before school is out. Only four weeks after this  
 & then comes the great term of the year and the  
 class for next June is altogether the largest class  
 we have ever had here. I have already had two  
 or three chances to rent my rooms to families  
 & also the Parlor to students. But I am not going  
 to cook eat & live in the same room in that

a week at it - I am making a cushion for  
your big rocking chair it is like Jacobs coal-  
of many colors I expect you will want to hold  
the cushion instead of that holding you  
you ask what I am doing with your novels  
well I have read them & put them up stairs I  
have not seen Harry True to speak to him only  
across the road & that very seldom since you  
were here Harry comes to me for something  
to read & he has read the most of them by taking  
two & sometimes three at a time but no one else  
has had any of them except Grandpa & Aunt  
Lib who have each had two & three "Bairns bundle  
away" "Jan Eyre" & such & that was one strong reason  
why I wanted some more in the same line to  
lend them to Aunt Lib who is so kind to me I think  
Daisy is going to raise another family & if she does I  
shall have to build an addition to the house

Did you turn your face to me on the rent as  
I told you to? Swift owes me six dollars & I  
cant get a cent of him & your boys will have to  
ride it out he is drinking more & more & his  
family suffer for the necessaries of life so  
all you & Bently come side out of him is so  
much gain If the reading this letter is not too  
hard on you Ill write again

Your loving & hoping Mother

M. D. Waters

Edinboro March 8 1850

My Dear Cousin Maria

How many letters will this make  
that I have written since hearing from you?  
Three! Now don't you feel a little guilty? I think  
you must. But I am here alone not feeling able  
to get out to church, & I thought of your bringing  
along this in ~~Buff~~'s so I <sup>tried</sup> to write although  
I may not send it out tomorrow one night. This  
past week will Greenfield & John Posters the man  
works for ~~Edward~~ <sup>Edward</sup> ~~and~~ <sup>and</sup> ~~to~~ <sup>to</sup> ~~Van~~ <sup>Van</sup> ~~Passel~~ <sup>Passel</sup> ~~look~~ <sup>look</sup> ~~out~~ <sup>out</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~house~~ <sup>house</sup>  
& cutter leaving a note to George that they would  
be back the next morning well they did not come  
that day so the next day Mr. Van Passel took Will  
Carnell & started <sup>to</sup> ~~to~~ ~~look~~ <sup>found them</sup> ~~them~~ <sup>up</sup> ~~in~~ <sup>in</sup> ~~Head~~ <sup>Head</sup> ~~with~~ <sup>with</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~house~~ <sup>house</sup>  
& cutter in stable & Posters in ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~house~~ <sup>house</sup> ~~up~~ <sup>up</sup> ~~near~~ <sup>near</sup> ~~they~~ <sup>they</sup>  
brought them both home ~~in~~ <sup>in</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~house~~ <sup>house</sup> & Posters  
accuses Will of getting him drunk & taking his  
money away from him & he has talked of arresting  
Will but I guess he has given that up. Bullock's  
folks have moved two loads to Cambridge & the  
Painley family ~~is~~ <sup>is</sup> ~~just~~ <sup>just</sup> ~~of~~ <sup>of</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~same~~ <sup>same</sup> ~~family~~ <sup>family</sup>  
has moved two loads of goods & the family go  
soon I am cleaning up the parlor slowly by dryers  
& trying to get it ready for use by the time the boys  
get back but it looks like a heavy task. All the  
window fixings curtains & Lamberquins to take down  
wash & put up again. Can't come up & go down

again woodwork & windows ~~to~~ clean Oh dear how  
~~much you will have to help me. But~~ I am going to  
go over the road an inch at a time & I'll get to the  
end some way before the 23<sup>rd</sup> I've not seen Mrs Anderson  
since she was here that evening some time ago. I  
not feel like getting out & when I did I had work  
to do here at home I want you to write me as often  
as you can ~~but I suppose~~ you are pretty  
busy but don't be afraid to write for life is short  
you will have time enough to rest when it is over  
good use of your evenings remember you  
time enough to accomplish great things  
if you make good use of it all. Well you will  
have written you a sermon. But I do so realize  
a success of your  
profession. I did hope to be able to paint the house  
this spring but I am afraid I have to give it up  
unless times brighten up & I get work from Lib. Cover  
cat is dead & she has adopted one of the black kitties  
so that has a good home Mr Linn has just been and  
made a Sunday call ~~over~~ over the difficulty be  
tween the two boys. Well I'll not write any more for if  
I do you may not get time to read it. I shall look for  
a letter from you until it comes

Your loving Mother

M. D. Waters

Edinboro Pa

Edinboro March 29/1885

My Boy Alfie I have  
no letters to answer & no sense to  
write but still I feel that I must  
write a few lines for I am that  
lonesome & homesick that I never  
could endure existence if it  
were not for writing to my Boys  
I have had a very lonely week  
for some reason & I hardly know  
myself why only as I have been  
looking over old letters off & on  
a few weeks I would max up all  
my courage & stiffen up my lip  
& think I'd go right through them  
but sometimes only two or three letters  
would recall the past so vividly

& bring up such passionate  
emotion & such a flood of tears  
that I would be obliged to leave  
them. But at last they are finished  
& laid away (for I could not destroy  
them) never to be opened again  
during my lifetime. The band here  
make excellent music & do a good  
deal of practicing you must work  
to keep up with them & I have so much  
confidence in you I think you will  
do it. Grandpa & Grandma are well  
& send their love & kindest wishes.  
I have not heard from Bently so  
I hardly know what he is doing.  
I think it doubtful about Harry P.  
leaving Linn. They have got married  
& settled in their new shop & they look  
first-rate & as usual have lots of  
work. Jane Jimmerson is in Edinburgh  
visiting.

Your loving Mother

M. D. Watts

Edinburgh Pa

Edinboro Oct-22 1885-

My Dear Son Alfie

Your precious letter of the 21<sup>st</sup> inst. came to hand this evening & I should have written before but my time has been pretty ~~cloudy~~ ~~taken up this week~~ ~~Monday~~. I did a two weeks washing Tuesday, I ironed & baked & in evening attended a prohibition lecture delivered by Revd Brartram of Buffalo Editor of the 16<sup>th</sup> amendment & he is a smart man wed- & Thurs I sewed in shop all day & both evenings have attended an evangelistic meeting at the Baptist conducted by a Revd Mr Wilson & wife from Lomanda N.Y She being the sister of P.P. Bliss the renowned singer of the terrible Ashtabula disaster. Revd Wilson & wife are altogether the most st l l singers I ever heard so you know that is a treat to me to



go & listen to them now after why did  
you send back that money I am not  
suffering for it I have plenty in my  
pocket for the present. Dis so lat. now  
I think I'll not paint the House this fall  
& I've got to have a new Roof & I've  
bargained it would cost between 35.  
& 40 dollars & the upright-roof leaks  
so that it ~~must~~ <sup>will</sup> go on Grand-Pa & me  
are well & happy & think lots of my  
boys I shall be glad to get the Papers &  
write about Bently & bring in Eric  
I feel as you write that he is almost  
with me & it seems to bring you  
nearer too because you & he are so  
near each other if there is any trouble  
or sickness with any of us how quickly  
we can tell each other I have lots more  
to write but 'tis after 10 & I must not  
do it. but to bed & get ready for to  
morrow so I will wish you a good  
night & a kiss from

Your loving Mother  
M. D. Mathus

Edinburgh Nov 1 1888-

My Dear Son A

I have waited some  
time for a letter from you & it has  
not come so I thought I would send  
you a line as a reminder that you  
have a mother in Edinburgh. The  
missions are still continued here  
with much success & I feel that here  
it is true converting some of our  
young people of whom Charles Cooper  
is one & Robbier Cornell & Stuart your  
loving mother is praying it may reach  
~~the field & draw any precious souls~~  
its loving & sustaining influence  
where he will be kept in more safety  
& have more influence than any  
else on earth we are having some  
sickness here in our school were no  
that are home very sick & one <sup>young</sup> ~~old~~  
who was out to church one week ago to  
day her funeral services were conducted

ted in the Hall to day & I hear there is  
another one sick. I have been counting  
up the time to day until Christmas  
7 weeks from Friday so seven weeks  
from now you will be making  
your arrangements to come & old  
winter will be here. Sarah Hamilton  
called on me to day. She came in  
on the Stage last night at 8 o'clock  
& leaves for home tomorrow morning  
a le but gave me two hours of her time  
the first time she has been home in two  
years she looks thin & worn. Some of  
the other young men who have taken  
the step towards a better life are  
Neland Hawkins Charlie Proudfoot  
Will Proudfoot Frank Stamford & others  
Apal Hummer Rafe Hummer Maggie  
Culbertson Lanny Killaaspie & many others  
I am considering the matter of adding  
what little I can very seriously I can borrow  
the money of Grandpa & can so fix  
my overflowed cellar & leaking roof  
& perhaps by the time the principle has  
to be paid my Boy will be a Dr & be  
able to help his mother if she couldn't  
mend it  
Your Mother  
M. J. Water

Edinburgh Jan 11 1889-

My dear Alfie

Yours of the 8<sup>th</sup> inst. came to hand yesterday & glad was I to receive it for Taylor had been here that morning wanting to know if there had any word come from Mr. Waties yet? But there will be very little satisfaction for him in your

Father's letter. Now does Father know he is right that there must be over \$300,000 worth of property? For you know that Taylor told me that when the suit was for labor the defendant could not take advantage of the three hundred dollar act. Of course Mrs P ought to

have her pay & of course I am here  
alone & I dont-want-to have any  
trouble why dont Pa write to Taylor  
himself & tell him what he will do?  
Oh Alfie you dont know how alone  
I am here no one but one day after  
day & evening after evening for  
weeks & months no one who has an  
interest in me or mine. And I can

only look to my boys to hasten the time  
when I can be with them. and the  
very best way I can see for you to do  
is to stay just where you are & not throw  
away a years time & a hundred dollars  
as you would be doing if you leave  
them in the spring and that business  
is so steady & profitable.

I read that slip about-

Ross. to Grandpa & he had lots of  
fun over it & borrowed it saying he  
was going to get a chance & read  
it to Ross I guess he is in hot water  
he has put all of his property out of  
his hands but they all say that that  
wont save him for if he has not the  
means to support her he must work  
for it & if he wont work she or her

for her is going to lock him up  
Poor Ross 'will come tough on him

Minnie Bogus who came home  
with Shorty Sherman & his sister took  
a hard cold & has been sick ever  
since but is better Low Snyder is  
at home & the story is so says  
that he has come home to many Stella  
Elderkin whether there is anything in  
it or not I could not say

I am rejoiced at your resolu-  
-tion to be careful of your expenses  
if you are sharp & watchful you can  
save in many ways & I do hope that

you will discover that you can  
live with less & less tobacco for you  
know you derive no benefit from it

we have had a very disagreeable  
rainy day all day to day but I have  
been to church twice & heard two  
excellent sermons so I feel well

paid for getting out - This week makes  
half of this term & so time runs away  
& in a little while I'll see both my  
Boys which will make the visit of each  
sum better & pleasanter, & knowing  
they are coming I can work & wait  
with patience Now Alfie when you have

any doubts or troubles any hesitation  
what you had better do go to Bently  
He loves you dearly will be glad to  
have you show that you have con-  
-fidence in him & will be glad to talk  
with you give you advice or council  
or do anything in the world for you  
that he can, and he is so handy to  
get at - & it's such a comfort - to have  
- some one near you

Now Alfie when you feel to com-  
-plain at my short letters just count  
the words on a page write often & tell  
all your troubles & trials to

Your loving Mother  
M. D. Waters

Eric Co

Edinburgh Pa

ing with Henry's voice & ears kept trying to put his hat on her head & at last threw it at her. Henry said "shant I stop that?" She said "I dont have a fuss he is drunk & a stranger to me let us not mind it when they come around again he threw his overcoat right over her head. The next dance she danced with

Edinboro Jan 20 1880

My dear Alfred

Well I suppose by this time you have come to the concluegion that I am not going to write you again. But that is a mistake as witness this sheet of paper. Well since last Thursday I've been having an old time with a cold in the head (you know what that means maybe) and last night (having yesterday taken a fine addition to my cold) & when I began to write I intended writing to both my boys & I generally write your letter first but I thought Bentley's would be the hardest to write & I'd write it first but before I had got through, my head took on so I could hardly finish it, & did not write near all I intended. Sunday P.M. Harry called on me & while here told me he had a long letter in his pocket to send you so I think you would hear from it & probably ~~you~~ at the news notwithstanding. I am going to write it all over again. I suppose Harry told you he had hired out to Stamford & began work on or before the first of April & He expects that L.H. will be as mad as a Hornet wanted to know if I knew any thing about the bargain between them & he. Well one day last week at noon Miss Nelly Burchfield went down to Bill Campbell & wanted

& comfort - to a sad lonely & homesick soul  
So it has already accomplished a blessed mission  
I hope you get time to study each day for a time  
& remember that without earnestness no man is ever  
great or can do great things & also remember when you

Mrs Campbell to let Lizzy to go home with her  
when school was out - & stay all night - Mrs Campbell  
consented & they went back to school at night - Lizzy  
went home with Nell & asked Mrs B to let Nell go  
home with her & stay all night - She did so The girls  
went down as far as Uncle Alex Hamiltons who  
has two students rooming there. The girls went to  
the students room & stayed there until between three  
& 4 o'clock in morning when (report says) Uncle Alex  
went up to their room found them all gone in bed  
& Uncle Alex tried to have the girls go home & they  
would not go & he said if they did not leave he  
would go & have their Father come for them They  
sawed him & stayed Alex & George started for B's  
& Leo & while they were gone the girls got up dressed  
& ran over to Misses or Sally Ann the other to the Miss  
girls who are cousins of the Campbells. She told the  
Miss girls the team was going to come & she came up  
thus early for the sake of the girls. Report says Mrs  
Campbell horse whipped his girl & took her out of  
school (any way she has left school) while there is no  
further report from Nell Thus much for scandal

Well last Friday night the Boys had a dance  
in Pounds Hall near bank & Rufus Hawkins came  
there without girls & drunk well then was a young  
Baker girl then with a Mr Potter & she was dance



ing with Henry bore & Cars kept trying to put his hat on her head & at last threw it at her Henry said "shant I stop that?" She said "O dont have a fuss he is drunk & a stranger to me let us not mind it when they came around again he threw his overcoat right over her head. The next dance she danced with Drichell & Cars was in the same set & she had to command (I believe they call it) left with him (Cars) & of course Drichell was away from her when Cars slapped her right across the mouth & her face all swelled up Drichell wanted to fight him & they got hold of him & held him back. Potter wanted to fight him & he was held Dennis McTallen said let me get at him & by that time Poud was up begging them not fight & the rest of the boys was trying to make peace & etc But the Boys say cars cannot come into the ballroom again & Report says that Old man Baker & Son her Father & Brother are keeping their eyes open & when either of them see C. drunk he will catch a drubbing They think they can get much more satisfaction that way than any other The girl is a young girl only 13- Yours of the 18<sup>th</sup> just received I've had your cuff buttons & ring in a little box for three or four day but thought I'd rather mail them myself but it has been so stormy & cold & yesterday & today I've so nearly used up what I've just put it off you know Procrastination &c. I'll either carry or send them to night. I received a letter from Bentley last night or yesterday P.M. which just lifted me right up out of the valley of despondency & raised me up untill I was fairly on the heights of Bliss if the idea is never carried any further it has already done so much good. it brought cheer

& comfort to a sad lonely & homesick soul  
so it has already accomplished a blessed mission  
I hope you get time to study each day for a time  
& remember that without earnestness no man is ever  
great or can do great things & also remember when you  
get to feeling a little homesick that a day to come shows  
longer than a year that's gone & labor with patience untill  
you can look back upon the years of your apprenticeship

If you find any of Mrs A. J. P. Whitneys works or  
Geo. McDonalds, or E. P. Ross, in good shape at the 2<sup>nd</sup>  
hand book store you can send me two or three & I'll send  
you the money paid for them.

Now I have seven pairs of mended cotton socks  
for you & Bentley, now how am I to get them to you?  
or shall I just wait untill Bentley comes. I send you  
cuffs in "Hidden perils" I am going to make you &  
your brother some cuffs after a while now if you have  
any particular shape you would like them, just send me  
a pattern, of course I'll cut them wider than the others  
for you know I had just such a strip to cut the others  
from Tell me do you & Bentley in this cold weather  
wear the warm drawers & does Bentley wear any under  
shirts the cloth for a pair of good drawers only cost  
about 30cts so do not go without them & I can make  
three pairs in a day & make them well now altho if

you will only consider the number of words & the amount  
of scandal in this letter you will think you have  
at least enough for three & so you may count it  
I think or hear of something to write you about every  
day but I know you dont want me to bore your  
eyes out reading my letters I think your eyes would  
be better if you read less novels after lamp light, etc.?  
Your loving Mother M. D. Watts

you need not send  
the checks as strictly  
there time to write them.

into the mind and often  
ache, now I have even tried  
hoping they would be  
better but I am getting

stupid. I will not ask  
of this to anyone for it  
I may come out all right  
and I am sure I don't  
want to trouble any one  
with my troubles, and  
I thought that in a few  
years at most perhaps

they will give out on  
me so that I couldn't work  
over the chair then what  
good would the money  
spent on me be.

From your loving Son  
Wm. H. Wood.

Buffalo Jan 12<sup>85</sup>

Dear Mother:-

Well today is  
Monday and I am begin-  
ning to see my way through  
the immense pile of work I  
found awaiting me one  
week ago today. Since  
which time I have been  
working night and day  
until Saturday Eve.

Today Doctor is  
away and I have a  
parlor full of ladies awaiting  
his return for I expect him  
every moment.

I received your letter  
this morning and having  
nothing else to do I am  
answering it. of course  
there is plenty to do but  
I have to wait until he  
~~decides whether to~~

I got your answer his  
purpose or not. if not  
then I take another trip  
to the dental depot.

Tell people  
that want me to write  
to them that my address  
is ~~14 No. 1st St. Kankakee~~

and that I always answer  
any letters that I may  
receive and am very glad  
to get letters to answer.

I am sorry  
that my view of this  
business is not yours

but I will tell you one of  
my great reasons for not  
thinking it worth time and  
money for me to finish my  
subscription. My eyesight will  
not stand it. I am afraid,

although this is the first  
time I have hinted such a  
thing still it has been in  
my mind for some time  
and I am hoping that  
I may get over the trouble.  
You of course understand  
that it is not a good eye's

very good eyes and eyes  
that will stand consid-  
erable hard use and stand  
it a long while, but my  
eyes have been troubling  
me for some time. They are  
watery every time I step

Edinboro Aug 2<sup>nd</sup> 1888 -

My Boy Alfred.

Your letter came to hand all right - & gave me much satisfaction although it only went to prove what I already knew that there was the material in you that would make a man of my boy. If I could only wait with patience until he came to years of judgement & discretion you have a good mind of your own if you only persist in using it - & do not <sup>?</sup> ~~wait~~ without consideration, ever remembering what an old thief (procrastination) is, & ever keep fighting him

Don't put off getting that diary now  
after you get it neglect it for a day  
Be faithful & respectful to Dr Wood.  
The Boys all think you have just  
a splendid place well you probably  
need even there in Buffalo how  
rapidly the world is rolling on what  
great improvements are being made  
& how fast the age is getting well  
here in Edinburgh, in Samny Hawkins  
we have a living proof of it - five weeks  
ago he married Minnie Drake & now  
they are the happy rejoicing Parents  
of a pair of lusty twin Boys. It may  
be all right with Samny but I don't  
say 'Go thou & do likewise'

I went to a big M & S S picnic  
yesterday & had a good time  
School begins Aug 18. & I shall have  
lots to do before that time after those  
folks move for I shall move into the  
other part of the house write me all you  
know about your Pa

Your loving Mother  
M D Drake

Edinboro Sept-13 1888-

My dear Alfie

Tell Alfie what- can I  
write when there is nothing to write  
You dont- tell me what- Dr Poole says  
about- your taking lectures nor  
~~what- is to be done please let me~~  
know right- away Lem brought- the  
Aerocoal- all right- but- Mr Wards  
folks move in tomorrow & I  
must- finish moving out- which  
will take me two or three days & then  
I'll fix your A coal- I sent- word  
by Lem about- the familye moving  
in they have the front- part- of the  
house & having the front- chamber  
& pay me \$5; for Mrs Ald Mrs  
ward & three grand children two  
girls 15 & 10 years 1 boy 12 or 13 a fine  
family so I am told you know  
I am moved into the best Panny did  
occupy how I wish you could see in to  
night & see how nice & comfortable I am

Grandpa has sold his Titusville property  
for \$500. Pay next-month now all the  
real estate he owns is the house & lot here  
Grandmas daughter has come down  
to spend the winter Grandma is happy  
Lou says you want a new pair of shoes  
& a Hat. Do you want me to send you  
the money? Harry has been saying every  
time I have seen him for the past two  
weeks that you owed him a letter how  
is that? Daisy has two lovely kittens  
both given away as soon as they are  
large enough Don't forget to pick up  
all the stray advertising cards that  
you see flying around loose & save  
them for me Don't spend too much of  
your time with Ed remember time  
is your capital, is very precious &  
flies swiftly so make the best use of  
it - possible It rains nearly all the time  
& I have the rheumatism accordingly  
you say nothing about Pa don't you  
hear from him? I dare not tell you how  
I want to see you

Lou's own Mother  
M. D. Waters





much in it as it is the potatoes are gone & there would  
~~have been enough to have lasted me but it would not~~  
bother me much to go without Harry Pennod says he  
is going to answer your letter the first bit of time he  
gets he is working evenings again so you see he don't  
have much extra time How are you getting on with  
your studies? are you making the best possible use  
of your time Times are very hard no money to be had  
~~nor any work here in Edenton Mrs. Weston is still here~~  
& does not know what she will go back This is the last  
week of school & Miss Bertha Wilson & Miss Stewart are  
coming up to enjoy the same now I want you to write  
me a long letter & tell me all the news & what your  
prospects are I feel very tired & weary of all my  
~~troubles & anxieties~~ but I shall try & bear <sup>them</sup> with all  
the courage I can muster waiting for my boys

Your loving waiting mother  
M. J. Water

Edinburgh February 12 1855

~~My Dear Mother~~

Well I got just so far on a letter to you last Thursday evening & had to give it up. I had a bad headache all day but towards night it turned into a sick headache & I was good for nothing so you failed to get your letter. There is to be lots of moving about this spring. Mrs Hart has sold her house & lot to Parker Lehaite. Stiff has traded his house & lot to Mrs Baker the carpenter for his farm of 40 acres & good buildings. Lett has rented Johnsons whole building where Dave is & puts his Taylor shop down stairs & his family up stairs. Parker moves into the house. Low now occupies Halsary McAdams moves into his own house having sold his farm. James family move into Bullocks. Bullocks move into Mrs Hollisters next to Grandpas. Mrs Anderson moves onto her farm. Mr Vanleamp moves in when Mrs A moves out. John Nelson Parbell moves into his own house. Hugh Billings moves up stairs into Whipples & I believe Will Wiley leaves town. Donny Atwaters moves back to Edinburgh into his own house. Ald Mr Schnyder moves back into his own house. So you see there is to be some changing about in Edinburgh. Was just one that Parker was going into his own house when Mrs Hart lives next to the wagon shop. Mrs Burchfield & young daughter are here on a visit.

\* Mrs. Winters is just home on a visit. Her Alice  
~~was married last~~ ~~Christmas~~ ~~mas~~ to a Telegraph Operator  
from Bloomington Ill. & started right off to his  
home with his new pair of fine wedding nice presents  
&c &c Now all the news I write you you must of  
course tell Bently for I shall not write it right  
over again. Mrs. Habel has been down & went home  
to day. There has been an Auctioneer here from  
~~some where~~ with a large stock of all kind of goods  
& he is doing a big business I am making a  
rag & shall be for the next six months. For I hope  
just as quick as Spring opens (& may it be soon) to  
hunt up some more profitable occupation. Grandpa  
is well he is having no trouble whatever with his  
back & feels well but complains that he is losing  
his sight. In less than three weeks school will be  
out & the students gone & I shall miss them very  
much & miss the warm stove pipe to go to bed & get up  
by. But it will thin be March & April soon follows & what  
then? Are you studying hard are you doing your  
~~best~~ ~~your~~ ~~best~~? For the better you do the sooner  
I shall have you & I ~~am~~ ~~waiting~~. Tell Mrs. Stephens  
that she will find that boys are ever so much the  
nicest. Bently will have to wait for his letters write.

Your loving waiting Mother

M. D. Waters  
Edinburgh