

Tuesday afternoon

Alton Aug. 8th 1881

Dear Mrs. Truel,

You have been in
my thoughts all day, as I have
recalled the hour just thirteen
years ago. You know this is
the anniversary of Mother's
death. I have just finished a
letter to father, who at that time
would have expected him to be
so long. Your very kind letter
was most welcome, & made
me long to see you some time
soon. It is just mean that we are
so far apart. I am wholly
unconciled. & what will you
please tell me is the reason
we didn't run up & down
when we lived in Kenton.

Cord. much for styls. us

when we had an ~~interesting~~ ^{interesting} fever, was all
just one week. I know the loss of such a
young child must seem very slight, still we
feel it a great disappointment, & especially here
with strangers, of our last five children only
Thomas is left. He is a robust boy, was eighteen
months old the day Paul was born. This
afternoon Mary likes going with him & her father
for a drive off in the other part of the parish.
Mary is a great help & comfort though at times
I get downright vexed with some of her ways
which you will understand, because you have
owned just such another. If the baby had been
born the grandchild of the 10th of June ~~it would~~
have been a birth day present for Mary (eleven years)

just because we knew we could
keep putting it off & suppose
I am not at all contented
here in Altus, it is a most
uninviting place to live. The
climate is something terribly
right on the Mississippi river &
malaria regis. It is hotter here
every season than in New
Orleans. This season has been
worse than ever, & has seemed
as if we should melt. I never
was warmer before. My baby was
born the 10th of June, & we had
then had six weeks summer, after
it was terrible, for eleven days it
scarcely changed from 100° to 105° in
the shade. I have not been well
since I came, before the baby came
I had all sorts of malarial
symptoms, which afterward
caused his death. He was a
robust, healthy child, & grew &
thrived until the extreme weather

came. Much for style. The

Don't you think I have been rather busy, during
the last year we have been married, with
nine children, & eight more, & having lived in
five different places I think I may aptly expect
to be just good for nothing, I don't think it quite well until
this last & now I find myself growing old, or something
everything seems all mixed up, & I haven't any
interest in things here I fail to get up any Tom says
he don't feel he is old, but I tell him I know he
does, and how he is getting real gray, He looks very
gray, Has two full servants & 4 horses, 4000
dances fifteen miles to Concordville for evening
service, where he stays all night, so I don't see
how from two o'clock Sunday afternoon until
Monday sometime, Sundays is the time you & Lucy
ought to be here, Oh what does it seem to me &

It is a real comfort to me to think of that little
bit with you, I did enjoy those few hours face
to face, even if we were both in a sort of dilemma
regarding morning, do you know I think it is
disagreeable to be forced morning, I laugh to think
of you being conscience in Brooklyn, when you
can so easily get to see your friends, Tell Anna
she knows nothing about being conscience,
I am glad to hear from Mrs. Beck always
remember me to her, Father is now in Concord,
we expect Mary Davis to be back in Allen
next winter, she will be here next summer,
Bennie has been here for a month or so, but

as you are
can. much for style. As

returned to Iowa, as she has a position for writing
in an insurance office there. She had to go & I
have her, & sometime I hope to have her back to
stay. All the children are anxious Emma should
come, especially Mary & Sam. M. says she like
her better than any one who come to visit, &
I talk to the children of you all. Mary is real
good company, you would enjoy her, I am sure.
I am fairly sure since you shot in your home,
& would not I love to go in later evening, I wish you
could write often, Emma & I shall cherish you think
of us if you words are few. It is too late & I must
get the children together to wash face & hands &c.
The days are growing shorter, I can scarcely see to
write. Love to you all - from us all.

Frank

not strike her desirable, or be
convenient; however tell Em. I send
her heart with an elegantly gotten
up gilt edged invitation to come,
We can have a good time I know.
All the children will be off to school
but Thomas. We have a perfect ark
of a house, & a really beautiful
yard & grounds. Tell Em we are
a mile from the town & every
body; she will understand how
very we would be for this. we are
not in the country but Allen
spreads out. We got this house
accidentally, the owners abroad.
It is immense, just the sort of
a house for a parson, who has
been living in furnished rectories.
we have minister's rooms & five
staircases, scattered around; tell
her if she does come to please
bring a few set of furniture &
parlor carpet (ingram will do) it
only takes 79 yds. to cover them.

It is a real comfort to me to think of that little
visit with you, I did enjoy those few hours face
to face, even if we were both in a sort of dilemma
regarding morning do you know I think it is
disagreeable to be frozen morning. I laugh to think
of your being so uncomfortable in Brooklyn, when you
came so easily get to see your friends, tell Anna
she knows nothing about being so uncomfortable.
I am glad to hear from Mrs. Beck always
remember me to her, Father is now in Brooklyn
we expect Mary Davis to teach in the
next winter, she will be here next summer,
Benie has been here for a month or so, but

Falls Church Va
Nov 4 1880.

Dear Mrs. Fored.

Your pleasant letter of 26th Oct.
was left for Frank to answer
but she bids me this morning
write you a line to say she
doesn't know when she will get
a chance to write, that you
are just as likely to see her
as she is to write, so I might
as well take the pen - that is
I suppose there is no probability
of action for we have no def-
inite plans as yet. Her time
is taken up with getting our
cave to rights, in order to sit
anwhile[®] and sew and then sleep
again. Could you look in upon
us you would not think we
care much for style. As

Long as the children keep well
and ourselves too we can stand
it, especially in pleasant weather.

We eat "across the street" at Aunt
Hannah's where I am now writing.

"All things are relative" my dear
Mrs. Lloyd, while you seem
I have "come down" if you compare
your present quarters with some
you have had in past years,
yet could you look in upon us
at present you would rejoice
in your comforts, as we do when
we look in upon some of
these Negro hovels about
here. I've been tempted to
measure some of these houses
for I don't think they are
less than 5 x 8 ft square.

They are the hobbiest set of
folk you can imagine, and
now that Garfield is said

to be elected, they cry & one another
in the fields "Hurrah for Harrison"
and then follow by the most
satisfactory "Yoh! Yoh!" you
ever heard.

Our next neighbor is a Mrs
Graham who has five children. She
is the daughter of B. Southgate
and has gotten used she says to
discomfort and dirt. We try
to be content not with, but in,
the surroundings. Enough our-
selves. We are glad to know you
are comfortably moved and
hope to see you in your new
quarters soon, that is I do.
Our prospects are so vague at
present that I should not men-
tion them. Hope you will
all find a church home at
the same place - Wish you were
not so far from St. Mary's

you would find that next to Holy
Communion, and Dr Johnson, is
as much like Dr Vinckelburg as

another man can be. The Good
Shepherd is so near and con-
venient that those things ought
to overbalance many others. What
a comfort that the Church Service
brings in so much of the Spirit
and blessing the real work of the
soul, is always the same whether the min-
istry is, or not. "Other foundation
can no man lay than is laid, which
is Jesus Christ" which is true though
some men will preach that the Church
is the foundation.

The children are out of doors most of the time, in the woods & fields.
The girls are well & growing finely. Frank joins in love
to you all. Hope Emma will write. Don't wait for
us. We depend on the daily mail.

Very affly

W. H. Harrison.

This is a private letter printed for convenience, not intended for publication.

Diocese of Springfield.

MADISON COUNTY MISSION.

Of the sixty counties in the Diocese of Springfield, alluded to in
the accompanying circular letter, Madison is one of the earliest settled
and most densely populated.

Nearly fifty years ago the church was planted at three points within
its borders, Alton, Edwardsville and Collinsville, but from various
causes it has maintained a feeble and uncertain existence, and its
voice and ministrations have exerted but a minimum influence upon
the community. In Edwardsville, the county seat, it had entirely
ceased, the church edifice mortgaged and sold, and the congregation
scattered or lapsed to infidelity.

The chief causes of failure here in my judgment, have been, *first*,
the effort to establish parishes when the elements necessary to a self-
supporting and healthful parish are wanting, or to maintain a paro-
chial existence, when from any cause its necessary supports have been
removed; and *second*, the want of support and sympathy from the
church in the east.

The first lies with the Bishop and clergy of the Diocese to remedy.
Not a new parish has been organized in the Diocese of Springfield.
As fast as possible the Bishop is giving to his clergy mission and
jurisdiction over a *definite territory* comprising one or more counties,
with head-quarters usually at the county seat, to reach out to surround-
ing towns by occasional stated services, and visiting isolated church
families.

The details of such work and ministrations are more laborious, ex-
pensive and difficult of accomplishment than one would at first sup-
pose. Travelling expenses, the care of the family of the clergy in the
absence of the father, the association of two or more clergy together
at the central point, the necessary facilities for mission work are
practical matters which at this long distance from the base of supply,
and among a careless and unsympathetic multitude are not easy of
solution. But experience has demonstrated that to oscillate a lone man
between two or three places to starve mentally—ofttimes physically,—
while the attempted missions or parishes sometimes melt away under
this divided and ineffectual ministration, is ruinously expensive and
unsatisfactory.

For this vigorous and concentrated effort by which we may be able
to minister to others in spiritual things, we must look, and for some

time to come, to the support and sympathy of friends to whose heart the Church's honor, welfare and usefulness are most dear.

Madison county, one of the sixty of the Diocese, is 756 square miles in extent, and contains over 50,000 people. There are some twenty or more cities and villages, while the intervening country is dotted with farms. The parishes at Collinsville and Alton, are occupied, and are as useful as feeble, decrepit, untaught parishes can be expected to be.

Last winter, on coming to Alton, Madison county was intrusted to my charge. I found St. Paul's parish, once the largest and strongest in Illinois outside of Chicago, almost dead. The church building, a fine large one of stone, sadly dilapidated. The feeble life is maintained and somewhat revived. The edifice has been put in repair. The congregation, small but fairly faithful at worship, is increasing. A grammar school is in operation in temporary quarters, and a lot secured next the church for a permanent structure.

At North Alton, two miles distant, is a vigorous, useful mission among a population of coal miners and poor people. The Sunday School is large, the baptisms numerous, the work encouraging, healthful, and effective. The only other Christian effort in the village, which is full of saloons and wickedness, is an uncertain, feeble Baptist organization without a pastoral head. Our mission is possessed of a neat consecrated building of wood, sufficiently large for present purposes, and now under the government of St. Paul's Parish, Alton. It ought to be detached, come under the Madison County Mission, and have the undivided attention of a clergyman, with the auxilliary help of a parish school. The widow of the late Senior Warden, of the Parish, offers her furnished house, hard by the Chapel, for a small nominal rental, to any clergyman who will come there and work.

At Edwardsville, sixteen miles distant, I found matters as stated above. The substantial brick church erected at a cost of about \$5,000, bargained for to the Romanists. Through private sources, and a loan from the American Church Building Fund Commission I was enabled to buy the certificate of purchase for \$2,188, a few days before the expiration of the redemption period. The church was reopened, and all summer I have driven over and held evening service there every Sunday. Edwardsville, named after, and the residence of the first governor of the State, is a city of some political and literary celebrity, having a population of about 3,000 souls. It is said that now, not twenty-five men in the place attend public worship anywhere. The field is ripe for the harvest. It must be garnered or burned. There is no church organization at all. The parish has

gone to pieces. A man under the mission authority must be sent to them and sustained with *power* as well as authority to stay and bear testimony to the Lord among them untrammelled.

Besides these places where work is already begun, there are Troy, St. Jacobs, Highland, Saline, New Douglas, Bethalto, Upper Alton and others, besides smaller settlements and school districts at present never visited, but which we aim to reach regularly and systematically, preaching the Word and administering to such as will receive it.

Thus far the "Madison County Mission" has been (except for a brief period) myself alone. A brother joined himself last spring, but failing voice and health soon compelled him to retire greatly to my regret. The mission has received for its work \$652.45 from outside sources, without which the little that has been done could not have been accomplished.

St. Paul's, Alton, re-opened; the grammar school to be maintained and pushed; the North Alton Mission; Edwardsville; together with the other points mentioned to be occupied by itinerant service are active works which to grow and be effective must receive the attention of more than one man.

I have sufficiently stated that the object of these local county missions is to face the facts of the work to be done, and to meet it if possible by persistent, vigorous, constant going from town to town, and house to house, preaching the truth as it was delivered in Galilee and Jerusalem, but having a fixed church home and centre in each one of the counties as the Apostles did at Jerusalem.

This is now the purpose of our heart and the effort of our lives. It will be sufficiently clear that to be accomplished the Lord must move the hearts of others to be like minded to co-operate by steady and regular supplies of those things which are the necessities of this life.

May He who has given us the grace to do His Will, give us also the heart to endure, and the power to do it, whatever that Will may be.

THOS. W. HASKINS,

In charge of Madison County Mission.

The following was passed at a meeting of the Diocesan Board of Missions:

"Resolved, That the thanks of this board are due, and are hereby tendered to the friends in the East who have kindly assisted in the work of the church in the Madison County Mission, under the direction of the Rev. Thos. W. Haskins."

10 The Board of Missions of the Diocese of Springfield, feels compelled, by the rapid increase of the demands on its treasury, to appeal to its friends for aid. In the technical sense, this is not a missionary diocese; that is, its Bishop is not selected by the House of Bishops, nor does he receive any salary out of the common fund of the church, as do the Missionary Bishops. In every other sense it is as truly missionary as Utah or Colorado, with the important difference that they have at present a small and sparse population, while here we have the millions already on the ground. The millions of whom they speak, are yet to be; the millions for whom we plead are now here. Some single counties of the Diocese of Springfield contain more population than the whole missionary jurisdiction of Montana or Washington Territory. Though the church has been long established in Illinois, this southern portion of the State has received hitherto comparatively little attention. Of the sixty counties embraced in the diocese of Springfield, with an aggregate population of 1,300,000, thirty-six had in 1877 no service of the church within their limits. This number has now been reduced to twenty-eight. The established parishes are weak in numbers and resources. Only one clergyman in the diocese receives a salary exceeding \$1,000 a year, and not half a dozen receive so much. Yet, with such slender means, very important results have been accomplished in the three years during which our Bishop has been among us. The number of clergy has increased from sixteen to forty-three; 858 persons had been confirmed up to the 1st of November, 1881. A school of high grade for young ladies has been established, and four grammar schools at different points. A home for destitute children has been established in the See city, old work has been revived in many places, and new work begun in eight counties where none existed before. Special mention may be made of the work centered at Champaign. In this vicinity ten missions have been organized in three years; eighty-three communicants have increased to two hundred and four-

teen; four clergymen have taken the place of one; the number of church buildings has increased from two to four, and the hearers in a five-fold ratio.

The diocese is traversed by a net-work of railroads, along which are strung at short intervals, towns of from 500 to 5,000 population, in every one of which services could be maintained if once vigorously started. There are some important centres which should at once be strongly occupied. Such is Edwardsville, in Madison county, the focus of a population of upwards of 50,000 souls. Here a neat and substantial church has been redeemed from the hands of the Romanists, and now awaits the labors of a missionary. DuQuoin, Carbondale and McLeansboro are other points of importance in the southern part of the diocese. At the last named point a handsome brick church is soon to be consecrated, the fruit of one year's faithful labor. Belleville, a city of 15,000 inhabitants, has had a resident missionary for only a few months. A church must soon be built there.

Our appeal is not for square miles, nor for prospective empires, but for much more than half of that State which, in point of population, is the fourth in the Union; for a teeming mass of active and intelligent people, given over in a frightful degree to secularism, infidelity, and often blank atheism. The church must prove the salt of this people, nothing else will save them. Can and will you come to our aid in the effort to accomplish this blessed work?

GEORGE F. SEYMOUR, Bishop of Springfield,

J. D. EASTER, Dean of Bloomington, Rector of Jacksonville,

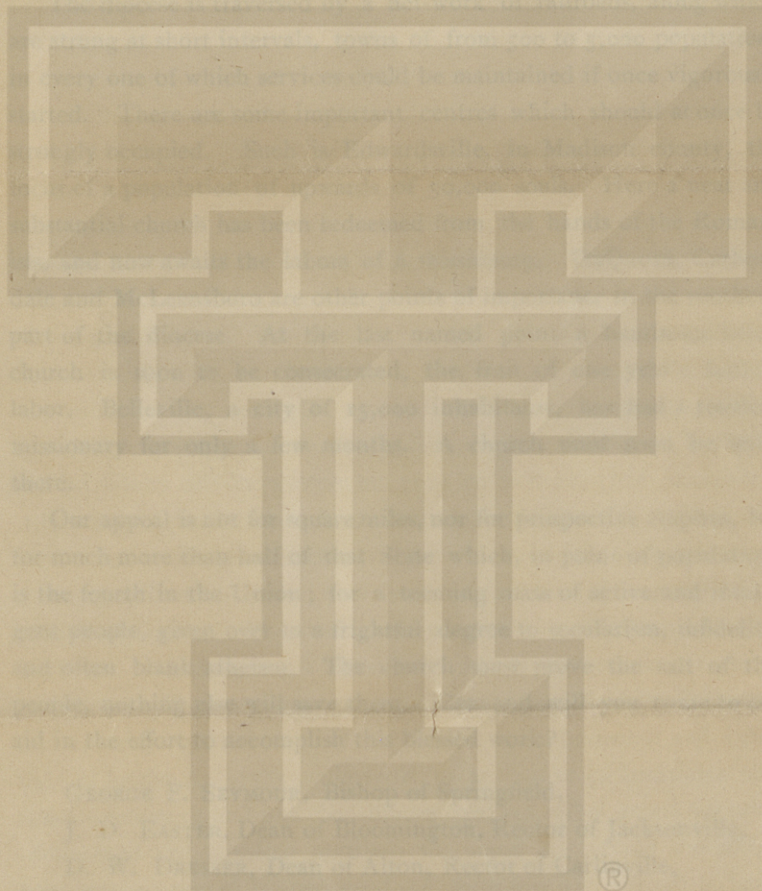
D. W. DRESSER, Dean of Alton, Rector of Carlinville,

WM. C. HOPKINS, Rector of Champaign,

THOS. W. HASKINS, Rector of Alton,

Special Committee of the Diocesan Board of Missions.

SPRINGFIELD, ILL.



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Special Committee of the Division Board of Education

Chicago, Ill.

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