Ellison and Lottie Hildreth Papers

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Dear Aunt Belle,

B.B.B. in a letter I had from him the other day suggested that I write up Union in a pretty complete way and have someone in the family send it along with the Round Robin so I'm asking you if you will do it. You and B.B. have indicated your interest. No one else need read this unless they choose.

In the first place this couldn't possibly be complete, but I'll try to make it show what I am doing as much as possible. So I'll begin by describing yesterday, a day far from typical, but a good deal nearer than the average to what I ought to do. It was a holiday, and at 7:00 I began on Augustine's Confessions, reading 5 books = 49 good sized pages in about 3 hrs. Then lunch and four more books = 32 pages from 1:30 to 5:00. Then I went for a walk after dinner I wrote two letters. They studied theology and content some notes...
and got to bed about 11 P.M. Augustine's confessions I found more interesting than expected, especially B. K. 9, telling of his conversion. But in some places especially where he discusses the foolish beliefs of the sect he formerly belonged to, I had great difficulty in keeping awake. One passage read over I think 4 or 5 times and each time in spirit of greatest efforts my mind would wander when I was about 2/3 done and I finally gave it up as a bad job. And when I told B. B. that theology at 10:15 P.M. was fascinating he'll understand that I didn't care much for Augustinian. Perhaps someone else will be interested to know that these confessions are said to be by far the most interesting work we have read in that subject, and we have 200 pages to read and thus far 2 have averaged between 18 and 13 pages an hour.

I considered yesterday a hard day. Today was an easy one. Four lectures in the morning 9.00 to 12.00 teachings of Jesus, 10. Church History. 11. Life Work of Modern Missionary. 12. Theology. 1.00 Lunch. After lunch I read a chapter in Maltby's Post-Trib. The one describing the conversion...
My degree is in computer science. I am currently working at a tech start-up company, where I am responsible for developing and maintaining software applications. My role includes writing code, debugging issues, and collaborating with other developers. I am passionate about problem-solving and finding new ways to optimize performance. In my free time, I enjoy reading about technology and attending conferences to stay up-to-date with the latest trends. I am also involved in a community outreach program, where I tutor students in computer science.
especially bothersome chapters. Most of them involve a great deal of looking up Scripture. We are supposed to read that book, and ought to read two or more authors to get varying points of view; then the thousands of pages of "sources," and a paper to write. That course has 4 of my 15 hrs. Somewhat worse are Teachings of Jesus, and of John, two hours each. The former permits me to read Matt, Mark & Luke in the Greek; Psalms of Solomon and Testament of the 12 Patriarchs, in translation (I don't know how many pages). Schirner, Jewish People in Time of Christ, (part of it) 387 pages; Wenden's Teachings of Jesus, 2 vols. 408 + 414 pages respectively; and a paper. The subject I have chosen is Jesus's conception of spirits and the spirit. John offers the reading of the 4th Gospel and the Epistles in Greek. Ignatius & Polycarp, 51 and 6 pages respectively (fortunately I have to read those in ch. 11. I think 50). Weiss, a book about the age of Wenden and Scott, which I haven't looked up. And the paper I am going to write on the Theology is not quite so bad. One can get along with almost no work on that.
is exactly the thing on which I would like to specialize this year if I had time. I'm homilies 2 have to write a sermon outline a week. Also read social message — and..

Koestler's Christianity and the social crisis. I'm not sure whether any reading is required but there is a paper to write. And the idea of it is to think of the most of opportunity going to waste because a man literally hasn't time to avail himself of it.

I am getting on better because I am learning to accomplish things as the rest of the men do. Last year was a sort of a dreamy contemplative existence like Venice, compared to Broadway. If a lesson was too long we used to do part of it. Here, the ordinary man does the whole of it, no matter how long, and it's a continual wonder to me how some men get the work done. I have more cause every day to be grateful that I left Rochester. In the last analysis, no matter how much the courses might be...
improved. I had the feeling that the atmosphere of Rochester was unfavorable to scholarly work. I am more convinced of it than ever now. Then I was comparing it with Amherst, which also has the recitation system. I believe in the system for a college, but not for a graduate school. When I compared Rochester recitation with Amherst, they were not so good. But here we have the lecture system. The whole class hour we are learning, and the time outside is spent in reading to see what we can get out of it. At Rochester the preparation was to make a recitation, and the recitation was often hopelessly useless. In 7 of my 13 hrs. The ordinary recitation was time thrown away. I need to write letters, which I could have done better in my own room, but never missed anything by not paying attention for there was nothing to miss. And 7/15 is a pretty big proportion in required courses. There are courses here which are not much good. But they are not required. And there is only one man whom everyone acknowledges the poor; he was very good in his day.
but is expected to be retired any day. The two men at Rochester are comparatively young; one rests on his oars and there's positively no hope of his getting any better; the other works like a Trojan.

And the only reason his no better is because he hasn't it in him to be a teacher; the first was a failure as a preacher; one of his parishioners endowed a chair on condition that Mason occupy it as long as he live. The other was a failure as a preacher; his father is president of the Seminary. His sister-in-law is a Rockefeller and his uncle gave the new dormitory. Each is a most excellent man; Mason being a most gentleman and strong having one of the sweetest spiritual names I ever knew; each is an absolute failure as a teacher. That each was a failure as a preacher I have on the testimony of my own fast and the wife of a Springfield man who graduated from Rochester. There is no prospect of losing either; they are young; no one will ever want them for anything else. And they have comfortable positions and congenial surroundings. One of the men who came with the here is engaged to the daughter of Rev. J. H. Stilson of Somerville, a Rochester graduate.
who insisted he was to go to Rochester instead of Newton. Wrote an introduction to Mr. Strong — and has been invited to be an orator at Stanley's commencement at Rochester (if he will graduate there). At the anniversaries the Beverly minister told him that 3 men were going to leave Rochester, and intimated that he didn't blame them. Rev. N. G. was mad, and was going to write to Mr. Strong at once. He decided to wait till he got home, when he sent for Stanley and began to go for him. Stanley immediately opened fire in return, and talked him to a complete standstill. In fact so much so that his "fa.-in-law" agreed to the (then) plan of his going to Union for a year and then returning to R. to graduate. We all faced the question (had to) whether a man could get a Baptist church on graduating from Union, especially leaving itself to do it. My answer was that I would rather be a live thinking man without a church (or rejected by the mission board) than the useless thing I knew I would become if I stayed, with Rochester's trade mark of orthodoxy to give a false impression for Rochester's conservatism and Union's liberalism are equally exaggerated. Stanley Roberts and Fred Soule...
answered it by saying they would go back to Rochester. But it is becoming more and more apparent that that answer won’t do. I can’t go back to Rochester; to do that would be intellectual suicide for me, and I don’t believe they can when the time comes.

Even now they are wavering. And Fred admits that the only reason for returning is that he can get some fairly good courses if he does and get the support courses if the opposition of Rochester instead of the opposition of that consideration, but with me it is not sufficient. If I am rejected by the Baptist mission board, I am prepared to go under some other; failing that, if I can’t get a Baptist church, I am prepared to take a Congregational or most any kind of work, settlement work, teaching, or most any thing that offers the opportunity of doing good.

I have no ambition to speak for lectures in this, but feel sure she would agree with me in it.

When I started this letter I meant it for a Round Robin, but before I had written a page, changed my mind and wrote just for you and C.B. Won’t you please send it to him when you see him and ask him to send it to Lotte when she has finished. The rest of the family wouldn’t be
interested in most of it. I'll write one in a different style for them if they wish. And I have said quite a number of things I wouldn't say to any but you two—and so this.

Wont you both please criticize anything you find in the letter to blame—or to praise. I always realize when I write or say anything of this kind that I am young and may not look at things in the right light and proportion. At the same time I feel very strongly what I have said. If there is anything wrong please tell me so. And please, if you love me, both of you, put it straight. If there is anything you find to criticize, say exactly what you mean without regard to what my feelings may be. There are not many people to whom I would say this. I wouldn't to you two if I didn't mean it.

Now replying to your letter. Chas. Buell Jr. Halle is our president and I wasn't start to tell you how much I like him. I hope it would be another letter as long as this already. I should be surprised indeed if you didn't like his book.
Haven't read it. I just wish you could hear him. I really believe you would. (If his preaching is at all like he is here) like him better than anyone else you ever heard. That's saying considerable. We all fully realize. I'll try to find out about his other books for you. I don't see how a man as busy as he has time to write any books though.

 Lovingly,

Ellison

700 Park Ave
New York City

Nov. 6 1907

P.S. 8 to 9:30 and I shall have just about time for another chapter of "Social Message."
Dear Aunt Alice and others:

I am writing with my fountain pen again and I am so glad to have it. I guess it has been out of use for the greater part of at least a year. Yesterday when I came in, I found not only the pen but a little package from Miss Burnham (Canada), containing a pair of white knitted mittens to wear with elbow sleeves. They are dainty and warm and I have already enjoyed them much.

This week has been somewhat unusual. I tried to visit Albany Normal but they were having semester exams. We had exams and in consequence I have been able to write 27 letters since Monday morning and even a little on a small gift for Irene.

On Thursday evening we had a faculty
Concert and the violin members were very perfectly beautiful. They made me see all the beautiful ocean and sunsets and all the wonderful sights which I saw this vacation.

On Friday evening we went to the basket-ball game. It was between two girls' teams in the same school and the boys sang songs for them and cheered. It was too funny! But very interesting and made me feel very anxious to play again. It was nice to get away from school atmosphere for awhile too. Many thanks are all made out for this semester. It doesn't seem possible that a half year's work is done.

You know the beautiful calendar which Kattie made for me my freshman year at college. It is priceless.

The other night at table the girls were trying to find out my first name and somebody suggested that it might be Louis Lane. I have had to stand a good bit of teasing this week.
EMMA WILLARD SCHOOL
TROY, NEW YORK

I may possibly find it necessary to go to New York for the 22nd about a position next year. This changing is expensive business.

Don't be frightened if I should turn up some day. Things are not particularly secure here. There is no use in explaining to you what all side with me I'm sure and I'll await developments.

Don't till Papa that my fountain has arrived yesterday and that the tell must have come to him and I will send money if he will tell me cost and also about my watch. I will write him about spoons later. I will tell Miss Henley who wanted to know about them.

Darn pleased with all of George's marks except the History exam and hope that he will try to improve them. Ruths are good too. I am very glad that the boys are going to church. It will please Papa and everybody.

What was the matter with Uncle Charlie?

Feb 2 '08. Love to everybody. Lotte.
Bridgewater Farm
Sept. 26-1905.

My own dear Lottie has a birthday tomorrow and I wish her many many happy returns. She tells me she goes to see some relations. They have been good to us on that St. Nicholas day, literally six years ago, when they left you in that little back room in Halifax and they never wrote back. Did you, my sister? They didn't choose a very elegant
place but they did chose the very best family in all the world or anything the family that needed you most. Did you glad they left you there instead of in some mansion?

I’m glad the birthday comes on Saturday and hope you can celebrate in some way that will do you some good. Has Ellicott returned from his rambles yet? If so he may help you. By the way I would like to know more about some ramblers. A pretty card from Mr. Washington has told us all we know. He will soon be back in New York. If he is not there already and how are you everything to get in all the good things he will want. You to share with him? I hope the work will grow easier as you go on, but I know there will always be more than any one can do. Love to you.
self-t-get-ron and
with it will you hear
your heart is too func-
rious a thing to be
sacrifice for any
school board, and
if they are demand-
ing more than any
one ought to do—just
give it up. What-should
become cowardly, and
it would really be
the bravest thing you
could do. It would re-
suire ten times more
courage than I would
be able to and make
a wreck of yourself.

Yours Lovingly

Start Celi.
Bridgewater
Feb. 27, 1887.

Dear Ellison,

I know my debt-see that from a distant land. I want to be learned, all the same. I can't think of being gone for it. Then I gave many years ago, hence the embossed. I wonder where Lottie is today. Her York. For Rockford, you have had a happy year together so far.
you? And now you
line of special prepa-
rization for life's work
is nearing its end.
Are you looking
forward with lev-
try anticipations
embracing the great
army of bread-won-
ners? I hope you
will find the ac-
ual struggle baffling and
inspiring.
Letter will tell
me, when I see the
letter next week, how it
is going and you
feel when you feel...
like I and can write
I showed like I received
a letter "from your own
hand."

Lovingly yours

[Signature]
Dear Lottie—

Here I sit on the back sofa—mad all the time because Miss C. wants everything all chintzy. Isn't that a very good word in which I write a built-in letter? is it? I don't often rebel at her tetches—indeed she doesn't often insist on them—but we do differ about the amount of fresh air one needs. It is horribly muggy, but I claim that damp, fresh air is better than damp, fake air.

But is home from school now 10 A.M. Unde—what fire! Friday is her easy day—only German. You know, as you not, that she has dropped biology—writing and dramatics. All who were middle-class thought she could not get enough in one year to—benefit her. I am very glad for Marion's sake—for she is quite a little time 2—help her now and the poor girl needs her help badly. She is the biggest kid of 2 comfort 15—and I feel sure it is going to be well that she is here from all sides. Tom has been home the last few months—an almost un-expected thing. Marion was very happy with him. She协同 to—shall she.
ever was in the air when she was so little. So with Pink and the baby, and his own good wishes we have high hopes. The baby grows

dears every day, weighs eleven pounds

now, and is full of and fair. I have

For says she believes I must not

and I am not. I do. It is right—

childhood, and beauty. They are

divine equalities. Little Event has

been over it, and his daily portion of

lemon jelly. I mean I. I had the

safely equal of the demand.

Hadn't I seen in your mother's

living. And on the way, came near

him again. He is just as brown and

straight as ever—and his features have

reappeared, even him. I think he has

been looking for his log—and I

can't choose it. I was just up for him
to be separated so long. C.B. says I

will never suffer again. The little

he had changed as much as his

own mind was so that we hardly

felt that we had seen him and your

mother's agent. The same, one from

themselves. The Monday morning. But these

glimpses reflect us.

Hem and little Horace came a few

days yesterday. We will stay till Sunday

I believe. I must get into a clean dress

and run down to see him for a few

minutes. Her keeper and is later.
I think, as of Dell's for the present.

Dear, dearie, misses you all

happiness cost your birthday, and

praying that there may be many

many relations, I am

from loving Ann Cale.

Do expense the balance please I know

have drawn it over the inky spot.
Dear Sir,

I believe this is the first time the favor
in which I have written to you since I returned from
Boston, Oct. 8th, 1907

began to stir the flame of hope. I cannot imagine
how I can find the time to do it. When it isn't
washing or mending there's a whole lot of mending
that must be done. I have many things to learn -
I wanted to make white shirts myself, but I have
from white shirts myself. The idea of the embroidered
shirt is not worth the effort. I remember for myself in a dress that
good that I don't have to buy new clothes that
work. I wondered where she found an extra dollar
that could be turned in that direction.

We are having nice quiet times. Baby is so good
and together so beautiful in behaviors as well as looks
that I don't feel burdened at all. Since last
year was all weeds, so delightful this is going to
be much better. I feel so well that nothing
troubles me. I actually wanted to scrub my kitchen
floor this week, but Aunt Alice came in in time to
show me the folly of my ways - so I think that done
shall do part of the cleaning instead.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]
Did you hear that She's little girl came Friday morning—just nine weeks after mine.

She's a dear little baby—very fat. I'd like to lose another right off when I see her, she's so dear. Only I could never have a tiny baby girl—it seems. Mine seem all grown up.

Certainly this little fellow knows a whole lot. He smiles beautifully and goes—tells all the stories.

She will write more later.
Dear Nettie., I hope Rich or Della have let you know that your check came all right and was gratefully received by all three of us. My eyes asked so much last week I couldn't use them for anything, and was afraid I should have to go to Dr. At any rate, things are much better now, so I think the extra trouble was caused by biliousness. I had the impression that there were no more checks to come this way. You are sure you are not sending too many aren't you?

It is such a stifled morning (though just now it is brighter than I have been for 36 hours) and I am more stifled than the morning ever. It is 10 o'clock & it is really my first hour since yours came last night. More came this morning though I made the letter-carrier look for me twice. I was so sure yours must be there. It is all right. It may be all the rice now or possibly you didn't. I started so early as usual.

You have been so good & and us some of E. S. His letters and he wrote me one himself last week. Please thank him for me and tell him I appreciate it last year and be sure.
good I know about this work, I'm so glad he is enjoying it so much, and keeping so busy. He certainly has my sympathy, and thas sometimes makes parents. It takes all kinds even on a small scale like that doesn't it? Wasn't I fine that you could see New York in its gala array? The papers and magazines have been full of it! Of course I haven't read much of it—only a line now and then—and there isn't enough to get a little of the spirit of the occasions. How I must you could have been with me on the trip of our walk and climb through that beautiful woodland road around the foot of the hill. The first time there was a small group, some of whom I knew, and one of whom I knew. But Sunday there were eleven of us, nearly all the family except Bella and Ruth BSP. and I believe Baby enjoyed it as much as any of us. He waded in the stream and walked on the trees and rocks in the sweetness. He is just heavenly grows faster and more beautiful every day and even more wonderful can tell how fine he is. We all think he is more like you than any other child in the family.
Bridgewater, Feb 21-1902.

Dear Lottie—

I'm afraid it is my late request that may be considered as a change of plans for Thanksgiving, but I seem to have awakened to the fact that all your family will be here except your own dear self. You know as a rule I hate holidays and don't think much about them till they are right upon me. Of course I have anticipate seeing your mother and all the others, but didn't realize that you would be the only one who would be far away. Marion suggested some time ago that we all contribute and make you come, and I said, oh, it will be too hard a journey for her to drive for Christmas—ah, I'm sure. But you see I put you in my place and myself in your place when I said, oh, can you follow...
my invited English? # I am not
scheme is for you to take 500
dollars or more if necessary
from the neck-check you
are to send me and come as
just as quickly as you can.
If you have it, lay your leg
bottom oor steel and I will
make it right all this end.
I shall never miss it and it
will hardly be a gift, for it
will simply mean ten dollars more for
you to do for me when you
have got rich teaching the
heathen, and I am feeble
and old, and joinnares.
Have you any engagements
that can't be broken? Then
we must be hushing together
your, but you would not reject my
scheme on any other ground
will you? If I can be kind
I'm not going to say anything
about it. I am not now staying
will not be disappointed if
you don't come, and it will
be a big heartening surprise if you
you know we are all so ex-

al-marious, do you not? it is

well worth the trip just to see our beautiful baby. I

know you will say, as I do that he is absolutely perfect.

If you can come don’t wait.

1-write only come as soon as

you can 2-3 & 2 Summer 81-
your loving

Pind-CKX.

Please forgive the blots. I

suppose it is my unaccus-

use of the pen that makes me

so awkward with it.

L. G. H.