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Letter from October 28, 1889

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Monoponie Oct. 28th, 1889.

My dear Nellie,

Yours dated July 21st reached me Aug. 28th, and was followed with your assurances of forgiveness for delay in writing before. Think I'm doing very well. This time I only waited two months between; but I shall have to confess that your offer of any magazine I may choose, urges me to write as quickly as possible that I may be having the benefit of your timely offer as quickly as possible. I think I should like the Century better than any of the others. I don't know much about the Atlantic but have seen the others and like the Century best. I don't know the prices of them but hope I haven't chosen the highest priced one. I appreciate your kindness in offering me this so generously.
and shall enjoy it as a rich treat. The Sabbath School at home send me the Illinois Christian Weekly and I like it very much. It has some very nice articles and stories beside the general news and the pictures.

You spoke of Clara's expecting to go to Ken. Conference and then seeming late to me in somebody's letter, they said you were hoping it go to. Judging from the articles in the Star and the number of times Reid's letter had to write to explain this and that it would seem strange this Ken. Conference was to be a very important and well attended one, but I was inclined to laugh over the amount of explaining that seemed necessary to inform people about the trains and boats and cars and hotels and so forth. One would think Harriet's ferry was in some sort of the way place. Terribly hard to find or else that it was taken for granted that Rose Balfour didn't get away from their own homes very often. It has become a thing of the past however now and I hope it was all that was expected and worthy of the need of the times. We are waiting for the reports in the Star but shall have to watch two weeks more for the next Star will be dated on the opening day of the Conference. I'm glad to see that Miss English was to sail on Oct. 9th but I wish more were coming too. We heard privately of Mr. Dyer and his wife from Marion Ohio who are coming but we can hardly believe it because we have no mention of it in the Star. It may be they have applied but did not pass a satisfactory examination and the postal informant was too sure and gave this information too person so Dr. Harry Bachelet would say. There is an Englishman and his wife who are knocking at our doors over here.
They are good people. He has been in good employ and has sent in his resignation, feeling that the Lord wants him in mission work and he has a preference for our field. He belongs to a Baptist Church in Cuttack but says he has read our Treatise and finds nothing with which he cannot agree. He is 29, and knows the Oriya language and Hindustani also. The people of our Southern station Balasore and Chandballi have known him for some time and are favorable to having him join us. He lives at Chandballi now. Mr. Colores is six years ago up this Cols' season and he plans to go home directly after our General Meeting so it would be nice for one who has been in the country as long as Mr. Agar (that is the gentleman's name) to take hold with Mr. Brown who knows the language and people very imperfectly as yet.
We were considerably amused at one item in the last remittance. "Fresh Air Fund, for Stiles baby $2.50" and we call her the Fresh Air baby now. She is a nice little thing, plump and playful and good. Mrs. Stiles had a kind of cold fever for a couple of weeks that was very stubborn a short time ago but she is all right again now. Mr. Stiles plans to start out on an governing tour soon and I think she will go with him part of the way. The longer for north breeze is here and it is delightfully cool in the morning.

I have come through the last hot and rainy season better than I feared and am feeling quite well and with the prospect of three months vacation cold season I think I'll be quite prepared for the next year. Yes, the
past eleven years have gone very fast
and in looking at them one way they
seem very short but in other things
when I think of all that has happened
the deaths, births, marriages. Among
personal friends, the changes made
in public affairs, and all the happen-
ings that continual come into remem-
bance, it seems it might have been twice eleven. I do not feel as
much older, but I have come to real-
ize that I am not looked upon as
a young woman which was rather
a shock at first, but I had to submit
as gracefully as possible, and acknow-
gedge that thirty, thirty-eight and
forty are not considered birthdays for
young women. I shall be forty next
month. We had a terrible shock in the death of Isa Phillips. We
had had no hint of her "mental decay
or adjudgment" only heard that she had
"broken down" which I thought meant
that she had overworked and as soon as
she had the needed rest would be all
right. I said "She will have to come to
Town to rest after all." It never inter-
ed my head that she might die.
I did not even think of that as one of
the possibilities and we were counting
the weeks and months before she could
give here. It was a great disappoint-
ment when we learned that Mary
Bachelor would probably not come this
fall but it came into nothing in the
heavier blow of Isa's death for we can
still look for Mary's coming but for
Isa never. I do not think of her as
having taken her own life but as
a martyr to her own enthusiasm and
the impossibilities of others having died
of a diseased brain just the same as
others die with a diseased stomach or
liver or heart or what not.
Dr. and "Auntie" Bachelor are at Darjeeling
now for a stop of three months. They hope in this
I longed to get the fever out of my system. She has suffered for months with malaria. She has got about the most of the true bullets with a good deal of trouble.

I was planning to go to Mrs. Harry Bachelet's to spend our two weeks' vacation in the field of Delhi, but I had a postal from Calcutta asking me to come and help nurse Mrs. Smith, who had been attacked with fever in Calcutta on her way to Darjeeling. I went at once and stayed with her till she was able to travel again but not to Darjeeling. The doctor said it would be too severe for her. She went to Calcuta, but it is cooler than Calcuta but not as high as Darjeeling. My vacation was spent entirely different from what I had expected but it was such an entire change that I think it did me fully as much good as afterwards. Smith was better. I went about some. I filled some Sunday with two Sunday schools and three preaching services. Then I had the privilege of attending the Calcutta Missionary Conference and besides I went on.