

Sept 19, 1911.

My dear Folks:-

This is the first time since leaving that I have had a chance to write a letter. Frank and I had a pleasant trip to *Scincinatis*, but had a very bad reception there. It rained hard all morning and part of the afternoon. After an apology for a lunch we went to the Y. M. C. A. Here we got a cold reception. The fellows in the reading room did not hesitate to put their feet on the piano and use all sorts of language, and the clerk was as cold and formal as he could be. As it happened my ticket was in my grip and that had been checked in the morning. I told the clerk that I was from the Louisville Y. M. C. A. but he was very sorry, I could not go in the gymnasium or baths, but I might go down those steps and look into the gym. if I wanted to. In Louisville the name stranger would be enough to welcome any one at our Y. M. C. A. member or not. After it stopped raining Frank and I took a trip out to the Zoo. We did not have long to stay but it was worth it. However we did not see any "missing links" and we were especially interested in them. We then took a car, which took us down the inclined plane, and finally to Fountain Square. After a long hunt we found a suitable place and got lunch. And how good it tasted! Baked beans, pork, peas, cream potatoes, and brown bread! And Frank and I did full justice to it. Then we went down the the station and bummed around till my train left.

② The trip to Washington was a little tiresome but on the whole I enjoyed it. It rained almost all the way and I was not able to see very much of the scenery. The train reached Washington an hour and five minutes late, and poor Leonella had to wait all that while. When I went out of the gate I saw some one who looked like her but I was n't certain, and, too, she looked straight at me and then turned away. So I thought that she had got tired and had gone home. I walked out in front of the station and asked a police man how to get to 655 N. St. N.E. He had just finished telling me when someone tapped me on the shoulder. I looked around, and it was the very lady whom I had passed at the gate. I immediately recognized her as Leonella.

When we got home Leonella said that she saw a young man with a violin, and knowing that either Raymond or I played she tried to catch up with him. However he walked so fast that she could not catch him. And she saw him board a car going in the other direction, and with such familiarity that she knew that it was not I. She did not even remember seeing me.

When Norris came home, she introduced him to me and he soon made me feel at home. I also met little Dorothy and the baby. Dorothy is a pretty little girl, about five years old. She was feeling a little sleepy and cross that night. But after that she was all right. The baby is looking fine. He had been sick all summer, but is doing nicely now. He is the most restless youngster I ever saw. Leonella can't hold him very well. He'll be perfectly still in her arms and suddenly straighten up or kick or something and if you are not careful

① You'll drop him. Even ~~in~~ his carriage he is restless, even going so far as to squirm out from under the strap.

Norris took me to the Congressional Library that night. I wished that I could spend two weeks instead of two hours. The paintings, mosaics, statues, all were grand to say nothing of the old archives on exhibition. The architecture was exquisite. There were marble columns, row upon row, marble stair cases, all surrounded by a continuous frieze, any part of which was a work of art in itself.

That night I slept well. It was the first good night's rest since leaving home & I took advantage of it. The next morning Leonella asked me if I heard anything during the night. I told her no and asked why. She and Norris laughed and said that the baby stood up in his crib, grabbed the door knob and shook it, making racket enough to wake the dead. I had heard nothing. Leonella said that I must have a clear conscience to sleep that way. Norris said that he believed my case was the same as his. The reason he slept so well was no conscience at all.

That morning I went to a good many places. First was the Bureau of Engraving & Printing. Here I saw them make money in a lot shorter time than it takes to earn it. Then I went to the Bureau of American Republics. This building is built in Spanish style, having the interior court full of tropical plants. Every American Republic has a room and things on exhibition. From there I went to the Colonial Hall, headquarters of the Daughters of the American Revolution. This was not so much. Then I went

④ to the Corcoran Art Gallery. This was certainly grand. They had statues from all the old Greek masters and many modern ones. The pictures were certainly beautiful. I stayed here longer than I intended to and was a little late in getting to the other places. I then visited the State, War, & Navy Building. This was being remodeled so I did not see much. But what I saw of the Army and Navy equipment was very interesting. I was too late to go through the White House and Treasury so I took a car and went to the Capitol. I met Mr. Slater here and could not ask to be treated better than he treated me. He showed me through the wings of the Senate and the House, took me in Statuary Hall, and through the Rotunda, explaining every thing and telling many little things and incidents, making the trip very interesting. He told me to come to his home for Sunday School & to lunch and then take dinner with him.

That night Norris took me down town. The principal things that I saw were the Post Office and Market, besides numerous other small buildings. The market is an immense building, over a square long and over a square wide. All sorts of vegetables & meats & produce are sold there, meals served at any time, and many other things.

That night I slept soundly as usual. But some thing woke me up that time. Towards morning I heard a big bump! and then such squalling you never heard. Norris said that the baby was standing up in his crib and suddenly fell over, landing right on his head. If he got that bump on his head I don't much blame him for yelling.

That morning I went to Mr. Slater, after a little difficulty in the streets. He & Elenor went to

① Sunday School with me and then to church. I enjoyed it very much and found the service nearly like ours, only they rushed through it in a way that would turn what hair Buschman has gray. The people in the church as a rule are cold and formal and even Mr. Slates does not know half of them. The pastor, Dr. Widely, is not that way however. But he wears the clerical robe, as I suppose all do in Washington.

At dinner that afternoon Mr. Slates did all he could to make me feel at home, and so did Mrs. Slates and Eleanor, and Mr. Slates's two aunts. We had lamb, potatoes, gravy, beans, bread, jelly, and peaches and cake. All the time Mr. Slates talked in his jolly way, adding more enjoyment to the meal. After dinner we went to the National Zoo, at Rock Creek Park. I can't begin to tell you all the animals, birds & plants we saw there so I'll just go on.

I went home to Horis's and we soon had supper after that Leonella took Dorothy out to the doctor's to have her vaccinated. They do not state specifically that children must be vaccinated, but all children must go to school, and can not go unless vaccinated. Horis and I were left alone with the baby. And how restless he was. He was going all the time - looking under the rug, pulling papers down from chairs, trying door knobs and every thing.

I must break off here a moment. I have been spending all my spare time today writing to you. It is now about five o'clock. I just heard a flap at the door. There are two letters for me - one from you, the other from Leonora Johnston. I must read

the home news first.

Now to go on. When Leonella came home she asked Norris and me to go to the mail box. Dorothy wanted to go along. I carried her there and back on my shoulders. Leonella was certainly surprised. She had n't the least idea that I was so strong. By the way, I am Uncle Ivan now. Dorothy knew she had an uncle Ivan, and that my name was Ivan, and so put two and two together and called me uncle. She told all the folks that her mamma had a boarder. Leonella had been thinking of renting the front room and Dorothy had heard of it. She got mixed up and told the people around there that they had a boarder. Leonella said that I was the first boarder that she knew of to bring the children napkin rings and cookies. For I had saved a few cookies out of my lunch and gave them to Dorothy.

I am safe at Princeton now. This is an immense place. My dormitory is near the top of a hill, and I have a room on the top floor. The morning sun comes in both of my windows. I could n't ask for a prettier view. In front of me are old pine trees and nestling among them are a number of the old buildings of the University. My room is unfurnished as yet. One of the boys across the hall sent me a note - my ink has given out! As a rule the boys here are very nice.

① It was too late yesterday to go to the Y.M.C.A. here so I saw about that room no 6. S. West. I thought it was empty, but on going there, I heard a crowd of boys in there. I had no other place to go but rather than obligate my self to the class of boys that was in there I went back to my room I fixed up a bed for my self & slept on the floor.

Today I went to the Y.M.C.A. Mr. Burr did not wait for me to get in but came out to meet me, and gave me a real Kentucky greeting. He told me to come to the Y.M.C.A. & sleep to night.

Well, I must be saying good bye now. It's getting late. Give all the love that I can send

to all the folks - you, Raymond, Minnie, & Aunt  
I and Nattie, and remember that I am  
praying for you all. Please don't forget to  
write me for I am hungry for home news.

Lovingly,

your son  
Ivan.

P. S.:- Can't tell you anything about room,  
expenses etc right now. Will do so soon as  
possible.

~~2<sup>nd</sup> letter~~

Sept 25 - 11

My dear Mother:-

I am sorry that I have not time to write more, but I am still in confusion. I still don't know whether I am going to take Beginning German, or Freshman or English Literature. There are a number of conflicts in the schedule.

I received my bill from The Treasurers to day. I shall enclose it but want it returned as soon as possible with a check for the balance of money that I need.

The board as you see is \$99. I applied for a remission of board but found out that in return for a remission of not more than two dollars or two and a half at the very most I should have to have charge of the cigar stand. This was off and on for twelve hours a week. One boy who had the job last year said that he had a dollar & a half remission. I spoke to

to Mr. McAlpin and told him that I thought that this twelve hours if devoted to study rather than being wasted at a cigar stand would in the end be of more value to me than ~~twelve~~ even two dollars and a half. He said that he thought so too and was pleased at the spirit I showed, and in that case advised me not to accept the remission. I told him that one thing to be considered though was that for the entire year the board would be \$198 and my room, light & heat \$105; making a total of \$303 or \$3 over the sum that students with a remission of tuition are expected to give out for such purposes. He took out my application and made a note not to count the \$3 excess against me since the applicant preferred to devote his time to study rather than work. I shall call at the Bureau of Self Help today and see if any light tutoring can be obtained.

The rest of the charges on the bill are

all right except the tuition, which of course is \$50 & much for I get a remission of \$50 a term. In other words the tuition a term is \$75 and Public Room Fees \$5, making the \$80. Since I get a remission of \$50, \$30 is really all my tuition & public room fees cost. Or \$186 is the amount of my bill for this term. In bank I have \$135.50. So please send a sufficient amount so that I shall have a slight excess in bank - about \$60, which would leave me \$8.50 left.

Tell Mamma and Aunt I and Aunt Hattie that I got their letters and was ever so glad to hear from them. I have n't time right now to answer but will do so as soon as possible. Lots of love to each and every one of the dear "folks at home".

Your baby,  
Ivan.

Sunday, Oct. 8, 1911

Dear Mother:-

I am ashamed of my self for not writing sooner but I simply have been worked for all I'm worth. I am getting along very well in every thing and am enjoying life immensely.

"Horsing" is now over - stopped yesterday and I am ~~once~~ more a respectable citizen. However my system could hardly stand the sudden change from a rough and tumble to a peaceful life.

However I am getting along nicely and hope to live, even if I don't have the Sophs to take care of me any more.

Last night I took a walk with two of my class-mates, one of whom rooms next to me. We walked over to Carnegie (I don't know if that is spelled right) Lake, followed the shore for about a mile and then struck a road back to the campus. It certainly was fine! The sky was cloudless and the moon was bright. I can't begin to describe how the moon danced on the still waters of the lake and sifted through the old pines and oaks that covered

the hill-side. The walk was about four and a half to five miles and we made it in less than an hour.

I have become rather intimately acquainted with a boy named Booth. He comes from near St. Louis. He is indeed a fine boy. He has studied the piano and pipe-organ for eleven years and is quite a musician. He has also composed a great deal. He showed me some of his pieces to day and I was surprised at them. He intends to make music a profession but wants to get a good education first.

He told me that he got most of his furniture at Philadelphia. He spent \$1.60 to go there and visit Wana maker's and he saved over \$5 in the end. He has a chiffonier, wash stand, couch, chairs, rugs and a few things more that he got there and they are fine bargains. I am not going to get anything more here in Princeton. I should like to have a few things more than I have now. It makes the room so much more comfortable

and home like and much more pleasant for one to stay in. It may cost ten or fifteen dollars more but there I shall get the use of them for at least four years and then perhaps sell them at almost what I paid for them. But I don't want to get anything here in Princeton. Prices are all out of reason. For instance they ask from eleven to eighteen dollars for a second-hand desk that would n't bring five in Louisville.

I think I shall get some pictures of the different activities that have just gone on here, as the rushes, the championship bonfire, and various things like that. Not only will they make better ornaments for my room than some pictures that I have seen but they will be nice to show to friends at home, and to keep in after years. They are fifty cents a piece, but well mounted and I really think that they will be worth the price, although it seems high now. The boy in the next room to me is the son of a '79 graduate who had to work his way through college. And he says that his father regrets nothing more than

not having anything of this sort to remember his college days by. For even if it did seem high priced then he is sure that they would be worth many times the mere intrinsic value now.

I went to S.S. again this after noon and am in a regular class now. The teacher, a Mr. Anderson, is a fine man and an excellent teacher. I am also in a Bible-class under the Y.M.C.A. auspices. The teacher, a Soph named Harris, is a very earnest young fellow and I like him immensely. He is also interested in "Town club" work, and I think I shall help him in this. It comes one night a week and several of the college boys go to ~~an~~ certain vacant building rented for the purpose and here gather a good many of the smaller boys of the town. There are rooms for reading, games, and gymnastics and we're supposed to keep the boys in order. Harris says that it's worse than being "horsed" but he enjoys it.

Well, I'll say good bye. I am writing something to every one else at home and so must hurry. The fondest love to you that a son can give.

Joan.

Oct. 20, 1911

My dearest Mother:-

I am sorry that I could not write sooner but today is the first possible chance. From Sunday morning till Tuesday evening I had such terrible headaches that I could not do anything. That is the reason I did not write Sunday. In fact it got so bad that I had to go to bed. I went to the Univ. doctor Tuesday night. I had also had trouble with my right ear. Sunday it began to hurt a little and then I could not hear hardly anything. As my ear gets stopped up quite often at times and then is all right again I thought nothing of it. I told the doctor about it too. He cleaned my ear out with a solution of peroxide and water at a high temperature, and after five minutes of spraying a big lump came out. I don't think it was wax, but it was very large, fully as large as a small pebble that would cover one's small finger nail. Needless to say I could hear a whole lot better. The doctor put some sort of wax in my ears and told me to leave it there a couple of days and then gave me something for my head. I have not been troubled since.

over.

2  
On Wednesday I took the 2.15 trolley to Trenton to meet Miss Tompsett. I expected her to get in on the 3.15 train and it was 4.26 when she got there. I was as nervous as I could be. I thought that I had missed her and that she ~~was~~ ~~travelling~~ had gone on to Princeton by herself although she would have a great deal of trouble in so doing. You don't know how happy I was when I saw her. I can't begin to describe my feelings. After a little search I at last found the trolley back to Princeton, and we got the 5.15 car. It was crowded, and I did not get to sit with her until about the last ten minutes' ride. She had so much to tell me that she did not know where to begin and I was in the same fix. She told me that you had been up to see her before she left and was greatly pleased. Also when we first met she gave me something from you that you had told her to give me. When we got to Princeton I took her to Nassau Inn, the principal "hotel" of Princeton, and left her till after supper. In the mean while I found out that the initiation to the Literary Halls was to be held that night! If I was not initiated then I could not join till next

3 year and would lose all that part of the course. So there was nothing ~~to do~~ for me to do but go and explain to Miss Tomppert and then be initiated. Of course she understood, but I was dreadfully disappointed and I know she was too. So I took her over to the campus, showed her Old North, and then took her to the Library. She said that she would wait till 9 for me and then, if I didn't come she would go back. When I got out of Whig Hall it was 11. I can't say much about the initiation, except that I was very cordially welcomed. Incidentally I passed through the jaws of death and the gates of hell and shook hands with the ghost of James Madison, who, in 1765, founded the society. At eight the next morning I went over to Miss Tomppert. We talked about a half hour and then I brought her over to my room and we talked some more. In the mean time it was pouring down rain. It had rained all Tuesday night, all Wednesday, and was still raining Thursday morning. The leaves of the trees in front of my dormitory had just turned to all sorts of beautiful tints, and it was as pretty as any one could wish. I wanted Miss Tomppert to see that

scene for I know that she enjoys such, but the heavy rains had taken almost all the leaves down. Miss Tompsett liked my room very much and thought that I had hung my pictures and pennants very nicely. She said that I had got the space relations very well. I showed her my "Tiger", the fun magazine of the University and she nearly went into convulsions over some of its learned remarks. Then I took her out to see the campus and its buildings. First I showed her the gym. and the trophy hall adjoining. I then I showed her the big tiger standing on a huge pedestal. She asked me if he was very fierce. I told her no, but quite frequently he chews up Yale and Harvard. Then I took her past Little Hall, Blair Hall, Witherspoon Hall, Campbell, Holder, Hamilton Halls and showed her some more of the buildings. She was surprised at their size and beauty and especially the scenery of the campus in between the halls. Then I took her through Old North. We did not get to see so much for they were repairing in there and we did not get all over the building. Next I took her to

5 Murray - Dodge Hall, the Y. M. C. A. building. I wanted her to meet Burr, and I know he would like to meet her but he was not in. Then I took her to see Mc Cosh Hall and as we were going along Mc Cosh Walk I met Burr. I introduced him and we had a little chat together, even though it was raining. Miss Tompsett thinks that he is a very nice young man. I think he is a nice boy. When I first met him I called him Mr. and he made me stop. He calls me Ivan, and I call him Hugh. He certainly is a fine specimen of strong Christian manhood, and physical and mental manhood as well. Then I showed Miss Tompsett the sundial, which is exactly the same as the one at Oxford. Then after a walk past the old pines and cedars with their undergrowth of flowers and shrubbery I brought her back to my room. I did not get to show her ~~what~~ by far all that I wanted to. I would have liked to take her down through the woods to the lake, for the autumn scenery is gorgeous. But we did not have time and the water was standing on the ground. Miss Tompsett was more than delighted. She had not the least idea that Princeton was so large, that its

<sup>6</sup>  
that the campus was so beautiful, that there were  
so many buildings and so large and beautiful too.  
My! how the time did fly that morning! Before I knew  
it I was 11.30 and we were down at the train. And  
oh how I hated to see that train pull out. I have never  
felt so badly since I have been here. I hope that all of  
you dear folks at home can come up here some time  
and stay a few weeks and see Princeton. I can't say  
more now, I have to go to supper. So good bye. More  
to morrow. No longer weigh 131 pounds its a little over  
132 now. Got 115% on a trig test! Will explain  
next time. Love and kisses and fondest hopes to  
each and every one at home.

Lovingly your boy,

Ivan

Oct 20 - 1911

Nov. 1 - 1911

My dearest Mother:-

I received your letter last night and was might y glad to hear from you. But to business first, and then pleasure. I got two "extension rods" to day or little rods to go across my windows to hang the curtains on. They were 12¢ each and pretty good. They are about a  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch in diameter. It is 7ft 3 in from top of window frame to floor but I don't see why you want that measurement I just want the curtains to reach to the sill which is 2 ft 6 in above the floor, making 4 ft 9 in from the top of the window frame to the sill. Perhaps you had better make the curtains an inch or so longer, you will know best. From the top of the door frame to the floor is 7ft. If any of the measurements that I give now conflict with those that I first gave please take these as they are more careful. I have a plenty bed cover. It is fairly cold now and I haven't begun to use my comforts yet and I have two of those. So you don't need to send any more cover. You might send me one more sheet. Spreads cost 25¢ a washing and sheets are fair so if I sleep next to a

1161-1-2011

sheet instead of a spread I can have a clean one once a week for five weeks instead of a spread for all that time and you can imagine how it would look at the end of 5 weeks. Besides I sleep a lot more comfortably next to a sheet. So please send me more that I can have 2 a week for now I have only 3 & it is awkward to manage. I guess the reason that spreads are so high priced is because they are here called "counter panes." My wash stand is 2'7" x 1'7". You need not send any oil cloth, because it is seldom that I use it to wash, I usually go down stairs where there is warm water. Just send something to cover it up. I can't make use of those white, <sup>rolling</sup> window shades that you spoke of. Would much prefer the curtains only. In regard to papering rooms, the students have to see to that & pay for it themselves. It is customary that, whenever <sup>any</sup> one has his room papered or plastered, the one who has the room next pays him  $\frac{1}{2}$  or so of the expense. It is not worth while to paper the room for it would cost at least \$5 for the bed room alone if I got any kind of paper. For if I got cheap paper it would fade or something like that & the next occupant would not give

me much. I am just going to let the paper go. I don't use the room much in the day time and I'm not going to stay awake nights to look at it. So I am just going to make a trip to Tinton and get some "posters". They are nothing but large pictures, <sup>on heavy paper,</sup> without frames - all the boys have them, and with them I'll cover up the few very bad places in the wall and it will look a lot better. And too I can always take the posters with me.

I am feeling well, weighed 134 yesterday. While in swimming I dived 41 ft. Ray would care tell you whether that is good or not. Booth and I went around to the young lady who asked us to last Thursday and we had a fine time. Can't add any thing more now.

Have just a few minutes to get to swimming class. Hope I can write more to morrow. Hope I have all the information that you need.

With much love,  
Joan.

Nov 7<sup>th</sup> Tuesday night.  
1911

My dearest mother:-

I just want to take a few minutes before going to bed to answer your letter. Will send some news Thursday; can't before then because work is too heavy. First don't worry about my weight. I am not overeating myself. This weight is not any superfluous fat but just a general building up. And I am far from the stage to which Beech has built him self up. I weigh 135 now. To Trenton it is 10¢ and return 10¢, 20¢ a round trip. Things are received by freight at Princeton. From depot to my room it costs 50¢ to have any thing delivered but if it is not too heavy I could do it myself or there are dozens of fellows who would be willing to help me. There is no 5¢/10¢ store here. No sign of any thing like it. A few furnishing stores with fancy stuff & fancier prices one hardware store and a couple of groceries & a few drug stores. The extension rods were the only ones I could get. I tried every where to get poles and at the hardware store was the only place where I could get any thing and these rods were all they had. But they do not sag. So don't send any. There is a rod across the door which, altho not much more than  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch

<sup>2</sup>  
in diameter, does not sag. I tried it. Yes they  
ought to have a 5 x 10 ft store but they haven't. As to  
the chairs I haven't room for many. Besides you say you  
can get one straight back for 1.75 to 2.25. For 2.50 at the  
next and even at 1.50 I can get a cot. And if I don't  
want to keep it I can sell it later at what I paid for it.  
Show this to be a fact. Besides this cot can seat four  
persons comfortably and 4 chairs that I would have to  
have to do the same thing would come to at least, the very  
least \$6.00 and I can get an elegant cot of  $\frac{1}{2}$  that  
amount. And too I don't think that you understand  
the situation. In very few, if any, rooms have I found  
the number of chairs you want me to have. In almost  
every room that I have been in they have a chair at the  
table, an easy chair such as I have, and a cot with,  
(or couch) with some sort of cover and with cushions on it  
And finally my room would be too crowded with any  
more chairs in it, while this cot will fit up against the wall.  
Further, I hope you will not make any more objection to this  
cot. It will be cheaper, much more comfortable, to me  
and to any visitors, it will be in accordance with the way

3/ In which almost every other room on the campus is furnished, and it will take up less space, of which I need a great deal in my room. It is very seldom that you see a rocker. Mostly Morris-chairs. — The Pennsylvania is the only rail road that goes through to Princeton. I suppose that the Penn. would naturally be the best to send things over. — As to the rain coat do not send it. I have one. Been intending to tell you all along. It is the custom for Freshmen to wear black "slickers" or black rain coats made of some sort of oil cloth. When I got here my umbrella was broken and I could not get any reasonably here so I took a slicker. It was \$3.50 with ~~discount~~ discount at the Univ. Store. The reason I did this was because it is customary for Freshmen to wear them. In fact you seldom, if ever, see an umbrella on the campus. And too we have such driving rains here that an umbrella would have been little if any protection. Keep the rain coat. Do not send it. I will use it next year. I can sell my present one for about 2.50. Freshmen are the only ones who wear those kind and I can dispose of mine easily. As you see I have one for this year, but can use the one

that you got for next year. I'm sorry I didn't  
tell you sooner. I did not think you had any intention  
of getting one or I would have done so. I do not  
make my bed. Every dormitory had a lady who  
goes around in the morning & makes the beds &  
sweeps the room. The room is mopped up once a week.  
As to varnish the floor really don't need it but in a  
15¢ can (the boy across the hall used it) I can  
get enough for the places not ~~varnished~~ covered  
by the rugs. Must say good bye. Excuse my  
haste. Tell Aunt Hattie to send the please that  
catalogue for knock down furniture. With much love

1161-L-207

Your son,  
Ivan

Nov 13 Sunday Afternoon

My dearest Mother :-

I have so much to say that I don't know where to begin. First I want to ask you for a couple more things - suspenders and a couple of black neckties. You know I wanted to bring some suspenders along but I forgot them so please send me a couple. Raymond knows what kind to get. Just the plain 25¢ ones that we usually get. In regard to neckties it is customary for the Freshmen to wear nothing but black. It may seem a foolish custom but it is one of many that have been at Princeton a long time and I like to live up to them. So please send me a couple of the black ones something like those that we got at the Stewart Drygoods Co. I think that two or three will be a plenty for I use them just on Sundays and perhaps on Thursday night for prayer meeting and Monday nights at the meeting in High Hall. I can't think of any thing else to beg for just now.

In regard to my bed room I have a scheme on foot. Jones, in the room next to me, got some sort of paint and fixed his walls up and they look fine. I am sure that it

Nov 13 - 1911

✓ did not cost more than \$2. <sup>2 weeks</sup> but just ~~a week~~ from  
Wednesday the Thanksgiving holiday starts and I'd like to  
fix my room up then. I'll also get some paint and fix  
the floor in my bed room which has never had any paint.  
and I may varnish the wood work to make it look a little  
more respectable. So I'd like to have the things from  
home just as soon as possible for until I get them I can't  
make any arrangements and I want to have everything  
ready to go to work as soon as the holiday commences for if  
I don't get it done then, I don't know when I'll have time.

would you please tell Raymond to tell me about  
that knock down furniture? What all had to be done.  
What tools were necessary? Did he have to do any gluing?  
When he stained it did he have to do any scraping or was  
sand paper enough? And how long did it take to fix up,  
say for instance, a Morris chair, if he fixed any of them?  
Would I have to have any tools here to do any thing like that?  
Aunt Hattie promised to send me a catalogue and I  
thought that if it did not take too much time I could  
get some of this furniture and fix it up and keep it for the  
rest of my four years here. I can easily get rid of this that

3 I have and at practically what I paid for it. And I should like to get my room settled as soon as possible. Not only will my room look better but I want different furniture from what I have for next year and if I can get it now it will be so much the better for me. The time in fixing up this furniture will have to be spent some time and I may as well do it now as come up here next year a few days before hand to do it and have to pay the extravagant prices that they demand for board. There will be a direct saving in money right there as well as in time. I don't want to hurry you up in any way for I know that you are working as fast as you can. But in case I should want any of this furniture I should like to have it here during the holiday when I should have plenty of time to fix it up.

Jane Dale was up to see me last night. I had just taken a bath and had just got back to my room when I heard some one yell down below "Oh Ivan Heft" and I recognized his voice at once. I leaned out the window and told him to come up and he did. I had to receive him just as Thomas Jefferson received the ambassador once, "in dressing gown and slippers." We talked till about

$\frac{1}{4}$  a quarter of eleven and then he beat it to his room and I beat it to bed. He likes his job very much. According to Dr. P. ~~scient~~ June is getting on to the tricks of the trade. Dr. P. is a preceptor here. He comes from Ky. and I think from Louisville. He has his Doctor's degree from Jena. He is a mighty nice man. The first time I met him was at the first meeting of the Ky. Club. He spoke very cordially and told me to come around and see him some time. He mixes up with us boys in his jolly way and does not seem at all like a teacher. That night June happened to tell him that he gave his boys a test that afternoon. The doctor laughed and slapped him on the back and said, "Good, my boy! You're getting on to the tricks of the trade. Whenever you don't know the day's lesson give 'em a test and they'll never know the difference!" That's just a sample of his jolly way of mixing up with us. I met him at the post office on ~~that~~ Friday and he spoke to me. He had not seen me since that night at the Ky. Club, and I did not think that he'd remember me, or even if he did recognize me, I

5)

did not think that he'd remember my name. But he did. He saw me as soon as I stepped in, came up and shook hands with me and asked me how I was getting along. He told me that I had not been up to see him yet and he wanted me to come soon, and I promised him that I'd pay him a visit as soon as I could. I, of course, asked him to come up and see me sometime and he said that he would. Another faculty member of our Ky. Club is Dr. McElroy, professor of history. He is an excellent speaker and when he was in college here was a member of Whig Hall where he became famous for his speaking ability. James Dale says that in class he can begin at the beginning of the hour and talk the full time without once pausing - not making a single break. And it is not a dry lecture either but interesting.

Out side it is black as it can be. The sky over head is one mass of black clouds. The horizon is clear and against it you can see the outlines of the trees and buildings clearly cut out. I guess we'll have a down pour in a few minutes.

6. I am going to Trenton in a couple of weeks and get a few "posters" and things like that. One thing that I have to have is a desk lamp. One of the boys got one very cheaply there and a good one too. I need one badly. Any where I place my table I am in my own light. Where I have my table now is in the corner of my room and here the electric light is best. But in the day time the light from the window is very poor. So I am going to move my table over to the window and have my desk lamp there then. For I need a lamp any way and it doesn't make any difference where I have my table. I don't know how much the lamp was that the boy got but I'll find out and let you know.

Princeton beat Dartmouth 3 to 0 Saturday. I will write to Raymond and tell him about it. I'll write as soon as I can but I can't promise when for I have a French test next Wednesday and have to study some on it.

I am sorry that I had to rush you so about that money. I let you know about it as soon as I got the bills. Here after I'll let you know sooner and then we won't have this rush, for it was a rush for me as well as for you. So good-bye.

Lots of love to you, and to Minnie, and to Raymond, and to Aunt Jane and Aunt Hattie, from  
your boy, Ivan

Tuesday Night Nov 21/11

My dearest Mother:-

I can't see where all my time goes. I am busy as can be and yet could have a lot more time and make full use of it. Yesterday we had three tests. When we got to Trig Mr. Leary explained some work for about a half hour and then gave us three problems to do. I finished two of them and most of the fellows just got one. When we got to Greek, Prof. Harmon passed out some exam. books. He read over the day's lesson and then said "Gentle men, you may start there and translate at sight." and he picked up his overcoat and left. When I'm a professor I believe I'll follow Dr. Priest's advice, and when I want to do something else I'll just give the kids a test. In Latin we had another sight test. We were supposed to have ~~only~~ 45 minutes on it but just got a little more than a half hour. And I was worn out from those two other tests. So I don't know how I'll come out in that. Last night in Whig Hall I made an extemporaneous speech. The chairman asked for volunteers and I arose. I approached the front of the Hall and the chairman told me to speak on the

2. prospects of the Yale-Harvard game. And I had to talk for three minutes on that subject.

I took a walk again today and certainly enjoyed myself. I walked for almost an hour and must have covered almost five miles. The country around Princeton is simply great for walking and I want to make the best of it. Yesterday I took an hour's walk. I walked on the road by the canal, or rather what is called the canal and over in the country beyond Carnegie Lake. I saw a little bridge in one place, very low, and almost touching the water. In the early days of rowing at Princeton, the men rowed on the canal and had to pass under this bridge. At low water they could just barely get under it. They had to lie on their backs in the boat and shove on the bottom of the bridge. And the little nicks of the neighborhood would congregate on the bridge and drop gravel and sand through the cracks. How would you like to have belonged to the first crew of Princeton?

I have heard that Dr. Liddell is here. I did not know whether he was or not and the boy at the registrar's office did not know either. But a man there said that there was a Dr. Liddell here but <sup>he</sup> did not know his address. I am going to

hunt him up and see him.

③ Am anxious to get my things from home so I can make arrangements next Saturday for my work. I have been talking to Jones and he said that his rooms cost him 50¢ each. He used a powder that is mixed with water and forms a sort of kalsomine. He offered to lend me his bucket and brush. I am also going to get some paint and paint the floor and some varnish for the wood work. I wish that at the earliest possible date you would send me \$15. Do not hurry or worry but the sooner you get it to me the better it will be for me. I want to go to Trenton and get a desk lamp. One of my friends got one very cheap there and I want to do the same. I need one, this light is bad on my eyes and ever now they ache a little. The light is very poor tonight, but this seldom happens.

I also want to get a Princeton banner. They were four dollars at the beginning of the Term, but now they are selling the same for two and a half. All the boys have them and I want to get one while they last. They are 3' by 6' and have in big orange letters "Princeton, 1915." It will last for years and will be something that I would like to keep when I am out of

4.  
collega.

Nov 21 - 1911

The weather don't know what it wants to do up here. Once it is cold, so cold that we have frost, and then it gets warm again. I am not particularly anxious for snow for it is one of your ancient customs for the upper classmen and sophs. to bombard the poor freshmen & I do hear that they do their duty.

I was talking with the janitor over at Whig Hall on Saturday night. He is a rather old man and is the first janitor that the Hall ever had, being there since 1907. He is a mighty nice man and does his business well. The boys like him and are mighty kind to him. He showed me all around the basement and showed me the different places that were prominent in the initiation. I was surprised at the short space and many things are laughable now that seemed pretty serious then.

It is ten now and I must get to bed. I rig test to morrow. Got a nice letter from Miss Tompsett last Friday. Will tell you more later. Hope your rheumatism will be better and alsoemie's. Love to all.

Your baby, Ivan

Wednesday, Nov. 29.

1911

My dearest Mother:-

I don't know what is the trouble with my eyes. They are hurting me again and I haven't used them much today. So you must again excuse me if I make this letter brief.

Dr. Raycroft, the physical director here, tested my eyes and said they were better than ordinary. Monday I went to the Univ. doctor at the Infirmary and asked him and he said that perhaps they were strained in some way and advised me to rest for about a week. He also gave me the addresses of two specialists, one in Trenton and the other in Phila. There are none in Princeton. He advised me to go to the one in Trenton and have my eyes tested, and if I needed glasses, he said that it is best to go to Philadelphia for the one in Trenton is not as good as those in P. and it would be better for me. I have been cutting my work like everything and I hate to do it.

The thing same on Monday morning. I was at class when they came and the expressman left

1166-6222

2<sup>d</sup> The bundle down on the first floor. Somehow or other I had formed the impression that you were going to send me a box and was not expecting a bundle of that shape. I don't know why. Well when I was coming back from the Infirmary, as I was going up the steps I met a fellow named Murray and he asked me if that was not my bundle. I said that I was expecting one but did not know whether it was or not. So I went down stairs and got the thing up. You can bet I was not sorry it came. Of course I opened it at once and was greatly pleased with everything. I would have written a letter that night but had to go to Hall which took up the evening.

On Tuesday after noon I got to work. I fixed my table first. The table had had a green cover on once before & the fellow left the tacks behind and I got enough to tack it under the edges. Then I used the brass heads to spruce it up. It looks great. I just finished and had the table back again when Schenk, in the room

---

Am grouchy because I can't find any reason to grouch.

across the hall came in for something. He wanted to  
③ asked me about some French word, but stopped and looked  
around. "Say," he said, "something's wrong here. What's  
the matter?" I pointed to the table and he saw then that  
that was it. He said that it looks ten times better and  
I think so too.

Then I put my curtains in the windows and they  
certainly are great. It gave an altogether different  
tone to the room. Then I fixed the curtains in my door.  
There was a little extension rod there and I put it on  
that but the weight of the curtains made it sag a little.  
Just then Schenk came over for something else and  
saw it. He said that he had just the thing for that and  
went back to his room and got a pole an inch & a half  
in diameter that fitted the door exactly. I had a little  
trouble in getting it up but finally got it there to stay. Schenk  
told me he was very generous, as he had tried to fix that  
thing in his room and could not do it, so bought another one,  
and this one he has given to me. He wondered how I got it  
up there.

The next stunt was to fix my book case, or rather what

4. used to be a book case in remote ages. Schenk was also pleased with that and said that it looked like a grand piece of furniture.

And now about that couch cover. I'm tickled to death with it! Jones, in the next room, who has the idea that he has a highly developed business sagacity has a couch cover that cost him two dollars, and mine beats his all to smash! It's simply great.

I don't know what to say about the rugs! They are elegant to say the least. I am sure that you could not get anything near like them here and even if you could you would cough up some money. I have them both in my study and the other one in my bed room, for I am in my study most of the time and that is where all my friends will come and I want it to look as nice as possible. And it certainly does. Schenk says there is not a room on the floor that beats it.

And something else! I got a banner with Princeton, 1915 on it. The banner is black, 3 feet by 6 feet. The letters in Princeton are over a foot high and in 1915 almost a foot. The thing cost me \$2.50

5  
and if I had bought it at the beginning of the term it would have cost only \$4. I have that hanging on the wall just in front of my table. The little skin that Miss Helen gave I have on the wall to the right. I am going to arrange my pennants differently now. In that Panzer I have something else on Jones for he paid \$2 for a little measly thing that is lost in mine.

I have the mantel-covering that aunt I made on my mantel and it is a beauty. The room is totally different. Before there were the four red walls, bare, staring at me and the windows gaping wide open it seemed. Now the room seems just about one half as large as it was before, cozy, compact and comfortable. I don't know what made you choose red for those curtains but you certainly hit it exactly that time. The color matches splendidly with the room. To night I squandered thirty cents and got two little shades that before were 20¢ apiece. They are red and cast a red glow over the room and have done away with the glaring that there was before. Taking all in all, I could not want a better room.

I got two of those little book racks or whatever they are

6  
I found that instead of the large 15¢ ones they had some smaller ones at 10¢ and they serve just as well.

And now mother, I'd like to ask a favor of you. Schenk wanted to know how much those two rugs were and wanted to know if I could get some for him, that is if they were any ways reasonable. So would you please tell me what would be the cheapest that you could have them done for? Of course I would not want you to lose any thing, but have it done just as cheaply as possible. He says that he will pay for the express charges too. If it would not be too much trouble I'd like for you to do this for he has been mighty nice to me. The very first day he came in to me and brought a table & chair and told me to use them as long as I wanted to. When he heard that I wanted to take Herman he offered to help me all I wanted in this and he gets \$1.50 an hour for tutoring. And too he gave me that pole that saved me \$.25 at least, and the book case. It's true the case was not any use to him but he would just as well have knocked it to pieces for kindling wood. And he's been nice to me in a good many other ways and I'd like for you to do this for him if possible and as cheaply as you can. Must say good bye now. With lots of love and kisses to you and to all I am still

Your baby

Just let me know the price of the rugs.

Don't order them until I tell Schenk & see if it is all right. Love.

1)

Monday Night, Dec. 4.  
1911

Dearest Mother :-

Just a few words before I got to bed. I want to ask this time about coming home Xmas. I know it will cost a lot but I want to come badly. There will be very few boys who stay here for Xmas, in fact of the few who stayed for Thanksgiving I don't know of one who is going to stay for Xmas. And I don't know how I can stand two weeks here doing nothing. And too leommmons and all the Halls will be closed for the holidays and I will have to board and room out in town and they don't mind charging prices here. They ask about \$3.00<sup>or</sup> \$2.50 a week for a room, and board will be about \$4.50 or \$5.00, and so you see that board & lodging will be at least \$14. And too I want my eyes tended to and the oculist in Trenton is not a good one. If I have it done well, as it should be, I would have to go to Philadelphia and that <sup>the fare</sup> would cost, I think, almost \$3. I can't let my eyes go any longer. I can't study much and am behind in my work now. I also want my tonsils tended to and would rather have it done at home. And above all I want to be home again and see you. This is the first time I've

been away and you can guess how I would feel by  
Christmas time. Please let me know at once, mother,  
for the holidays begin on the 20th, two weeks from Wed-  
nesday and if I go I want to leave almost a week ahead  
of time to make it worth while. We are allowed a  
certain number of "cuts" a term and I will take them  
at Xmas. To be concise, I will start for home about Thurs-  
day or Friday the 15th at the latest. So please let me know  
at once, mother, so I can arrange. The trip back costs  
about \$18 I think, I will find out soon as possible. I will  
take the trolley to Trenton and then take the train for that  
saves a little. I don't know which is cheaper, the Pennsylvania  
R.R. all the way, or returning the way I came. Will find out.

And now, mother, I would not say anything to Aunt Hattie  
about this for she will know that you did not get the  
letter at home and will know that I have some way  
of writing to you without her knowing it. And you know  
what the consequence will be. In a few days I'll write  
a letter and make a remark about coming home and you  
can show that to Aunt Hattie as you do all my other  
letters at home.

③ I must say good-bye now mother. My eyes are beginning to hurt again. I tried to study this afternoon, and quit. This morning I got my Latin for the first time in two weeks and little Prof. was tickled to death. I strained a ligament in the arch of my foot in a walk Friday. The doctor bandaged it up for me today and it will soon be "as good as new." I hate to have my eyes bother me. I haven't done hardly a thing for two weeks and it goes against my grain. However there's nothing to do but take a dose of Christian Science and a happy smile and let it go.

I forgot to say that I got the lamp Friday (1st). First thing I did was put it up and it's great. Like it lots better than a desk lamp. I could n't want anything better.

And now, mother, good-bye. I send you all the love that a baby sends to his dear mother. I miss you lots. With lots of love and kisses I am always

Your baby,  
Ivan.

Dec 4-1911

Dec. 5, 1911.

Dearest Mother :-

I received your letter to night and was mighty glad to hear from home. I have n't very much to say. My foot is a little sore from the walk Friday. Doctor says it's a strained ligament and has a bandage under the arch of my foot. Will soon be all right. I would like to ask you about coming home for Xmas. Please let me know as soon as possible, mother, for I have to report before the 12<sup>th</sup> what I am going to do. Of course I would like very much to come home. I want my eyes tested, for the oculist in Trenton is not very good. And too, above all, I want to see all of you again. This is my first time away from home and I don't know what I'll do if I am by myself here for Xmas. There will be very few boys staying here, in fact I don't know of any one and I don't know what two weeks on the campus with hardly any one around would do to me. My eyes bothered me a little today, but I am getting more work done now. Must stop now, mother, for its getting late and I have a little algebra to do yet. Schenk says that he does not care for the mgs, I suppose

Dec 5-1911  
he wants to move up for Xmas. Thank you all  
the same for your trouble. Please let me know,  
mother, about my coming home. Do what you think is  
best. And please let me know soon. Give lots of love and  
kisses to all, to Memie, and Raymond, and Aunt  
Hattie, and Aunt I, and you know what I send to you.  
So good-bye, always

Your baby,  
Dora.

P.S. - Excuse my briefness but can't help it. Will write  
more later.