

C.S. Holmes -

JAN 22

Rev W<sup>m</sup> A. Belden  
Bristol.  
Conn





Bridgeton Jan 20. 91

My Dear Mr Belden

As I hear from you but seldom, and that indirectly, I now commence a long contemplated letter, as I feel that I would like a word direct. For I assure you, we do, and shall, feel a deep interest in the welfare of yourself and family.

Was much disappointed that I failed to see you, when in B., on your way from Presbury.

I called at Mr Faggett's - as I suppose you afterward learned - but found that you were out at tea.

A short time since Mr E M. Fithian, after express.

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ing to me, his deep gratification  
at the receipt of a letter from  
yourself, extended to me your  
best wishes. This is the <sup>4<sup>th</sup></sup>  
fourth week in bed. Although he  
thinks he will be out this  
week. But as he is very much  
reduced in strength I am not  
sure of it at all. Yet of course  
hope so. I suppose that you  
know his trouble. He had an  
operation performed and went  
to bed for two weeks.

Is gaining, though not so fast,  
as his physician gave him reason  
to expect. He had a physician  
from Phila. My father  
still enjoys very good health,  
and often expresses himself  
in a particularly friendly way  
of Mr Belden. I know that  
he would be highly pleased to

better than to ask you for leisure.

I sign myself Yours truly

Ed. S. Holmes.

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receive a letter from you.

And as much as I want my letter, I will wait, if need be; that you may write him first.

I hope that you are all enjoying good health and that your work in Bristol is meeting with the success I am sure it deserves.

I wish that you would accept caution and not overwork as I know that your will to do, exceeds your strength.

I trust that you have met with hearty co-workers, that the work may be easier, and divided.

And that both both yourself and people may be richly blessed.

The West Ch. is

slowly growing. Yet the growth is perceptible. Several new families have come in.

A week or so back the Christian Endeavor Society of the Trinity Methodist paid a sort of fraternal visit to the West St Society at their regular meeting on a Sunday aft- at the usual hour. Which I think was much enjoyed and very profitable, though I was not there. Andrew Mahr is one of their stand bys, and an earnest worker.

I fear he will lose his position as postman, very soon, in spite of a number of us working that he might be retained.

Enclosed please find bill, and I hope that you will not think that this is my main object in writing. Hoping to hear from you when you can, not when you have leisure, for I know