

Fort Mackay, 4th Jan'y 79.

My dear Sister,

I received your good letter with your portrait & that of the darling niece. You have a motherly look about you that I like very much. Achille looks as solemn as ever & as for Bibi, Oh! what a Baby, what a baby! It is easily conceived that there cannot be another baby like that in the whole Creation.

I now wish you all a happy new year. On Christmas & new year's day I have kissed all the females of the town, four white women

twenty half-breds & about 100
squaws. We had two balls,
an oyster ^{supper} & a general shake.
I have written 6 articles for
the Youths' Comp. three of
which are accepted & paid.
I expect the others will
also be taken. If you have
some other paper to recommend
I can furnish a few more
articles.

The art. accepted are:

"A medicine dance".

"Jugglery & Medicine among the Sioux".

"The Sun dance of the Sioux".

I can tell you before hand
that it is nothing very bright
but it is an attempt of
some kind.

Now for the accusation
of not answering your
letter. I wrote to you

twice since last summer.
Perhaps my letters have
been mislaid. Do not be
ruled at me any longer.

I must close this letter
for I am in a hurry.

A kiss to Baby & Achille
& my best wishes to
the family. Remember
me to Mrs. Howells
& your sisters —

Your affectionate
brother

Erving

N. B. The Indians are all
right in this part of
the country.

Erving