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Harriet J. Keffer

This diary was kept by Bertha Keffer '76 during her Preparatory and collegiate years at Vassar. It was presented to the College Library in 1942, by her sister, Mary Keffer, and at the request of her namesake, Bertha Keffer, V.C. '11, Mrs. [Raymond U].

The name HARRIET J. KEFFER inscribed at the top was the name of Bertha Keffer, '76's mother

Friday, January 13th, 1854

David M Caudless
146 North Avenue
Alleghany. PA.

[printed] SATURDAY, January 14th, 1854.

Sunday, January 15th, 1854.

This year bought a little diary never thinking that this was around to the right day of the week again. But last Friday I came across this and resolved to keep this for longer entries than my little one. Thursday Etta and I went to see Miss Morse about one hundred and twelve. B - We want to change our room. Etta - We thought we would like to room together on the fifth floor. M - There is no room vacant there. E & B - Yes, 192 is. M - (slowly) yes - if you want to go there - without any bed - and sleep on the floor you can. To. E. Why do you wish to change your room? E - My room mate is not very agreeable. M. To B. Is anything of that sort the matter with you? B. Oh no my room mate and parlor mates are very nice and

MONDAY, January 16th, 1854.

I like them ever so much but we thought we would like to room together. M - would you like to go to the first floor for the sake of rooming together. E - (not liking that a bit but not liking to back out now) yes mamm. M - Well I will see what I can do for you. (To B) you may go. M kept E and told her how much good she might do her roommate by staying put and behaving like a christian, told her to try it on ... a month longer. As soon as we had definitely arranged to go to M - I was sorry but could not very well back out then. Guess that now I'll stay [fixed] and not trouble her anymore. Thursday I received Papa's Rio letter and it made me feel more homesick than I have since I came here. Poor Papa

TUESDAY, January 17th, 1854

President Raymond gave quite a lecture this evening on loyalty - a word he thought we did not know the meaning of. I guess something disloyal in his sense of the word came up in Faculty meeting yesterday. We always have something new after the big folks talk us over. Ella felt badly last night because I did not speak to her when she called after me on the stairs. In fact I was a littled vexed about the manner in which she spoke of L.L. and was afraid of showing it. I had to go and confront her which I did by saying I thought she was a goose to behave as when she knew I liked her better than anyone here. Though I did not say I could do that and not care awfully much for her. I am not in love to distraction with anyone in Vassar.

WEDNESDAY, January 18th, 1854.

Have had a touch of the blues to day and either I have been cross or every one else has, perhaps both. It was a [hicky] thing I told Ella about the apple roll ring on the floor for now we all have something to say about it even Rob. Heard today of Miss Pa.-n's slapping a girl over the fingers for not playing rightly and now despise her more than ever. Practiced an hour this morning. [L. S-rs] told me she thought (and Miss S-ll said so too at the same time) I was the smartest in the Latin class and then I told her the same and we soft-soaped one another quite awhile on the plan of "you scratch my back and I'll tickle your elbow." Miss [Simleys] head was all right today and we got along splendidly this afternoon. The Pres. told of Roger Sherman slapping his babdy being slapped by his mother and then kissing her hand and leading her to a [scaf.] â€

[Printed] THURSDAY, January 19th, 1854.

Got caught last night. Etta came to sleep with me and when we were undressing some one rapped on the door and I roared come in, thinking it Lottie but it was Miss Hamlin who wanted to know if we were not aware we ought to go to Miss Lyman for permission to sleep out and said she was sorry to disappoint us but Etta must not stay. Etta said "yes mamm."-- and went. We are not going to study in May's room anymore between eight and nine and be good generally. Miss Lyman requested through the Pres. this evening that we try being quiet in the corridors in our talk till Monday and see how we like the change.

[Printed] FRIDAY, January 20th, 1854

[Printed] SATURDAY, January 21st, 1854

Took the old lady out to skate
this afternoon to have some fun
out of her. Feel considerably lame
in consequence. It was a bad
motive to take her out from but
she enjoyed it as much as if
I took her on purpose for her
pleasure and my bad motive
hurt no one but myself. Just this
moment I happened to think may
be it made my darlings feel bad
to see me do such a thing so
I'll try and be better in fu-
ture. When I think of them it
makes me want to go right off
but then I don't think I could
bear to leave Papa all alone. I wish
Prof. Backus would officiate in Chap-
el every evening. He quiets and
rests me so, and makes me
want to do better much more
than the President does.

[printed] SUNDAY, January 22nd, 1854

[printed] MONDAY, January 23d, 1854.

Had a gay time to-night at
supper over the Professor's baby. Laughed
till we were tired. Thought it a good way
to shake the supper down. Some
thing was the matter with the
three waiters and they had to go
out to laugh. It is curious to
see them when they are feel-
ing funny and Solomon
looks at them. I am glad it
is not against the rule for
preps to laugh.

[printed] TUESDAY, January 24th, 1854.

Had a short speech to night a-

bout the day of prayer for colleges.

Can always tell if we are going to

have a speech the night after

faculty meeting by looking to see

if Prof. Backus is in Chapel. He is

always on hand if there is a speech.

Poor May is sick again. It seems

as if something was troubling her

more than any of us guess for

it can't be all physical debility

which cause these nervous attacks

which she tries so hard to conceal

I am anxious too about Alice C's. cough

What if she should go before I see

her! Coming along the hall to-night

and noticing how one by one my

friends dropped into their rooms and

left me to finish the journey a-

lone I wondered if that were typical

of my life, if all my friends would

go home first leaving me behind till

the last one.

[printed] WEDNESDAY, January 25th, 1854.

[printed] THURSDAY, January 26th, 1854.

Continued from next page
from Alice last Wednesday which I answered yesterday. It was three weeks on the way I suppose it was snowed up. She sent me a very pretty work bag for a present Our prospects look very dark just now. Papa stand[sic] in Mobile a week waiting to see Judge Bersteed about his bond and did not and men are in Washington trying to have him removed and Col Edwards appointed for no other reason than jealousy. I hope we will get out of this fix soon some way

[printed]FRIDAY, January 27th, 1854
Mon[FRIDAY and 54 are crossed out]68

It has been just as
I expected it would. I
have not written a word
in my Diary since Papa
was in jail and am only
writing now by accident
Papa got out of jail all well
and won his case and
did not have to pay a cent
Old Mother Salisbury had to
pay it all herself. I only
wish it had been twice
as much. Received a letter
from Herbert to-day but am
not going to answer it till
the 23 or 30 of March to pay
him off for waiting so long
before he wrote to me. even
if I wait till then it will
not be so long as he wait
ed before answering my
letter. I also got a letter

[printed] SATURDAY, January 28th, 1854.

Last night we had a short
speech from Mrs. Prine, the
woman who is going to Japan
I was sadly disappointed for I
thought she had been there and
was going to tell us what it was
like but instead she was just
going and wanted some one
to go with her. Went out rid
ing this evening. The sleigh had
about ten too many in it and
we were abominably crowded. The
two Misses Lord and Miss Preston
tried to be funny but I don't
think that is their forte exactly
Lottie Rossiter wrote to Sam Walker
to telegraph for Lottie to come home
which he did so she went
at three o'clock today. May
she get well recovered before
she comes back again! L.R
went riding last night.

[printed] SUNDAY, January 29th, 1854.

Deacon Smith preached to
day. He said his sermon was
on one verse of the book
of Esther but I think it
was on the whole book
He told us the story of Esther
and then drew three lessons
from it, the first showing
where woman's influence was
the next how great its extent
and the last its power. He
is a better preacher than the Pres.
There were some lovely flowers
in Chapel which afterwards
were given Miss Lyman be-
cause it was her birthday
I wish it had been mine

[printed] MONDAY, January 30th, 1854.

[printed] TUESDAY, January 31st, 1854.

[printed page no.] 3

[printed] WEDNESDAY, February 1st, 1854

Tomorrow is a great day to a
great many girls. Would it were
to me! But I have everything put
off till the last as an example
I suppose of my everlasting sin
of procrastination--the buster of
success.--Five years ago seems a
short time comparatively yet how
many and how great changes have
taken place since five years ago
to-night when Papa Auntie Glenn and
I sat all night by my darling
Mother All the time since then
seems like a dream only there
has been more trouble in this
time than people usually have in
dreams. And from all poor naughty
I have been chosen to be benefitted
Surely there is some use for me
for which I am being thus prepar
ed.. May I find it out before an-
other long five years wears away.

[printed] THURSDAY, February 2nd, 1854.

to write to, it did not seem

at all pleasant. Whenever I suc

ceed in anything I want to have

some one who cares for me to

go to and tell and who will

make me feel glad over it.

I never feel so homesick as when

I get bad news from home and

next to that time is when I have

good news and want to tell it

to the home folks. Had a little

scrawl from Harry to day. Hope

for a long write from Papa to

morrow. I wish it were the

June examination instead of

February. I wish the Faculty

had to be examined before

a lot of people twice a year

when we are. They would soon

do away with all such

botherations if they came

home to themselves.

[printed] FRIDAY, February 3d, 1854.

Thus endeth the two days of torture. I agree with Mr. Jewett in saying "Pity the sorrows of a poor young woman." Yesterday was a blue day in my calendar and to-day I have had the meanest of colds in my head. Miss Lyman's corridor is covered all over with matting and her sister is here so I suppose she is worse. Poor old Lady! Prof. Backus was the leader in Chapel to night. Before supper if I had not been afraid of making my eyes red I would have had a good cry I felt so tired and homesick but since listening to Prof. B. and getting May's invite I feel better. How people with only themselves to please and tend to get along I dont[sic] see for even because I had no one here to sympathize with me in my success, though there are good ...

[printed] SATURDAY, February 4th, 1854

Have been feeling something
like crossness because no let
ter came from home to-day only
a mean little scrawl from Harry.

I should not say that for I was
glad to get it if only for a proof
that when he had a spare min-
ute he did not forget me.

Asked Miss Morse if I could
go to church with Miss Brown
and she was good as pie as
she generally is to me.

[printed] SUNDAY, February 5th, 1854.

Heard a good New Church
sermon but it was not
by Mr. Giles but by Mr. Keyes
I found that I had been
mistaken in thinking that
it was he I heard in Septem-
ber. Prof. Farrar is the kindest
man around this institution
On the way to church he
stopped his sleigh and took
in the Misses Hogg and
Miss Fulick and I heard af-
terwards that he regretted
very much he had not
thought to get on top with
the driver and take Miss
Brown and me in too.
Next year I mean to be
in his Bible class if
it is a possible thing.
I'll see what my friends
can do for me by writing.

[printed] MONDAY, February 6th, 1854.

Could not have been suited better in regard to my recitations. Have Latin of Miss Smiley the first and fifth periods; French of Miss Kapp the second, Rhetoric of Miss Clark the third. I feel sure of learning more French with Miss Kapp than with Miss Simmonds. We had no lessons to recite to day and consequently I spent the day principally in fooling, though I did make a cover for my trunk and sew a little on my blue shirt. I wish I could learn to improve the extra time we have thrown in so as it should be improved! May be I can if I try.

[printed] TUESDAY, February 7th, 1854.

[printed] WEDNESDAY, February 8th, 1854.

We had Prof. Backus in
Chapel this evening. He read
the thirteenth chapter of Cor
inthians which is all a
bout Charity and made a
prayer at the end which
[long dash]

[printed] THURSDAY, February 9th, 1854.

Was stopped somewhat suddenly last night by the close of Silent time and forget now what I was going to say but I think Prof. B. is a good deal of a New Churchman Am tired enough to go to bed but instead must go at old Caesar. We had a new fandango in gym this afternoon was rather strainsome. Etta returned this afternoon. Was sick the reason she did not come before. Alice was in bed all day yesterday with head ache. Better have that than heart ache. May wrote to Pres. R. to be put in Miss Kapps French so that she might learn a little more this term than last.

[printed] FRIDAY, February 10th, 1854

Lecture by the Bishop was good except in one particular and that was, (according to my idea,) that he made his sentences entirely too long so that one had to pay the closest attention in order to keep the thread of his discourse. And as it is tiresome to have to listen so closely he had better shorten his sentences.

Saw in the paper yesterday that a diary to be of any use ought to be truthful and that one ought never to leave it unwritten for several days and then fill them all in at once without noting the fact, therefore I acknowledge this to be written on Saturday instead of Friday. Now my conscience is clear

[printed] SATURDAY, February 11th, 1854

Principal events of to-day
were the meetings of the
Students Association. It a-
bolished the Transcript be-
cause the Faculty would not
let them publish it quarterly
instead of yearly and in-
tended to send a notice to their
Exchanges of the fact in a printed
circular and it resolved that
each student should send
a notice to her corridor teach-
er of what she particularly a-
bominated in our fare. At
noon another meeting was called
and they decided to send a
written note instead of a
circular to their exchanges
and voted against that
way of altering our eatables
and decided on masterly
inaction for the present

[printed] SUNDAY, February 12th, 1854.

Had a splendid sermon from
Bishop Huntington. in the
evening Mrs Bixby told us
about the Birmese [sic]. They say
that when they die "they die
and go to smoke." Their god
is called godimis. The wo-
men's highest idea of happi-
ness after death is to become
a man. The men's is to go on
higher till they get to have
no sensation at all of any
kind. They believe in the
transmigration of souls and
fear if they lead bad lives they
may become some animal.
Fried silkworms is their fa-
vorite dish. The women wear
earrings as large round as [drawn circle]
Some are hollow so as to con-
tain their jewels. They got
their religion from the Hindoos

[printed] MONDAY, February 13th, 1854.

coming out of the chapel
we went allright but when
we got outside we stopped.
Have not found out yet
who my mice came from
not can I imagine who is
so terribly smashed on me.
Reported that Mr Lyman is
smashed on Miss Sewall, [Latin
phrase]. Gave her a flower
today from Dr. A's. bouquet
and she smiled sweetly. I
wonder if they guess how
much we watch what
goes on at the Faculty
table. I notice that poor
Dr Blackford is having a hard
time again in Greensboro
May he live to get through
it all correct is the sin-
cere wish of ...

[printed] TUESDAY, February 14th, 1854.

Five years ago, the present time, I was rather a seasick girl. I believe it was just a little after I had left the supper table so abruptly. How well I can remember all about those times although I did not keep a diary. We had a speech to night about our "general movements," to the dining room, out of it and out of chapel. The Pres. told a story of the horses for the New York ferry boats when he was a boy--how they went right fast as long as they were within reach of the man's whip but went slowly as soon as they got out--and said we were like those horses, as long as we were in his sight

[printed] WEDNESDAY, February 15th, 1854.

Have nothing particular
to say here so guess I'll not
try to make up anything
but will read "Messenger".
Have made up my mind
to write to the boys for the
promise I want on Johns
birthday. May Our Father
inspire my pen in that
letter! If they could only
see what I have I know
they would promise me

[printed] THURSDAY, February 16th, 1854.
Horrid ugly blue day.

[printed] FRIDAY, February 17th, 1854.

Decided not to write the letter

I meant to John and Harry and wait

till I see them as until then

they will be exposed to no temp

tation. Meditated all Silent Time

on what I would probably have

to do after leaving school and

came to the conclusion that I

must have some definite aim

in view and fit myself for

it and not keep going on

in this blind aimless way.

Made up my mind that

it was not a sufficient to aim

merely to obey the Golden Rule and

try to be an accomplished, well

educated woman to please my

Father and friends but that I

must have something definite

in view.

[printed] SATURDAY, February 18th, 1954.

Etta, Alice and I went
all over and saw all the
girls about Mays birthday.
All seemed pleased with the
idea. Guess we will have a
fine time. Myra saw Pussy.
It has rained so that we
could not have our sleigh
ride and I, for one, am
glad of it for I knew all
the time it was too much
of an extravagance for me.
The others are sorry and
will try it again but I
guess I'll have courage and
sense enough to keep out
of it next time. They came
at me so suddenly last time
that I hardly knew what I
was about. I am afraid
that when folks come at
me so they could make
me do almost anything.

[printed] SUNDAY, February 19th, 1854.

Feel pretty miserable all
day today. Mean in a
little while to get undress-
ed and lie in bed and
read till I go to sleep. I
suppose Miss Hamlin thinks
I am dreadful wicked
to stay away from pray-
er meeting but I get
enough false theology
during the daytime.

[flourish with pen]
it for a real love of them
and not because she had
to, etc. etc. but he could not
force her love. She will
keep her promise. That is
why she did not want
to make one.

[printed] MONDAY, February 20th, 1854.

Took a lone walk to-day a
round the lake. Going the
mud was almost ankle
deep; coming the snow was
knee deep. But it was
fun except when I most
fell down. The men have
a big place cleared out at
the end of the lake, I guess
it will be gay rowing next
year. Jen was sent for by
Miss M. again who said she
would waive the telling of the
rooms she was in study hour
but she must promise to
keep the rules. V. B. would not
promise. The President sent for
her a little after and said if
she did not promise she should
be expelled. So the poor child had
to do it And then he said how
he wished she would do

[printed] TUESDAY, February 21st, 1854.

Miss Lyman died to-day at four o'clock. She peacefully slept away. I first heard of it at the gymnasium. It was curious to see how the girls received the news; some looked as jolly as they heard it as they had a moment before, some looked grave, and a very few cried. At supper the room was as still as chapel almost; no one spoke above a whisper and the creaking of the waiters shoes was plainly heard. The President made some very fitting remarks in Chapel. He said we must not feel sad. Miss Lyman wished us to rejoice that she was gone. Her prayer for days had been, not that she might stay but that she might be made willing to stay. Dr. Avery seems to feel worse than any one else.

[printed] WEDNESDAY, February 22nd, 1854.

We had funeral services to-day
in the Chapel. There were a great
many strangers here from town
All the gallery was filled and
down stairs packed. Nearly all
the girls had on black entirely
and it made it look very mel
ancholy. (How funny that looks)
There was a meeting of the S. A.
in the morning at which it was
determined to send to town for
flowers. The Fresh. a wreath the Soph.
a cross, the Jun. an anchor, the
Sen, a crown, the Spec. and Preps
cut flowers. The anchor and crown
which could not be got in Po'keepsie
are to be obtained in Montreal. At
another meeting it was decided
that we all wear crape [sic] for thirty
days. after the services there
was a procession of twenty three
carriages of teachers who went to the
train and visitors.

[printed] THURSDAY, February 23d, 1854.

Day of Prayer for Colleges. Had

Chapel services at 11:15, prayer meet

ing in the afternoon and eve-

ning. I went only to the first

Heard a good sermon by Rev. ...

Hall of New York, a Presbyterian. He

is an Irishman and has on-

ly been in this country three

years. Preached entirely without

notes. Began a frame for

May which was spoiled

in the making. About

every evening I think

of going to Dr. Avery and

saying I want some med

icine but before her office

hour the next day feel so

much better I put it

off hoping to get well

of myself. I have a great

admiration for Dr. A. and

if I had anything serious

troubling me would go to her.

{printed] FRIDAY, February 24th, 1854.

Mira went to Pussy to-day.

Pussy said she-a-thought

that-a-fruit cake was-a-

not necessary, nor-a-candy

or-a-raisins, a...chickens-a

could we strike some of those

off. As we could not help

ourselves we struck of [sic] the

cake and raisins and

candy. She is afraid we

will spend too much money

and-a-Vassar College has

a name-a-to be sustained and

-a-she wishes we would try

and not feell [sic] her objections as

restrictions at all but try and

feel cheerful over it. It is queer

how she can imagine in what

other way we could take them.

It is a pity Vassar is in such need

of a character for solidity that we

can't have a spree once a year.

[printed] SATURDAY, February 25th, 1854.

The lecture yesterday evening
was glorious and I too al
most forgot the speakers hair.
in admiring his talk. Sir
Philip was very good accord-
ing to Mr Curtis representations
When May was got up stairs un
der pretence [sic] of seeing a fine
view in 112, just as soon as
she was fairly in Mira toast
ed her and they all drank
her many happy returns. Poor
girl she was overwhelmed and
I thought she would fall to
the floor but luckily there was
a chair near by for her to hold
fast to till she recovered. On the
whole it was a success and
all seemed to enjoy themselves
I think the absence of chairs
helped off the stiffness. When
I have a party it would be
well to tote off all the chairs

[printed] SUNDAY, February 26th, 1854.

Last night after I got to bed
I suddenly thought of the basket of remains and hopped out and set it on top of the two pitchers, the basins being filled with water, so as to keep the mice off. Had lots to write home about to-day. I wish every week would have as many events. I hear them all going to prayer meeting but ain't going. The great subject of conversation is Miss Slocum who has been put back from the Senior Class. I pity her but am not yet sure whether herself or the Faculty is most to blame. Whichever it is she will have a hard time for the rest of this term. Lottie is in Poughkeepsie visiting

[printed] MONDAY, February 27th, 1854.

Miss Smiley slid neatly
over the 21st chapter that
we were dreading so when
Prof. H. came in by telling us
to turn directly to the advance
in the 22nd Was a good
girl today, copied up my
French and practised besides
Elocution. Today we had a
whispering exercise beside
the breathing and sounds of
A. Little H... made Little
Hinkle laugh in Latin by
saying one of her happy
thoughts. I distinguished
myself in a very uncom-
fortable manner in the
class, but did better than
my associates. It was an
abominably hard lesson any
way.

[printed] TUESDAY, February 28th, 1854.

For the last of Feb. I have
nothing to say besides my
little book record except that
I have begun to read Philip
the Second. I think of begin
ning a tidy for Mamma and
making her some of the deep
tattaing [?] that Abbie White made
a pattern of.

[printed] WEDNESDAY, March 1st, 1854.

The report of Miss Lovell of what the Faculty think of Founders day programme was made in S. A. this eve. They propose that we go to Sunnyside and spend the day. After some talk the Stu. did not agree to go. Then Miss Jewett proposed that we have the ordinary collation. Miss Fulsom opposed the plan. After a good deal of discussion and two votes had been taken Miss Jewett lost by fourteen. A pretty close vote for so many. The subject of college colors was settled and we are to send for the number of yards we want (of ribbon) before Saturday. There was more discussion the meeting than in any before. Some said, in effect, that the only objection to the collation was Miss L. and now she was dead there could be none.

[printed] THURSDAY, March 2nd, 1854.

"As the communicants meeting is on Saturday evening the usual prayer meeting this evening will be omitted" was this evenings notice. Rather a singular reason for putting off a prayer meeting. I wonder if only communicants go to it! Heard from Clara Critken today, and was told for the third or fourth time of -- I won't write such an illnatured sounding thing even in my diary. I wonder if I should ever rise to be a celebrated crackter [sic] if my diary will be published with my life and letters. It would be so exceedingly interesting to the public. I am really afraid to put down my thoughts for fear they will be published

N.B. That sentence is like "Credo" in "Rick"

[printed] FRIDAY, March 3d [sic], 1854.

[printed] SATURDAY, March 4th, 1854.

Miss Monks and Miss Nichols were the essayists of the evening. The latter's essay was a plea for Charles Dickens and was first rate.

She is a smart girl and thinks correctly of Charles --according to my idea.

May is coming to sleep with me tonight. Miss Hamlin had been in Po'keepsie since yesterday noon. Exchanged the old cracked plate Comedy gave me, for Smith, for a decent looking one that he will probably accept even if it is not the identical one he sent up here. The girls in Vassar are the poorest set I ever came across for change or big bills either I guess from the way they spoke when I tried to change that today

[printed] SUNDAY, March 5th, 1854.

All I remember of the
sermon was the anecdote
about the boy eating
honey and when his
father asked him how
sweet it was he said
taste it and see for yourself.
Rather impudent.
Feel quite satisfied with
myself to-day in point
of writing and what I
will read this evening
Yesterday's snow all melted
and now everything
is nice again. Sent
on my bill to-day. It
was a disagreeable thing
to do, but such things
have to be done and the
best way is to grin and
bear it. Screwed my courage
up to asking the boys for
the promise I want to-day.

[printed] MONDAY, March 6th, 1854.

Nothing--

[two lines in French]

[printed] TUESDAY, March 7th, 1854.

Miss Smiley was sick so
we had no Latin to day
Prof. Hinkle told us of it the
first time; the second,
after waiting five minutes
we cut--in all directions
for fear we would meet
the Prof who might send
us back. Even the Seniors
stopped and stared to see
the Preps cut. Misses Monks
and Folsom have killed
a cat and they are going
to stuff it. Nice wok [sic]!
Am going to begin on
my other tatting chemise
after Silent time and
Latin. Have got about
third way through Philip
the Second, vol.I Found
a trowel on my wan-
derings to day which I'll
keep for future gardenings

[printed] WEDNESDAY, March 8th, 1854.

There is to be a concert by
the Cecilia society this even-
ing. Would I were a member.
Found my music book in
No.13 where I looked lots of
times. Miss Preston was so
good when I asked her about
it that I almost begin to
like her. President said we
would have no new Lady P.
till next year etc. etc. but
the same arrangement as
at present would continue ...
Did not take off our blankets
this morning as ordered.
Studied Rhetoric with Mame
Kiersted. Was picked up on
"Augustine" in class this
morning. I will be mad
to morrow if I find out
that my way was wrong.

[printed] THURSDAY, March 9th, 1854.

chairs put the books
from the stand. under
the table poured all
the water out of their
pitchers and put out
the gas in all the rooms

[printed] FRIDAY, March 10th, 1854.

Lecture by Robinson Pres. of

some college and author

of our Algebra--on the

real movers of the world.

First rate good for him

I think. About half the

girls think it was splen

did and the other half

that it was abominable

I don't like lectures on

Friday evening for we

have to study so hard

Saturday in consequence

This has been one of

the least eventful weeks

since I came to Vas

sar nothing done, nothing

to say about.

Went with Etta before the

lecture and unmade

the two beds in Alice's

parlor upset all the

[printed] SATURDAY, March 11th, 1854.

Miss Brown was too
tired to go and call on
that young lady avec moi
for which I am truly
thankful. Went with
Etta to see Prof. Hinkle
He did not see me com
ing after the other two &
shut the door in my face
but excused himself im
mediately. I think he is
gay. Made a little tatting
and did nothing--an-
other Saturday wasted.
Paid Mr. Schon to day
He was in a much
better humor than us-
ual. Gay old gentleman
Heaps of gay old gentle
men around here it
pears like.

[printed] SUNDAY, March 12th, 1854.

[printed] MONDAY, March 13th, 1854.

[printed] TUESDAY, March 14th, 1854.

[printed] WEDNESDAY, March 15th, 1854.

Last night May and Grace
were scared because they
thought some one was at
their window and they scream
ed. Which brought in Misses
Preston, Swayze and Hamlin.
The [sic] got quieted down soon
and went to rest again
It was kept pretty quiet all
day but at night Eva R.
came up and heard the
news and said she was
going to frighten the girls
and sure enough she did.
About two hours after a
deputy came up from the
1st South to know if they
should barricade their win-
dows to keep people out.
and Lottie and Jen yelled
out as soon as I got home
to know all the story about
Miss Pennell

[printed] THURSDAY, March 16th, 1854.

May's man is growing.

To-day the story is that he

got in the window and

had a heap of jewelry out

and was just going off

with the watches and

when they screamed he

ran. He went through sev-

eral stages before he got

to this. Miss Hamlin

says he was all made by

the watchman shutting

down the windows when

it began to rain. Anyhow

it was nice for a little

excitement. Jen slept

with Lottie Last night and

left me to guard the ...

side of the house

Miss Morse sent for ...

and told her she

down stairs on account of

[line too light to read]

[printed] FRIDAY, March 17th, 1854.

Yesterday my home letters
came so I received ...
to-day. My boys promised
what I asked without a
... for which I was
gladder than I have been
...anything for a long
long time. St. Pat's
day and we had tea at
... ... gyms were
to come in the evening
but we were excused
from them so I did
not have to walk. Wrote
to Mr. McCandless which is
one of the hardest things
I have to do and I am
thankful it is done
Have withstood Etta's
teasing so far and guess
I can stand it till the
... Wrote to Mamma & sent
it yesterday.

[printed] SATURDAY, March 18th, 1854.

Spent all the morning
studying Rhetoric. It is
a shame to always give us
harder lessons for Monday
than any other day. Prac
tised in the afternoon and
did one or two other
things and Saturday was
gone. Nothing happened
more than usual and
I am glad vacation is
coming when there will
be a chance to rest.

[printed] SUNDAY, March 19th, 1854.

... .. classes excused

...

... .. was sick. May
and Etta and I walked
... B. c. time up and
... the observatory
path. It was a most
delightful day. That
at way off looks as
if I were studying Latin
Wrote to Christine that
I had fully made up
my changeable mind
to stay here during the
Easter time. I expect
to have a gay time reading
then if ... don't worry
the life out of me before
then. May is helping her
so it is much as possi
ble

[printed] MONDAY, March 20th, 1854.

Made up my mind to
go to Brooklyn. Had a long
letter from Papa and he
sent me Parson's Essays,
Hohnes Mechanism of thought
and Scripture paradoxes and
gave his explanation
of what I wanted to know
Gave in my ticket at cor
ridor meeting. Don't want
to go very much but
guess I will to please
my parents

[printed] TUESDAY, March 21st, 1854.

Letters to-day which frustrated my plans of yesterday. Miss Spelman writes that she has to go away from home to nurse her sister so that I cannot go there. Can't say I am very sorry but ... will be. Letter from Julia wanting to know when I will be in B. so that she can come and see me. Am not going to tell the girls of the change in my ideas for I don't want to die before my time by worrying. Told Miss Hamlin to keep it quiet and so she will.

[printed] WEDNESDAY, March 22nd, 1854.

Small explanation this evening on examinations. The three weeks review determines whether we pass in our studies and the two days are for the benefit of the examining committee. President Raymond made several little jokes, about our changing our names and having pet names go down to posterity. He wants good names and respectable if not beautiful go into the Vassar Catalogue. Thankful I have not one of that sort.

[printed] THURSDAY, March 23d, 1854.

Letter from John containing a riddle. Why is a man eating soup with a fork like one trying to kiss his sweetheart. Heard of the revolution in Paris, mean to read up Sunday. President said in Chapel that they had written to Mr Gough and if he came he would be here about eleven to-morrow. May he come.

[printed] FRIDAY, March 24th, 1854.

Went to Delta and saw
Much ado about nothing.

It was first rate. How
the girls get up their
costumes I can't see.

They are almost as good
as if they were regular
actors and had everything
instead of having to bor-
row a little here and a
little there. Society Hall
was about as full as it
could be, teachers in abundance.

Letter from Papa enclosing
a notice of Dr. Harper and
some seeds which I hope
had nothing to do with
Mr. Buckley. Did not think
they would take at my
word so quickly. Mr
Gough did not come though
we watched all 4th Period.
One girl said a watched
pot never boils. ...

[printed] SATURDAY, March 25th, 1854.

Read In Trust all the
afternoon and am
sorry I wasted my
time so. It would not
be so bad if there were
not so many simple
remarks in it, especial-
ly about the broad high
forehead, expressive mouth,
and roman nose of the
three weeks old baby.

Miss Douglass appears to
think the first duty
of a married woman
is to have a baby to
go down to posterity-at
any rate every one
had one in less than
a year from when
they were married.

[printed] SUNDAY, March 26th, 1854.

Wrote to John, Miss Spelman

Matha, Clara, Julia, Papa

In the afternoon and

evening Dora read Dream

Life by Donald G. Mitchell

It is good and leaves one

something to think of be-

sides babies I seem to

go by starts, usually I

read nothing and now

I have read two books

in two days. Called on

Miss Brown and she

told me some queer

stories about Alice

Clark and others

I wonder how much

she knows about the

Carters. I hope not

so much as I do for

their sakes.

[printed] MONDAY, March 27th, 1854.

Nobody ever had more different plans. This morning I was as fixed in my resolve to stay here through the vacation as possible--to night my trunk is packed for going to Philadelphia. All because Papa said I might run over there for a day or two from Brooklyn. I thought if I could go at all I might as well go for the whole time as I cannot go to Brooklyn. But I must take back my invitations to Clara and [sic] Julia. I will go and see [squiggle] on my way back here Monday if nothing happens

[printed] TUESDAY, March 28th, 1854.

[printed] WEDNESDAY, March 29th, 1854.

Meeting of the Students Association lasting till after eight. The President was caught on the way out of Chapel and reminded of his promise to explain the reasons why the Faculty would not let the S. A. Support Mary Kneisel any more. He explained very satisfactorily to me, and then said he would answer any questions they wished to ask on the subject and the [sic] asked and he answered, in the meanwhile giving quite an animated speech on the want of Trust the S. A. had in the Faculty. After he left they discussed Founders Day again - decided to ask H. [initial] Beecher before finally deciding on Prof. Raymonds reading

[printed] THURSDAY, March 30th, 1854.

Our trunks were toted off
this afternoon to my de-
light. Had a letter from
Papa enclosing check for
fifty dollars. And the
news that he had resign-
ed as C. I. R. but he did
not say what he was
going to do. May he
have some business that
will bring him North.

A glorious concert this
evening by four Phil-
harmonics under Prof.
Ritter. Miss Lloyd and
Miss Mussel played. The
Misses Lord sat right in
front in the gallery with
white kids on and an
opera glass and looked
childlike and bland
and mighty simple.

[printed] FRIDAY, March 31st, 1854.

Arrived in Phil. 8-15.P.M.

Went down to Po'keepsie

in a carriage with

May, Etta, Alice, Abbie

and Kiersted. The first

three went on the 12-20

train and we others

wandered around town

till the 1-15. Over 130 of

us went down. Was Piloted

to the ferry by Lott. W. and

then I was leader and

piloted the Tituses and

Shultis across the

Ferry and to the cars

myself. Talked to Mr. Hon

ell most of the way to

Phil. A Gay Old Gentleman.

Kate asked me to join

their party. Miss Hamlin

came to talk to me in the

cars but I was cool and

calm. She don't like me

[printed] SATURDAY, April 1st, 1854.

April Fool's Day. The
clock face was covered
with paper and we
all looked at it and
were fooled. It rained
all day long. Began my
green tidy and made a
little tatting. Played Rounces
all the evening till
after ten before one game
was finished. Poor Uncle
John Aitken seems pretty
feeble. Wrote to Julia and
Clara Raynor telling
them not to come to
Vassar during the va-
cation to see me.

[printed] SUNDAY, April 2nd, 1854.

Went to Sunday School
and Church. There were
not many people in
either place and I
should not wonder if
the society was broken
up soon. It is a pity
people are poor and
fight so. Mary, Fannie
and Sue. Aitken came
over in the afternoon
and Ben brought Mary
and Lizzie Snyder to see
me. Wrote to Harry and
home. We sat in the
parlor without the gas
lit all the evening and
talked books and authors
The boys had to take the
girls home. Glad I aint
boys to have to go home
with girls whether or
no I want to.

[printed] MONDAY, April 3rd, 1854.

Spent the evening at Fanny Aitkens. Dont think she is the most ladylike girl I ever saw. If I was a boy I would not like to have cold potatoes thrown at me in my face and on my good coat. If I were to sling one my pere would give me a short address on the evils of my ways. It rained all the evening and we were caught in it in the afternoon. Rode up in a car without paying any fare. Ella under took it but in the crowd could not find the conductor.

[printed] TUESDAY, April 4th, 1854.

Was a little extravagant
but I could not help it
because it was for Sallie
for her birthday. Poor Un-
cle John is worse. I don't
think the children realize
how sick he is, or else
I think he is worse
than he is. It seems as
though he might go off
in any of the smoth-
ering spells he has. Ben
is most to be pitied for
he seems to think so
much of his father.

[printed] WEDNESDAY, April 5th, 1854.

Had a real good time at
Lizzie Snyder's last night
and danced the ... a-
gain Awkward looking
body I guess I am in
them as it is the second
time since nine years.
Hope I have spent my
last cent for I have
not much more than
enough to get back on
Have only been extrava-
gant in two things this
time which is pretty
good for me. We went
over to Mr. Smith's store
and got weighed. I
weighed 142 1/2 pounds
Am coming down a
little or else had on
thinner clothing

[printed] THURSDAY, April 6th, 1854.

[printed] FRIDAY, April 7th, 1854.

[printed] SATURDAY, April 8th, 1854.

Fussed over my dress all
the morning and in
the afternoon we went
to the matinee; it was
decidedly a mixed up
play that we saw and
there was considerable
dancing. The last scene
was very beautiful, but
on the whole it was dif
ferent from what we ex
pected and I did not
admire it much but
I was glad I went for
it was something new.
Our escort told us to tell
anyone who might ask
us about it that "it was
very deep." Spent half
an hour after I came
back bathing Mary's head.
She seemed entirely worn
out.

[printed] SUNDAY, April 9th, 1854.

Saw Mr & Mrs Ballon
in church. He sent her
up to the altar to see
what those young girls
were doing with the
flowers and then she
recognized me. On my
way down stairs to wash
some ivy he stopped me &
asked me lots of things with
out knowing me. In the
evening lost a lock of my
hair and read spots of
Innocents Abroad, selected
by Ben. Saw Dr. Harper
go by in the afternoon
but had no chance to
call to him. Wish I
had for I wanted to
talk to him so much.
Sat up with Ella and
the boys till everyone
had gone to bed.

[printed] MONDAY, April 10th, 1854.

Left Phil. on the 3-10
train. Made a very
quick trip to Newark
When I got there they
put me down at the
wrong place and I
had a gay time find
ing where the girls
live. Guess I'll not
be such a fool next
time. Took a walk
in the evening and
got some ice cream
and after we went
to bed talked till very
late. They scolded me
for not coming on Sat-
day. Saw Mrs Guyger in
the evening and Mr
Pinney.

[printed] TUESDAY, April 11th, 1854.

Went over to New York

at little past nine.

Found that my trunk

had not yet left

Philadelphia and had

to telegraph for it. Call

ed on Mrs Lockwood

who was at dinner,

fortunately for us. She

has a beautiful new

house with alcove bed

rooms beautifully fur-

nished. Called on

Clara and got another

sound scolding for

not coming before.

Hope my friends will

hereafter expect me

when I say I'll come

and not when they

take a kink I will

be there.

[printed] WEDNESDAY, April 12th, 1854.

Studied a little last eve
but not much for I
was tired. Went to class
to-day without know-
ing very much but
got along tolerably well
as we had dictation in
French. A great many
of the girls are not
back yet. Etta and
Alice came this morning.
May did not take our
advice but came back
on time. The girls say
they had a gay time
here boating excursioning
etc. But I don't wish
I had stayed. Found
letters from Harry
and Mary.

[printed] THURSDAY, April 13th, 1854.

In choral class this morning the second sopranos were as stupid as before the vacation and I am ashamed of them. Finished the first volume of Philip the Second. Am beginning to feel as if there had been no vacation. It is so easy to get back into the old habits. Had gymnastics. The prohibition on walking after five o'clock has been removed for which I say three cheers. Am going to have Mrs Green make my skirts. Tuttle told me about her trouble as Prep. Special.

[printed] FRIDAY, April 14th, 1854.

Got out Philip the
tooth. In the evening
wrote up my small
diary and read and
talked instead of stu-
dying Latin. Studied my
French in the afternoon.
My trunk came yester-
day to my great de-
light but I had to
pay two dollars and a
half for it. Guess my
fifty won't be near
fifty very long at the
present rate. Wrote to
Mrs McCandless; and
wrote to Rob telling
him not to worry
for my trunk was
here all correct &
unpacked. [two lines
too faint to read]

[printed] SATURDAY, April 15th, 1854.

Studied a few minutes
in the morning and
most of the rest of
the day I fussed over
my dress. Lottie read
some of the Newcomes
to me while I worked.
Miss Morse sent for
May and told her she
would have to give
her Miss Irwin for
a roommate which
was mean consider
ing that she had
told her that she
need not have any.
Studied Latin in
Mays room with Miss
Meeker who is quite
an addition to we
folks. I like smart
folks to study with

[printed] SUNDAY, April 16th, 1854.

Had a "... .." to

preach for us to-day. For

a wonder the sermon

was not about Martha

& Mary. He was an ug-

ly little fellow with a

crooked, one-sided, wig.

Preached us pretty near

to sleep, but had such a

cracked voice that we

did not set quite to

it. Tuttle wrote to Harry

and it was a gay old

letter notwithstanding

she said I held the baby

for the little girl who

told me the way in

Newark when I did

not at all. Read a

little in the library

in the evening

[printed] MONDAY, April 17th, 1854.

Letter from Mamma

saying I must get my
calico dresses here, so I
guess I'll not get any
at least not till I am
sure about going home.

Took May and Tuttle over
to Mrs ...'s. A goose
chased us and frightened
May. We sat down un-
der one of the trees to
play euchre on the way
back but it was so
near the road and in
such plain sight of
the building that we
only played one game
before coming in.

[printed] TUESDAY, April 18th, 1854.

A wasp stung me
just before Silent time
but by putting mud
on immediately I
seemed to draw out
the poison. Got a
piece of classical
Latin poetry (as I thought
... three classes for I
did not have a chance
to look at it in
Latin class when I
read the accompany
ing letter. Subject of
it was "Carmen"

[printed] WEDNESDAY, April 19th, 1854.

Sunday April 19, 1868

Today I wrote to

my old uncle I wonder

how soon he will an-

swer me. Papa is quite

sick to day and Mary

is trying to be.

Mrs Harper goes to-

morrow. I don't think

there is much of a

chance at present

of my going to the

Xenia seminary to

take singing lessons

We have broken all

ties to Slippery Dick

and have declared war

To day the Sentinel

denounces Papa and

the Mail defends him

What a change from last

winter! We may have to

leave the State yet

[printed] THURSDAY, April 20th, 1854.

Prof. Backus was not
in Rhetoric if Miss Clard
did ask him to come
in every day till we
did not care whether he
came or not. We were
quite Smart last night
We translated about 120
lines of Cicero in an
hour and twenty min
utes, a line and a
half a minute. This
is our last night
with that author I
trust and believe
A beautiful mist is ov
er all the earth like
some soft veil to hide
the preparations for na-
tures beautiful appearance
on a sunshiny to-mor
row.

[printed]FRIDAY, April 21st, 1854.

Annie Love spent the
evening with me, mir
abile dictu, and over
our travelling ... had
quite a pleasant talk
for nearly two hours, on
clothes and people.
Saw Miss Darling, whom
I supposed to be still
away and was reminded
that I must call on
her soon.

[printed] SATURDAY, April 22nd, 1854.

Rose ce matin at half
past six and was
dressed by the time the
rising bell rang and
went down and fix
ed May's hair for her
picture. Worked on
my dress rouchs all
the morning while Etta
darned. She and May
are going to belong to
Tuttle's croquet club. There
is a quiet sort of row
going on between Etta
and Alice, sorry to write.

[printed] SUNDAY, April 23rd, 1854.

[printed]MONDAY, April 24th, 1854.

[initial]T. told us the news

at supper that she had

run off and gone to town

this afternoon. She walked

in and a young gent

brought her out in his

buggy to the lake steps

Pretty risky business

but it must have

been fun. I am a-

fraid she talked too

much at supper and

that my friend of

the big eyes knows

of it. Some one made

a noise in Cor. meet

ing and I know Miss

Hamlin thought I did

it for she stared at

me so. She suspects

me of everything I

guess now 2 days.

[printed]TUESDAY, April 25th, 1854.

It is after half past

seven and I have just

returned from the Students

We have had a long discus

sion on Mary Kniesel, the

last I hope for she is to

send here [sic] dressmakers bill

her [sic] to be paid and the rest

of the money for her is to be

sent to Mr. Van Meter. Her Sem

inary has been burned and

she dont know just what

she has lost except two

pairs of corsets. She must

have had three pairs for

she had one on, a good

lot for such a poor girl.

They want us each to pay

fifteen cents more for

Founder's Day. I have paid

as much as I am going

to for one.

[printed]WEDNESDAY, April 26th, 1854.

not go to Chapel. Jen
and Fan and lots of
others have been called
up for something. They
two got off quite easily
as they had only done it
once for fun. F had to
tell this afternoon where
she got the cigarettes
so probably Lot. will be
sent for. I should
think that in all
this investigation Tut
tle would tremble.
It is said that Nell
Epler received a box of
Cigaretts [sic] every day from
one of the Bizby boys.
Fred Hinkle is the
go between. I expect
the President will give
us a fine speech on the
subject next Tuesday.

[printed]THURSDAY, April 27th, 1854.

Great excitement throughout
the building not for Founders
Day but for the row
on the gambling smoking
and drinking question
also the flirting with
the Bizby boys. Rumors fly
all over the college. Every
time Jen and I meet we
have some new edition to
relate. The last was that
Misses Ledue and Cornell are
as deep in it as the others
and were found gambling
after ten also drinking. 4
girls were to be publicly ex
pelled tonight in Chapel but
they weren't. There are
thirty or forty others who
are to be privately expelled
Two girls were so drunk
last Sunday that they could

[printed]FRIDAY, April 28th, 1854.

The latest to night is
that Waltby and Dane
have hid out of the
fuss and Epler alone
told the truth and is
alone to be expelled. Dane
mean. Of course every
one is furious at that
Epler has the sympathies
of the teachers. We will
probably hear of it in
Chapel Tuesday. Up
till twelve at the F.[ounders] D.[ay]
performance. It was too
long for any use. The
reading lasted over two
hours. Lough and Safford were
so cold in the beginning that
we almost suffocated. The
music was good except the
singing which was not much
count. The tableaux were fine
but not worth thirty dollars.

[printed]SATURDAY, April 29th, 1854.

It was lucky I sewed
all day yesterday for not
an earthly thing have I
done to-day, except working
an hour in the garden
In the afternoon just
as I was beginning to study
Miss Brown came. She
was very blue and, as
usual in such cases, talk-
ed all the time about the
sad condition of the Waltham
school and the bad way it
is of educating the N. C. children
outside the church. I am
sorry the school is so but
as I can't help it I am sorry
that she is always complaining
of it to me. She is rather scep-
tical [sic] of the stories about
the scrape of Maltby Dane & Epler
May she be in better spirits
next time she comes.

[printed]SUNDAY, April 30th, 1854.

Fooled away most of the
time between Bible class
and Chapel so did not
get to writing till after
noon. Wrote six letters
though before nine. Then
read a little in Philip
who passes away slowly.
Annie Love was up in
the evening to see Miss
Hamlin who, as usual,
was not at home. She
must be in the scrape
or she would not want
Miss Hamlin so much.
Lottie Rossiter is too I
guess by her looks. I won-
der what they had to do.
Annie always is very en-
vious when on [sic] goes to tell
her anything and when she
is told says O yes she kows [sic]
all about it!

[printed]MONDAY, May 1st, 1854.

Written 1868

I am one year old this day
My first birthday outside
the paternal mansion
and it is rather a lone
some affair. I have told
no one that it was my
birthday so did not even
get a good luck wish. But
such a good letter from
Mamma came that it
was not so very bad. It
is queer what she likes
me for. If I was some
one else I would not
like me a bit, it seems.
I mean to suggest going
out west next time I write
home. The south is not
fit for decent people
to live in when they
belong to our persuasion
I hate the place.

[printed]TUESDAY, May 2nd, 1854.

To-night the expected blow came. He began "Smoking, Drinking, Card playing, Clandestine correspondence with young men, going on in Vassar College" and then went on to say what he had heard from fathers and brothers. He then said what he had found out. In two cases cigars had been sent, and came. The cigars had been smoked in a frolic and the wine drank [sic]. He fussed lightly over that. Then enlarged on the girl's unwillingness to help him discover the facts. In two cases such was allowable [sic]- in Honor among Thieves and in shielding good men from tyrants. It was wrong here. He read the girls names out in Chapel. Said he would rather have ten scourgings than do it. I never felt so sorry for anyone in my life as those three poor girls. They are not to pass the front fence or the stream back or to receive gents in the parlors. The cards he skipped. A birthday package from Phil. came this afternoon. My friends are too good to me. It makes me want to do what I cannot. I have thought much of George to-day. Wonder if he thought of me yesterday. Though he may be ever so good in future.

[printed]WEDNESDAY, May 3d, 1854.

Yesterday it appeared that
some other people remember
my birthday besides Mamma
Very pleasant for me.
It appeareth strange that
Mrs. McCandless don't write
I must heap coals of fire
on her head next Sunday
Walked with Dora out in
the woods in the rain
so that she could get
some flowers to any-
lize [sic]. Began my pink
bracket It will not
be handsome but it
will answer the pur-
pose and fill a place
on the walls. We fear
that Mrs Humphries
called this morning
and found our par-
lor in disorder.

[printed] THURSDAY, May 4th, 1854.

Prof. Hinkle was in
Latin this noon. Came
just as I was finish-
ing luckily. I drew a
picture of him. Very
good picture but not
much like him. Noth-
ing in particular to
say. Two ladies from
Phil, principals of schools
have been here. One
wears a cap on her
head like a crown.
Trimmed up with
purple feathers. Looks
like Queen Victoria would
if she were an old maid
and fixed her hair in
little bunches of curls
sticking out the front
and the side under
her crown.

[printed] FRIDAY, May 5th, 1854.

Left two things out of
my letter to Ella that
I meant to put in, about
my cold and my brack
et. Will speak of them the
next time I write. Have
nothing to say. Am afraid
that John is still sick
as no letter from him
has come yet. I hope
for one to-morrow. I
am so sorry about poor
Mary ..., that she don't
get better. I hope that
they will have sense
enough to make her go
away some place and pay
attention to getting well.

[printed] SATURDAY, May 6th, 1854.

Had a delightful ... in
Papa's letter that they think of
coming north in the fall-
not in so many words but
I guessed it and I am going
home in June I guess. Did
not eat any supper last night
except a doughnut I stole. As
I felt the same indisposition
to eat this evening I did not
go down at all, preferring to
eat the remaining doughnut
in Silent time to sitting
half an hour at supper
doing nothing. Hope my
cold will get well soon.
Also that the supply of
coal will not give out
again this spring, or I
will have another.

[printed] SUNDAY, May 7th, 1854.

Went to chapel and
found it was cold
and that Prof. Orton
was going to preach
so I left just before
the sermon. Heard after
wards that it was a
very good one. Read
the Messenger till the
service was over when
I went to walk. Took
a roasting hot bath
and went to bed un-
der a pile of covers
last night in hopes
of bettering my cold
but succeeded not
at all. Hope to be
better to-morrow

[printed] MONDAY, May 9th, 1854.

Have just been hearing a
most romantic story from
Lottie Walker of a Mrs Dick
Colwell in Jersey. Hope to
it remember. Discovered
that I made a mistake
in my planting l'autre
jour and planted pinks
for mignonette et vice
versa. Don't think Miss
Lerow is nearly as good
a reader as Miss Swayze
She is too monotonous.

[printed] TUESDAY, May 9th, 1854.

Practised with Emily
Dane in gymnastics to
day during the steps. Etta
fooled over the dumb bells
and I chastised her. Then
she would not take my
arms so I left the
ranks. Then Miss Colwell
asked if I would practise
with Miss Dane. Saying
yes, I did so while Etta
stood by the wall and
grinned. Determined to
have my picture took.
Am in a pickle about
what to wear. Mr Kirtz
wants us to wear white
but I guess my silk
will be light enough
for this time.

[printed] WEDNESDAY, May 10th, 1854.

Cecilia has a soiree to-night. Wish I were a member. I would go instead of studying Latin. Conundrum business comes on slowly. One of last night was Why is the President like a Wildcat. Because he is related to pussy. another-Why is a horse running away like a dress being slit down the back. Because they both go licketty split. They were both rejected. Taken-When is a man in the smallest possible space.-When he is in a pickle. Miss Bennetts name was proposed for membership in the Philaetheau, to night.

[printed] THURSDAY, May 11th, 1854.

Tried to draw a picture at
supper to-night of we'uns
studying Latin. May sprawled
across the foot of the bed
Etta with her feet cocked
up on the foot board.

Me seated at the top of
the bed, Kiersted alongside
of me, Alice in the rocking
chair side of her. Etta was
saying "I have that in my
notes" Kiersted "May what
does hospitio mean" Alice
"I have the order of that"
I, "wait till I find my
notes" May "Please read
your notes Bertha." It
was not a success in
the artistic line, though
very expressive.

[printed] FRIDAY, May 12th, 1854.

After much consideration
have made up my mind
not to go to ... Fields lec-
ture on French Literature
this evening. Because by
close calculation I have
decided that if I don't
go this evening I can
almost finish my dress
tomorrow. Got the two
skirts finished this after-
noon. May is sick this
afternoon. Prof. Backus
officiated in Chapel. Wish
the President would resign to
him. Miss Clark told us yesterday
that a gentleman Principal of a school
visiting here said he was much
confused to see that there was
communication in every class
he saw.[three words too light to read] to that
Lady & said she was delighted
with the girls here because
they did not [two lines too light to read]

[printed] SATURDAY, May 13th, 1854.

Changed my mind
and went to the lecture
whh.[sic] lasted a period and
was splendid. The President
had her change her subject
to "What French will do
for you." She said that
even if we learned French
pretty well it would not do us
much good in French society
for the people were too sel
fish and fond of good con-
versation to invite anyone to
their parties who could not
enjoy them and be an or
nament to society. Said it
would do us a great deal of
good in reading French writing
Memoirs and Letters) It would
teach us to give parties and get
up general converse instead
of having off people for the eve.
Told us the story of the french
gentleman she gave a reception
to who wanted to know why
the Americans were so ...
in asking information
about France. Each taking ...
... alone

[printed] SUNDAY, May 14th, 1854.

(Written Monday.)

Had a most splendid

... talk by Prof. Back

us before the society of

Religious Inquiry. It was

on Home Missions. It was

the most interesting thing

I have heard in the College

He is an American in

sentiment and don't believe

in letting the enthusiasm

of foreign missions

drown the home miss

ions He spoke of how

wonderful a thing it

was that Christianity kept

pace with the population

But it is no use trying

to repeat. I only spoil it.

Etta came in afterwards

and we read Dr Johns

till ten o'clock. But we

were not very interested

[printed] MONDAY, May 15th, 1854.

Had my picture taken
this morning. He took
the girl that should
have come after me be-
fore me so I was late
to noon Latin. As there
was a good excuse and
it was not my fault
I suppose it won't matter
Heard that the soft look-
ing minister who has
been here several days
and who preached yes-
terday is going to write
us up in "Scribners." He
appears better in the pulpit
than out. It would be well
if he could always stay
there. He is about the
softest looking specimen
that we have had here.

[printed] TUESDAY, May 16th, 1854.

... was at the gym-

nasium this afternoon

Wonder if he will report

about the girls shoes. If

he does ,woe is me! Etta

and I came suddenly

upon him on the front

steps after supper, when

we went out to see if

it was warm enough to

go out and read Dr. Johns

It was warm enough and

we went out and read.

But, if I were a man visit

ing a ladies college I would

let them know when I was

around so they would not

be startled at coming suddenly

upon me. Also I would be

too bashful to be always per-

ambulating the halls just

when all the girls were there

going from one place of duty

to another so I would. He don't

[printed] WEDNESDAY, May 17th, 1854.

Sunday 68

Today morning Papa started
for the Presidential Con-
vention at Chicago. He ex-
pects to be gone about
two but I expect he will
be gone three weeks
We are still waiting
like the Micawbers for
something to turn up
The Senate have as good
as acquitted Andrew Johnson
and there is very small
chance of the State be-
ing admitted in less
than two months if it
is at all. If it isnt
we will all of us turn
up in some other state.
The 2 states I particu-
larly want to be in are
the states of health and
wealth. May we be in
both very soon Even so

[printed] THURSDAY, May 18th, 1854.

Guess I wont rub out
the record of three
years ago. It seems
like six since the
summer I used to
write now and then a
day up by my window
in Mrs. Weiss house.
Yesterday Pussy sent for me
I went down in fear
and trembling for fear she
would give me a roommate
But she only wanted to know
why I was absent from Chapel
2 weeks ago. Told her I had a
cold and the Chapel was cold
she excused me from that and
for being late to Latin Monday
As I ... was going out she
said "I suppose you would like to
know what your marks are" said I
"yes mamm." She said they were
very good with the exception of
one month in Latin. A little
more study would make them
perfect. I am very glad of it Would
like to know that month Thanked her and
... how I had wanted to find out
about them.

[printed] FRIDAY, May 19th, 1854.

Went down to supper this
evening with Corinne and
we were the first in
the room and when we
saw what a horrid old
supper there was we left
after pocketing some cookies
from our respective tables
It was well we were in
soon or we would have
had to stay An illustration
of how the early bird catches
the worm. When I went
at noon to the mail
Miss Preston said in her
ugly way you won't look
so smiling when you see
its only a paper. I told
her it was just what I
expected. I wonder why
she need be so disagree
able.

[printed] SATURDAY, May 20th, 1854.

In our walk around the lake
before tea May told me of
her plan for next year. She
is going to stay at home
and see what she can do
to make the folks there
happy as she says she has
never done for them but
the contrary, them for her
But je ne le crois pas ...
She is to keep on with her
French and Latin. I wish
I knew enough to be able
to do the same thing. Lucy
Sellers father came for her
this morning and she is
started for California hav-
ing passed examination in
her studies. She is lucky!
Have on a summer dress
for the first time. This is
a good place not to wear
out summer clothes in.

[printed] SATURDAY, May 20th, 1854.

A nice looking old goat
preached a good sermon
to-day. But he has the
snarliest voice I ever
heard which most marred
it. He looked too sweet to
have such a voice. His
sermon was full of poetical
quotations from Paradise Lost
to the Queen of the May. Very
funny. Called this "a unique
seminary" "a seminary of sec-
ular learning for young per-
sons" etc. Had the greatest
hunt to-day for letters and
the clover I had to send
the girls. I always have
to hunt for things. I
hope I may get out of
the habit before a
great many years. This
is the first gloriously hot
day.

[printed] MONDAY, May 22nd, 1854.

Miss Hamlin is so good

I wonder what is the

matter. She kissed me

said she was glad to see

me and asked if I miss

ed her. and altogether act

ed as though she had been

away a month instead of

two days. I did miss her

when Miss Preston came trot-

ting around ten o'clock, but

was not very down hearted.

Poor Dora is sick with a

sore mouth. Etta is

right-pert again. I caught

Miss Kapp's eye today in

class and she looked so

nice that I have been

homesick almost, ever

since. Miss Brashir rub-

bed out one of Lou Kellogg's

exercises for Bible class topics.

Lou got in just in time to see

the last of it disappear.

[printed] TUESDAY, May 23d, 1854.

chronology made distaste
ful to us here? By the stars
and giving us dates. Why
at the end of President
R's sermons are we like
carriage wheels? Because
we are tired. When is
a woman not a woman?
When she is a-bed. When is
a man not a man? When
he is a miss. Why is a
thoughtless man like the
wrong side of a looking glass?
Because he never reflected
What is the diff. between a
man facing the west in
the morning and a woman
doing the same in the afternoon?
One casts a shadow before, the
other " " " behind. Why
is the world like a dog's tail? Be
cause it wags. Why is the
icing on cake like a
hen? Because it is a layer
[printed page number] 10

[printed] WEDNESDAY, May 24th, 1854.

Had nothing to say yesterday in this account Not much more to-day. This has been rather full of work. Had a tremendous French lesson and at nine have to practice "Down in the Dewy Dell." Have just been talking with Jennie about how she is to introduce her conundrums. I think a good way would be to tell how each was thought of. I guess I will write down some so as to remember them in the great hereafter. First, in reference to the row at the Chapter meeting. What was the word "well" supposed to be worth? As sent (a cent) How is over backwards

[printed] THURSDAY, May 25th, 1854.

[printed] FRIDAY, May 26th, 1854.

[printed] SATURDAY, May 27th, 1854.

[printed] SUNDAY, May 28th, 1854.

Have nothing to say
at all any more than
the skipped days but
have time to say the
nothing. Have written
four long letters, at least
three were long, and
am now on a fifth
to Lizzie Snyder. Friday
night Jen came off
gay with her conun-
drums. Took a part from
Hiawatha, twisted to
suit the purpose, for
the heading. Thursday
we drew for things. First
in fun then by the de-
cision of a tossed penny
in earnest. I came
of ... to my thinking
Lottie the same to
hers, Jen the worst ...

[printed] MONDAY, May 29th, 1854.

[printed] TUESDAY, May 30th, 1854.

Had a lecture by the President on the frivolity of the Literary society. It took him forty minutes to get to the point of his discourse what all the rest was introductory to, namely, that the girls must not wear masculine attire in their plays. Reminded us of the character of actresses. Said he had been invited many times to go but never went for fear of having his moral sensibilities wounded. Poor man! If he is ashamed to see a girl's ankle he better never go to gymnastics. He said too much of the time was spent on such things for the good of our intellectual growth.
(according to recollection)

[printed] WEDNESDAY, May 31st, 1854.

Added up my account
to-day and came 2 dollars
short this month, at
least, I am sure that
about everything I bought
I set down, so cannot see
where it has gone to.
Someone must have
it, as I haven't. I am go-
ing to hide my purse
this week and see how
it will come out next
month. Had a very
easy time today though
the Rhetoric was twenty
four pages long. Slept
the sixth period. ...
came up from eve-
ning choral class where
we have been singing
Down in the Dewy Dell
Ten till ...

[printed] THURSDAY, June 1st, 1854.

President modified his
Tuesday night's remarks
a little to-night. Wonder
if Minnie got after him.

[printed] FRIDAY, June 2nd, 1854.

Played croquet after
tea with Misses Hastings
Pennell and Brown, who
asked me yesterday. Had
a first rate time. Hastings
and I played together
and came off ahead. I
would like to play a
little more so as to
be in p (two days after) rac-
tice for the summer cam-
paign. Read most of the
afternoon. May came just
as I wrote the above ...
and asked me to Delta.
Had a real good time.
They gave up the grand
show they expected to have
on account of the President's
remarks. But they had
essays and music and
every one enjoyed it.

[printed] SATURDAY, June 3d, 1854.

The one who seemed
least to enjoy the show
last night was Miss Blisses
young man. I should
think the poor fellow
would have been scared
at being with so many
of "the sex." Sewed some
on my new waist and
studied Latin in the
afternoon. The morning
was all taken up in
Student's association and
in going to Mrs Green's
for my dress and taking
my new one to make, at
which I most came
to a grease spot. The
officers were elected with
out any fight, but it
took over two hours. Miss
Crocket was mad at being
put on the committee

[printed] SUNDAY, June 4th, 1854.

Miss Lord told us we would
only have one more Bib-
le class. I divided Bible
as Colonel Reynolds does "...
ch." Sleepy sermon on
commerce. Had the
grand honor of sitting in
Miss Lord's place. She would
not let me change when
she came in and when
the bananas were passed
around she made me
help myself first.
Walked with Lily Lewis
after supper. The sun
was out and it rain-
ed so I had to come
clear up to my room
for my umbrella.

[printed] MONDAY, June 5th, 1854.

[printed] TUESDAY, June 6th, 1854.

Have finished our last
night in Virgil. Didn't
read tomorrow afternoons
lesson for we think we
know the end. Have
... up for Sunday.

Slept a half an hour
after dinner and read
half an hour in the
Journal. Then studied
all rest of the afternoon
on Rhetoric.

[printed] WEDNESDAY, June 7th, 1854.

Letter from Mary Glenn
this morning which has
made me feel rather sober
to-day. Uncle John has gone
home to rest. I wonder if
we will ever be good e-
nough to rejoice when one
of our friends is taken home
from a life of pain. We
ought to, but we never
do and always feel sad.
Though we are glad he
went so quietly with so
little pain. I am
sorry too for poor Mary
who was getting along so
nicely in the country
when she had to go home
to watch by the sick bed.
May it not take away
all the country benefit
and leave her weaker.

[printed] THURSDAY, June 8th, 1854.

[printed] FRIDAY, June 9th, 1854.

[printed] SATURDAY, June 10th, 1854.

At last my wish has
been fulfilled and I've
been to the old graveyard. It
contains, sixteen trees, mostly
apple, eight tombstones, grape
vines, lots of shade, also
weeds, and the ashes of
eight people. From the dates
I think they are two old
peoples, their three sons, one
son's wife, and two grand-
children. Some stones were upset.
One one was cut in something like
"Stranger stop on passing by
As you are so once was I
As I am so you will be
So prepare to follow me.
Underneath in pencil "To
follow you I'm not content
until I know which way you
went" I know who wrote the lat
I told Miss Lord at the table
and she was very shocked
and didn't even smile. We told
Miss Hamlin who laughed and
wanted to know what else funny
was there. Such is the difference
between peoples.

[printed] SUNDAY, June 11th, 1854.

[printed] MONDAY, June 12th, 1854.

Nothing in particular happened to-day but I have had a right lazy time. Was not called on in French, luckily. Prof Farrar and a Boston teacher were in Rhetoric class and only three girls recited. The rest of the period was taken up by his asking questions and discussing History and Fiction. He told Miss Clark at the end that the young ladies in his class seemed to have a mind of their own. We ought to have. Did not have any Rhetoric much to study as we review the last half which I knew so after reading it over and reading the girls Latin I spent the afternoon reading. Now for study

[printed] TUESDAY, June 13th, 1854.

Nothing to say but that
I am no longer a Prep.
there was the usual rus-
tle over the chapel when
he said he would read
the names of those who
by a vote of the Faculty
were admitted. I guess
everyone was as some of
the simplest I know
were. Dora told me
yesterday that my name
was on the board to re-
turn my book but I
am not going to till I
finish it to-morrow. It
is so dark I can't see
We keep forgetting to buy
some matches and our
borrowed ones have giv-
en out.

[printed] WEDNESDAY, June 14th, 1854.

Miss Morse has been persecuting Jennie again. When they drew for rooms she didn't draw on Fannie's corridor as she wished so she changed with a girl who was on that one. To day Pussy gave it out that there was a rule against changing, when they had to go to her to tell where they had chosen. Asked Jen where she drew, made her change back again, made her hopping mad She went to Dr A. to no purpose Dr. said next year if she could not stand her present quarters she might change her We draw next. I am going to strike for Miss Thornton's room in the corner. Then, if the fates permit Etta will get there with me.

[printed] THURSDAY, June 15th, 1854.

Drew for rooms. When I chose

I mustered up courage enough

to ask Miss Morse if Etta

could have the same room.

She said "none but Seniors

choose their roommates, let

us hope she will draw there"

Thinks I "many thanks for the

permission to hope." but did

not hope much. The

Freshmen talk of "cutting

Latin tomorrow as it is

printed to come off at

"11.P.M." instead of "A.M."

Guess they will be stopped

Letter from Clara. She has

been sick, which is why

she did not write

sooner. (according to

recollection Friday night)

[printed] FRIDAY, June 16th, 1854.

Etta drew on 1st North
Tried to change with Miss
Shultiss but Pussy forbad
it after two hours search
she found a sick body
who had to go down on
account of her health. As
she had first choice she
easily got in my room
lucky we. O nos beatos. As
I expected the Freshy were
stopped by a neat little
notice to the effect that
they would "please go to
recitation at 11.AM." They
asked me to Delta's last
meeting. It was very
pleasant. Miss Hawke had
the good bye for the Seniors
-not as good as she can do
May is going to sleep
with me. After this Annie
Love till the end.

[printed] SATURDAY, June 17th, 1854.

Skipped to-day and
have now Sunday) nothing of consequence, as
all the other things in
this book are, to write.

Wrote to Mrs McCandless to-day stating when I would
be there Rather an
awkward thing to do as
I have not heard from
there lately but it had
to be done. Still hope
to hear from there before
Wednesday.

[printed] SUNDAY, June 18th, 1854.

Have nothing say in particular except that I am feeling considerably provoked with Etta just at present as I have just learned from Alice that although the swelling has gone out of Etta's feet as Etta herself told me-it is now gon higher in the calf of her leg- as she didn't tell me. The girl is crazed not to get medical advice about it. I am much afraid of dropsy and wish I could go to the library and read up on the symptoms of that disease. Very likely I am nervous because of Uncle John's recent death, but it must be something serious when anyone swells up in that way, especially about the feet. If the girl had sense she would not let it go so.

[printed] MONDAY, June 19th, 1854.
Lottie pinned up my overskirt and on my
bows behind but they
were put on so loosely
that I was in a state
of fear the whole time
till after our first sing
then I came up stairs
to fix tight not noticing
how soon our next sing
came and when I got
down it was over, sad
to say. I don't see how
they ever got along without
me. Had a nice letter
from Mrs. McCandless
and the forwarded one
from Mamma. This
is all written from
memory tomorrow before
the Philalethean address. It
is a fine thing to have so
fine a recollectionary organ

[printed]TUESDAY, June 20th, 1854.

Have enjoyed the day exceedingly so far and am now writing down the events before packing up my book. Now that we are through I am in a hurry to go away and get out of all this muss. The history of the Senior class, by Miss Glover was first rate and the prophecy was very good. I would like to be Miss Hopper in that beautiful place on the Mediterranean. The Sibyl was rather rough on poor Dora Hileman and I should think that Miss Monks would hope that the cat would soon be buried and forgotten. Miss Folger and Miss Jewett did well at the ... The Juniors and Sen. like to fling at one another!

[printed] WEDNESDAY, June 21st, 1854.
The end

[printed] THURSDAY, June 22nd, 1854.

[printed] FRIDAY, June 23d, 1854.

[printed] SATURDAY, June 24th, 1854.

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