Vassar College. Poughkeepsie N.Y. Dec. 12, 1867. My Dear Belle. It is a shame - I can but acknowledge that, but yet it has not been without excuse, though I will not stop now to bring forward the hundred good reasons why we have neglected your welcome letter received in Oct., and your kind invitation of last week. As I have but a few moments to write, I will come directly to "the point" in answer to your last. It would be exceedingly pleasant to visit you at the vacation (in fact I think we have remarked a dozen times since receiving the invitation, "how nice it would be to see Belle") but I think it will be quite impossible for both of us to do so. It is even somewhat doubtful with respect to myself, as to going away from the college at all. I resolved to stay, in order to accomplish the extra work on hand, but am beginning to think I shall stay behind the others but a day or two. But Aubumdale must remain as a future happiness, Louise also will not find it practicable to make you a visit now, - so I'm afraid the "admiration society" will have to postpone its meeting. I shall surely write to you in vacation - a good long letter. Please excuse haste now, and receive many thanks, and very very* much love from Sarah Ik

(Louise)