

Vassar College

Dec 18. 1867

Dear Bell;

It would really seem like old times to you if you were here now. We are frozen out. 5 boilers at work at the Gas house, the cellar as warm as toast, but such a terrible cold wind blowing that the heat cannot get up into our rooms, who are so unfortunate as to live in exposed situations. We have abandoned old 61 as you know I suppose it cost our hearts a pang, but 26 d with its two beautiful windows was too much of a temptation. We are experiencing the trifling drawback to the delights of those same two lovely windows yesterday and to day.

We were not able to have Chapel services last night or this morning you have not forgotten those services in the Parlors, and my pen writes too thick a mark you see please excuse the Sunday that Dr Raymond preached^ [my pen wrote too thick a mark] for us on "cast thy bread upon the waters." It seems a very long time ago sometimes to me when I look back upon that first year. You know, I suppose that this is our last. Sarah and I will both graduate this year. It makes me feel quite badly sometimes when I think that I shall not return again, but still I feel as if I had been away from home long enough. It will seem so very strange to me to go back to the old home life again if indeed I did. I hope I shall at least be there long enough to have a nice visit from you. I thank you very much for your kind invitation to spend a portion of my Christmas holidays at your home In Auburndale. I wrote home about it, but they thought it would be better for me to go some other time Mother considering that I should have little enough time at home for preparations to return, and besides they say they want to see me. I should have liked very much to have seen you and the other dear roommates of meeting of 61 this year but I hope many such opportunities will occur in the future.

Sarah sends a note by the same mail. I feel that this letter ought to have been written before but you know by experience what a busy household we are here. Sarah especially is killing herself this year in a most remorseless manner. I disgust her with good advice occasionally, but it dont seem to produce much effect.

We are looking forward eagerly now to the Christmas holidays I wish there was to be a Bell here in black water proof dress and lavender ribbons to welcome us back.

You must certainly come to the graduation Bell.

Nellie Ferry, they say, graduated last year at some school in Conn. You knew Nellie Gay had not returned. Mattie Warner in whose room I am writing sends her love to you. You must excuse this hastily written epistle.

I have the pleasing conviction that my writing grows more & more illegible every day. I have to write so fast. Am studying Astronomy Greek Chemistry & Geology. Ellie Stevens' folks had sold their home the last we heard and they were boarding.

I write very few letters now~a-days please pardon the delay of this -
much love & merry Christmas & Happy New Year -
Louise.