

Vassar College
Nov. 5. 1871 -

My dear Helen,

If I do not write thee every Sunday it seems as if everything goes wrong all day for I am so accustomed to beginning the day with thy letter. If thee received that small note I sent during the week, I hope thee did as I wanted thee to do, destroy it immediately.

Only seven weeks more before Christmas comes, and I am very glad for I want to come home very badly. Some of my class mates want me to come back next year as a post graduate. I think it would be very nice if three or four would do so, but I think I will hardly do it. I hope thee may get a sewing machine, but I rather doubt it. I think thee wants that about as badly as any thing I can think of just at present. It would be so nice for me about Christmas week when I am at home.

We had a gay time last Friday afternoon. The class planted the Class tree so that it may have a chance to commence to grow before we leave in June. After having quite a show around the tree we were invited by two of the girls to their room and there we found things done up in style. We had an elegant oyster supper, with coffee, rolls &c. and delightful fried oysters. It was splendid, for it was such a marked change from the cold suppers we have here. After the speeches were all made & we had made as much noise as the occasion called for, we dispersed, feeling very well satisfied with the whole performance. I must go to dinner now & finish afterwards.

3.30 P.M. I have been laughing so hard ever since dinner that I have the head ache now, but I guess I shall recover. We have been making too much noise for Sunday afternoon but if I try to be quiet I always get sleepy & then have to sleep all the afternoon. Wasnt I simple not to bring my velvet coat that Maggie gave me? I forgot all about & left it in the chest but perhaps I shall not need it. I will be dreadfully provoked if we have any "shows" in Po'keepsie that I want to attend & I have no coat, but I guess they will all come later in the winter. During Christmas week I shall want that fixed up & a hat. I guess that is all I shall want before spring. Have Ell & Maggie decided to go west in the spring? Where is Marcus going to board if he goes to Philadelphia this winter? I suppose he prefers Kittie's to any other place if she will have him. Do write soon and tell me all the news.

Love to all - Thy sister Ida.

Ida (Corson) DeCaindry, '72