

Vassar College.

May 27, 1894.

My dear Mamma,—

Your letter came this week by the Saturday night mail, as it has two or three times lately, though I never used to get anything by that mail. I am so sorry to hear that Mr. Adams is still very sick. It is too bad that one family should have so much sickness. It is strange, too, that Dr. Mears' family are sick so much. I wonder what the reason is.

You say that Miss Bushnell, I mean Mrs. Abbott, as I learn from your last letter that that is her name, is going to live in Hendersonville. Where in the world is that? How soon she is going there?

The weather is perfect today. We appreciate it so much because it poured day and night for a week. It just cleared off yesterday afternoon and today the sky is entirely blue, and the sun shining brightly. It is much warmer too so that we can leave off the winter dresses we have been wearing for a week. There are more flowers in the garden now, and in some places the grass is thick with buttercups. The daisies have just come, but they say that pretty soon they will be as plenty as grass. It seems so queer to have such an abundance of flowers. I keep wishing you could have some of them at home, especially for Edie's sake.

Today's was the last college church service I shall go to for some time. Next Sunday is the first Sunday in the month, so that we shall go to town to church. Dr. Holmes, a Presbyterian minister of Buffalo preached today.

Gertrude Smith and I finished reading "Paradise Lost" today. I am very glad I have read it. We began after Spring Vacation and have read a Book or two of it every week since. I have not done very much reading this year outside of what we have had to do for English, though I have spent all the time I could spare, in the Reading Room, reading the magazines— It is a great thing to have them all within your reach at any time. By the way if Ed has the other college magazines within his reach, tell him to read an article in the Nassau Literary Monthly (the Princeton paper) by J. Mcready Sykes on the "Reasons for the Further and Complete Subjugation of Women". It has been the laughing-stock here lately. The flaws in some of his arguments are really ridiculous.

We had lemon ice for dessert today— It was remarkable for we have been having peanuts and maple sugar for dessert on Sunday for some time. But as every vacation draws near, they give us extra good things to eat, I suppose so that the girls will not complain about the food when they go home. The day before Commencement they are going to have a regular banquet for everybody that is here, and the alumnae too. At that time they are going to have strawberries and cream, as a great luxury, for they never have them except then.

This week Tuesday is the beginning of the Senior vacation, which lasts until Baccalaureate Sunday. Yesterday afternoon the Senior Class had its picture taken on the steps of this building, just where we had ours. It is right under our window so we had the full benefit.

Last night the Sophomore class chose its Class Tree, beneath which they will bury their records when they graduate. They had a great celebration over it. All dressed as country people, in the oldest clothes they could get, and some of them with their gingham chemistry aprons, and all of them with big green hats just alike. They went around the yard giving their yell, and had a sort of country sociable in the gymnasium afterwards with old fashioned country dances – They said they had the most fun of any time since they have been here. Bedtime now. With lots of love

Adelaide. [Claflin]