

Vassar College.  
Sat. night. ,1870,

My dear sister,

As many letters as I have written you since I have been here, I hardly think you know anything about the College, but there is time enough to write you of it during the whole year. However you ought to know something of the teachers. Of course you know that the President's name is Raymond. He is over fifty I should judge and very pleasant and good, and the students do not feel at all afraid of him. The only scolding he has had to give us since school commenced this fall was about "flirting," that is "handkerchief flirting." There are several gentlemen's colleges in Poughkeepsie and occaslonly the students come up here and drive through the grounds, and on such occasions there is sure to be a great display of linen. The Pres. says that this is the second time since the College was founded that he has had to speak to the students on the subject, which is speaking pretty well for Vassar girls, I think. There are some terrible flirts here this year but they have very little chance to try their powers upon any one. The only young lady who was ever expelled from the college was sent away for attempting to go out riding with a gentleman. Such a thing is strictly against the rules of the school

But Miss Lyman is the horror of the whole school. Only to speak her name will make almost every girl shake, and to be sent for by her is a much more terrible thing than to be sent for to Mr. Crosby's study at Sat. night |1870, -

the Sem. Hardly any girl ever cornea from her without having shed a goodly amount ol tears and alter she has caused them to be shed she generally kisses the girl which to me would be the worst part. I have never been called to her but once and then through no lault ol mine. There had been a "comb concert" on our corridor and they thought that our part had taken part In the performance although we had had nothing to do with it. As soon as she found that out she dismissed us, but not until she had delivered part ol her lecture\* and I can tell you it was indeed learlul. Another time I went to see her ol my own accord and she was perfectly lovely, no one could have been kinder to me than she was. But in spite ol that it would make me shiver 11 she were to send lor me. Miss Lyman however is In very poor health and I presume that makes her Iretrlul and cross. She is dying ol the consumption and I think we ought to excuse almost any thing Irom her on that account, and besides she has worn her-sell out working lor this College. The only gentlemen that teach in the college are Profs. Farrall ,Farrar? F Hlnckle, Backus and Van Ingen. Each one has a particular department which he overlooks. Then there are any amount ol lady teachers, almost all very nice there are eight corridors and each one has a teacher to see that the students In that corridor behave themselves. Ours is Miss Smiley. I like her very much but many ol the girls think that she is sneaking, perhaps she is a little so, but our corridor has the most wild girls on it being nearly all new scholars. We can always tell an old scholar by her looks and actions. They are so much more dignified and sedate. Prof. Backus, the Prof, of English Literature

is thought very nice indeed, by every one. He is young and very "funny". He is married as no Prof's are admitted here unless they are. He looks to me like Frank Hamilton, only not quite as "foppish," although considerably so, but he is very tall and quite handsome and very smart. Did you ever invite Ida Whitman to spend a winter in Texas. You must have done so but the invitation I expect made more impression upon her than us, as we did not suppose she would think of coming\* You know she has an Uncle, an organist I think, living in Brooklyn. His daughter is here at school, a Miss Layton and a very nice girl. I had heard some time ago that she was a cousin of Ida's and yesterday I was speaking of Ida with her. She had heard of us, as Ida had told her that she had been invited to spend a winter in Texas, and she was very anxious to go, but hardly thought she could. Mamma has made over your green striped skirt for me and it looks very nicely. You must have her get you something else, for I only took it on that condition. As you had worn it two years in Texas she thought it would be better for you to have something new. She has also made me a wrapper which I like very much indeed. How are you making your black alpaca? You never were fond of dressmaking and if you are trying to make it by yourself must have a hard time. I was so glad to hear all about your trip with Grandma to Buffalo. Do you suppose she would like to have me write to her? If she would like me to I will do so. I commenced this last night but could not finish before bed time, and again this morning but was interrupted by visitors who stayed until time for Bible Class and now when I have time to write I cannot think of anything more that I was intending to say, but it is just as well for I have filled eight pages. Excuse this being crossed but my paper is getting low, and I am very saving of that article. I was very anxious before your last letter came. Can you not find time to write me a few lines\* every week? I was so much obliged for your last long letter. Love to all and much for yourself from, Julie-

(Julia M. Pease, '75,