

Vassar College, Nov. 27, 1870. My dear Papa, I expect that almost by the time this letter reaches you Mamma and Carrie will be at home, for in a letter I received from her yesterday she said that they would come here and see me this week either Wednesday or Thursday and after that they will go to New York and from there home. She also said that Mrs. Crabb had invited them to visit her in Philadelphia and all start together for Texas from there. I hope they will do so for I think Carrie ought to see something of Phil, before going South, as it will be hard work to get her away from home again. What kind of a Thanksgiving did you pass all alone? Did Maline cook you a nice dinner and how many courses did you have? I imagine she does not understand getting up a nice dinner very well. This has been a very pleasant Thanksgiving for me for one passed away from home. The "faculty" tried to do their best to have us enjoy it, and they succeeded admirably. The "dinner," of course the most important thing, passed off very well. I will send you a bill of fare and you can then see for yourself what we had to eat, as it would take me a long time to tell you all we had. Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings we were expecting to have an exhibition of Prof. Cromwell's stereopticon pictures, but much to our disappointment his views did not arrive in Poughkeepsie in time for the entertainment Thursday night. The Pres. very kindly read to us from Shakespeare to make up for the loss of the pictures. He selected "Midsummer Night's Dream" and indeed it was a treat to hear him, his specialty is comic reading and he acted "Bottom's" part to perfection. After the reading there was a reception in both the college and President's parlors, when we were served with lemon cream and cake. The stereopticon views were shown three times besides, Sat. morning and evening besides Friday evening, and they fully came up with our expectations. Views were shown us of England, France, Switzerland, Constantinople, and Egypt, and a few in Spain. Those of the Alhambra I enjoyed very much having read so much about it in Irving's books. There was a great deal of statuary also which was very fine. The great attraction was in appearing so lifelike, and as few of us will ever see the real places, it is a "rare opportunity to make mere imaginings a tangible reality" as Prof. Cromwell says in his circular. And now as I have another letter to write I must close with much love. Julie M. Pease.

(Julia M. Pease, '75)

I hope soon to hear from the "testimonials."