

Vassar College.

Feb. 3. 1871.

My dear Mamma,

It quite amazes me to learn that you still continue to write to your daughter who is so far away. I should think you would forget that you even had another child, and have no doubt but that you would if it were not for the frequent letters she sends you. Your letters I perceive are getting soon

shorter and shorter and I shall not be at all surprised if they will be monthly instead of weekly ones.

I write home almost always twice a week and always send a letter less than four pages long and generally receive in return eight pages, once a week and sometimes not as often. And there are three persons at home to write and so much to tell of interest to me! Then the amount of wool and ivory you keep about you ought to prevent you from having anything to do*

The thought of staying here and graduating had never seriously entered my head, although we often talk of who will be our valedictorian fee. In our class. But last week Prof. Van Ingen our drawing teacher was trying to persuade me to stay and now your letter speaking of my doing so has come. I want to remain one more year and can tell then whether I wish to come back again. It depends very much upon how I get on in my classes. If I could graduate in three years I would like to do so but if I must come four, I do not care to. I shall study next summer and if by doing so I can enter Sophomore, I shall be very happy for then it will Feb. 2, 1871 - 3

only take three years to graduate. Mr. Smith is very kind, and it will be very pleasant for me to have a friend among the trustees of the College, but fear he will forget all about me before next June. I have looked in the catalogue and find his name but among so many had never noticed it before.

My examination in French came off yesterday morning. Our class did very nicely and I think nearly all have passed. Without any conceit I can say that I am sure that X passed. I would have done miserably if X had not when Hefave studied French so much before. X really feared the examination very much although I need not have done so, for more than but our teacher

half the time we were being examined there was no one in the room and the rest of the time Mademoiselle and one other teacher were there.

I have just come from my last Latin examination, and am ashamed to say how badly X recited. We were examined for an hour and a quarter this morning on the Latin grammar and I think X did pretty well and all the others in the class did remarkably well, but unfortunately there was not one in the room but our teacher to hear our recitation; and this afternoon when we did not recite nearly as well there were five persons in the room at one time! Our lesson this afternoon was the first two books of Caesar to translate; of course we did not expect to go over it all; but we teacher

were to be prepared upon all, because we did not know what our teacher would ask. She gave out the topics a few moments before each one recited her chapter

so that she might have time to read her part over; that is when Miss A.
Feb. 3, 1871 - 3

commenced reading, she would tell Miss B. what chapter she was expected to read. Our teacher Miss Lord gave Miss Nelson who sits next me a certain chapter to read and when her turn came to do it, she said that she could not. Then Miss Lord turned to me and said "Miss Pease you may read it without any preparations." I got up and managed to stumble through it but almost made a "fiasco," as a failure is graphically described at this college. The chapter was a very hard one but I could have read it well, if I had only had a few minutes to look it over and was almost the only one which X could not have read without any hesitation. I was very sorry that X did not do better for the Prof, of Latin was in the room at the time* also one of the teachers that X like very much, and X think Miss Lord was disappointed in me.

X shall not ask you again to write oftener to me, because of course, X do not want you to write unless you wish to.

With love to all goodnight

J.

Julia M. Pease, '75,

I have written Carrie a short trench letter, "just for fun." X hope she will be able to read it.

My roommate has just told me that she was informed that X did "splendidly" in Latin. X am sure that I did not, but it may not have been as bad as X thought. X fear that I will have to have a new dress soon as I am

II

quite destitute, and X do have one it will have to be made but X will wait and see what you say about it.

Feb. 3, 1871 • 4

in Poughkeepsie

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