

Vassar College.

April 2, 1871.

My dear Mamma,

Our long looked for vacation has come at last and this the first Sunday of it, I am seated writing letters, not occupied very differently from any other Sunday, but feeling rather differently. There are no Bible classes and no Chapel services at the College today, so that we have the

gone
day entirely to ourselves. Many of the girls have to church in Pough-
keepsie.

I want to go next Sunday, Easter day, and preferred staying here today* Yesterday we were favored with a snowstorm, just enough snow to make it wet and muddy and prevent anyone's walking for some days. I had planned to walk into Poughkeepsie next Tuesday but fear that I cannot go unless I ride, Almost every day during the holidays has been set apart for some purpose* One day I must go to Poughkeepsie; another we want to go over the Stewards Department} another take a walk to Cedar Ridge, a pretty place near here, fee.

A great many girls have gone away for the holidays and more are going this week. Some of those who left were very unfortunate. They had ordered carriages to take them to the depot in time for the half past one o'clock train and in going for their carriages found them all gone, and had to walk if they wished to get to the depot. You know that is a long walk there and as they started only in time to reach the train if they rode, they too

were late. Some came back while others waited for the next train, which would take them to New York in the evening, and it could not be very

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pleasant for those who were not very well acquainted with the city.

Where is Col. Ward now? I supposed Jimmy was with him but he can scarcely be if Anna has gone to visit him. It cannot be very pleasant for Anna in Corpus Christi!. Cannot you invite her to come and she

visit you before she goes North again? She is such a lovely girl and would be good company for Carrie.

Thanks for the seed of the Balsam apple. I have no flower bed and do not want one. It must be such dirty work. I should have to keep a dress on purpose for working in it and do not need the exercise because rowing and gymnastics take up all my time. Had I had the seeds in the winter I could have put them in a pot of earth and could then have had the vine looking pretty in my room. I think I shall keep them, until another winter or give them to Auntie if she has none.

The lemon verbena must have grown very much since I left to have so fine a blossom. I should like to have it here but think you appreciate fully as well as I should.

Now about dressmaking. I shall have a spring suit made here although I do not much like to. Dressmakers charge so much. It seems necessary but I hope it will be all. I shall need until fall. When at Binghamton my blue silk was made over very prettily. We bought some blue silk the same shade as the overskirt you made me, and put two pinked

ruffles and a pleating of it on the main skirt, a pleating besides the ruffle
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on the overskirt and made a basque of the checked silk and trimmed In
the same manner with the blue. Aunt and I wanted you to make Carrie¹
In the same way, except buy brown silk for the underskirt and trim with
ruffles of the checked, and make the overskirt of the checked trimmed
with the brown. It would make a very handsome suit and I think would
be much better than to make it as you think of doing. I could get the silk
a* you could send to Auntie for it. I think the nicest thing for Carrie this
summer would be a grenadine, and I wish you would let me get one for
her and have as much as possible of it made while I am at Grandma's. Carrie
is almost twenty and ought to dress very nicely now. If you did not receive
the letter in which I told you everything about dressmaking that I have In
this, I presume you did not get the account of the money I spent while at
Binghamton. If you like I will write it out and send Including what I have
spent since.

With much love, Julie.

{Julia M. Pease, '75,