

Vassar College,

May 20, 1871.

Dearest Carrie,

Much to my surprise this morning I have received a long letter from you. I have given up suspecting any thing from you but a short note with Taps and Mamma's letters. Another letter which I received this morning surprised me. It is so long since I wrote to Julita Rlgby that I thought -he was not intending to answer my letter, and of course the one from her was a great pleasure. She says, "Send my love to Carrie when you write, that is if she is within sending distance, for she may be on the Alps or at the North Pole for all I know, dear old Carrie. I remember her so well. I fancy X see her now bending so studiously over some dry old book and yet always so ready to Join in any fun that did not take her out of her atmosphere of books."-- Julita seems to be enjoying herself very much, and I think is something of a flirt, and yet I don't like to apply that word to her.

Our first sketch from nature was a view of our lake. It is a pretty  
as

view but of course Amy's first attempt it is not very good. It is recognizable but the foliage looks much as if a fly with dirty wings had been crawling over the paper. We are now making a drawing of a fine old pine tree, which is just outside the college grounds. Next Saturday we intend to go down to the river and sketch. We shall provide ourselves with lunch and spend the day on the river bank. "Only four more weeks," we say again for again as we used at the old Falmouth Sem. But these four weeks are very terrible to look forward to. We review in all our studies and the classes are all open to visitors during these weeks. I dread Rhetoric more than any study because we recite by topics. It disturbs me, first, to see Miss Clarice sit there and fold her arms after having given me a topic, and then while I am trying to express in words one idea all the others take leave of me. I hope you do not think that I write compositions now. My first attempts will be next year while Freshman. The thought of writing them 'fills me with anguish," but fortunately the thought seldom comes to me. With the noon mail came the Latin Grammar. We have finished learning rules this year but it will be useful in looking them up when we prove our lines for scanning\* I have been using a grammar belonging to one of the girls and am glad that I can now return it.

time

I have always forgotten when I have had to cut a pattern of my drawer., but this evening will do so and send soon.

Are you reading many books now? I commenced "Hypatia" a long time ago. After having had it renewed for three weeks and then keeping it a week over my time, I returned it without having read half of it. Sunday afternoon for the last three or four weeks we have been reading "Faith Gertney" a little story by the author of "Leslie Goldthwait." We have now finished it and I have taken X shall keep it until college closes and not find time to read it. I

planted the balsam seed and the seed of the sensitive plant which mamma sent me\* Our heliotropes and geraniums are beginning to show signs of life, but we need rain very much. I imagined that here we would not have to water

our plants but fic-5 that we do, and already I have watered them several times.

In a letter I received a few days ago from Aunt Maria, she says, "Mother was in about her usual health till Friday morning the 21st April, when she was suddenly taken with spasms of the throat & lungs and was insensible from that time till she died, on Saturday morning at two oclock, w1 en she dropped away very quietly,"

Do write me good long letters, and tell all you are doing.

With much love to all

Your loving

Julie.

The pattern of drawers which I have cut is of those which are banded at the knee.