

Vassar College,

Nov. 5, 1871

My dear Carrie,

I do not feel a bit like writing letters and so shall write you a very short one, "only to let you know that I am well and hope you are the same, 11

Today being the first Sunday in the month, many girls went in town to church\* but I did not and have been very glad that I did not, because Prof. Backus preached and it is the first time for several years that he

has. The last time he preached here, his sermon was upon St. Peter,

and he hit all the good points in his character and made him a splendid gentleman. The next Sunday Pres. Raymond preached a sermon taking the other side

of St. Peter's character. This seemed almost an insult and Prof. Backus has never preached since until today. His sermon was very good and we would all feel better to hear such a one occasionally. There was something so rousing about it, making us wish to try hard and do our best. And yet the faculty think that his sermons do us no good. I do not like him as a man for he seems very conceited and has rather a contemptuous manner but he is certainly very interesting when he tries to be.

We have got into a fearful hard place in Algebra, and it takes all our time to work our examples. I have tried very hard to get every one and yet have been minus four. I am very stupid in mathematics and indeed in all my studies this year. Prof. Parrar called our class in Algebra today to talk with us and comfort us in our affliction, and really did make us more cheerful over it, telling us that in all our course in mathematics we

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never have anything harder than Freshman Algebra, and that it was hard not only to us but to everyone. The thought of my essay still fills my mind with sorrow.

Where does Maj. Evans keep his wife? Is she in Austin. I imagine him something like Captain Roberts—not in looks but in manner—am I right? It is strange that Gen. Eakin should say that he was acquainted with a Miss Pease of Austin, perhaps he knows Papa well. I received a long letter from Aunt Maria Robinson this week. She particularly requested me not to give you any of the news she gave me because she intended to write soon to you herself. I hear from no one but you all at home because I have not written a letter except to home since X came back. X does not know where Grace Pike is, can you tell me?

Please give my love to all friends who may or may not enquire for me and accept much yourself from your loving sister

Julia.

(Julia M. Pease, '75,