

"Vassar."

April 21, 1872.

Dear Mamma and Papa,

Even in Texas, the sunny drives this day cannot be pleasanter than here, With you everything is fresh and green, while we have that change still to look forward to, but I am sure you do not enjoy such a day as this as much as we, who have been nearly perishing (rather strong expression) of cold all winter. The birds, too, are beginning to sing, and we all long to be outdoors.

Thursday afternoon as I was going to a recitation, I encountered Dr. Avery, who was exceedingly smiling and amiable. She told me that the day before she had met Captain and Mrs. Roberts and they sent a great deal of love and would come to see me very soon. For a moment I could not imagine who she meant, but soon recollected the little couple. Then I had to hurry to my class, with my head in a whirl at the thought of seeing someone from home. They came sooner than I expected for directly after class I was summoned to Miss Haggett, who, after a few questions, permitted me to see them, although I had written permission from you. I should scarcely have recognized Captain Roberts, he looks so differently with the increased amount of hair in face. If Mrs. Duval inquires of

Mammie, please tell her she is looking very well now: she is very much thinner than when I last saw her. Imagine my amazement when they told me that the dignified and, as some think, stern Dr. Avery had invited Mr. and Mrs. Swan, Captain and Mrs. Roberts and would invite myself, to tea in her house the next evening. So at six the next evening we all assembled in Dr. Avery's parlor. Captain Roberts is as lively as a cricket, just as he always is, and Mr. Swan and Dr. Avery are together as gay as any young people, so we had a pleasant time. Then, too, it was so nice to be at a table with a few persons, everything is so much more home-like. At eight o'clock there was to be a lecture in the chapel. The speaker. Judge Allen of this state, the subject: "The Legal Status of Woman." All being anxious to know their Legal Status we proceeded to the lecture and there had difficulty in keeping awake. In it was duller than the very dullest lawbook.

Captain Roberts said it could not compare with Blackstone. Mr. Swan grew so tired that he squeaked out before the lecture was finished.

Altogether I had a very pleasant evening and one which I shall remember for a long time, for such things come but seldom to us in our College life.

Captain and Mrs. Roberts will remain in Po'keepsie until Monday, then I believe they go to Conn. and in May return to Dakota. Captain Roberts told me that your (Papa's) name was on the list of those who are called to the Cincinnati Convention, and he seemed to think that you would come on when it meets. If that is so, you will be North very soon, and then you will all make a long visit. For Mamma and Carrie can come with you.

I am very much obliged for your information concerning the persons of whom I inquired. The name of the gentlemen was Taylor. Really, my I's and S's look very

much alike and I myself can not always recognize them. I have forgotten who asked me about him, but I am sure none of the gentlemen whom you wrote me of is the one, As he was young and recently went to Texas. Now I will ask you of somebody else. Miss Lhoyd (Emily Lhoyd), one of the music teachers, has a brother residing in Austin, and she wished to know if we were acquainted with him. I believe he is a Contractor for cattle, or something of the sort. He was very desirous to have his sister come to Austin and teach, about a year ago, as there was a splendid opportunity for her. I cannot imagine where. Miss Lhoyd is very nice, so it is to be supposed her brother is too.

It is almost dinner time so I must close. I enclose several photographs of the girls. Lovingly J. M. P.