

Vassar College,

May 11, 1873.

My dear Mamma,

Sundays seem almost always disagreeable days at Vassar, and this is no exception to the rule. A day which is nothing in particular, neither rainy or pleasant, is, I think, an abomination. "Distance lends enchantment," & so I imagine all the days at Wood-Lawn are perfect, and perhaps I shall be disappointed in that respect next summer. Papa's note to the President has been received and delivered through the medium of his "box." For you must know that we have no personal intercourse with our respected President. All our business must be transacted by means of letters, and our only view of the great man is at evening prayers. Monday there is Faculty meeting when, I suppose if nothing more urgent is on hand, the learned body will discuss the matter of my early return home. After their decision I much fear that you will be informed of it sooner than I. If the decision is only favorable forever will I "extoll to the stars," (Horace) the faculty of Vassar College.

Finding myself in a very dilapidated condition as regards clothing I have sent for some stuff to make one of these new spring polonaises. It is not very expensive, but the same shade as my old Japanese silk and will do nicely for an overdress. My black alpaca is in the last stages of decay, so I have had to have recourse to my brown dress for every day wear until the weather grows warmer. I send a sample of my dress as well as some others to show the spring styles.

Last night one class had its grand Sociable of the Semester.

There was a nice little play and afterwards dancing. For a long time some of us have been greatly troubled at the lack of sociability and of class feeling among us, but at last it seems to be roused and on the increase, for our sociables are now enjoyed by all. Perhaps the fact that the number of members is less has something to do with it. We are to give the Freshmen a party soon and of course, as it can be only a plain dancing affair, wish to get up music and a supper in fine style. Yet Miss Terry will not allow us any men musicians, and women are not to be procured, on what we shall do we cannot tell. The best players in our class will be otherwise engaged, and it would not be nice, any-way, to make our own music. And then it seems an insult to the classes to think that they will flirt with common musicians. This is Miss Terry's only objection to having men. The supper too has been cut down somewhat, on account of the expense, but our Class taxes, as yet, have been almost nothing.

Jennie has been in my room all the afternoon. She says that she has written you today. She is very busy and I am generally so and I do not see as much of her as I would like. But we always walk together on Sundays at any rate. Don't you need to have me get you some kind of a bonnet frame for summer wear? The fashions have really gone back to the old capes

for bonnets, and I suppose you will be glad. My roommates are talking pretty excitedly, so I fear this is a very disconnected letter.

With very much love and the hope that you are all well,

Julie