

Vassar.

March 22. 1875.

My dear Mamma,

Received your letter with Papa's this morning, and am very much obliged for the remembrance of my birthday- The Christmas "ten" has has not yet been spent but has been planned for, and if not sufficient in itself, this present shall be added. You know we all have our Class pictures taken, and as there is more comfort in keeping the photographs in an album, I intend to get one for the forty - I hope to go to New York this vacation to sit for my pictures, and think I shall get it then- One of the girls and myself think of going and staying all night at a Doctor's hotel up town, one well known to Vassar students, as the trip down and back is very tedious to make in one day - For my birthday, my parlor-mates remembered me in a little illustrated book of the "Hanging of the Crane".

I want to ask you Mamma what I am to do about commencement and Class Day dresses. I don't seem to have anything just suitable for either, and yet, I want nothing at all expensive- Shall I have a white muslin

for Commencement, and wear it both days, or a black or colored grenadine overskirt to wear over my black or brown silk? Either dress would be useful during the summer, and I seem to pretty well supplied with common dresses, and will need none at present. I might look at goods when in the city, and decide when you write me your opinion. It is not much matter as I have nothing to do, unless perhaps play, but I am destitute of any summer dress - I am very sorry I did not have an honor for your sakes, but as I

have often before said, there was not the slightest chance - I have not studied for one, but am, I think I can say without conceit, not a bad student. But my time has been more devoted to drawing, and perhaps it is better so. You have wished me to take it, and I have not the strength to accomplish much in it, and dig very hard on lessons at the same time. The Honors are pretty fairly gleaned. Fannie Buffington, got

here more from her beauty and charm of manner than from scholarship, and Miss Wheat here from her own high opinion of a self, and two or three deserving ones are left out -

Our spring holidays begin tomorrow evening. Many of our Class will remain, among them your present correspondent. At one time I fancied going to Binghamton, but finally came to the conclusion to remain here, rest and save my money if possible. For we are a poverty stricken set. It takes a deal to get through the senior year- Nearly twenty dollars for pictures, half that for Class day, as much for our pins: and our graduation dresses and diplomas - I am on the Committee for Class day, and we will try to be economical as possible; a till we must have a bead and decorations, and musicians and flowers are costly -

Received a note from Ridge Paschal a few days since, in which he stated that he was about to return to Texas, and could make it convenient to call if agreeable to me- I didn't want to see him; so it was fortunate for me that your permission to receive callers had not arrived - This gave an admirable excuse to keep him away - My note was coolly polite, and would perhaps have crushed any one but Ridge. He is so inflated with self conceit that like a rubber ball he rebounds at every stroke -

Tell Carrie please that I am heartily ashamed of myself for not sending her those things which I have had some time - But I have been not very well for some days and could not attend for it - The Spring had given me a

general used up feeling, but I am much better now. Have been banished to a distant corner of the house for quiet, and here I revel in a single room with three windows, through which the sunlight pours its health and joy bringing floods. Do not mind the stairs for me, Mamma although my room is on the fifth floor, it is worth all the steps to it. How, haven't I given you a long letter filled only with self. If It bore you, I can only hope you will endure it because written by your loving Julie -