

Vassar College Feb. 4, 1866
April 11th 1866

My Dear Sister

Your ever welcome letter arrived this morning, I am sorry to say that you are mistaken, we leave Vassar College, eleven weeks from to-day, seventy seven more days ^ that sound much shorter than three months.

Two weeks from Monday being Mr Vassars birthday we are to have a holiday, and either a grand dinner or supper, the proceedings are to be grand and imposing. I will give a fuller description after the eventful day has passed. It is perfectly lovely to-day, I have not been out yet but it seems very warm indeed.

One of our parlor-mates Fannie Brown is going to have a Croquet set, her Father was in Poughkeepsie a few weeks ago, and ordered one made, so we shall have the pleasure of playing quite frequently as she says it is to be ours as much as hers, she is very generous, and kind hearted, I like her so much, we were fortunate in getting such nice parlor-mates. And by the way how is our Croquet ground progressing has father selected a place yet, please ask him, to get as shady a one as possible, that will be one great difficulty here, no shade. Has the Set been sent to be painted, it needs it badly. Ask father to please not forget in his arrangements to leave a place large enough, the more room the better.

That is one of our chief amusements In Summer. I am glad to hear that our Sabbath School is undergoing a change for the better, that it is being reformed. I think It a very nice idea to have bell. I thought of you last Sabbath morning.

We did not go out to Meeting at all, as it was so stormy, and we do not have the privilege of staying away very often. I never realized the pleasures of visiting of before, we did have such a nice time, we three slept in one bed, the well knows what a treat and pleasure that is.

Of what sex are those Contrabands to be I am most eager to know. Is Will Hooper home for a Spring vacation, very kind of him to enquire after us I appreciate it. Have you seen or read Snow-bound, Witthier's new poem, it is said to be to our American Literature, what Deserted Village is to the English. I think it is splendid it

sounds so home like and natural. Do read it if
you can get it. Don't you like Peculiar ever so
much. Has Aunt Sarah any girl yet. how is she
I have not had a letter from there this ever so long
How Is Uncle Abner and Aunt Sarah give particular
love to them. I will finish this the last of the week
thought I would begin it while I felt like It. I
received a letter from Abbie Chace last week.
(Abigail L. Slade)