Vassar College, N.Y. October 10./69 Dear Allle, I wrote you a great long letter last Sunday, but just did not send it I don't know why I am sure. Alas! for human hopes! Do you know that I had the exceeding bad taste to be out walking when Mr. Thomas called? He came out last Monday with his sister. They waited some time In the parlor until they were told that I could not be found, and then they got into their carriage again. They met me out on the walk, and I talked to them a little while, but of course it was not much of a call. He said that he had met my sisters Miss Allie and Miss Jessie and that they were both well! I liked his sister very much and am going in their to call sometime. By the way, you don't know how gorgeous I do look tonight, my hair looks I mean. I have got it puffed or rather rolled in six great rolls behind three on each side, a braid going straight up my between them and my charming three curls besides! Then I have on my black grenadine and my roman sash, and altogether look quite fine! I cut out a sacque out of that blue flannel yesterday and nearly made it. It is just a plain sacque and I am going

to have it pinked all around. I concluded that I did not like it for one of those wraps, and so made a sacque out of it. I just think it is too bad that father, Jessie and Nellie do not write to me. I haven't had a single letter from home this whole week. I had the most ridiculous dream possible the other night. I dreamed that I was to be married to Jay Cooke. Luty (?) Jay. I had just returned from school and was to be married in two days. I thought that Aunty had made the arrangement. I knew that he was in love with Mollie Gale, and he knew that I did not like him particularly, but that did not make any difference, fortunately I wakened up before the ceremony was performed. Happy escape do you not think so? Last friday as I was going into the dining hall to dinner I was met by the announcement that the Rev. Mr. Miller was in the parlor and wished to see Miss Stem. He is one of the ministers who was at Gibraltar at the same time that Mr. Sanford was. I had a delightful call with him. He asked me to send him a catalogue, and invited himself up here to Commencement. I hope he will enjoy it as only parents and guardians are admitted. He knew that I had just gone in to dinner, but he kept me there until they were all

through so I had to go with out my dinner! Mr. McCoy seems to be charmed. Is he as attentive as ever. How about that game of croquet. I am so sorry I had intended to treat Mr. Thomas to any quantity of doses of Mr. McCoy, but I didn't have time. I am real sorry that I did not meet Uncle Harry's friends. Where is Miss Zeigler from that she has met Sibyl's brother. Did Aunty seem to be pleased with her. Eva Gross was up here tonight and said that she had met her just before she came away. She thought that she would like her but she did not know her very well. It is the first time that Eva has been up to see me since we have been back. I went to see her the first day rather peculiar n'est-ce pas? Have I told you that I am eating in French now? or in other words that I am at the French table, I am and have real fun. How are you getting along with your French. I have also joined the Philalethean Society and a Missionary Society which they have here. I am already a member of the Sicilian (Musical) Society, so you see I am going it strong this year. The Seniors were informed last week that they might each have the little pleasure of writing an essay, and reading it before the whole college. Last year I hear that

the Juniors participate in the little pleasure! Pleasant prospect for me, if I should return, isn't it? The girls are scolding about like troopers and I don't wonder, for I don't see how they can ever do it in the world. I do wish you could have seen Miss Skillings (one of my parlormates) open a box yesterday. She had an elegant box, candy, pears, grapes, cake etc, etc, etc, all packed in with her clothes. As the box had been on the way a week, you can imagine the condition in which her clothes were. Fortunately the grape juice was mostly soaked up by a trunk cover, so there was not very much on her dresses. But I think that her mother must have been a funny packer. Well I shall have to say good-night for I have got to take these rolls down to the young lady that they belong to, and it is nearly time for the warning bell to ring, do write soon. Your loving sister Sallie