

Vassar College N.Y.

May 14th, 1871.

My dear Allie,

Your letter quite surprised me by its prompt appearance and remarkable length. Scarcity of paper seems to have an inspiring effect upon you. Speaking of paper, don't you think that this is a lovely tint? I am writing on it that you may go to the bookstore and see if they have any like it, for I know you want some. I want to get some when I come home. They call it Auburn. Annie is a young girl whom I used to know at Miss Moore's school. She was a beautiful girl and very popular. I believe she afterwards moved to Fairmont. I said poor girl, merely because I should consider any one so who married Charlie Norton. I can't endure him or Dr. Price either. Do you consider me a goose for not knowing that sherry wine would not cure dyspepsia? Well I have been told a great many times that any kind of wine would relieve dyspepsia so I naturally gave such power to sherry wine, especially as my medicine tasted very much like sherry. I thought that that was what Jay Butler meant about dyspepsia, but I hadn't any idea what Charlie Saddler meant. By the way, how did he, Saddler, happen to be at Auntie's? Weren't you amazed to hear of Lena Mill's engagement? I thought that if Mr. Ayers ever married anybody, that he would marry Julia Radcliffe, perhaps Jacky wouldn't cause he couldn't. I am not surprised at Hannah Marshall and Judge Sloans. Is there any rumor, when their wedding is to come off? Mollie Gale did write me that she had invited eight bridesmaids, and then proceeded to mention those who had accepted, which were Ella W. Lizzie C. Lillie H. Effie S. and myself. She said nothing about groomsmen, and I naturally thought that there were not to be any. Judge then of my amazement when I saw the long string of names which you sent me. I think it would be a great deal prettier to have eight bridesmaids without groomsmen don't you? I wonder who she will put

me with. Spencer Gale likely. I thought that Kittle Cooke was in Europe. Didn't she and her mother go to London with Mr. Henry D. and Harry? I supposed that the whole family went, and if so, it seems a long way to come for Mollie's wedding.

She also told me that the bridesmaids were all to wear white tarleton, with no color and no [color] vails. Rather hard on poor black me, isn't It?

What a pity it was you didn't see more of Andy Hunker's elegant overcoat. How did he happen to be in Sandusky, and did he look natural?

About Liv. Hubbard, I shouldn't wonder a bit if he had been rusticated. Don't speak of it, but I am going to find out.

If it had not been so pleasant today, and also if the Religious Inquiry Society had not met tonight, you should have had a longer letter; but right in the midst of my letter, the girls insisted that it was so lovely, that we must go out and walk. So we went out and came back with our hands full of apple blossoms and violets. There are the greatest quantity of wild fruit trees, and wild flowers around here, than I ever saw before in my life.

I went to Religious Inquiry meeting, because Prof. Backus was announced to speak. As I am perfectly devoted to him, and he never fails to give us something worth hearing, I was naturally anxious to go. He gave us a funny description of his experience in a negro church in the south, where the people were all jumping up and down in the aisles, singing and gesticulating while he was talking. It is his opinion that they are not all saints yet.

He told us the surprising fact, that the Cherokee nation of Indians sent more men into the Union Army during the last war, than in proportion to their population than the State of Massachusetts, which sent more than any other state in the Union. He also said that in proportion to its population, the Cherokee nation was the richest in the world! But perhaps this Missionary lecture may not please, any way I will not occupy more space with it now.

Mother, I suppose has told you that I want to go home with Mame Taylor for a few days, if I can get away from here a few days, won't that be grand? They live up on the Hudson during the summer, just a little ways from here. Strawberries will then be in full blast. Her father will be west, and she and her brothers will run the house. I came near forgetting to acknowledge the receipt of my box. I have the sacque

to my white pique here, so the dresses are all right. The only thing is, I am afraid my newest one is pretty short, and I am sure the overskirt is decidedly old

fashioned. I will have to have a general making over time when I come home. The retiring bell has rung, so

I shall have to say goodnight. I hope you will answer this as promptly as you did my last one, and also that paper will be scarce, if it has the same effect upon you as before

Lovingly

Sallie

You remember the Sophomore trial of their Trigonometry which I spoke to you about? They have had the proceedings published. I will send you a copy.

S.