Vassar College N.Y. Dec. 13th 1871 Dear Allie I am writing to you. not that I have anything to say, but simply because I want to hear from you so badly. I have been hoping for sometime that you might take pity upon me, and write without waiting for an answer. I wish I knew whether you generally see my letters to Aunty, for I shall be apt to repeat the same things which I wrote to her. The girls go home for the holidays next Wednesday. Most of the them are going. Some of the western girls will stay, among them several seniors. We are going to form a reading circle, that is, one will read while the rest sew. As a grand finale, we will have a candy pull. We intend to have as good a time as possible. Do write me what they are going to do at home. How does Lena Mills strike people as Mrs. Ayerss How do you like Mr. McCoy's wife. Is Libbie Hubbard going to be married soon, & and how [she] is she, fcc,fcc. Any thing else which is going on & shall be happy to hear about. It seems as though I hadn't heard any doings for six months. You know Aunty does hear what is going on [who] among the young people, and so she doesn't write about their doings. I accidentally heard the other day that Edd & Nate Coy were both East. One of the girls told me that she had invited them up to our Philalethean Entertainment last Friday. Nate is teaching school in Jersey City, and Edd is visiting him. I was quite delighted when I heard that they were coming for I would then see somebody that I knew among the company. The young gentlemen did not make their appearance however. We had a very good time. The second floor

was trimmed with evergreen the whole length of the hall, and the chapel also. After the exercises in the chapel, the programme of which I will send you, the company adjourned to the dining hall, where we enjoyed the ice creams (especially chocolate) ices, cakes & fruits which were spread before us. Then those who had company promenaded up & down the corridor talking & having a good time. I promenaded to my room. The whole thing is rather stupid, except for watching the people. It is fun to see how they carry on sometimes. I wish you girls could be here at one of the Entertainments Just to see what things are like. Wouldn't it be elegant if you could all come on during commencement week? With the programme of the Philalethean Society I will also enclose the record of a previous celebration, which was equally as entertaining. We had so much fun over our Filet d'aloyain braise aux Champignone." No one knew what it was, and each one did not wish to let the other know that she was not familiar with the dish, so we all sent out for it, with a very matter of course sort of an air, and found that it was old roast beef, with a little mushroom sauce over it! To change the subject you ought to have seen me when I came in from walking yesterday. It was snowing, and consequently my skirts were all draggled, and my stockings wet half way up to my ankles (is that right? it is too much trouble to get up and get a dictionary) But my feet! Oh you should have seen my feet. They were as red as beets, In fact just the color. I rubbed them for about fifteen minutes, and then when I felt them with my hand, they were as cold as ice. It Is time to mail this, so goodbye. Now be generous, and write me once or twice during vacation won't you. I wish that I were going to be at home. Tell Jessie that I hate her.

Lovingly, Sallie