

Albany Jan 8-1866 -

My dear Mother

I arrived here safely and in time Saturday afternoon and found them waiting for me at the depot. The train was on time at Albany though it was behind time at Brockport- It was very comfortable in the cars and I had a seat to myself nearly the whole way so I had a very pleasant ride. It has been very cold here. Yesterday and the thermometer stood at 14 degrees below zero in the evening and this morning it was 17 degrees below zero so of course I cannot start away from here in such weather.

I am having a very pleasant visit and Netta declares I shall not go away in a week but I shall go as soon as the weather moderates for the Hudson river road is such a cold road I should almost perish in such weather

My watch keeps very good time indeed. Tell Henry not to forget my hoop skirt covers and when he goes to Rochester to get them. I hope James has not tried to go to Rochester in this weather. It is so dreadfully cold. Tell Mrs Thatcher Netta was very much pleased with the quilts and they came just in time for the cold weather.

I hope Henry did not get hurt in jumping from the train when it left Brockport. I was so afraid he would it was going so fast. How is James' cold? I think we will go to-night and hear Blind Tom the celebrated Negro pianist. This is his third evening. How are your darkies? I pity Frank if it is as cold at home as it is here this morning when he goes after the milk-

I have no particular news to tell so will close my letter. My love to father Henry and James and tell them to write immediately to me at Vassar College.

Your affectionate
daughter Hellen-