

Vassar, Feb. 28, 1874.

Dear Mother,

Yours came

yesterday. I have written

Mary telling her that it

will not be possible for me

to come vacation, however

much I should like it, because

of the expense of it and because

after refusing Ella's invitation

I could not possibly accept

another to Providence without

hurting her feelings. I am

sure I do not know what

to say about clothes. Somehow

there is that same bother

every summer. And then

another thing, I think it

quite possible that I may

have another imitation

to Waterbury, not from

Law, but perhaps from

Kate Maltby. I don't know, and

it is rather absurd to say

anything about it when I

am not certain, but I

know Kate would like me

to come and I rather think

she means to ask me. So I

want to take that into

account, if I should go there

what clothes would be

best. Vacation comes in

four or five weeks. If I

should go there, I'd rather

have something good to

wear there if not so much

in the summer. What do

you think, about a dress

I mean and a hat for

spring? I thought I'd tell

you now so you could

be thinking. Perhaps the

waist of a dress could be

made here better than

in Providence. I think this

woman's prices are not very

high. She charged \$ 1.75

for making my black waist.

I don't know whether Ella really expects me to go home with her or not. She speaks of it as if I were going, but I have told her several times that I did not think it would be possible for me to come. I have begun a little crocheted sack for Anna's baby. I don't know when I shall get it done. There is so little spare time here. Jennie Titus says she is coming to Vassar. It is so funny, for two weeks or more I have had very few letters, until last Saturday; but I will then have had twelve. So queer! All the people that I only write to once in an age seemed to come together in one week. Lou Kellogg's mother has not grown strong at all, and now they are planning to take her to Aiken S.C. to spend the winter. Mr. K. and two or three of the children are going. Lou was planning to go there, so far, in the spring vacation, but now she means to go home next week to stay over Sunday. Wish I had the extra cash that she has. I did indulge a little in flowers the other day. Kate had been away and I wanted her room to look bright and pleasant when she came back, so I went to the hothouse for some flowers. Such a funny old man as keeps it! He has not nearly as much custom as the others in P. so perhaps that was why he was so generous. I told him 30 cents worth. I thought

that would only buy a few little sprays, but he gave me scarlet geranium, violets, fuchsias, calla lilies, and lots of flowers that I don't know the names of.

Such a quantity! There were three or four vases full when I had arranged them. I believe this is the second time in my life that I ever bought flowers.

Dr. Storrs of Brooklyn lectured and preached here this week. He was simply wonderful. He used no notes, but his work was as finished and polished as if every word had been written. His delivery was very fine, finer than I ever heard before. Bishop Huntington of Central New York lectures here tonight and will preach tomorrow.

They say he is very fine.

Dr. Webster is very popular. She is so different from Dr. Avery. I have quite a hard cold, the first I've had this winter, and yesterday I asked her to excuse me from walking. She did so without a word.

You can't appreciate it as we here do who have known Dr. Avery's way. Dr. Avery would never excuse anyone from walking on account of a cold, no matter what the weather was, and yesterday was very pleasant.

I think a [heraani] would be pretty with the waist made like a shirt waist only without plaits and sticking out under the belt in points or something.

Either that way or a basque
would be pretty. Joe sent
the check and I paid the
bill. I will enclose the
receipt. What is coming
for spring hats? Don't
you think my last
spring's sacque, if trimmed
with lace would be pretty
for this spring? Seems
to me it would do very well.
I have a horrid cold, but
I have been taking aconite
and hot baths to an
unlimited extent, and
I guess it will be better
soon. It is about dinner
time. Write soon.
Eva M. Tappan

I had a long letter from
Mrs. Harris the other day.
I will send it in this and
put the receipt in the next
one. Send It back when
you have read it.