

Vassar College 1866

Poughkeepsie N.Y. Feb.8th

My very dear Mother;

I promised in my last letter to write to you very soon a letter that could deserve to be called an answer to your good letter; but it has come to be Thursday morning and I have not written yet, and I am afraid this letter will hardly fulfill my promise. We are all very well and prospering. Cousin Emma is going down to Brooklyn to spend the Sabbath. Mattie and I both wish that we were going too. She will leave here probably next Thursday. We all miss her very much. She rooms very near us and it seems as if she belonged to us, we all love her[e] dearly. I should think she was going to marry very well. She, strange to say, is of that opinion. I am very glad that they are going to stop in Detroit. How I wish that we were going to be at home. Oh Mother I do want to see you all so, especially you. But July is coming. Tuesday eve. the President had a school reception. It was very pleasant. There are five large room that can be thrown open at once so that there can be a great many people there without a crowd. I do think that Prof, and Mrs. Tenney are such delightful people. I do wish that you could see them. I think that Mrs. Tenney is one of the most truly cultivated ladies I ever knew. She is from Boston I think. They have lived in Cambridge for a long time at all events. How is Mrs. Avery? Give our love to her please, also to Mrs. Hibbard, Mrs. Raymond, &c, &c, &c. We have not written to Miss Coe yet, but intend to one of these days. How does Sara prosper with her sewing. I wish that we were going to be at home in April. Are you having cold winter weather? We have had cold weather most of the time since we came back, and sleighing a good part of the time. I rejoice at every regular winter day. It seems so much more sensible for this time of year, and, prospect for a healthy summer is so much better. Has Father gone to Washington yet? I am afraid that that journey may be accomplished very much after the manner of some others. How is Lottie Dwight this winter? She has owed me a letter forever so long. I do hope that she is better than she was last summer most of the time. Mrs. Jones in a letter to Minnie said that she had seen her twice lately at Young Men's Hall with Horace Burt. Has Mamie Benson got ready to return home yet? Miss Meher had a letter not long ago from Helen Swift, & she said that she was going down to New York before long, and perhaps would stop here. Will not it be pleasant if she does? We shall be so glad to see her. I hope that you have been or will go to hear Anna Dickinson. It is worth while I think, although her lecture may not be one that would be of any particular benefit. Have you been to many lectures this winter. Wendell Phillips lectures here this week. I wish that we could hear him. Our Literary Society is going to be very pleasant & profitable I think. We had a very pleasant meeting last Friday eve. The girls are very much interested in it. We have a very pleasant Chapter. Alice Hubbard from Chicago one of the very nicest and smartest girls here has just succeeded in being transfered from another Chapter to it. I do wish that you would come and make us a visit on your way to visit Aunt Rebecca. She is almost as anxious to have you as we are.

Mattie sends so much love that I can't get it in. Minnie sends love &c. Tell Helen that I shall be glad to hear from her, if she has time, and her inclinations tend that way. Willie I suppose is very busy in school. I hope that eye will continue to be better. Cousin Emma sends a note to you enclosed. I must stop and study. Love from me to all in full measure, & running over.

Good bye.

Your ever loving

Hattie.