

Vassar College, Oct. 3, 1866.

My dear dear Mother;

It is Just two years today since I left for school the first time. Doesn't it seem as if it was longer? How many things have happened to us all since then. I felt so badly to hear about your eye, I do hope that it will not be troublesome very long. I feel verily guilty every time I think how it was my thoughtlessness, which brought on the sty which left your eye so bad, and then how much you used your eyes in the evening book for us. Next year with only Mattie to fix off we won't suffer you to take an extra stitch. I suppose that if your eye is sore long we shall not hear from you for some time, but we shall have to write enough for two, each one of us. We are all very well and prospering finely. I am glad to be able to say that the weather has been more propitious to us than to you. We have had but few unpleasant days. I hope that Oct. will be pleasant at home. I think it the beautiful month of the year there. How nice it is for you to have Auntie with you. I feel easy, and know that you will not be very lonely as long as Auntie and Mary are with you. Helen has just received a letter from Aunt Catie. They are all well. Uncle Swift and Auntie have been to the meeting of the Board. They enjoyed it very much. She said that she wanted us to come & see her before we go home, but she had rather we would not come in winter. So If we want to go to Vermont or else where next winter we will not feel under any fear that Aunt Catie will think we ought to come to see her. She inquired where Uncle Cephas was & said she had received no reply to her letter asking when he & his family would be there. It is very pleasant here. I don't see why you have such wretched weather in Detroit. So Father is going to the Legislature again, perhaps. It will be a shame, if that ticket is not elected. It is the best ticket for representatives that I ever saw. I hope that Father will be elected but what will you do if he is gone the most of the winter. You will have to shut up the house & come East I guess. I am delighted to hear that there is a prospect of a good choir again. "The darkest hour is always just before day," isn't it? Do you see the girls much? Sara has not written to Mattie yet. I think she might do it. I suppose they all find the new baby quite engrossing. Mrs. Tenney has not any girl yet. Don't you pity her with Sannie so much work to see to too? Prof. Tenney has heard that his Father is worse again. I don't think that he will leave again as long as he is not sure that his Father cannot recover. Helen is waiting for me to go out doors, so I must close.

Love in great measure to all. Goodby my dear dear Mother

Your

Hattie.