

Vassar College.
Mar. 28th 1866.

My dear Sister Nellie,

Your letter was received with acclamations upon Thursday of this week. You are just as good as can be, to write such nice long letters. The days our letters come are marked with white stones, you may be sure. At first we couldn't hardly believe that that tintype was intended for you, but the more I look at it the better I like it. Your face is much fuller than it was last summer. I am very much obliged for it, it seems as if you are a good deal nearer. I want Mother's and Willie's now. It flattery is wanted, to secure some photographs, I'll give you as much as you want, send your order, and I'll fill it out. How's Will? You didn't mention him. Can he walk yet? I hope Father has reached home at last. I do wish he could have come to see us. As for Prof. Knapp, we are all happy. I really think that we love him better every day. I can't tell you how much I enjoy Horace with him. He is the most wonderful teacher I ever saw. I don't mean to go home, (thirteen weeks from next Thursday) without his photograph, nor that of Prof. Tenney. So we have fairly colonized! What a shame that Scripps and Richardson didn't follow them. Minnie surmises that a new and feeble church would be too expensive. I consider that suspicion unjust, and presume that the true difficulty lay in the purchase of a ready built church, so that Mr. Scripps could have no opportunity to use that long hoarded fund, which he mentioned to Mr. Wheaton. What a spiteful gentleman the last named individual is! He never seems to avoid an opportunity for a hateful remark. I hope Bro. Kent's search will be successful, and that our new pastor will savor a little more of good looks, and a little less of "steamboat politeness" than that gentleman does. Ah Nellie! that was hateful as ever Mr. Wheaton was, wasn't it. I think I had better put myself under condemnation first. There is a great deal of interest in Poughkeepsie Union prayer meetings are held daily at four o'clock. Prof. Knapp took charge of one last Wednesday; agood many girls went in, but I couldn't. Prayer were offered for Mr. Rondelle, who has been very sick, hemmorage of the lungs, I believe. Miss Tutwiller, alias Alabama, has heard his classes. I like her very much: she is a good teacher, and is evidently thoroughly conversant with the French language. From something our little Prof. told Minnie we have concluded that she is to take charge of the German class as soon as Mr. Rondelle returns. I pity her, for they have been under Prof. Knapp all the year till now. I have never read "Mutual Friend," but want to very much. We are going to read "Philip Second of Spain" provided we can get it in the Library. I read out loud in recreation period, and the girls sew, or do something. Nellie Baker is coming in and we'll have real nice times. We like Nellie very much. she, or rather her parents, are from Rutland. Her father says that he has seen Hattie - but she has no earthly recollections of him - He knows father. (There is a beautiful girl here, a Nettie Caitin, who is a grand child of Horace Wheeler of Burlington. Did you ever hear of him? I think you are mistaken about that Young Men's Hall's performance. A letter from Emma last week told all about it. It is very strange that Willie doesn't know about it. Emma says that the family won't let her take part, which I consider sensible. If you are chagrined at having written me but twelve letters, what will be your sentiments when you learn that you have written Hattie only six. We have contracted a habit, which I think you would like if you should adopt it - viz we keep a letter account, in which we charge every letter we write, and every one ten Hattie twelve letters, counting those to us both, which she

keeps - Now isn't that good? Just as many as Minnie's father who is her main correspondent has written. Mrs. D. hasn't written to Minnie once, its very hard for her and M. says she doesn't write a letter once a year - Neither has Minnie written to her but twice. Love to the girls - I hate to stop writing home when I begin - Tell every body to behave with decorum till we come home - Minnie and Hattie send love, be sure and write your next letter to her. Good bye dear, a thousand kisses, from your sister Mattie -

[Martha S. Warner, '68]