

Vassar College
April 7th, 1866.

My darling Mother,

Right glad were we to receive your dear good letter. How many things you and Nellie do find to write about. I desire first of all, to express my approval, of that card case. She never had anything of the kind, and has a very pretty napkin ring. Besides when she is out calling in full bridal array, it will make a very pretty addition to her dress. Its a good thing that Doctor Pomeroy got married, isn't it? Minnie says that Mr. Corning is one of the wealthiest men in the country. Do you know what the Ladue's are going to give her? I hope that Sara will cultivate an affection for shawls. How near it is! only a little more than a week! the nearer the time grows, the more unreal it all seems. The thought of seeing her nearly destroys my self possession. I am glad that you are so anxious to see us, it is very pleasant to feel that one is missed, but yet I do think that poor Thomas Huntingdon will have to make up his mind to the dreadful sacrifice. Undoubtedly it is a trial. Such delightful weather as we have had! Thursday the thermometer stood 18° where the sun has never shone since the house was built. Spring dresses blossomed out in great profusion, and one damsel had the good taste to appear in a white waist - but yesterday and today it has been cold and rainy, so that spring dresses are back in their trunks. I am glad not to have much prematurely warm weather this spring. Last night we had an election of officers in our chapter, in which we dethroned Hattie, and exalted Miss Bush in her stead. Nellie Seland is Vice Pres. Nellie Baker Secretary, Miss Glidden Treasurer. I hope next week to be relieved from my duties a Scrap-box committee. We find our Society very interesting indeed, and very improving likewise - Mr. Vassar desires that his birthday, April 29th, should be celebrated in the College, as a regular holiday - I believe the exercises this year are to be a mixture of literary and musical exercises - what, I don't know. Minnie is on a committee appointed by our chapter, to confer with the faculty committee, of which Prof. Knapp is chairman. They are at present holding a prolonged session. I am quite eager to learn the result. What misfortunes Carrie meets with, when attempting to call, in her blue silk. She wrote to me some time ago, about being spotted from head to foot, by a small boy dashing thro' a mud puddle. Is she as pretty as ever? Does Lucy have much to say about Ned Butler now? or is she devoted to some one else? Carrie never insinuates that a gentleman ever looks at the house. You know how very reserved about their affaires they always were - in a certain way, I mean. I wish you'd remind her that she owes me a letter. I am very sorry for your disappointment in losing Mr. Freeland's last sermon. I think myself, that Bridget claims more than her share of churchgoing - but as you say it seems hard to part with one so nearly associated with our little darling. What a pity that you missed that last prayer meeting - I am very glad that Mr. and Mrs. Freeland are going to remain in the city. If Mrs. Bronson can have them room in her house, why can't she board them too? I should think it would be very difficult for them to manage in that way. What an aggravating specimen Mrs. Taylor can be. I am very glad you did them yourself. Sara has spoken several times, about how beautiful the skirt was. I think she will like it all the better for being all your own handiwork. I should like to keep on writing to you indefinitely, but duty in the shape of Latin, Greek and mending, beckons me away. Such an unhappy dress as that dark calico of mine is - Every Saturday for the last three weeks I have exhausted body and mind in mending that dress. On can hardly look at it, without hearing the accustomed sound tear-tear- But that's no matter for

I'm going home pretty soon. Prof. Knapp came up this morning with Fannie MacGuire's little sister, it made me almost envious, I think I had better go home very speedily - for I shall be cultivating all manner of wicked thoughts and feelings. I can hardly bear to see the girls Fathers come to take them home Friday night. I am not going to ask again "When is Father coming home." but hope you will give us prompt information, when the event does take place - Love to all. Tell Willie the mail bag has looked fearfully thin lately. I presume he'll write after Sara is married. Good bye Mother darling take good care of yourself till we come home.

Your loving daughter Mattie -