

Vassar College,
April 11th, 1866

My dear Sister,

I must beg of you, when you have in your company, simple minded people, who regliously believe what ever is said in their hearing, not to confuse and befuddle their brains in such style, that they return to your native state, and industriously spread the report, that you have abjured the faith of your Fathers, and joined yourself to that of the scarlet woman and Pope of Rome. Just this thing Miss Fannie Hammond has done, creating thereby considerable commotion in the fair town of Pittsford. Clara Warner, in much perplexity has written to Miss Gilbert, she has also recieved other letters on the subject. Miss Gilbert thinks that the best thing you could do would be to write to that hopeful place yourself, stoutly denying the same. She says that to any denial from us, they would say They left before she turned, and the family don't let them know, hasn't Fannie come from there, and doesn't she report the evidence of her own eyes and ears? You will have to walk circumspectly in future my dear, if this is to be the result of any flights of fancy you may indulge. Did I ever tell you that a report was circulated thro' the College, at Thanksgiving time that we were Southern sympathisers, owing to a remark I made, to the effect, that Thanksgiving Day belonged in November, and I didn't believe that the Pres. knew much about Northern customs? We are very much engaged at present in preparations for the Founders Festival. Every thing is going to be done in fine style. I'll send you a full account when it happens. Minnie is one of the committee of arrangements. Hattie has managed to keep clear of nearly every thing. Minnie had a letter from home yesterday. It lacked two days of being four weeks since she had heard, they were very busy with spring work, as I conclude that every one must be, insomuch as this morning there were only three letters to divide among the forty girls on the corridor. Sara, I suppose, is almost if not quite ready - Dear me! how near it is! I do hope that she has these few days for "otium cum dignitate." I am already to rush down to tho depot, either next week Friday or any nearer time required - If you can conveniently please get me a sample of her dresses. I don't expect a letter from her until she has returned from her wedding tour, and is fairly settled as Mrs. George N. Ladue. Where are they going to live? I wish you to understand that you must defer your confirmation until such time as your two youthful sisters "can be there to see". I would advise you to enter the convent as soon you have given up all hopes in the matrimonial line. But so long as one last glimmering hope remains cling fast to that - I must go to French -

Good bye Mattie.

[Martha S. Warner, '68]