

Vassar College.
6 mo. 4, 1866.

Dear Nellie,

Many thanks for your good long letter. What an astonishing man to travel Father is growing to be. Do you suppose he really will come for us? I hope he won't want us to go any sooner or wait any? because I do believe either deed would utterly destroy the remenant of brains which I own. It will be very pleasant to have him, especially as there are several little girls going on with us to Chicago. Helen I don't believe that I shall write to you more than three times more, before I reach home! What is the matter with Congress? I saw in the paper that they had repealed the tax on pig iron, which I supposed would greatly rejoice him. I hope he'll gain his point, whatever it is. Hattie Pearl's marriage as well as Mattie Messenger's had reached me by way of Lucy Hawley to Hattie. I am very glad that Hattie Pearl has married Mr. Pond, and not Mr. Kent. That gentleman does not appear to increase in aimability as his years. Mother must have enjoyed the visit from Mr. & Mrs. Weed very much. I am so glad she has seen them again. Was all that nonsense about T. Huntingdon & his washing true, that Father said? If so I think him an impertinent puppy, & I can't imagine why Mother agreed to do it - Miss LeMaire is to be congratulated - Did she marry a Detroit sprig? If so what is the occupation and calling of the same? It must be a relief to the Silsbee's that Mrs. Silsbee is finally at rest. How are the financial interests of the family? Last I heard they were nearly penniless. I am glad that you have a bonnet likewise a basquine. It will be the duty of the family to provide those articles for Hattie after her arrival in D - What style is Empress? I am a perfect barbarian in regard to fashions you see. What a looking letter! In regard to the exact hour of our return. I am unable to state positively - We had laid all our plans to reach home about five o'clock Friday evening - but of course if Father comes for us, it will be just as he says - I hope he won't see fit to alter any thing, for I don't want to leave here a minute before school is out, and I dont want to be a minute later at home. Won't it be joyful! I can't tell you how I long for a place at the foot of Mother's bed. and a good long talk with all of you - Miss Gilbert is able to be around, but is prevented from hearing her classes, by a large styne on her eye. I think it would be the best thing she could do to go home and stay there, and suffer another one to reign in her stead. We have finished the first book of the Mem. or will have done when this reaches you - We have our last lesson Wednesday - Then we reveiw preparatory to an examination by Prof. Knapp. I am utterly witless this afternoon, and shall wait until evening -

[In pencil in a different hand] (Well how do you do? Home in three weeks more!!! Father to go home with!!! Aren't going to have an address before our Society!!! Ought to be writing an article for our Society paper. Don't know what to write about. The last scene in the drama has closed with, Exeunt all my ideas-)

Did you ever hear of such impertinence! See what I'll do to her next letter! It's wet and rainy, and damp, and sleepy - Love to all, tell Sallie to write just once more. Tell Mother to preserve her strength to hug us. I don't know anything, or care for anything. Minnie & Hattie send love -

Good bye, your most stupid sister Mattie S. W.