

Vassar College-
Nov. 15, 1866-

My dearest Mother,

I was delighted to receive your letter, how good it was of you to write to me - We are so much rejoiced to hear such good news of your eyes. I hope that they will continue to increase in strength, until they are as well as they used to be before. You don't know how astonished I was to hear your news of Sarah. I was so positive that nothing of the kind was the matter with her, that I could scarcely believe my eyes. Do tell me all the particulars as soon as possible. Nov. 21. I wrote thus far last Wednesday but was prevented from finishing it, and have not been able yet to finish it, but I am going to now any way - We are having a beautiful time preparing for our public meeting which is to take place next Monday week. If Father thinks best I shall enjoy staying here very much although of course I am very anxious to see Burlington and its inhabitants once more. I don't know whether we shall have to pay board or not, but I think it altogether more probable that we will. When you send the box will you please send that large shell comb of Aunt Rebecca's? I want it very much, and will take excellent care of it. What is the matter with George Pomeroy? Your letter to Helen said that he was very low if alive. Is it not very sudden? I had not heard of him being ill - I don't know whether any one could mourn for him or not. If his mind had been unimpaired I think that he would have made a fine man - He was a very smart boy. As it is, I could hardly be sorry for him, or for the girls, his life, if he lives, must be a terrible burden to himself, if not an utter blank, and a constant cause of anxiety to his friends - If he dies please tell me all about his sickness and the family, please do any way. Has Mrs. Pomeroy quite recovered? How is Sarah's health? We received Mr. Ballard's letter today. How very kind of him to write, and of you to ask him - I think the motto a beautiful one. You heard it did you not? "Per aspera, ad astra," "Through trials to glory." The girls like it very much, but we are going to get several together before we decide upon any. Did you read his letter? It was a very kind one, but I must say I don't fancy the idea of a dock in church. The church was what he meant by the "audience room" was it not? Did you hear that Italian lecture? I hope that he presentiment is a true one, and that the Pope will leave Rome before the close of the year, but I must say that I have little faith in such predictions - He seems to me very much like a fixture - Get me a felt hat please. Mother, a real pretty shape, turban if they are prettiest, and please send me my felt turban that I foolishly left behind me. Auntie and little Mary have left I suppose. I am very glad that they made you such a good long visit, & I wish that some one else would come and make you another while Father is gone. Otherwise how forlorn you will be. How did you ever come to take tea at the Colburn's? Has the old lady grown gracious? or what? Do tell us what you are going to do for Thanksgiving? Who are you going to have to dinner? What are you going to have to eat? &c &c. I am hungry and want to hear of some good things to eat. I suppose that we are to have some kind of a dinner, and a Shakspeare reading in the evening. Coming as it does just before our public meeting it was not considered necessary to have any thing much - Give a great deal of love to all the people who want it. Father, Willie, Sarah, &c - I hope that your eye is quite well now. I am very sorry that I let so long a time elapse between my last letter and this, and never mean to do so any more. With a great deal of love, and a great many kisses, I am Your humble servant, M.S.W.