

Vassar College
March 31, 1867

My darling Mother,

Do you think that I have gone to sleep, or fainted away, or eloped, or have you not noticed how long it is since I have written to you? I am very sorry, and very much ashamed of myself, but Mother dear, I have been so busy that I couldn't in the week days, and Sundays I have been prevented - To night I am so sleepy that I can hardly keep my eyes open, and have no hope of writing an intelligent, or legible letter. Indeed you must not be at all surprised if you find another date before the end of the sheet. Minnie is going home, not to stay, but for a week or two, till she gets able to come home, or rather back - I can't understand what is the matter with her, she seems to have broken down altogether. I hope that a quiet rest at home will restore her health. You don't know how much we all wish that you could be at home, but of course it is best for you to be in Rockford. I think that Mr. Curtis is contemptible, altogether beneath notice. I am glad that you and Aunt Martha didn't attempt to discuss those questions - How is Uncle Shepherd now? Does the doctor think there is really any hope for him? How good God is to make him a Christian. I don't think we ought ever to despair of any one. I walked into church today, and am more tired to night on that account. It has been a beautiful day, that first that has promised Spring. The beauty of the weather tempted a great many to walk in. Dr. and Mrs. Gleason, friends of Miss Avery's from the Elmira water cure are visiting here. Mrs. Gleason spoke to us after Chapel Friday night. I liked her very much. She was in one Physiology class also. I suppose Hattie told you all about the crowd of Holyoke teachers we have been favored with. I just saw Mrs. Stodard in the hall, for I was at Latin when she was in our room. I can't say that I fancied her. I presume it was in part owing to my disliking her daughter so much. Miss Lucy Wright, daughter of the late Dr. Wright of Persia, is to be married Wednesday, to a Mr. Mitchell of Po'keepsie, and is to sail immediately to Syria - Mrs. Cochrane knew her, do you remember? Jessie Campbell is to be married Teusday evening to John Harvey. They are to be married in the Christian Church, in grand style - Jessie will wear white silk. Minnie had a letter from Hattie Dickinson a little while ago, describing her elegant presents of silver, and the beauty of her outfit - She has six elegant new silks, garnet, blue, green, black, black and white check, and white, the black and white is her travelling dress. They are going to keep house on Winder street. Mr. Henry McKnight is dead, as you probably know. The Jews have bought the church where Mr. Freeland's people meet, and they are obliged to build a chapel on their lot, immediately. Delia Howard is in very poor health, and is talking of going home to stay. She has not been well since the holidays. The other girls are all well I think. Clara Glover is sick a good deal. Please give a great deal of love to Auntie, Uncle, and the cousins. Tell little Emma that I will write to her soon but can't this time possibly. I am glad that my other effort proved satisfactory - Minnie, Hattie, and Helen send much love. Sarah says "I do so want your Mother to come home." She says that she is not very well yet, has not regained her appetite - Her baby drinks a tumbler full of milk at a time, she not having enough for him - I hope that she will be well soon - Carrie is busy getting ready to be married, & she too is longing for Mrs. Warner - If ever I am in half as great demand as you, I shall consider my mission in life fulfilled. Good bye dear - I have written this all this evening in spite of my fears -

Yours with much love - Mattie