

Vassar College,
Oct. 8, 1867.

My dear Mother,

Had you concluded that I meant to drop you entirely? I am ashamed of myself that I haven't written before, but it has always seemed that I must tell the girls something whenever I had time to write. I suppose that you are having a grand time in Pittsford. How I wish I could be there with you. I could see all the people with familiar names, who would come to see you, but who never heard of me. How is Auntie Colburn? I hope that your visit will do her all the good that she anticipated. Have you been up to Uncle Jona's? How are they all there? Give my love to them please. Give a great deal of love and every thing to Miss Gilbert - Tell her that I hope to see her sometime when there is less confusion and bustle, and less headache, than there was last summer. How is her health now? We are getting along finely. Helen and Nellie Storke are as amicable as two clams. Helen is trying to raise a geranium, and has succeeded in reducing it to bare stalks. I expect the next move will be for Thomas to carry it off never more to be seen. Flowers never did flourish in this room. I have had two letters from Minnie, she seems to be very busy getting ready - It's too bad that you will not be home for the wedding, isn't it? I am so glad that she is going to be within reachable distance. Won't it be beautiful to go and see her? I am in quite a hurry to be able to tell the people here I am going to tell them the very day. Minnie said that the flannel for her skirt was bought, but she hadn't seen it and didn't know whether it was as nice as the one she bought winter before last. Don't you remember that dreadfully coarse night skirt she bought, and sent word to you to embroider for her? What pattern are you going work it? Oh! will you please tell Miss Gilbert that our mutual friend Mrs. Metcalf is about to join her fortunes with those of a Mr. Harris, a wealthy New Londonner. Impart the news gently I fear for its effects. Perhaps you may have heard me speak of her. The gentleman was divorced from his wife two years ago. When shall you come here? I suppose on your way up from Brooklyn, as it would be out of your way coming from Aunt Katie's. I hope you will make good long visits every where but I am in a hurry to see you. Isn't it delightful to be east once more? Prof. Tenney has been called home by his Father's death. He was a very old man, over eighty. I haven't seen Mrs. Tenney since. Dr. Stebbins called here on his way home. We were very glad to see him. He was looking exceedingly well. Of course you know of Hattie Goodell's death, and that Mr. Kellogg, the wretch, wasn't at home. And of Mrs. Cressy's death and Jessie Vallee's marriage. Isn't it lovely to have Hattie at home while you are gone? Helen and I are in the best of health and spirits. The only ailment which we at present are suffering from is a great hunger, and the dinner just now ringing promises to alleviate that. We hear occasionally little items of news regarding Prof. Knapp - He is at present in Paris, teaching a class of Spaniards, and also a Sunday school class. I wish I could see you. Please give our love to all our relatives - and take quantities from your loving daughter Mattie.