

My Dear Mother,

I believe I wrote to Father last so it would be my turn to write to you were I particular about that but of course I mean my letters as much for one as another. However this time I shall probably write what will be of more interest to you Mother. I received my things which you sent me late Saturday evening and you have no idea how delighted I was. Every thing you sent was perfect and just what I wanted. I do not know how to express my thanks sufficiently but if you could have been here to see me as I opened each thing I think you would have felt repaid for all your trouble. I like my dress very much and all the girls think it so pretty. It is a perfect fit every way I don't see how you could get every thing so exactly as I could wish it. The length of the skirt, the sleeves bands, every thing just right I have not got a dress I like better. Emma has spoke several times that she did not see how you got the skirt such a good length. I know it would not have been so good if I had been home. I would like to know who made it. My clothes bag is just the thing. I wish you had sent some embroidery patterns for I do not find any here yet that are exactly what I want. I have some marked off in my work box I believe and if you will I think I should like to have you send them in your next letter\* By the way I want some tape to bind my skeleton skirt. Perhaps you can send that in a letter-*et* or paper. I wish you would send me the papers or magazines if you think best for I should like them so much. Don't laugh because I always find so much to send for but forgot to send some of my Photos. Well then I sat down I thought I should not have time to write much but I find we are not to have recitations until this afternoon and so I can write more though you do not deserve it for you do not half write to me. Saturday fore-noon we went to Springside Mr Vassar's country residence. There were three omnibus loads went first and we were gone about an hour and then three more loads. In the afternoon three more and I believe there are three more loads to go this morning which will take all that wish to go. It is about two miles from here and is one of the most delightful places I was ever in. I cannot begin to describe it for it would take so long but I can do that when I get home. Oh dear me you don't know how much I have got I want to say I never finish a letter but that I feel as though I wanted to sit down and commence again. I think so many times if I could only sit down with my work beside you in our pleasant parlor I should hardly be able to stop my tongue I should have so much. I expect to talk a steady stream about Vassar for a whole year after I get home so be prepared. I heard yesterday that we are to have holidays from Wednesday until Monday at Thanksgiving. I do hope you and Father will come and see me then. I have been thinking of a little trip to a city not very far from here which would be very pleasant in my estimation. I had a letter from Mary Van Rensselaer Saturday and she thinks she and Mr Van R. will come up here soon and make me a visit. Why don't Kate Spencer answer my letter has'ent she got it? I suppose there are ever so many things I have forgotten but I do not feel like writing more now so I shall not *H4Ua* try very hard to think. We have not recited any yet but expect to commence to-morrow as the order of classes will be given out this afternoon. I was a little disappointed that I did not get some of Jennie's good ginger cookies with my things but of course just as you think best. Oh I want to tell you about a gim. suit here which is so pretty. It is black alpaca trimmed with black and white check skirt and waist. Give my love to all my friends and remember me to Jennie also.

Please write soon

Your loving daughter,

Ellen.

The rules of Vassar require that we have a list of our correspondents signed by our parents so I have made one which I will send and wish you to send back as soon as possible. I do not know that I shall write to all but I put down every one which there was any possibility I should ever wish to write to. If you think of any other please add it or if you object to any of those I have I have written them in a great hurry but please excuse looks and mistakes.

Ella.