

Vassar College Po'keepsle

March 21st 1866

My Dear Parents,

I received a letter from Mother yesterday noon which was very interesting— You imagine right when you think I will be interested in hearing about the house. I look forward so much to receiving your letters. I am very much pleased with the arrangement about the library as well as I can judge and I think the bay window will be delightful. Please write me as much as you can find time to about all. — Mrs. Cornell & Emma have been up here this afternoon. They came up in the noon train and let here at half past five. It was very pleasant to see Mrs. Cornell. She said Mrs. H. B. Cornell has been sick ever since she has been to Albany. Mr. Cornell & Emma are to leave Friday for Ithaca & Emma intends to go to school at the Academy. Mary expects to go to Albany the last of this week to stay a week or two. Julia & I have not decided yet when we will go—the great trouble is we do not know whether to go before we take off winter clothing hats, etc or wait until we get our spring things. I do not know how we shall decide. And this brings me to the subject of dress. I hardly know what I need but I have thought some of a lighter calico for mornings and then something nicer for afternoon or Sunday wear. And how have you thought about having my dress made or haven't you wished to think of that until you get the dress. I would so much like one made all gored as I thought of having my brown you know, if you get proper material. The girls wear them so much here and they look so pretty. But about jockeys I want to ask you about that and tell you what I think. Nellie Dickson & I are about of the same mind as our jockeys are about alike, her's having a green feather. We think the best plan will be as soon as the weather becomes settled to get us these wide brimmed "sea-side" hats such as they wore last summer— Like Mrs. Treman's you know. We shall want something of that kind, merely for shade, around the grounds here in exercising etc. Then we will wear those until the first of May which will be the first time we will need nice\* to go to the city of church and so need nice jockeys, by that time the summer styles will be fully settled and we can see what they use and if my white straw can be fixed over in any shape I can have that done—but in any case we will have our feathers put on and wear them when we go to Po'keepsie to church etc. Don't you think that will be good?— I commenced Intellectual Philosophy to day, reciting to Pres. Raymond. I like him very much but he gives long lessons it I have to study pretty hard. I am very busy now as I have commenced practising an hour every day. We make it a rule now to get up and study before breakfast now— I got up this morning about half past five and I have had so much to do all day that I feel rather tired to night so you must excuse this letter if it is not written very well. I am feeling rather miserably at present from the effects of my cold, but I think it is wearing off. The warning bell has rang and I must say I am glad to say good night and go to bed---I will try and do better next time so please excuse me now

With much love

Ever your loving

Ellen