

March 2869th 1866 -

My Dear Parents.

Mother's letter of the 21st was received Friday morning and o! course read with great Interest It seemed as though there was an unusual amount of news In It at least It was a very nice letter. I am sure you cannot wish for me to be home more than I wish to be there to see all that Is going on. And although I have always thought I should enjoy so much selecting the paper for my room I am perfectly willing to trust It In your hands as I think you know about what I want, that Is to say a good match for the furniture. Some one, I have forgotten who now—once told me that they thought the prettiest kind of paper for it would be a plain green the color of the furniture and a border around the top of either a darker green or roses, either of which you see would match the furniture. I have not thought much about it and do not know how such paper would look but have merely mentioned it & leave it for you to get what you think prettiest. Are you going to have gas put in the rooms up stairs? I suppose so. You have no idea how much I want to see the house when I read your letters & get to thinking about it. Are you going to have the window cut through, lacing the street in the little room oil of mine ? And the one corresponding to it in the front chamber? Well I suppose I shall have to wait three months more before I can see all the wonders. -- Julia received an express yesterday from home containing a couple of Spring dresses etc. « and in addition quite a large box containing cookies, doughnuts cheese & a bar of cake. She invited Em & I up there last evening and you can imagine we had a gay time. They were awfull good. Julia's calaco dress is very pretty and fits her very well. The skirt is plaited on and makes it look very nicely. But now X must write you about the subject which is engrossing our minds at present, that is to say Julia's & mine. We are expecting now to go to Albany Thursday. We expect that there will be no recitations on Friday as it will be "Good Friday" so we have concluded that as we can go sooner on that account and stay longer it will be the pleasantest time. Mary Cornell is there now also and Miss Sayles told Julia today, that if there are no recitations Friday she will go down on the train Thursday eve. to make Mary a visit. You will have no objections to our going on the evening train if we go with her X suppose. We have not seen the Pres. yet but we hope to tomorrow. I will keep this until noon as I think it will reach you as soon, & then if I find certainly we are to go will add a post-script to that effect. And now I am obliged to inform you, (A la college students) that I consider myself in need of some— What shall I say? "soap" "spodoolicks or what? I don't know which is the most approved term. But seriously I have at present five dollars & some cents (or sense I hope) and there are quite a number of things I wish to purchase while in Albany—for instance—I have not bought my shoes yet nor had my pin mended not having been to Po'keepsie of late & both of which things I shall very much need at Albany-- Also my gloves which I could not get In Po'keepsie lc may need at any time here* Julia and I also want to get our large sun hats if possible there when her Aunt can help us.—I think of nothing else of importance to be purchased there but I expect I shall have to buy another book for Physical Geography soon after my return. Now if you think these things all right as I don't doubt you will you oblige me very much by sending what you think best in your next letter & as you will probably not receive this in time to answer and have me receive the letter before I go I have thought that perhaps it would be best for you to direct the letter to Albany and then if you write Wednesday I shall get it in time to purchase the things, If from the

postscript of this letter you direct it to Albany direct in care of T. S. Lord No.1, Tenbroeck St. I think of nothing more in connection with that & now before I forget again I must give you the answers to those connundrums. I see you are getting quite impatient. I intended to have sent them last time but forgot it. The first— The most indigestible supper? is a piano—for, te (tea) and to bolt the front door before going to bed. The second about the lawyer—He enters business to get on, he continues to get h,on«or and he leaves to get honest. I am surprised that Father did not guess the last. It is so true don't you think so ? And now do you want another? if so I will give you an easy one. If a man went up a mountain with a goose under his arm how would he get down? And for fear that is too easy I will give you one other; why is a reprieved criminal like a convalescent despeptic? person? But now I must close if I wish to leave room for any word tomorrow. Have you seen the piece by Curtis in Harper---about Vassar— Some things in it are quite good— Good-night now— Remember me to all enquiring friends and believe me ever

Your loving daughter

Ellen

Monday noon.

Julia & I have bean to Miss Lyman & she has excused us to go to Albany Thursday & remain until Tuesday morning so we shall have plenty of time to get any thing we want. I hope we can find hats to suit us— Please send my letter now to Albany. Excuse me from writing more now as I must study

Much love

I have not read this letter over so there may be mistakes. Please excuse.