

Vassar College Po'keepsie

April 4th. 1866.

My Dear Parents,

Here I am back at Vassar again and fully settled in the old routine of studies. I hardly know whether I am glad or sorry. Last night I should have said decidedly sorry—but then I was tired and could not help but think of the evening before. Now I am rested from the ride on the cars and the many long tramps we took while in Albany and I only feel the refreshing effects of my little vacation and can go to work again with renewed vigor. I must say I cannot help wishing the visit had been a little longer we did have such a good time. I was just as happy as I could be all the time I was there. They were all so pleasant and it seemed so homelike to be so much with Julia again. If I remember rightly I did not write you a very satisfactory letter Sunday but my head commenced aching soon after I commenced writing so I hurried to finish it and then lay down and took a nap and we slept it off and in the evening Charlie, Ellery Miss Allen (a young lady visiting Mrs Lord)—Julia and I went to the State Street Pres. Church. It was a long walk but I enjoyed it very much and the fact of being in a Pres. church again seemed to homelike. Monday was a most lovely day

and you may be sure we improved -the- it. We had breakfast between eight and nine. That was the usual hour so you can imagine how it seemed to get up now before six—The boys had to get up and go to their business about six o'clock so we did not see them in the morning but Mrs Lord Julia & I would have breakfast when we got ready. Monday morning we went down street to do all the shopping we did not do Saturday, which took nearly all the forenoon. Julia and I bought our sea side hats. Julia had her's trimmed with green ribbon about half a finger wide. Mine is not trimmed. The girls think them very pretty and I think I shall like mine very much. When we returned to Mrs Lord's we found Mary Cornell & Miss Sayles had been to call on us, we were very sorry not to have seen them for Julia and I went over to call on them Sat. & did not find them home. They left Monday afternoon on the four o'clock train. That evening Ellery, Charlie, Miss Allen Julia and I went again

to the Theatre as Mrs Lord was very anxious we should see the "Ticket-of-Leave Man*" which was acted. Perhaps you have heard of it as it had quite a run in New York. I like it very much better than the others we saw acted. Tues. morn, dawned again warm & pleasant After finishing our packing etc. Julia & I went down to the stores to do a little final shopping. We got so we went all around alone and enjoyed it Immensely. We left on the ten-forty-five train. Mrs Lord, Miss Allen & Charlie accompanied us to the depot. It is so nice now since the bridge is finished for we get on the cars in Albany and go right across the river & do not have to change until we get to Po'keepsie. Julia and I enjoyed the ride as much as could be expected considering that we were leaving all the play & had had only work to look forward to.

Imagine our delight at being informed upon our arrival (about half past two) that our class was to be examined in Rhetoric at half past four. As one day was not sufficient we have had to be examined to-day also. It was in Rhetoric, which you know I studied when I first came last fall and Synonymes which we have just finished. The questions were written on the board & we had a large sheet of foolscap given us and were obliged to write the answers. Pretty severe; don't you say so? I hardly know how I passed for I did not get back in time to look over my Rhetoric any. We have no recitation to-morrow which has given me a little more time this

evening. Day after tomorrow we are to commence English Literature and I shall be obliged to buy two new books— The warning bell has rung so I shall have to leave this for to-night but I have several other things I wish to say so I will not seal this but try and find time to write some more to-morrow— Good-night now—I wish I could say it instead of writing it. Mrs. Lord gave Julia & me some camphor gum while we were in

Albany and we are going to put up our furs this week. I have not time to write more now and I think my letter is sufficiently long any way— Do as you think best about my dress & I think there is not a doubt but that I shall be pleased. The last report from meals Is a louse found in the syrup— What do you think of that? but we get used to it It it hardly eiiects me at all when I hear of such things now. But I assure you I shall be delighted once more to get something I shall not be airaid to eat. It was so nice in Albany But I don't know what you will think of me for writing this I did not do it to make you think I am discontented but the girls were just talking about it so I put it in. Excuse me. Remember me to all my friends and write often

Your loving

Ellen

I forgot to say I should like one or two wide linen stand up collars. Julia's Mother sent her some very pretty ones with a little embroidery at the top, not on the edge. I have some good connundrums which I will try to think It send next time as I have no room now. Ella