

Vassar College Po'keepsie

June 6 th, 1866

My Dear Parents,

I am so sleepy and tired this evening that I don't know whether I can keep my eyes open long enough to write a letter or not. I have had to put away my books for fear I should fall asleep over them. My old trick you know—but I have not been troubled with it since I have been here. I suppose its being so much warmer to-night makes me feel duller. We have had the hardest thunder shower this after-noon that I ever experienced and the "bother" was we were reciting in Philosophy all the time. I was perfectly delighted with Mother's last letter. There was so much in it about the house and especially the new girl. I was so anxious to hear how you liked her—I am glad she is neat. I feel as though I would rather have that even !! I had to help her half the time. I suppose I shall have to take to cake making as soon as I return. Very well—don't be surprised to see me come down the first morning after my return with my sleeves rolled up ready to "pitch in".—And now I must tell you about the "perfectly lovely" Moth I secured last Monday evening. It is very large when stretched being about the size of the centre of my hand When I showed it to Prof. Tenney he said it was quite a rare specimen and one that he had never caught any of—He thought it very fine and gave me the name. I have another not quite so large but very handsome My collection is growing quite fast and I have some very pretty little butterflies. If it only wouldn't rain so much so we could collect. We finished our last lesson in the recitation room to-day and hereafter we are to go to the recitation room with our things on and Prof, will take us on the grounds and teach us about birds. He says he wishes

us to be perfectly familiar with every bird around here. Will it not be pleasant, and such a pleasant way of taking our exercise— We are beginning to talk a great deal now about going home for the way and time we shall go. There will probably be no recitations the last week so we shall have only two more weeks of study after this. It is expected now that the concert will be Monday eve—the literary entertainment Tuesday evening and that there will be nothing Wednesday—but to go home. This last may be different but that is what we expect at present. I would so like to have you here Monday eve—but If not as soon as possible Tuesday. We have been studying up the railroad guide so if you want any information I am posted.—I have just stopped to secure quite a pretty Moth that has come in the window. It is one that I have wanted for some time to secure as I had none of that specie. I had a very nice long letter from Nellie yesterday and a plan that she drew me of their house, but she says she hopes I will not be sufficiently satisfied with it so but that I will want to come and see. I must go and stretch my miller now so please excuse me if I do not write more this evening. I hope to hear soon that Auntie is with you. I have not answered her letter yet & hardly think I shall have time now before she leaves—I have to write my last composition Saturday. Love to all my friends with the same for yourself from your

Everloving Daughter

Ellen D---