

"Vassar."

Monday Sept. 17th 1866

Dear Belle,

Your letter reached me the week I left home, and therefore you will understand the reason I have not answered it before. You will see by the date where I am and where you ought to be. Sarah and Louise are in their old room, and Lillie and Nellie in theirs, and that is all that can be said of either. It is silent hour dear Belle and I feel very lonesome. And the silence is very very oppressive. I do wish you were coming back to see us all again. Did you know that Kittie Sawyer is dead? It is very sad I think. Now Belle I will tell you something and you may think me foolish if you choose. I have lost a great deal of flesh lately, and I have had fainting turns, and headaches and my hair fell out so that I have had it cut, and I sometimes wonder if I am as well as I ought to be. Now do not mention this to anyone for I tell it you in confidence. I suppose I am very foolish to imagine anything of the kind. The college this year seems quite different with so many strange faces. I dislike to miss so many of my old friends, yet I suppose it is for the best or It would not be so. Of course you know that Ella Stevens is not coming back. Sarah has a very severe cold on her lungs; and Louise does not look at all well. Sarah Starr has Ella's room, and your's is not yet occupied. Annie Day rooms with Emily Talbot, and Annie Glidden has her room. Belle Green is on the fourth corridor and Sara Blake and your friend Miss Rice, room in it. And we have our room like last year. Miss Fessendon Is our corridor Teacher. You know how very lovely she is. Miss Campbell calls her "The Angel in Blue". Miss Lyman is very kind to us this year, and I think she has made quite an impression upon the new scholars. I never disliked her as much as some. Are you having a pleasant time this fall? I caught a dreadful cold travelling. I stopped one day in Chicago, and two in Niagara. The last is a beautiful place to make such a short visit at. I never saw the falls before, and enjoyed it very much. I have brought a friend from home with me, this year, and I have not felt so homesick. But Sunday night they sung "Home sweet home" I thought they did not show common sense. Lillie is not very well, being troubled by "Jobs Comforters". Comprennez-vous. Well dear Belle, I must close hoping to hear from you very soon. Sarah and Louise and Lillie and Annie Glidden send their love. Annie G-wants to know if you have been on any musical committees lately? Direct to "Co". With ever so much love, I remain as ever your own little friend  
Nellie G.