

^pril 27, 1895,

Perhaps this will be my week letter, se that
you will not be looking for one Tuesday,

My own dear Mother,-

I am going to write to you tonight, so that the letter will
reach you on your birthday. I will delegate Bess to give you my birth-
day kiss, along with her fifty nine which I suppose she will give you.
How nice it would be if I could hire a flying-machine on each of your
birthdays.' - and some other days too. I send by this same mail a
dishcloth which I knit for you in my spare moments, thinking it would be
a useful if not an osmamental gift. At any rate, if you don't wish to use
it, let

it ornament the kitchen.

Today is Founder*s Day, and therefore a holiday, though really it is not
so much of a holiday for me, because I have only two recitations on that
day anyway- Still I appreciate the difference, decidedly. This has been a
much nicer celebration then that of last year. The aim this year was to
have the day of interest to the students as much as possible, and as much
as possible to reslly take us back to the days of the Founder. For several
years we have had some famous (more or less) lecturer^ to address us in
the evening, on some more or less interesting subject which had no connec-
tion at all with our college or any college. But this year we had
exercises

at four oclock in the afternoon* so that outside guests need not come to
it

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if they did not want to, though a good many did come. The programme
opeaed*bg.with aa organ voluatary by Prof. Bowman, who la the head ol
the musical department, then a college song in which we all joined. Then
Katharine Reiley - the president ol the Students4 Association, made aa
address

oa Student Life at Vassar, She made a very fine appearance aad delivered
her address very well - without notes- She is a very clever girl - I might
say womaa, lor she is very dignified.

Alter this we sang a song which was written lor the occasioa - by
competition -

by Miss Doughty, one ol Gertrude Bronsonfs room mates. (By the way Adel-
bert Bronson is here, I saw him several times today.) v

Katharine Reiley read a telegram from a member of the lirst class that
graduated - in 1868. The chief thing of the evening was the address of
Prof.

\ v\

Whitney, en "The Founders of VassarH. Miss Whitaey Is the Astronomy pro-
lessor. She graduated here la the first class, and has beea here ever
since,
since

as Maria Mitchell's assistant so long as Miss Mitchell lived, and alter that

she has beea Prolessor ol Astroaomgr herself. She is a fine womaa, very simple and cultured*

Saturday morning-

Bedtime came before I could finish my description, so I will resume It now.

Miss Whitney's address was fine, Interesting reminiscences, and a Apr. 27, 1895 - 3

history of tho beginning of the college. She told especially about Dr. Raymond, the first President, Miss Lyman, tho first Lady Principal, and Miss Maria Mitchell. I think her address was tha nicest thing they could have had for the occasion. The chapel looks very pretty on such occasions. All the girls who have guests sit downstairs In the chapel, and tha rest of us in the gallery (where we can watch the people very easily). Tha afternoon exercises were over at half past five. There was no dinner served at dinner time in the dining room, aa it was filled with little tables for the evening refreshments. But we were provided for, for at lunch they brought on platters and plates full of things from which wo helped ourselves, meat, bananas, bread and cake. So we took them upstairs and at suppertlme set our little table and had a meal such as we children used to have sometimes around the sewing table.

In tha evening there was the usual promenade up and down the corridors* in full dross. I did not dress for that because I have had a slight cold this week and I thought it was safer not to take off warm clothes. While tha rest ware dressing for that, Bella and I went down to the Lecture Room and examined the things in the Loan Exhibition, while the room was not crowded. The Exhibition was very interesting. A great many things that belonged to Matthew Vassar, ware there, furniture, personal belongings, and

a good many pictures of him- Some old daguerrotypes included, and a good Apr. 27, 1895 -4

many letters of his to various people connected with the college. There ware also mementoes aad pictures of Maria Mitchell. Beside these things about particular persons there ware photographs, letters, autograph albums, class pins, programmes and all such things, of some of the earliest classes, and old catalogues. Two of the historic bootjacks which ware

placed in each room when the college was opened, by the kindness and forethought of Matthew Vassar, ware interesting objects. Z think this collection

was especially interesting to the alumnae who were here.

A great many of the guests are staying over for today. This morning at eleven o'clock the Glee Club sang informally in the Chapel for an hour or

so, and everybody always likes to hear them. Well, I guess you have heard enough about Founder's.

O X almost forgot, in my interest about Founder's, to tell you something else which is of some interest, and that is that X am going to room with Ray and Carria in a parlor next year. We drew for rooms on Tuesday, and I tried to get a single, to room alone, but X drew a blank, which means

that X could not get one, so X drew next for a parlor with Carrie and Ray. We were all unfortunate in our drawing* so that we finally got the very last

choice for parlors in our class. For this reason we consoled ourselves with the thought that at least we would not have to spend time in selecting

our room, for we simply had to take the only one that was left. But it is not

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a bad room, in fact it is a very good one, and our next door neighbors are going to be some of our best friends. The best thing about the room is that it is a south one, where we will have the sun all day. The room is on the first floor, so that it will be convenient in many respects.

I wanted very much to have a single room, for some reasons. I would like to try one because I have never roomed in a room alone, and there is not much privacy in rooming with several others. Still it is lots of fun, and I enjoy it ever so much, in a fire wall, and in some ways it is very convenient to have some roommates. So X am going in that way next year,

and look forward to having a single room in my Senior year. Of course Ray and Carrie and I will be very happy together, and we are very congenial.

On general principle I think it is better for the same girls not to room together

for three consecutive years, but Ray and I could not help it this time.

I

Before I forget it I will tell you that I used a dose of my cold pills this week, and gave another dose to a girl who was coming down with a cold,

so that I have no more. I like to have something on hand ready for use in case I need it, so if you have any cold powders in the house you might put one in your next letter. I used some of my cough-pills too, but X still have

a few of them left.

Bessie's and Lou's old letter did come this week. When I first saw the date March 24, I thought it was simply a slip of the pen, as the letter

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was mailed April 24, But when I read the news about things that I knew happened about a month ago I changed my mind, I thought perhaps it was a sort of April Fool arrived late till I noticed the outside of the envelope,

which bore marks of having been in a man's pocket for about a month,

being creased and dirty. So I accepted that as the solution.

I wish we had as warm weather here as you writ® about. There have been only two or three days when I could stay outdoors long without a wrap, I still have on my warm clothes, though shirtwaists are pretty generally worn now. Spring is slower than usual even here, where it is always slower than at home, I hope I can put an shirtwaists pretty soon- I think I prefer the changeable weather of home to the long steady winters of this climate, where you say goodbye to the grass and anything like warm weather, in November, and don't expect a suggestion of them again till April*

Give my love to the neighbors and friends- and X send lots especially to you for your birthday-

Your loving daughter

Adelaide, ^laflin*

Vassar College. April 27. 1895.