

Vassar College,
April 19. 1896.

My dear Lou,--

"On the nineteenth of April in '75,
Hardly a man is now alive"---

(The date just reminded me of that).

I hope you are not having it so warm in Cleveland as it is here: - especially as we had it so cool in the Easter vacation we notice the change more. For we have jumped from winter to the middle of summer without any spring. A week ago I took off my winter dress and winter cape, and put on all my summer clothes - a more sudden change than I ever made before, but it was unbearably hot otherwise. I now have on my white dress and no more under it than I wear in August. There were not two days in which a spring jacket could be worn - at first because

it was too cold and then because it was too hot, so that I found it much easier than usual to dispense with that luxury. I suppose we may expect cooler weather pretty soon-- at least I hope so, for 90° in the shade is not particularly inspiring to studying.

I was glad yesterday that I was not one of those who were playing basketball, we are having match games in that now, every Saturday till Field Day, which is on the ninth of May. These match games are about the most exciting things that occur during the year. We all want our own class to beat and get the championship. Our class were the champions last year, so we are doubly anxious to keep the honor for this year. I think

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Kd would very much enjoy watching one, but they don't allow men to be present--except the professors who wish to come. Our team beat yesterday the team of '98. Carrie Abbott is Captain of the team of '99. Ruth Mears is on the team too.

So many things are happening now, and will be till Commencement, It is very inconvenient that at the same time we should be given special topics in everything, which take a great deal of extra time. Tutoring four or five hours a week of course takes time too, but I shall be through with that about the first of May.

This coming week will be very full. In the first place we are going to draw for rooms for next year tomorrow, and that always causes a great deal of excitement. For of course you have no idea whether you are going to get a very good room or a very poor one. Since I am going to be in a parlor with Ray and Winifred, we stand a great deal better chance for a good room than if we were going to take singles, for very few girls want parlors, and nearly all the class are going in for singles. Some day this week President Taylor is coming home; we don't know till the time comes, just when the steamer will arrive. But when he gets here, we are going to give him some big kind of a celebration -there is a committee of Faculty and students in charge of it.-I have even heard

rumors of a half-holiday. We shall be so glad to see Prexy again.

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I went through his house yesterday afternoon - The frame-work is all up and the roof on and the chimneys finished, and now they are at work putting the bricks up on the outside. They are about half way up now. I had an idea that in the brick houses I have seen built at home, they built up the outside brick wall before they made the frame-work inside. Is that so?

Next Saturday evening in the chapel there is to be an open debate between three members of "Qui Vive", the Senior Debating Society, and three members of our "T. and M.M Ray is to be the leader on our side. We have not all of our best debaters on, for some of the best ones withdrew their names when they were nominated. The subject is something about the foreign policy of the present administration, but I do not know just how it is worded. I think the Seniors will beat us, for I think they debate better than they play basketball.

Our next regular meeting of T. and M. is going to be very interesting. Instead of a regular debate we are going to have a Republican National Convention, and nominate a President and Vice-president of the United States. Gertrude Smith is at the head of it, and she together

with the other five girls who would otherwise debate, will run the thing nominating

and make the-artwMjr speeches. It is impossible, or rather Impracticable to

let the girls represent the state that they really come from, for so large Ap*. 19, 1&9& - 4

a majority come from New York State, and so many States are represented by only one girl. So the corridors have been divided among different states in such a way that fourteen states will be represented, (which will be easier than forty-five) and each state will have a delegation in proportion to its number of representatives in Congress*. Then all the Republicans who have been talked of for the Presidency will be nominated by their State delegations, Morton by New York, Reed by Elaine, McKinley by Ohio, etc. I am very sorry that I shall not have the pleasure of supporting McKinley, but I have to be from Pennsylvania and I suppose will be expected to support Senator Quay. Then we will have the ballots taken - at first informal ones, and then formal, just as the convention does- It will be lots of fun, I think. This too, will be a sort of preliminary-

nary to the campaign which we will carry on next year. For the Presidential campaign comes once, of course, during every girls' course, and is celebrated with a great deal of enthusiasm, and voting booths are arranged

and the whole college votes- I am glad you will come during our Senior year, for we will be "in it" much more than if we were Freshmen.

Yesterday I sent to Miss Adams the new number of the "Vassar Miscel-

lany"- which is the first one under the new board,- I mean the girls in our class are now at the head of the board of editors, and so, according to

the usual custom, the contributions for that number are only from the Apr. 19, X 396 - 5

Junior and Freshmen classes. It is an unusually good number, I think.

The minister this morning was from Auburn Theological Seminary, and he had not much life to him. hi fact I thought his sermon was quite dry. I hope they are not all like that there. His name is Dr. Darling, or Dowling. I did not exactly understand which.

Thursday night at the missionary meeting we had one of the Secretaries of the Student Volunteer Movement, Mr. Pitkin, who was extremely interesting and earnest. We had one of the other Secretaries last year, and another one the year before, but I liked this one the best of the three, by far. He is going out to China in the fall.

I am so glad Edle is going away, if it is only to Portsmouth, (and I don't know just where that is) - for even that little change will do

her good- I suppose. She simply must go away for a change and rest this summer.

JLater. I have just come back from prayermeeting and liked Dr. Dowling very much better in that.

After prayermeeting I stopped in at Miss Leach's and had a lovely talk with her.

She told me that before Prof. Fuller was appointed at the Women's College, Pres. Thwing asked her to come and be at the head of the Women's College and teach the Greek. But she did not know much about him or the college and thought it was rather an uncertain thing to chance from here where she is sure of her position.

She also told me something that will be of interest to yon if you do not already know it. Miss Perry met Mr. Lee while she was travelling in Europe with Miss Salmon, and at that time Mr. Lee was engaged to some one else. I do not know what became of the other person.

I hope Mrs. Handerson and her family are faring better than at last reports. And that Clarence will get over his whooping cough easily- There are two cases of measles here-

Love to all the girls at college and love to all the family.

Your sister Adelaide. tClaflin,