

Vassar Collage. Oct. 11. 1896.

My dear Lou,-

I suppose you are thoroughly settled in college by this time, and mamma says you like it better than ever. The Junior year is pretty fine, but I think the Senior year beats it after all, for I think I am going

to enjoy this year even more than last. Perhaps that is a good deal due to the fact that I have such congenial room mates- we have such good times together.

There have been so many extra things to do that I have had very hard work to get my lessons in, especially as most of my studies are those that take a good deal of time to prepared. I would like to have some "snaps" but I have none. Ethics comes the nearest to being one- We have Prexy for Ethics- it seemed so queer at first to be in his class, but we are used to it now. Last year, while Prexy was in Europe, they had Prof. French for Ethics! I am glad that did not happen this year, for Prexy is much more interesting in class.

By the way, Ray and Winifred and I called on Mrs. French the other day- She is the one who was married last summer- whom Mrs. Height knew about. Mrs. French is an intimate friend of Miss Sarah De Wolf - Mrs. Fuller's sister.

Shorter Course German is a very exacting subject - there are such definite things to learn for every lesson, that you can't slide over the lessons, or get them in a hurry at all. We have to learn lots of proverbs

and fables and such things, to recite in class.

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Greek and History are just about the same as they were last year,-but English is the hardest thing I have. When I elected it I expected to "sail thro* bloody seas" and I am doing it, with a vengeance, but as I also expected, I am learning a great deal, because I know so very little in it. Miss Wylie gives us for each lesson enough work to take a week, so that I am always behindhand- I wanted to read magazines and newspapers a great deal this year, but so far I have not even been to the Reading Room to read at all.

We had a great time yesterday beginning the campaign. Ray is chairman of the Republican campaign committee, and Gertrude Smith is chairman of the Gold Democrats. The chairman of the Silver Democrats is Sarah Dudley, who also sits at our table. The committees were just elected Friday night, but Ray wanted to get ahead of the other two, by making the first splurge. So she worked all day yesterday getting up performances for the evening, after chapel. G. Smith got wind of it, though, and planned a meeting of the gold Democrats before chapel, as Ray found out. So early in the afternoon Ray had great big posters put up around in the corridors, announcing the meeting after chapel. If the gold Dems. had not found out about the meeting, these posters would have been sprung on them just before dinner. The posters were printed (with

shoeblacking) on immense sheets of brown papers, and ran somewhat as
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follows: "Are you a Republican? Do you want a full purse after Nov. 3?
Come to the Republican Rally tonight.* Hear Speaker Reed, Ex-pres.
Harrison, Senator Allison, Senator Sherman, and Mark Hanna. Campaign
songs and speeches and a rousing meeting - in the Lecture Room at eight
oclockj Overflow meetings provided for!"

Some of the girls had made a cloth banner about ten feet long,
which said "Vassar for McKinley and Hobart, Protection and Sound Money,
Peace and Prosperity"-bu*-t*r and stretched it up just inside the front
door,

where all the visitors would see it the first thing, but this Prexy made
them

take down,- I suppose for fear visitors would think it had been put up by
the

officials of the College.

To get in one ahead of the Gold Democrats, we Republicans came
out from dinner early, formed in a procession and marched through the
corridors singing a song composed for the occasion, and we came to a
pause ia front of the room where the gold Democrats were just gathering,
and sang for their benefit, and cheered for McKinley.

At half past seven the Lecture room was filled, and very soon
two other rooms, and in those meetings there was lots of fun and noise.
I was in the Lecture Room, where Ray presided, dressed up as Mark Hanna.
A Sophomore, dressed as Speaker Reed, made the chief speech, though she
was not nearly so good as Ray- She had had to get it up - I mean the
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Sophomore did -4*t very unexpectedly, so she forgot at nearly every
sentence; bat the audience was very indulgent, and at the end of every
sentence clapped long enough to allow her to look at the next one --
for it was all down on paper on the table. In Ray's speech she said that
our

forefathers would turn over in their graves at the present actions of some
of our citiaens- when lo - the shade of George Washington appeared at a
door in the corner, and advanced and made a strong speech in behalf of
Mcftinley and sound money.

We shall have something political going on next Saturday and the
Saturday after - probably - a procession and a debate etc. There are only
five Silverites in our class, and eight or nine gold Democrats, and all
the

rest go in for McKinley. In '98 there was not a single Silverite.

W e have a very fine Bible Lecturer now,- Prof. Burton, of

Chicago Univ.-the best one there has been since I have been here-

This morning we had the Episcopal service - Dr. Vibert of N.Y.

City. After church Mrs. Kendrick came to our room and asked if she

might bring the minister to show him our room. We were lounging around

around on the couch, and immediately without saying a word we all jumped up

began to straighten up the room and fix the couch pillows. Mrs.

Kendrick laughed - We had a pleasant time when the minister came in - he was very jovial. Since we are on the Senior corridor, our room has to be

shown off frequently. Love to all.

Adelaide. |Ciaflin,