Vassar. Nov. 6. 1867.

My Dear Father:

Tonight just before tea we got the news that New York has gone eighty thousand democratic ma jority and we don't think of much else. What a shame it is! Any one would think by the enthusiasm and demonstrations of joy on one side and dejection on the other that this was a school of politics. The Democrats are out in flying colors, white, blue, scarlet &c while the others have on nothing but black ribbons and black dresses altogether. In the eight o'clock class of gymnastics tonight there were only ten out of a hundred who were democrats. I think that

speaks pretty well for our class. Vassar is a loyal institution I assure you.

I was very glad indeed to get your letter Monday morning. Many thanks for the money. I was about out so it was very acceptable. I will not be afraid to ask when I need it but I do not want to be obliged to send very often.

You ask if I practice at all on the piano. I have not touched one but three or four times since I came away and I left my music at home so I have nothing to practice. I have been thinking I would send for a few pieces and if some of you will take the trouble to send some I would like all my duetts, Marche des Tambours, Bolero Brillant, Retour du Printemps and perhaps Mountain Stream though I am not very particular. I am very busy now and can hardly see where the time is

to come from and as Christmas is only six weeks off perhaps I had better not have any piano or regular practice hour till after then. I hope to have more time then and for your sake I will practice if I have to steal the time. Your letter determined me to do so if possible - I think piano rent is very high here, but do- not know just how much they charge. The Prof of Music is just such a person as I would like to take music of, but he only hears them play occasionally as he can only be here from New York two days in a week. If I could take lessons of him I should like it very much. We are drilled twice a week by him in chorus singing. He tried my voice and said it was a good one at which I was very much surprised, as I had a cold and was not in my usual singing order. He put me with the first sopranos.

If you send the music I wish moth er would send in it some black ribbon - not very wide and as thick as she can find. It is growing quite like November here and seems more like New Hampshire than it has before. Till a short time ago it has been very warm and pleasant, but I believe there was a little snow seen this morning. I did not see it however.

I don't get many letters from Sister lately and this week I have felt quite blue and homesick. My algebra has been troubling me a good deal and I have thought I should be glad when Christmas came and I should be through with that as well as Geometry.

It is half past nine and I must finish my Latin lesson for tomorrow which will take till bedtime. Love to all my dear ones. Your affec. Mary.

[Mary (Parker) Woodworth, '70]