

Vassar College, Poughkeepsie N.Y.
March 15, 1868.

My dearest Mother:

I have Just come from prayer meeting and will try to write you before I go to bed if I can collect my thoughts sufficiently.

This is such a delightful day or rather has been, and I have just about lived out of doors. Saidee and I were out two hours before dinner and since chapel have been out again. There is very little mud for such a time of year, and the walks are very hard and dry. Yesterday forenoon Lizzie Coffin and I walked as much as five miles over mud, snow and everything bad. We had a splendid time - went to the top of a high hill where we could see the Highlands, Catskills, and Fishkill Mts. We wore gymnastic suits and

rubber boots - the latter borrowed for the occasion. I enjoyed the whole of it till I began to grow tired. I lay on the lounge two or three hours, then took a bath and felt nicely - so that I went to the sophomore meeting and acted the part of Mrs. Jixmewin [i.e. Jiniwin] in a scene from Old Curiosity Shop. I am just happy today every way- The spring air is so exhilarating. I am so glad the snow is going off.

Oh dear, how fast the girls are talking. I can't write anything at all and you will be perfectly disgusted with it. Don't let father see it. Just tell him I am well and send my love to him. I am ashamed to have him see it.

Three weeks from next Wednesday spring vacation commences and I shall not touch a book all the while unless I am a little behind and want to make ^up. I wish I had some calico here and I would make myself a dress

but I have no chart nor anything so I can't. I am glad Gracie was so much pleased with her letter from me. Could she read it herself?

I certainly cannot write at all tonight. I want to have you burn this letter just as quick as you can for no one must ever see it. I remember the fit that Lucius had once, hope little Emily will not have such a time as Gracie did that summer when you and father were gone. I shudder to think of it. I received a nice paper from father yesterday and am so glad of the news I got. There's a girl here by the name of Talcott who is really six feet tall. She looks like a giraffe.

Now I can't write and am not going to try any more. I will do better next time.

With a heart full of love
Mary.

[Mary (Parker) Woodworth, '70]