

Albany Dec 1st 1844
No. 66 North Pearl St.

My Dear Parents,

Many thanks for your small package and letter, which I can assure you was read and reread, it being the first I have received since I came from home, if you knew how much pleasure it gives a "school girl" to get a letter, I am sure you would write very often, my time is so limited that it is very seldom that I can find time to write a letter, and it is not so much so, as it will be, next term, we have a vacation of usually a fortnight in the holidays Lib thinks seriously of going home, for she says she thinks her people will wish her to, I presume you will think it best for me to remain here, and on the whole I think so myself and I can assure you I shall be perfectly content with whatever is for the best. I often think of home, and wish that I could step in and see you but I still am not troubled with that dreadful disease they call home sickness, far from it. I am very happy here having every accommodation that is necessary in regard to the school I am delighted with it, study we must be anything in this school. And we be to the young lady, who appears before Mr. Crittendon without her lesson. Our teacher in mathematics is a very pleasant man, and we flatter ourselves that he has taken quite a fancy, for he is certainly very polite, and went as far as to offer to bring me some "circulars" the other day. You must pardon me Mother for writing on the Sabbath. It is snowing & raining quite hard and Lib and I concluded not to go out today as I have a very bad cough, and Lib did not think it prudent for to go out so we concluded to write, she to Henry and I to you. Last Sunday we heard Dr. Kennedy preach and Sunday before Dr. Fisher we intend to go there. As for the 4th Presbyterian, we shall sometimes go to the P where Dr. Sprague preaches, of whom I presume you have often read.

Saturday after we came we visited the Capital, State house, Exchange, and the city reservoir, the State house is a splendid building went up to the top, and had a most delightful view of the city. The Hudson with its numerous steamers and in the distance, Catskills & the Eastern mountains.

We have received several calls since we have been here from Mr. & Mrs. Geinewood with Miss Geinewood, Mrs. Stafford, who scolded us well, for waiting for an "old married women to come and call on us young girls" we have also received calls from Sarah Benson & Mrs. Pardy (a cousin of Lib Beace's) and is attending school and boards at Judge Bensons. Yesterday I was sitting upstairs and Lib was practicing when the bell rang, and I was enquired for, I went downstairs and lo and behold there was Oliver Benson, introduced himself to Lib and a right-pleasant time we had, he sat about an hour and a half he returned from Union College on Thursday evening. You may recollect that he called to our house two or three times last summer, his father is President of the Acd., quite an honor to have the President's son call every Friday compositions are read won't you come hear them? How is Mary and Ellen, give a great deal of love to Margaret and tell her I am going to write as soon as I get time and give Ella as many kisses as you

please. I can assure you I miss her very much indeed, I used to see her so often. Tell Mary I have not seen half so handsome a child since I have been here or one so engaging in her manners, ask Mary the name of her sister here in town, and tell her I wrote Lib Barker the other day. Do you think Mrs. Shays will have Emily come next time, if she intends to come a year I would advise her to come next term, but I don't know she expects to come.

How is Mr. and Mrs. Hurlbert? Tell him I endeavor (Has Irene Sanger ever been paid for those French lessons) to behave as he told me to. Have you heard anything about Mary McDonald? How is Uncle Thomas and family? I was very sorry to hear that Cornelia was sick, give a... deal... to Uncle and Aunt Williams and all the... Mary Dennison on Friday, I have also written the girls.

Pa one of these days we are going to hear some of those great debates in the House. I expect to be highly edified. I will give you an account. Ma was very anxious to know about my health. It is very good excepting a bad cough which I have at present, my hands are course than when I came from home but not nearly as bad as last-winter, and I think they are getting better. I presume Carries has told you about my studies so I will not repeat. Tell Carrie if she had not written before you receive this to please to so very soon for I am anxious to learn of those "particulars" give much love to her & all Uncle Jacob's family. How do you like Jane? Give my love to her. Please write very soon and believe me your affectionate daughter Sarah

If any letters come directed to me please send them to me. I think it perhaps would be easier for you to direct to the care of Mrs. McDonald, no. 66 North Pearl St.

Lib says give her best love to their people and say that she is well. Has Irene Sanger been paid for those French lessons?

Mother I am very much afraid my Pelisse will not be in fashion. I have been to see one of the best milliners, she wants me to get a white hat as they are the most fashionable but I feared you would not like me to... write immediately.

If it is convenient I wish you would write soon as you get this and tell me if you are willing I should get a white hat all the first ladies wear here.