

Albany March 30, 1845  
No. 66 North Pearl St.

My dear Parents,

You cannot imagine with what eagerness I read your last letter, for it seemed such a long long time since I had heard from you, but still I must allow you have been very good correspondents, for on an average I have received from you two letters a month, and one from Ohio, besides my miscellaneous correspondents. Really Ma I should think you are getting to be quite sociable with your friends, I am happy to know that you are able to enjoy visiting your acquaintances.

Lib and I have been reckoning how long it will be before we go home, and we find that 3 weeks from next Friday morning we shall start for good old New Hartford. And now I would like to know how we are manage when we get to Utica by whether we shall take the stage, or expect to meet you there. Please remember that I have two trunks and Lib one very large one, and please inform me in your next letter. I cannot realize that I am to see you soon again. Would that Lucin could be there too. I sincerely hope that she may come home before July that she may know how good it is to be left at home sisterless. What do you think about going west Pa? do you think you'll go & bring the "lost sheep" back again? This day makes me homesick, the sun is so bright, and the air is so warm, and one in a while I hear a bird singing, poor little creature. It has nothing but an old chimney stoop to rest on. I can but think how beautifully the country looks, so bright, and beautiful, and if I would be take to myself wings how quickly I would leave this old "Dutch city" and seat myself in my accustomed seat at home. But this must not be, so content with my lot. I will still admire the bright sun, and be invigorated with this soft spring air, and I will, still listen to the birds sweet joy, upon the chimney top, and imagine it on some graceful tree at home. In my vacation, I hope you will let me play as much as I am a mind to, for I have felt like a saged bird all winter, for instance when you go out in the street you must dress just so much and if your invited out to tea you must not go until dark. If I was an aristocrat I would scream "down down with formality." Oh devious me from the city and city ... not that I've any fault to find with Albany or the Albanians for I never was treated so politely as I have been since I have been I Albany but it is not home. As for the Academy, I love it and everybody in it. I never thought I should like a teacher as I do Mr. Crittendon, happily we have got on his night-side but wo be to that girl whom he does not like. Mrs. McDonald's husband who has been sick for a long time died last week. And it seemed to unsettle us for whole week, he was a very old gentleman about 82 and she is only about 35.

I received a letter from Carrie last week and she said that Miss Susan Day was going to visit Albany, and she said she would find where about in the city she was, do let me know, so that I could call upon her. I wish you Ma would find out and tell me in your next. For I would like much to form her acquaintance, which from Carrie's description of her, would be worth encouraging.

Wish before last I received with Lib a very polite invitation to take tea at Mrs. Hunters. It was not convenient for Lib to go so I went alone. I met there Mrs. Weed & Emily. Mrs. Stafford was invited but did not come.

We also attended an exhibition of the Blind at the Capitol. It was very interesting to go hear them play, and sing, it made me ashamed, to hear them do problems in Algebra, mentally which it would puzzle me to do with slate and pencil. The next day we called on them at the Franklin house, and were if possible more delighted with them in conversation than on the previous evening. I heard Murphy's brother play in the hand at the exhibition, but did not see hi the next day. I presume you have often heard of the sweet blind poetess Franny Cashin, she was down with them, and happier creature I seldom have seen, she repeated many of the pieces to us and we went home, highly delighted that the blind were allowed to become intelligent member of society. I was sorry to hear you Pa have had a cough all winter, for I know how troubles one it is. For I have not been free from me this winter, but now spring has come I hope to get over it.

You may be surprised when I tell you we have a young gentleman boarding with us, a brother & uncle of two of the young ladies. They are Southerners from North Carolina. I suppose James would not know them very well, as between them hey over 300 slaves, their name is Williams and he is studying medicine with Dr. McNaughton.

How is... school flourishing. That last I heard was in unusable condition. Where is Henry & Mary going to live? Henry Sanger is coming down next month to spend Sunday with Lib, we anticipate enjoying his visit so much. Give a great deal of love to the Sanger girls. I have filled my sheet but I am afraid with nothing and nonsense so good-bye.

Your affectionate daughter Sarah

If you see Carrie give my love to her and give thanks for her letters, also remember me to Mary Sherrill & give a kiss to Lis. Lib sends her love to you. The best news I have heard from home is that Mr. Searle is a going to leave, hope it may not be contradicted.

This city he appears to like a very fine young Pentteman & Dr. McNaughton being one of our trustees would not recommend him, unless a moral young man.

How did Cornelia and Julia get along with their composition particularly the one on beauty. I should much like to see it. Cannot you engage Sara Stratton & Cornelia to sew for me? Do if possible?

Return my best love to Mrs. Hurlbert, Miss Robins & Jane