
Nyack N.Y. July 29th 1869

My dear Mrs. Gex,

Your good dear letter found me after wandering around from place to place, first to St. Louis, then to Cincinnati, then to Jamesville and last of all to my Uncle in New York who enclosed it to me. I was very glad indeed to know that I was not forgotten, although I could not come to you this summer. I intended to stop and see you for two whole weeks, but Sister Mary came to St. Louis and that made me want to stay with her as long as possible and then Aunt Sarah wrote me she was staying in town [N.Y.] as long as possible to wait for me. When I heard that, I hastened on and after spending a week to shop and see the sights in the city, we came up here, to this sweet little village on the Hudson River, with the mountains enclosing us in a beautiful valley.

Much as I love the Ohio and beautiful as I think it is, this Hudson is far more lovely. It is as blue as the sky, three miles wide here, and always covered with pretty little white sails as the yachts and schooners go up and down. The other day there came on a sudden thunder storm, and a sail boat was capsized and a man drowned right in sight of us.

We are in a large house up on a hill, with galleries all round it, and shady trees and pretty walks and three croquet grounds, and a little noisy brook to add charms to the place. There are about fifty fashionable people here for the summer, some very noisy children who would soon set you crazy if you were here on a rainy day. We have very little to amuse us here. We go to church on Sunday, there is a very pretty little Episcopal church here quite near; and other days take long walks up the mountains or take pleasant drives along the river, or among the mountain roads. In the evening we play cards, and those who have sweethearts flirt, but it is too warm to dance. All day Aunt Sarah and I talk or sew or read or sleep amusing ourselves as we like best. I am very fond of Aunt Sarah, she is so good and lovely.

Cousin Kate is in Boston, but it coming here on her way home. I am to remain all summer and to go to town with Aunt Sarah in the Fall, so I will not be out west for some time to come, and shall not teach this year at all. I am getting much better in health. I think the sea air gives me strength and I am taking Calasaya back and trying my best to get well.

Now Mrs. Gex I have written you all about myself. Knowing you and my dear old Pap will be interested. What a lot we will have to talk about when we see each other for I intend to make you that visit yet someday and that, as soon as I may. I want to see my Mariam and Luly before they grow out of my recollection and before they get too old to love me. I suppose Bud Lu is in geography perhaps by this time and maybe will be writing me a letter soon. Won't I be proud to get it. Bless his dear heart! Tell Brook I got a letter from Ned last night. He had been ordered to Baltimore for a few weeks to work the line there, but expects soon to go back to Philadelphia. He likes the latter place so much, and thinks Baltimore very tiresome and lonesome. He is will and good and a good brother. Jimmie is in

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