



Portland July 4 - 1843

Dear Mary

As this is a liesure day, I take this opportunity to write, instead of Wednesday afternoon. I am very well, and the day has passed very pleasantly. It is now between six and seven o'clock. The firing began last night at twelve oclock and my bed-mate was so happily excited, that Miss Green and I, found it difficult to sleep soundly afterward. The fantastics a large company of young

men ^ I should think 2 hundred or more passed through all the streets this morning, dressed in the most ludicrous manner you can imagine. They came up Park street between eight and nine

a
on horse-back excepting the band who made ^ strange noise for music, and four in a wagon dressed like old ladies with very large bishops on, which they took great pains to display, when they rose to whip their horse, but I can tell you better about it when I come home. I went to the fair this afternoon with Miss White I should not have gone, but Mrs Wells, and others persuaded me. I am not sorry I went, but saw nothing I wished to buy, had I the money to spare. Tell father not to thing me extravagant when I say I have but one dollar and 45 cts, and my Algebra history and drawing book unpaid for as Mrs W^r furnishes the books and said it could all stand until board and tuition was paid, but I can give accounts for every cent when I come home, and think I am very prudent when compared with the other girls. I had forgotten to say I received your letter of the 30th, last Saturday morning, which made it very late news. I have enquired the prices of

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Date: July 4, 1843

Description: Letter to Mary from her sister, Lydia Patterson.

parasols, which are from one to two dollars, sunshades about
four and sixpence. but I would not have a sunshade, they are
inconvenient things, and I see but few carried. The parasols for
a dollar, are the size now common, which is not so large as
mothers, and the silk not so thick. I saw a light pearl coloured
one with a little border of the same colour for 1 dollar, 75 cts which
was very pretty and very good silk. I would have a brown one
if I were you, but I might not be ^{able} to get one with a border.
If you send for one write all the particulars about colour and price.
It is now most dark, and Mrs. and Miss Kellogg, have invited me
to come into their room to see the fire works this evening, which
are some distance down in town but can be seen from their window
July 5th it is now -- between 5 a 6 o'clock, I have arisen a little earlier than
usual to finish this that Gardiner may take it to the office this morning.
I slept finely last night, Miss Cushman went out to spend the
day yesterday and did not return last night, so I had the bed to
myself. If you come next term, I have the promise of the best
little room in the fourth story, which is now occupied by Miss White
and Miss Kellogg. I am to say nothing to the girls about it at present,
and I expect there will be no change unless you come. The fire-
works last night were not so much as was expected. I have under-
stood that a little girl fell yesterday from the piazza of the exchange
and broke her arm and jaw and was not expected to live. I shall
not probably write again before I come home, but shall expect a letter
from home by Saturday morning. I think I feel better if I have
my trunk home with me in vacation, Father said he would ask
Mr Currier to call for me next Wednesday evening, but did not

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my trunk home with me in vacation. Father said he would ask
Mr Currier to call for me next Wednesday evening, but did not

say where, I suppose he intended Mr Chadbourn's. I have just come from
breakfast, and for the first time had a large coffee cup of good coffee.
I expect to spend this afternoon in working on your bag and next Wednes-
day afternoon, I hope will be spent in preparing to come home. I think
of nothing more to say at present, My love to friends. from your
affectionate sister,

Lydia Patterson.

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