Skowhegan Nov. 25; '28.

My dear Kellie,

It's sometime since I got your last letter. I'm home now and am not going back. My father and mother wanted me very much to stay at home, and I got it into my head that I ought, and so wrote on the spur of that thought that I couldn't come. But I've been grieving ever since, and would have taken it back any minute I had got so attached to my scholars and classes that it seemed as if I couldn't give them up. I really enjoyed it much and then I hadn't quite done.
ceeded in some respects as I thought I would another term. I've been inclined to laugh at myself. It's so absurd to make a decision oneself, and then raise a moan over it. But I am always "instable as water."

You see I can't keep a word of this to anyone here, and so I'm making a sort of escape value of you.

I shall probably be at home all winter, unless I go to Boston as I may for a few weeks. I'm going to try to make it a winter of some profit.

I do so hope you will get some good from your Lewiston [or Suburb? doctor. I am so rejoiced to hear of any improvement in your health. Take courage, dear, there are so many
women— and men, with feeble health. To start with, who accomplish beautiful life—works. I know some. A French writer says it is wonderful how much a little health, well managed, will do for us.

I hear from Peace there is some talk of your coming back and finishing your studies at Waterville. I haven’t dared to say anything about it lately, but it seems to me you ought to if you can. Perhaps I’m a little selfish about it—my name won’t seem so loneliness in the triennial! But it doesn’t seem right that, faithful and honest as you have gone through with the course at Colby, you shouldn’t be reckoned as one of her graduates.
I was at Waterville for a day last week. Saw Peace, and she seemed and acted as she used to before the Matthews dynasty. I went up to college with Saphy and into Prof. Taylor's class. It seemed natural and yet unnatural. Spoke to the Prof. He asked me how I liked teaching. I said, pretty well. He said he should have thought I would find it very stupid! I wonder if he finds teaching stupid. I saw the three freshman girls - good looking girls. Oh well! Things isn't as they used to was! especially in the female department of Colby. The girls arereviving Sigma Kappa - Peace and Hatty have gone into it whole hearted. Isn't that funny?
I'm very glad, and I guess the poor thing wasn't so dead that it couldn't be resurrected. I suppose Peace will write you about it.

Miss Ricker has gone away to keeping house, and Sophia has a beau [to speak vulgarly] and Mr. Hanson has about 50 scholars. Everything seemed queer and I realized that I was no longer and never could be again a little wheel within the big wheel of Waterville life. So I had read this gone three ages, and we had the book in the house, I didn't have to commit any violation of the laws of our Commonwealth to fulfill your request. I think it is a wonderful book and a strong book — which is praised by the
fault found with it. But I think it is fault in style, and downright too bad in its demonstration.

That a woman of genius should have troubles enough—petty hindrances and severe afflictions—was natural enough over the story of a genius, be it man or woman, different? But the troubles should not destroy, but ripen and develop the genius—if it is genuine.

A woman with the talent which Miss Phelps gives to Avis, and who has gone through with the life that Avis led, ought to be capable of something really great—infinity superior to the artificially got-up dream of the girl. The trouble is, Miss Phelps was mistaken about Avis—she wasn’t a genius at all, and whatever argument she would have no draw from her life.
of course comes to mind. What do you think about her? Your last letter was so pleasant, the more so that I hardly expected you to write until I had again. I had not a by about Charlie's joining the Kappats.

I suppose he thought that he had arrived at years of discretion, for he never asked my advice, which would have been really, I suppose, against letter. But he's old enough to judge for himself.

I have heard Miss Rieker speak so many times of Miss Day that it seems as if I knew her. I think she must be very nice, and that you must like her.

Do you know what I've been thinking of lately? Well? After
you get through or tired of Auburn, I would like ever so much to have you come up here to stay a week or two, or three weeks. To slip into our groove of life and run in it a little while - to read and study a little with me if you are able - if not to do what else you please. You'd slip into our family here ever so naturally, I know, and to try to make it restful instead of wearisome to you. Suppose you be thinking of it. It would be a real pleasure to me.

Well this letter is big enough in quantity surely, whatever be its quality. I hope to hear from you again soon.

Your aff. friend,

Loulou de Colmar