

1905

East Radford Postmark

Dublin, Virginia
February 3rd, 1905

My dear Miss Kit,

Doubtless you will be surprised to get this epistle. Yet I hope it will be a pleasant surprise?

Don't you know I felt awful uneasy about you the day you left. Yes and for several days. To think of you having to cross that cold slick mountain... Such an awful night... Felt [*cheers*] if you didn't meet with some accident... You would be bound to catch a cold... Which I understand you did. I have been quite sick with it.

That is why I write to express my sympathies. Having just recovered from something like "pneumony fever" myself, am better able to sympathize with others in the same boat.

Lewis Ingles and myself went out KY the day after you left. The train was too warm all day. Consequently when we got off and went to bed in a cold room we came very near having to be sent home in a box.

I hope you have recovered your usual good health and will enjoy it the rest pof the season.

Sincerely,

Your friend,

David C. Barton

[Postal]

Charleston, W. Va.
February 23rd, 1905

...for your magazinetoday. We will submit to you a proof Friday or Saturday of this week.

Truly yours

Donnally Publishing Co.
Per LWC

Radford
March 1st, 1905

Dear Kitty:-

I send you by this mail the picture you wanted and another contest I had once of newspapers & magazines, which would be fine for your teachers if you sometimes entertain them. School girls might not be familiar with the different newspapers represented. Some of the magazines were last and it will not take time to get up new ones. The newspaper contest has been sent so many times to different persons who wanted it that it is rather shabby. You can put them all in the bottom of your trunk – someone else may want them. I can send you others if you wish, that you can make copies of.

I have at last succumbed to the grip and am not feeling at all well. What makes it harder to bear is an invitation to Washington to attend Inauguration. I do not care for that at all, but would like to have gone at this time. Mrs. Barclay is not very well either. Mrs. Patton went up to Angies' today for a visit: she has been here for nearly two months. Mr. Ingles is well and is enjoying his winter at home. Mr. Irwin is having his vacation and so we do not see many of the home people. I hope you will have a pleasant spring at school.

Your most affectionately,

Aunt Minnie
[Minnie Snow Ingles]

Hollins
March 12, 1905

My dear Kit,

You need not want to jump in my boots for I didn't get to go home. Father decided that it was too cold and that the roads were too bad for me to come. Then he and Grandma sat down and wrote how very sorry they were that I couldn't come – but that wasn't much consolation. Perhaps it was best after all though for I made up some work by staying that wouldn't have been done otherwise. I am certainly going home Easter though. What are you going to get to wear this spring? I am sadly in need of some clothes right now but don't know how I can ever get them made. Springtime would be so fine if we didn't have to worry our brains about clothes. Wouldn't it be nice if we could afford to have Miss Woods make our outfits?

We are all very much excited over the University of Virginia Glee Club that is coming here tomorrow evening. They give their concert at two o'clock and are then going back to Roanoke tomorrow night. I see in the paper that there is a Mr. Wrenn in it, I wonder if he is the pretty one that used to go to St. Albans. There is no telling what crazy things we will do when we see forty or fifty good looking boys as we never see any men but these old professors. Nettie says you have so much more fun at Lewisburg than we have here. By the way Nettie has a Kodak picture of you and several other girls and a boy or two and I never saw anything quite as ugly. You are all lying back on a sofa looking as if you had been hypnotized. I think Charlie is in the picture, too. No I have never gotten a picture of Lewis. I don't blame him for not sending one, either. We used to treat him so hateful and he tried to be real nice to us. Do you remember the day you, Willie, and I, had such a fuss about going to church with him, and then the Sunday I suddenly turned deaf and couldn't hear him calling me to come and ride home with him from church. Didn't we used to have some good old times together, though, sitting over in the corner giggling at Dave and Mary, playing Jenkins (is that the way to spell it?), fishing, etc. Julia and Minnie both wrote me such sweet letters not long ago. Min said she had the "blues" ever since the ice had broken up the river.

Nell and I decided to do some meanness last night so I stamped my feet and she took off her shoes and banged them down on the floor as hard as she could several times; our room is right over the Lady Principal and decided to disturb her peace and quiet a little. After we had settled down we heard a gentle tap on the door and who should it be but the dignified old lady inquiring if we had found a mouse or if we were putting on new shoes, she had heard such a stamping around and was not willing to go to bed without seeing what was disturbing us. I made a very lame excuse but could hardly keep from giggling in her face.

Don't study too hard and write to me real soon.

Devotedly,

Mag [Trollinger]

Abingdon. Virginia
March 20, 1905

My Dear Kit:-

What has become of you? I would think that you were dead if Sister had not sent us your interesting letter. I know you enjoyed the carnations. I am wild about the Richmond plan; don't you wish we could do it? I will have to make considerable progress in my penmanship before I will be able to get my position though. Just think you graduate this Spring and I have a whole year, if not more, before me. I certainly do hope you will pull through your exams O.K. The weather has been perfectly beautiful all this month. Dave has fixed up the tennis courts and hung the basket. I guess we will begin to play this week, I will be glad, for I hate to walk in line, don't you? Four of us girls walked nearly five miles yesterday evening. I made a very pretty corset-cover, & spent the rest of the morning darning stockings. Does Hallie room with you this winter? We had our reception last Friday night, and all of us certainly did enjoy ourselves, talking to the gentlemen sex! Mag seems so happy at Hollins, I am so glad she has grown to like the place. Next to Randolph Macon, old "Stonewall" is good enough for me. I like a place where if you work hard enough you do not have to take exams.

The music pupils gave a grand recital last night – I have not been to college long enough to cultivate my taste for classical music – so it seemed right dull to me. Hattie played beautifully; she is a fine old girl and I know you would like her. The Presbyterian and the Methodist churches have united, and have been holding a revival for two weeks. Three of our girls joined the church this morning. You can't imagine how dull it is to go to a Presbyterian revival; they have such dull songs, not like the ones I've been used to, Mr. Dalbo – you know. [?]

What kind of dresses are you going to have this summer? I am going to have one white linen dress. I am planning on having a good time at home this summer – cooking while Mother and Ess rest up. Your folks are fortunate in having a cook. There is a bare chance of my going home Easter, but I try not to think much about it for fear of a disappointment. Write to us and tell some styles and news... I don't know anything.

Lovingly,

Margaret Smith
[1st cousin]

Blackstone, Virginia [*Hargrave Military Academy?*]
April 3, 1905

My dear Miss Kittie,

I received your letter and was glad to hear you had gotten the picture all right and thanks to you and "the rest" for the praise of the picture and invitation. I would like to be present at your graduation but don't suppose I could, as this school is not out until June 6. There is going to be a big time over at R.F.I. Friday night. H.M.A. is invited. It is the spring concert. I am going to attend but we boys don't expect to have much of a time for we don't know any of the girls and besides we are not allowed to speak to the girls, not even at a reception. Please excuse this mixture of blue paper and white envelopes because I could not get a match ("down town"). Now is the time of year I like to be at home and I will be very glad to get away from here next June. Some of us boys may depend on the principal's hospitality and staff here until the R.F.V. finals are over the 14th of June. If I have a good time next summer I think I will deserve it for I have been cooped up here for nine months. I feel just like I imagine a chicken feels in a coop. It would take me many years to get used to this kind of living. There is a girl from Lewisburg here at R.F.I. Mr. Crawford knows, but I do not he says she is the daughter of a doctor in Lewisburg. Well it is time for "Taps" (bed) and I will have to stop.

Your sincerely,

E.J. Barton

Radford, Virginia
May 12, 1905

Dear Kit:-

I have just returned from a little trip to Lexington after Presbytery. Mr. Woods and I ran up for a couple of days and had a very pleasant little visit. I wish that you had been there, too. We had quite a good deal of fun. Though somehow a great many people seem to think that preachers don't have much fun.

We had a fine meeting of Presbytery "Capt. Billy" and I were together at Mr. Gish's – Mrs. Barclay's son-in-law...though Mr. Gish was in the hospital in Lynchburg with appendicitis at the time. Mr. Lynd was examined for ordination, and will be ordained at his own church this month. Last Saturday after Presbytery I went to Lynchburg and that night went to a concert given in the Lynchburg Choral Society. With an orchestra from Boston, a chorus of a hundred voices accompanied by an orchestra of forty pieces rendered a good part of "The Creation" by Haydn. It was fine. The best thing I have heard in music since I was in New York.

Sunday I preached for Rev. Mr. McMurray three times and Monday Mr. Woods and I went up to Lexington. And I have just gotten back. I am truly glad that you are going to Lexington to commencement and hope that you will enjoy it. I should like to be there myself but I am afraid that it will be impossible for me to go again so soon.

I want to ask you to do something for me. It may be asking a great deal, and I shall not insist on it if you do not want to do it. It is this....that you do not dance while in Lexington. Now you will think that someone put me up to this – But it is not the case. It comes from me alone and no one knows or will know about it from me – no matter what you do about it. But I assure you that it is not because I would not have you enjoy yourself just as much as possible.

I will not give my reasons for it now, but ask it as your friend and pastor, and I want you to do just as you would do were you going to any other place that your home, and you need not reply to this request unless you want to.

Tuesday night, while in Lexington, we were wakened by the fire alarm and found that it was the mess hall at the V.M.I. that was on fire. It burned very rapidly and nothing was left but the walls. The cadets had to get their breakfast out under the trees and many of them went up into town.

I hope you will send me some of the songs you composed. You will be turning out to be a poet next.

It is certainly very complimentary to your class to be feted and treated so – by the people in Lewisburg. But I guess they and Dr. Telford would not be so nice to you unless you deserved it.

I think that I know you at least well enough to give you a very nice letter for your trained nurse – but I know you too well to think that you would want me to do it now contrary to your father's wishes. The time may come when I can do so with propriety

and then I shall take the greatest pleasure in doing it. Just wait a little and I am sure it will all come out all right. And we will talk about it when you get home.

Have you seen my latest departure in being elected superintendent of schools for Radford? I am afraid that I shall have very little time to give to it. But I guess with all these pretty and attractive teachers to "boss" I may manage at least to have a good time. If you want to teach ley me know and I will help you get a place and then oversee you afterwards. But I believe you said you did not want to teach.

I have bought me a new horse from Mr. Micou. He is just a colt but promises to be a right good driving horse. His name is "Sam" and I guess I shall change it. Can't you suggest a name? I guess you are in the midst of final examinations. I hope you will come out with flying colors. I shall confidently expect you to pass and get your degree.

It is getting late so I must stop.

With best wishes for your success.

Your friend,

L. W. Irwin [*Presbyterian minister*]

Portsmouth, Ohio
July 2, 1905

My Dear Kit,

Sad news to write you today.... I can't come up. I am so sorry, for we were going to have such a grand time, all of us together, but I hope the of the girls can go, though I believe Florance Hiatt said she didn't think she could. I have just finished writing to Hollie. I haven't been doing anything much. Went to a dance last week and am going to a reception tomorrow. By the way, did Miss Styart give you anything? You know she said she was.

We are going to have roses the 4th and fireworks on the river bank at night. Who is Rev. I. W. Irwin?

Did you know I have a little nephew? Four weeks old yesterday.

I heard Lelia G. was coming down here, but she hasn't reached here so far. Is she still driving the boys around?

No, Edgar hasn't run away with the mob, yet. Give my love to your dear old Daddie, and keep lots for yourself. Write real soon.

Lucile

Dublin, Virginia
August 14, 1905

Dear Miss Kit:-

Put on something you look pretty ion tomorrow when you come home for we are going to meet you and take you right out to Aunt Minnie's to the picnic. It is going to be from six until ten and lots of folks are going to be there I think. Aunt Ella and the rest was very grieved not to see you. Cousin Willie Miller and his little daughter and Miss Hatcher are coming out here this evening to stay awhile. Grandma is going today and I feel real sad. Nothing has happened since you left so I will have to quit. Make Joe bring you home. I would like to see him again. Good by...

Your sister,

Julia *[sister]*

Dublin, Virginia
August 16, 1905
c/o Miss Hallie Phelps

Dear Kit:-

Uncle Nat wants to know whether you are going to teach for him. There are several applicants for the place, so you must write him or go to see him at once.

The "Daughters of the Covenant" picnic was a great success. I think everybody had a good time. We are trying to get ready to start on another tonight. The Hanes girls are going to spend the night with us. Have not time to write more. Hope you are having a good time.

Sincerely,

Mary *[sister]*

Radford, Virginia
September 5, 1905
c/o N.B. Harvey

My dear Kit:-

Sallie and I want you to come over Saturday and spend the night with us.

How have you been getting on with your pupils? You must tell us all about it when you come.

Hoping to see you soon.

Your fond friend,

Mary Harris

Baltimore, Maryland
November 5, 1905

My dearest Kittie,

I was just dreadfully glad to hear from you. I am having the time of my life up here in Baltimore. You know there is something to go to all the time. There are two recitals a week at the Peabody, and sometimes three or four; they are all perfectly splendid, and I enjoy them lots. I have been to some fine plays, too. Schumann Hemla [?] in "Love's Lottery," "The Darling of the Gods," "Wordland," "Mary, Mary Quite Contrary" (this was splendid. Henrietta [?] took the leading part. Maude Adams in "Peter Pan" "The Wizard of Oz" – fine. I have one engagement to go to the Lyric Tuesday night to hear [Calne?] sing, and Thursday night I am going to see Mrs. Fiske in "Leah [Kutschur]". The Saturday I am going with a dandy Baltimore City College to the "Shepherd King" Last Friday night I had an engagement with two boys, but Mr. Hill asked me to go to Ferd's with him to "Mary, Mary, Quite Contrary," so you can just see that I left the other two boys to the tender mercies of Anne and went to the theater. Mr. Hill is perfectly nice: he is a nephew of the A.P. Hill, and is from Richmond. He is right old but he certainly does know how to be nice.

I went to a football game the other afternoon, and it was terribly exciting. Mr. DuVall and Mr. McPherson took Annie and myself; that same night Mr. Baker and Mr. Paimore from Swarthmore College, Pennsylvania, came to see me and stayed till twelve o'clock. Miss Beaty nearly took a fit. They are both [Greek letters] men and are awfully nice and good looking.

Yesterday Annie's brother came over from Westminster to see her. He wanted to take me back to Annapolis to see the prince and the warships, but we had to take our music lessons so of course couldn't go as the boat started early in the morning. Annie's father has been to see her again and brought ne lots of good things to eat.

There are two Baltimore City College boys down stairs now so I will have to go to see them. Write to me soon.

Lovingly,

Hallie

Have some neat thin waists made and wear them over colored linings. They are all the rage. If your hat is turned up, and twisted up into every imaginable shape it is stylish all right. The long tight-fitting coats are worn allentirely, but the short ones are worn I think that I will get a gray suit this winter. Why don't you get a purple? It is very much worn.

Hallie

Write to me soon and tell me all the news. Also are Hal and Billy rushing these days?

Portsmouth, Virginia
December 26, 1905

My dear Kitty, -

Fa-la-la-to-la-la-la-u-D-i-l-t-a Faudretta!! (Is that it?) Boy, Kit that was the cutest thing you sent me. I am crazy to get.....but nicer thought of getting a T.A. Thank you so very much. Say, why didn't you answer my letter? I have intended writing for a long time to find out if you were alive but have been awfully busy at school. Kit, I met one of your cousins here at Meg Evan's wedding. He was best man, (and that is the truth). It was Mr. George Ingles from the N.&W. If the rest of your cousins are like this one I would like to meet them.

How do you like teaching by this time? I would like to see you in this place. Did you hear that Mary and Dr. Rellar's engagement was announced? Elizabeth Alderson said it was in Lewisburg. I was never more surprised in my life. Write soon.

With love from...

Lucile