



Mr. Hewson H. Moyer,
16 Clarendon Place,
Buffalo,
N.Y.

good letter

Geneva, October Twenty seventh.

Dear Mama and Papa:

I am writing this letter to both of you for I have something to say which will interest you both, I think, and I am addressing it to Papa, because I have been intending to write to you for so long.

I will start with the most important so I won't forget to tell you all about it. Monday night, we went to observe the stars and moon from Smith's Observatory. Dr. Brooker telephoned to ask us and we left about seven. It is a good mile and a half but we walked it both ways and enjoyed the walk. When you get there, it is like a park so far as I could see in the dark, and the observatory is a rather insignificant looking building, but very scientific. Dr. Brooker met us at the door with a lantern, and after shaking hands with us all he conducted us up a flight of stairs to where the telescope was. It is a round room, where the windows just about rest on the floor, and the

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roof is a round dome that revolves by moving a handle. In this dome there is a slide which was open to the sky all the time we were there. The telescope revolves on what is known as the polar axis, which points to the north. Of course, it is a very perfect piece of mechanism. There is an attachment at the side like a small telescope, which is used for focusing the main telescope on the exact part and this is called the finder. The base of the telescope is entirely separate from the building so as to prevent jarring, and it is set on a solid masonry pier. But perhaps the most wonderful part of it is a little machine, which winds like a clock, runs about an hour and twenty minutes, and the purpose of which is to turn the telescope at the rate of the earth's revolution and thus keep the same point on the field.

The first object we observed was the star Vega, of the constellation of Lyra, the Harp. It is billions of miles away and

looked just like a diamond with
 different colored rays, that shoot out
 and in, corresponding to the twinkling
 of the star seem with the naked eye.
 Then we saw Mars, and being a
 planet, it looked just like a round
 ball of light with a clear outline.
 We saw a white spot on it which
 Dr. Brooker said was the ice-ring around
 the pole. Mars is hundreds of millions
 of miles away. Next came the moon.
 Through the telescope we saw only a
 part with the craters of volcanoes,
 just like the pictures, and then we saw
 the whole moon, through the finder.
 While I was looking through the
 finder a bird flew across the field
 (of the finder) and Dr. Brooker said
 that before he mentioned the fact
 that he saw birds at night through
 the telescope, scientists had doubted
 whether migratory birds flew at
 night or not, for they fly beyond
 sight of the eye. Saturn was the
 last and to me most wonderful. It
 was just as clear and looked
 exactly like the pictures. This is
 what it looked like.



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After we had seen this, Dr. Brooker told us to go up to the house, where Mrs. Brooker and his daughter wanted to see us. It seemed so nice to get into a real house. Everything was very cozy, with a stove in the sitting room, which felt good. After we had talked awhile, they served refreshments from the dining-room - coffee, pepper sandwiches, and hermits, the cookies of course. After the refreshments, which were awfully good, I happened or rather made a point to talk to Dr. Brooker. He is quite elderly but very clever looking and just as every day as if he didn't have a string of degrees and honors & medals, and hadn't discovered 25 comets. The names of two comets are the Ball-Brooker and the Duley-Brooker, I am not sure of the spelling. The first was discovered in 1812 by Ball, and Dr. Brooker discovered it again in 1883, the second, discovered in 1815, in 1884, the second time. He said that he was unable to see Mars go behind the moon on account of clouds. He told us about Halley's comet, too.

Mrs. Broots and Miss Broots are very kindly. They reminded me a good deal of Mrs. Ellis and one of the younger Miss Ellises. They asked us to call some Thursday, which we will have to do.

I am sending you a card of the Observatory. You can see the slide that opens. The door is on the other side of the little addition. The cross is about over, where the house is. & One thing I forgot to tell you. Dr. Broots has also done a great deal in telescopic photography. They remove the eye piece and insert a special kind of camera, and it takes about 20 seconds to photograph the moon and about $2\frac{1}{2}$, the sun. Now, don't you think, we spent a profitable as well as pleasant evening?

I think I wrote last Thursday that morning we had a lecture on Greece. Colonel Haynes, whose home is in Italy on the Riviera, told us a lot of interesting experiences. One, that as he was reaching for a flower near the Castalian Font, he slipped and fell in, so he not only ^{had} drunk of the waters of the font but had been in them. He saw the Caryatides by moonlight and they were so gracefully poised,

though they had this heavy weight on their heads, that they actually seemed to dance.

Friday we had gym. Saturday, we went to an inter class football game, at which they made ten times the noise they do at an inter-college game. Then we went down town. Sunday it poured all day. We went to chapel in the evening. Monday we had gym again and I was captain of our side in base-ball and we won 25 - 9. Tuesday Mary Lyon was taking the Bacon Baby, Mary Frances, whom the girls sometimes borrow as she belongs to the college, being Professor Bacon's daughter, down town and some of us went along. She is an "awful cute kid", and her father and mother are very well liked. They say anything Professor Bacon says, goes. Yesterday, Wednesday, some of us played ball for an hour, then I went to a German conversation club which is going to be splendid. It is just for the practice in conversation and Professor Williamson talked to us all the time in German.

Last night we went to a lecture on direct primaries. President Stewardson presided and all the faculty were there. Judge Yiddums or something like that, spoke. Everyone, or at least the majority seem to be in favor of them. I will send you the circular they gave us.

Now, I guess I have said everything. Thank you, very much for the Sunday paper. It will last a long time so don't bother sending it every week, by any means.

A few flakes of snow are flying, but the leaves are still thick on the trees. With much love to both

Gladys.