

Tell Annie instead
of getting me a fine
hat. she can get me
a felt walking hat
at the price of one here
1.50. if your
money holds but you
can get a nice one
for 2.00. I think
it would
be the best
plan, to
buy the
hat here.
Send about
\$4.00 which
will be
sufficient.

W. (H. J.) Staunton
Jan 4th 1880

Dear Mother

Notwithstanding
I have not written to you since
I have been here, I intend to write
you a long letter this evening. I am
really ashamed of myself for not
writing to you sooner; I will tell you
why; I knew I had Annie and
Leslie to write for me, and it takes
me such a long time to write letters.
We spent a most delightful day
Christmas, considering we ~~xxx~~ were
absent from home. Dr Harris would
not give us but ~~two~~ holidays
Xmas and did not give us ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~single~~
any ~~at~~ ^{at} ~~all~~ New Year. ~~xxx~~. Don't you

Think it was awful for him
to treat us so. We are expecting
our box soon, and hope we will not
be disappointed. Lizzie sends some
music bills in this letter. Which
are for Prof Ide \$3.50. Miss Boyd
\$5.30. Miss Lizzie Daniel. \$2.75-
Miss Lizzie did not give her the
bill but told her the amount.

She thinks \$11.55 is a great deal for
music; but it is for all of us.
They won't let us use the music
we brought because that is out of
"style" and not suitable, so we have
to buy new music. We are going to
have a calisthenics and musical
entertainment next Friday. I will
have to appear on the stage as I am
a member of the calisthenics class
and expect to be frightened so
that I can't make the motions at
all. no I don't either. Tell papa

he need not expect a good report from me this month as I have been sick about a week altogether this month, The reason I did not my report was no better last month was because I was absent so much I was with Annie one week and sick the next they always take off for absents, and as to my History I would never get a good mark on that for Mrs Williams makes us memorize it and you know I never could memorize any thing it is not because I don't study. I am getting on splendid with my vocal have taken two lessons don't reckon she will mark me on that this month. I have not taken but three or four Inst Music this

I have written you a
 very long letter. By now you must know
 how much I wish for letters when I
 am always being disappointed and am
 always disappointed. I'll tell you all the
 lessons this month that will
 also be very low in report. But I
 can't help it. I do the very best
 I can. and can't do any better than
 that. Mamam send us a plenty
 of cocoanut cake just like that in
 our last boy nuts and ground-peas
 by the whole sale. also a jar of
 preserves and a plenty of mince
 pies. Oh! Mamam we have the
 nicest & mince pies made of dried
 black berries currents mace
 goat meat vinegar and tallow
 when they come on the table they
 are as cold as if they had been
 in the "refrigerator" all day as
 Miss Louiseer says. I have just
 written to little Lela. Moon
 directed it at New Garden Academy
 Greensboro was that right is she

most beautiful daughter
 on earth

I am still going to school there.