

Letter of Helen Temple Cooke to her sister Mary Foster Cooke, postmarked Tuesday Jan. 26, 1898

Addressed to: Miss M. F. Cooke 26 Washington Street Rutland Vermont

My dear Mary

I must tell you the glorious news immediately. I have a wee little note from Mr. Atwood this morning saying that we did not have Prose Composition in the High School as a special study – as is now required, and you can imagine I have plunged into despair. The Professor added, however, that I “undoubtedly had some work in composition with [Nutting] approaching Jones’ book on the subject. “I thought I would go and ask Mrs. Irvine how long she thought the college would hold my degree for me provided I finished all the work before leaving here. (A year is the usual limit but I couldn’t see how I could do all the Latin [] in a year. She has [] a gay bright [mind/] and [] said “ [O] Sister, Sister , how you do like to [] trouble! Take this to Miss Hawes and when you hear that you are condemned then you may begin to worry.” I trotted off to Miss H. and thought it would be wise to explain just why I came, so I told her I had given up all hopes of being Certificated in Latin Prose, but then Mrs. Irvine bade me present Mr. Atwood’s second letter. Julia’s name is one to conjure with. I saw that immediately. Miss H. began to back gracefully down and ended by saying “There will be no trouble about your degree Miss Cooke. [I will?] notify the Secretary to credit you with Prose Composition. You can imagine how I feel. I hope now that the Certificate for [Mathematics?] will also be taken by Miss Burrell. If it isn’t I shall have Miss Smith’s, but would like to leave here a Senior in June – in good and regular standing . That is what I now expect to do.

So endeth this lesson. I know you will be relieved to hear that we make [improvement?] in art of the nay.

Lovingly,

Helen

Tuesday 2 P.M.