Vancouver College
Nov 10 1868

Eva Cornell Esq.

Dear Sir,

I am much gratified as the view expressed in your letter, and will to say some things to you, what I must request shall be considered confidential in relation to the "woman" and, instead of the whole, subject. I have no fancy for the agitation on the subject the bad taste always shocks me. But the reasoning on the subject of women's right and their claims seems to me logical, and in time it must prevail. I consider Vancouver College the best institution in the world.
of the Kind; it is not of the right Kind. When I was last in Boston I asked Dr. Hill, Pres't of Harvard College: "How soon will girl enter Harvard College?" and he replied: "The most conservative member of the faculty says: in 20 years." (It is my opinion that if you remove the zero from the number of years, you will be nearer the truth.)

I also asked Prof. Peirce the Math. Professor: "If a girl knocks at your class room door and asks for admission to your class, what will you do?"

He replied: "I couldn't turn her away and I wouldn't."
I should like that an institution starting on so broad a foundation as the Cornell, should take the lead in that respect. You perceive, if you lead, you must step quickly, for the world moves.

Rpt. Your President in his speech declares that the institution is to be free from sectarian bias. Can you keep to that? I have never yet seen in a College, freedom on religious subjects. The College of Ann Arbor is, I suppose the free-est, but even then I suspect, almost I do not
Knew, they would ask what religion views a Prof. held, before they elect them. Can you elect a Professer, without asking that question? I believe that the cause of true religion is hurt every day, by these narrow lines ofים. So a man in an unimportant point.

Sincerely, of the Observatory.

I take the liberty of asking you to look at perfection in the instruments and not at size. Our telescope is 12½ inches object glass—land a very imperfect glass. A perfect glass of half the size would do better work. The air & climate are not good.
except in our latitude
in very large instruments.
There is a limit to the
increase of telescopes which
mature has set up, and
unless glasses or climates
improve, it is of no use to
expect to gain much by
mere size.

I feel that I should
apologize to you for not
disposing a letter. I have written
in the hope of doing my
small bit of good to a great
undertaking, and I have no
right to be educated and
not friends wanting a friend
you must give me credit
for utterly disinterested mo-
tions. May you be prosper...
as every step in the long
fruit in which you have
entered.  

Maria Mitchell

Best regards to Mrs. Cornele