

BRYN MAWR COLLEGE

DATE 6-4-36

Dear Dr. Leigh.

I could not leave without telling you how sorry I am not to be able to attend the first Commencement. Please believe I would not have committed such a betrayal without good reasons: I have to be in Paris before June 15th, for serious matters (not my wedding).

No doubt the ceremony will be quite impressive for outsiders, but it will be more than a mere ceremony for those who were there on Sept. 4th 1932 (or before) - It will be a farewell to that unforgettable first year and a new start in the life of "our" college - I am sure it will be the visible manifestation of a

first "victory".

In 1932, I wrote to someone that Bennington "had reconciled me with America". - In 1936, I am less willing than ever to deny my debt to you all. So that I ^{too} have the feeling of "graduating" from Bennington - and of being an "alumnus" -

From the ship, I shall try to imagine some of the best scenes: Kay Mc. Kearn receiving her parchment (?) from the President, the banquet, Tom Brockway in academic gown, etc.

I hope, - I know - Bennington will have the gayest, the most spontaneous and yet the most significant Commencement in the country.

Long live Bennington! -

A prodigal son, but not ungrateful
Jean Guiton.