Biographical Note

Julia M. Gay  b. Hillsborough 12/3/1868 d.1923
A graduate of Colby Union Academy (c 1889)
Accepted a position as the nation’s first female school superintendent, and principal.
At the same time she continued her studies at the University of Chicago.
She returns to accept Preceptress position at Colby Union for fourteen years, when ill
health forced her retirement.

- From “The First Century of Colby”

Scope and Content Note
In folders a total of thirty eight letters to her parents in Hillsborough N.H.

Seven letters describe a trip she took at Christmas time, to New Orleans.
These letters describe the poor areas of the South in the aftermath of the Civil War, still
evident even after thirty some years.

Thirty letters describe in detail her eight-month trip to Europe from August 1906-
March 1907, including Scotland, England, Germany, France, Switzerland, and Italy.
A transcript of these letters is included in this collection.

Provenance
Donated by Jayme Simoes of Hillsborough N. H

References.
*A centennial history, 1837-1937: Colby Academy, Colby Junior College* by Henry K.
Rowe.