

New York, Sept. 20, 1839.
Dear Sir, I have just recd. the letter from London. Like the other one which I sent you, it was directed to my
friend, Mr. Putnam, a bookseller of London, with whom he had business. It contains the latest intelligence from your son. Please take care
of this & return it by Dr. Kriestern of Oriskany.
J. Torrey.

Date, 23rd July, 1839

Dear Friend.

Your letter of 29th June awaited my arrival at Geneva which event took place upon the glorious anniversary of our National existence, as our orators have it, in plain prose upon the 4th of July. You indulge your humour at the nonchalance of my mention of the places I visited, just as if I had time or room upon a single sheet to express all my admiration and expatiate at large upon every thing I saw. It is a pity indeed you were not with me; you would have enjoyed it vastly, and I all the more. Had you been with me, my stoicism might possibly have been overcome, and we have journeyed on to Naples and Pompeii together. But how could Pater-noster Rome have spared you? You have missed something too in not being with me from the date of my last down to the 4th of July, during which time I made a most satisfactory tour. For a portion I followed in your worthy steps; but on the whole I think I have outdone my predecessor. I will give you the skeleton: your memory and imagination will fill up the picture. Eh bien.

1st day. Steam-boat from Zurich to Argen (a knapsack on my back, containing an extra shirt and pair of stockings, pen & paper, a Keller, Murray's Hand book, and a portfolio for collecting plants.) walked to Rug, dined and talked bad French with the Kellerin, walked on to Aath, stopped a little; the Landlord told me it would take 4 hours to reach the summit of the Righi; I told him I should do it in 2½; and I did it; - saw the sun set from the Kulm!

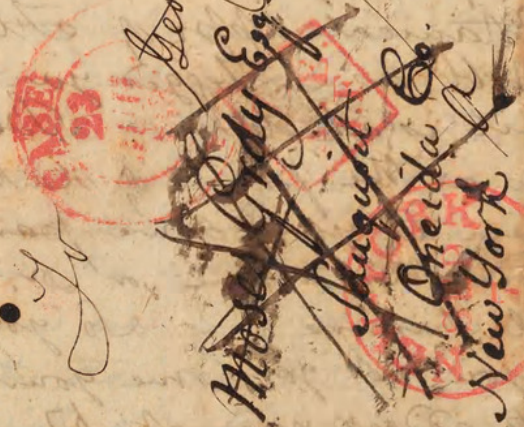
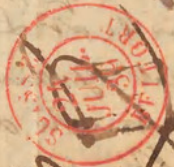
2nd Day. Saw the sun rise, very good time, clouded soon after and rained, - cleared again: thus gave me every variety of view. Left at 12. M. and commenced the descent to Neggio to take the steam-boat for Filirellen; ~~stayed~~ stopped by a thunder-shower which came down the lake, got under a rock, and heard the thunder reverberate among the mountains! Reached Neggio a little too late for the boat. - took a skiff directly across the lake, crossed the mountains, where there was no path at all, and walked to Stanz in Canton Unterwalden, which I reached at 5 P.M. - A truly Swiss village, quite out of the ordinary route of tourists. Looked about the place - the old church and bone-house, determined to go to Engelberg.

3rd Day. - Was off at 5 A.M. walked 13 miles up a valley through the most sublime scenery, and arrived at this retired and most lovely little valley of Engelberg (Angel-mountain) at 10 o'clock. A rustic village and large old Monastery in the bottom of a green basin, the sides of which rise on every side into peaks covered with snow nearly all the year. One of these is the Titlis which in the spring sends its avalanches smack into the village. - I have since seen a good deal of Switzerland, but no valley equal at all to Engelberg. - Left at noon, - up over the shoulder of the Titlis, through the snow, by the rarely frequented attempted pass of the Joch, about 7000 feet high to the valley of

Excuse this hurried epistle, I have precious little time, and I find
I am growing more and more slovenly every day - Adieu -

Most truly Yours

A. Gray



~~Geo. D. Putnam, Esq.
Wiley & Putnam
67 Paper-Market-Road
New York~~

~~Ordered~~

~~Sept 24~~

~~Ernest~~

~~Criskey~~

~~Oneida Co~~

~~New York~~



Gray, Asa. 1839. "Gray, Asa July 23, 1839 [to Torrey]." *Asa and Jane Gray travel correspondence*

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