

Bingen, on the Rhine, July 24, 1850.
Dear papa, I hope you have written home!

Dear Father & Mother

Dr. Gray still bears the labor of keeping up the journal of our travels, for my eyes, though much better, are not equal to writing or any such use. How much I have thought of you, dear father, during these last few days, for I never realized before the trouble of not being able to look at anything, to say nothing of the pain and discomfort. Dr. Gray has written the letters lately in my name; tho. I must say I am often quite ignorant of their contents (being written after I am sound asleep). So, I am afraid that the valuable reflections "Christian & moral," which I have inwardly made on so many topics, are forever lost to my family & friends. [One comfort is they will never know what they have lost]. Dr. G. keeps printing a running commentary of remarks. I believe Dr. G. wrote briefly of our doings up to Monday afternoon, leaving us at Bonn, which is beautifully situated on the west bank of the Rhine; just where the plain country terminates, and the bold hills of the fine Rhine-scenery commence. In the afternoon Dr. G. & Mr. Doener, (a gentleman to whom Dr. G. had letters) escorted me up to Poppelsdorf. The University of Bonn occupies the Palace of the former Elector of Cologne ($\frac{1}{4}$ mile long, with a fine lawn & avenues of trees before it (& our hotel at the foot of the ground); and on the other side an avenue of fine trees, each side of a great ~~square~~ lawn, leads straight up to the Alte Schloss Poppelsdorf; the country chateau, formerly of the Elector. It is built around a circular court. The lower story contains the museum of Natural history, in rooms still ornamented with the old decorations. Paintings in fresco, & stucco-work. Part of the mineralogical cabinet occupies a most singular room, made to represent a grotto; the walls & ceiling entirely covered with crystals, shells, &c. in fantastic forms.

among them, vases of floras, monkeys, faces, all in shells. They said the room was formerly arranged so that jets of water poured out from almost every part of the walls, one small place not remaining dry, and they told the story that when the old Emperor visited particularly to distinguish any lady, he would take her with him upon this place, and giving the signal for the water to be turned on, gave every one else a thorough washing. The cabinets are very large & rich, especially in fossils.

The Story is devoted to pictures of apartments of the Professors of Natural History, their families & their lecture rooms. Dr. Koen took us to his rooms, most pleasant chamber with a lovely view - the little Botanic garden making the foreground, & the famous Siebenbergseck (Sieve Mountain) & the Drachenfels are on the most commanding (Vide Bynn), across the Rhine, making the background, and fields of the same type picture. It was one of the most striking views I ever saw. The Botanic gardens ~~were~~ were full in the cabinet, thus far been just now quite in concert with Cambridge again; the latter will be to us a source of pleasure & charm. There is sympathy with Prof. Peck & his brother Prof. Garrison - the old botanical professor, with whom Dr. L. had been spending the afternoon had joined us, and after the museum we went over the garden, & then back to the hotel, just at dusk, meeting Madame Garrison on the way, with whom I conversed in most elegant French, which she spoke with fluency & clearness & Dr. Koen (who has been in U.S.) spoke English.

The hotel is full of English. - One English lady being I was suffering with my eyes, kindly stopped to ask about them, - advised me to use camphor, and afterwards took the pains to come to my room & bring me some. Both the other English were very pleased & think we may meet them again.

Tuesday morning we left Bonn in the steam-boat up the Rhine, passing through all its most beautiful scenery. I made a determination I would look at nothing, which I kept pretty well at first (except at Drachenfels), as long as it was comparatively tame; but it was soon impossible to resist, when we got to Koblenz, & especially between Koblenz & Bingen, when the river wound through such bold mountain gorges, with old ruins & castles crowning almost every projecting point; and my mind did suffer as much as I feared they might. At first I was disappointed, & thought the scenery not as fine as that of the Highlands of the Hudson; but afterwards it grew very bold & grand, and the numerous ruined castles are extremely beautiful, and came fully up to my idea. It seemed like a dream to be passing through scenes so much more grand and written about. Still I must say that anything would be better than vineyard. For the vine being trained closely on rocky terraces, and trained on sticks not as high as a decent sized bean pole, gives at a small distance rather a ~~terrible~~ ^{bad} appearance. I was surprised to see the death of trees. [Jane is picking up, and says she cannot distinct any longer. We had the table I 'knew' a deck of the steam boat, in the middle of the first scene, - reached Bingen at the upper end of the deep gorge (reached the Rhine banks) at 6 o'clock. - while Jane rested I climbed the rocks by stone, and had a magnificent sunset view -

The principal hotels are all full. We got comfortable quarters at the Englischer Hof, a truly German Hotel, ^{formerly written without the title, now the title, however, they do not have a chance to make English} from the left above the whole Rhine, or upon this side the

proper Rhine-vines. Rudesheim being nearly opposite, Miseldorf, & Hattenheim just above - & from the hill over the town gives a good view of Johannisberg, Steinberg, & a vast country to the south, where the Rhine passes thro. a little level country. ^(remember the Rhine flows north) This morning Jane went up with me - as far as the Chapel which commands one of the finest views, but the weather is cloudy with a little rain, & the view, beautiful as it is, is restricted - came back to breakfast, - to which we did ample justice. The following Day tho. favorable to Jane's eyes - forbids our crossing the Rhine & ascending to get the view from the Niederwald, above Rudesheim. So we take the boat

Bienne, Switzerland. Tuesday Evening, July 30.th

It is a long time, dear Pappa, that my journal has been interrupted; but my eyes have not got along as well as I had hoped when D.G. last laid down the pen; and he must still write for me. [He would willingly have kept writing day by day; but it has not been easy to secure time; and above all he has feared that his monotonous (as can handwriting), which really grows worse and worse, - would prove too trying for any one's patience.] We are so far behind hand now that we can only give brief & general notices of our proceedings.

Well. Tuesday morning of last week, we took a steam-boat as it passed Bingen on its way up the Rhine (queer little things these steam-boats are to an American eye) for $\frac{1}{3}$ of the size of one of Hudson River, and a common deck with an awning, and plain wooden seats, the only place to sit, and such mixtures of all nations, the greater part English. ~~What is to the Germans, I know not, what poor~~

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She would do, with their interminable smoking. —

We passed by Rudesheim, Battenheim, &c and left the boat at Biebrich, a few miles below Mayence - took the rail road which joins Wiesbaden & Mayence with Frankfort, and reached this old city ^(Frankfort) at 4 o'clock P.M. (Hotel de Russie)

Lane has gone to bed, and will soon be sound asleep, no doubt - having accomplished a long journey. Deprived of her dictation, I (A. G.) must first give you a brief & bare ~~account~~ de route of our last weeks doings, and Lane must detail her observations on matters and things, at greater leisure and with better eyes. On this account she did not go out on Tuesday in Frankfort. I roamed over the queer old town, sought Dr. Friesius, - heard he had gone to Switzerland, but it proved the next day at noon that it was a cousin of the same name, and he called on us. —

Wednesday morning we went to Mr. Bottman's to see Dancker's beautiful statue of Hiadue - probably the very finest modern statue - and Lane was most delighted with it. - and after strolling through the more ancient parts of the city, went thiv. ~~to~~ the Cathedral, which is neither large nor elegant; but remarkable as the place where some sixty German Emperors have been crowned; and for curious effigies & memorials of some of them.

Geneva.

I got too sleepy to write at all plain, went to bed. - To continue with great brevity. After looking about Frankfort & seeing Prof. Friesius, came back to hotel, and at dinner we were recognized by Dr. Jerome V. C. Smith of Boston (with his wife &c) - who told us the startling news of

the death of our President, and the confession of the watched
Prof. Nobles.

That afternoon we rode on by railway thro' Larmstadt to Heidelberg, had an hour & a quarter, which we devoted to ascending to the castle in a carriage, & in viewing one of the most picturesque and imposing ruins, & enjoying from its terraces one of the loveliest views that ever was seen. Our train will bring us back to Heidelberg again. Down the Neckar, on our return from Munich: when Jane, with better eyes, may view her acquaintance with a scene that ~~had~~ delighted greatly, as it surprised her, for somehow I had not led her to expect anything so fine (then I highly enjoyed it long ago). Coming back to the station, we wait on two hours more to Badenweiler that evening, - got into grand quarters at the Hotel d'Angleterre, most sumptuous apartments, which made us fear an inflammation of the bill: the latter however proved to be quite moderate.

* * * Thursday Morning, after an early breakfast, went out on by rail-road to Kehl, left our baggage, took a carriage over the bridge of boats, across the lines of the French Republic (?) into Strasburg. Saw Schimpff, went to a hotel. Jane rested till dinner. Then went to the Cathedral, viewed the grand front of this imposing structure, and the wonderful spire, the tallest in the world. - were much struck with the grandeur of the interior, also lighted by stained glass the greater part of it 400 or 500 years old. After visiting the Museum of Art, Hist. and arranging with Schimpff to meet him in Switzerland, where he is to pass, with his wife (a Miss Lady) a long vacation, we took our carriage & returned to the Baden side of the river, and came on to Strasbourg that evening, reading it in a rain. Having the good fortune to arrive early from the station, we were shown into the best room in the Labouerette

Hof. - while the English Clergyman, wife & friend who were no ^{my} white skin to us at Bonn, were obliged to take up with inferior accommodations. - Prof. Braun, on calling next day &

noticing our apartment, told us that when last he was in it a week before - it was occupied by the Prince of Prussia. Still it was not so well appointed as that at Badenweiler.

It cost only 5 florins ~~per~~ for 3 days. = \$2.00. - Prof. Braun (the brother of the former Mrs. Agassiz) was very kind to us. He is a very interesting man, of charming manners; his wife very sweet and charming, his children most engaging. Saturday afternoon we took a carriage and with Prof. Braun rode up a beautiful valley to the Höllenthal (Dr. Valle J's Infer), a rocky and wooded gorge of very striking scenery, wild & majestic, rather than terrible as its name imports.

Sunday morning. Visited the beautiful old cathedral during service, heard the music, and came back in time for both of us to attend the English service held by Mr. Bennett, the English Clergyman in the hotel. In the afternoon Jane and I visited the cathedral ^{as that} cathedral ^{is} in Europe that is well surpass'd. Here really one of the finest in Europe that is well surpass'd. Here really every part, and all the stained glass, of a most curious kind, is perfectly preserved; and the spire, though not so high as that of Strasburg, is as elaborate and light, - as it were of woven stone threads, - and even more beautiful. Jane had before a good view of the exterior, yesterday, as we drove round it on returning from the Höllenthal. At evening we went down to Braun's house to tea - one of his colleagues just joined us, and another friend, who spoke tolerable English: and we had a charming evening.

Monday morning. Braun & I climbed the hill E. of the little town for a fine view of all Morsarg (We had clambered the little slopes on the South side): & returning, we climbed the slopes on the North side): & returning, we took the cars for Bâle - (at the end 8 miles in the mountains)

Pasted the afternoon & night at the great Hotel Trois Rois on the banks
of the Rhine (Prof. Meissner being on a journey to England). We had been
this decided, especially as the ride to Hollental, appeared to have an unfa-
vorable effect on Jane's eyes - that we would not go from Basle to Zürich &
so into the Bernese Oberland, but lay still & repose from using them till
they should get quite well. This could be best done at Geneva, where I could
be employing the time well in De Candolle's herbarium. And afterward we can take
the Alps, nearly as well, recasting & transposing it a little. So, ^{long 158 m.}

Tuesday we rode from Basle to Biel (56 miles) in diligence.
through the Minster Thal, the grandest & most picturesquie scenery of
the Zura, & Jane was able to see it pretty well. - Was tired, but took the ride well.

Wednesday. A ride of ~~3 hours~~ ^{along lakes of Biel & Moudon} hours brought us to Niederdorf at 11
o'clock. A.M. - The Barthards were in the country, 3 leagues off, posted
ready for Jane prepared to return here later. Prof. Grüt, who received
me most cordially took me (with Mr. Conlon) up the Chammart, 2500 feet,
but the Alps were obscured by clouds, at least all the higher alps,
& we had no fine view of them; otherwise the view was very fine. - We
returned by the great bridge of Biel a Br. all asked after Agamiz
with much interest. Excursions are planned for us when we return. X

Thursday. Steamboat down the lake to Vaudreuil; diligence to
Lausanne; & then steamboat down the Lake of Geneva to Geneva - a
fine time. Settled most comfortably at Hotel des Berges. -

Friday. To day (Aug. 2^d) found De Candolle, who has kindly
asked us about everything, called here to see Jane. - Shall see other
acquaintances to-morrow, & then to work. Have looked about with Jane
& enjoyed the fine view of the lake & near mountains from our windows.
But Mt. Blane is still veiled. Greatly disappointed at finding no
letters here from home: they were to be sent here by Mr. Ward
I must have soon for a fair end from Jane - whose eyes are vastly better
to-day - even before the distinguished oculist & physician Dr. ^{Maunoir} ~~Adanson~~,
(who married a daughter of the Rev. Dr. Jarvis, formerly of Boston) has yet come
to see them. -

We hope she will soon be able to write, & give you
from day to day all the bits of intelligence & other remarks upon things
which constantly amuse or interest us. Believe me to remain ever yours

To All the beloved! affectionately & faithfully

Saturday Morn.

Dr. Maunoir has just called, & thinks there is no very serious trouble ^{A. Gray}
but that may soon be removed - Inflammation of the mucous membrane, I think he said
He is very pleasant - Asked greatly about Dr. Jackson having known him through his son James whom
he knew well in Paris - Do hope I may soon be able to write again, for I miss it very much
- Dr. Gray fears you cannot read his writing, besides its taking so much of his time - Most
of the time when he is flying about, walking & visiting, I am quiet in our room & as I
must be idle, it is sometimes rather tiresome, & I long so much to sit & have a quiet chat
with you all - I try to fancy what you are all doing in Beverly, in Boston, in Litchfield.
I am certainly greatly improved in health, & to my great delight gaining flesh - It is very
tautalizing to pass through this beautiful scenery with my eyes shut - I feel almost
like crying when I come down the lake of Geneva, for then I could look at nothing - I long so too
to tell about a thousand things one forgets if they put off! I think if you trace our route on a map it will
help you much - I am longing & for letters. We have had by some mistake ~~one~~ for a fortnight -



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