J. V. Robbins Cincinnati

Care Robbins & Somery

On the 28th May 1849 I returned to my residence at Lexington from Independence at the extreme frontier of the U.S. where I had been for a month realizing a speculation I had embarked in during the winter, having purchased a large number of mules with the expectation of an advance in their value from the probable demand of the emigrants to California, and the wants of the U.S. government for the western service. The day after my return home, my father came over to my house and very much to my surprise informed me that he had received a letter from Genl Taylor, ~~informing~~ telling him that he had determined to appoint me to a Foreign Mission. A few days after came a letter from Mr Clayton Secy of State announcing my appointment as Chargé d'Affaires to Portugal. I at once notified him of my acceptance, & that I should be ready to sail from one of the Atlantic ports by or before the 1st Sept. In addition to the gratification of a desire I had long felt to visit Europe, another

consideration, had great weight with me in accepting the appointment. Efforts had been certainly made since the nomination of Genl. Taylor to alienate him and my father from each other; had I refused to accept the position tendered to me, it would have been generally looked upon as a great declaration of hostility on the part of my family to the Administration, and I was anxious on account of the party & principles to which my father's life had been devoted, that the best feelings should exist between him & Genl. Taylor. & that the latter might feel free to consult him if he saw fit.

By the 15th. July I had made all my arrangements, sold my furniture, rented my house &c and about the 20th. was in Louisville where we intended to spend some days with my wife's family en route to the North. It was at first an intention to have spent a month pleasantly & sailing for Europe at Cape May; for the benefit of our little daughter, who has had Spinal disease, & for whom our Physicians recommended

the Sea bath, but my father having intimated an intention to go with us to the North, in deference to his desire, we concluded a Map at a stand.

Having spent a week very agreeably in Louisville we the 26th July we took leave of our friends & got on board the fine steamer Pacific for Cincinnati where we expected my father to join us & thence to proceed to the North via the Lakes. We arrived at Cincinnati the next morning at day light & went at once to the Rail Road for Sandusky being afraid to remain any time in Cincinnati on account of the Cholera, which had been raging terribly there. My father had also arrived from Lexington across the country by Stage & sent his servant Levi to detain us, but on account of the Children we determined to proceed & let him overtake us by the night train. We did not know until we were some distance on the road, that my fathers desire to delay us was on account of the extreme violence of the Cholera at Sandusky, where we expected to remain one night, but fortunately for us, we did not reach Springfield in time for the cars to the former place & so had to remain there until 9 at night, when my father overtook us, & we proceeded to Sandusky

where we stepped on board the S.B. for Buffalo, without any detention. The Cholera was really frightful at Sandusky the town deserted by all who could get away, even the Doctors, and so many dying that there was difficulty to get graves & coffins made. We were glad enough to leave the ill fated place far behind us, on the fine Lake Steamer, the Lake perfectly smooth & our accommodations excellent. We arrived the next day at Buffalo & at once took Rail Road Cars for Niagara - We spent here very delightfully parts of two days, during which we visited all the wonders of this wonderful place - Goat island with its delightful shades & magnificent views of the Falls, all which I had seen before, but grander than all, and what I had never before enjoyed a trip in the Maid of the Mist, close up to the American & quite near the Canada falls, in the midst of the iris & the spray, where with my hat off & set with a delightful bath, I paid my obeisance to the presiding divinity - We also rode across the wire bridge, 250 feet above the foaming rapids below, a work which rivals, as far as mere feeble genius can be said to rival, the wonderous works of nature around.

From Niagara we took cars to Lewiston where we got on board the fine Steamer Bay State & crossed Ontario to Oswego, a passage quite

as pleasant as that across Erie had been; we arrived at the Rochester landing about 11 o'clock at night, where a vast concourse had come some 2 or 3 miles to greet my father & who actually took possession of the S.B. – the poor Captain came to me in great trouble, to get him off & as my father could not be induced (being very much fatigued) to get up, I had to make a little speech, which seemed to satisfy the crowd, who finally let us go off, over the moonlit lake, with beautiful music from the band which accompanied them. From Otego we took Cars for Saratoga, where we had concluded to spend some days, many of my father's old friends being there. At every town of any consequence we were surrounded by crowds to see my father; ~~and~~ until at Utica it became so great as really to alarm me for the safety of my family – we were glad enough to get to Saratoga where we could hope to be more quiet.

At Saratoga my father & my family remained 15 days, not very pleasantly however for any of them, as he was overrun with company, and on one occasion made quite sick (with cramp cholic) from fatigue & exposure. Besides there was no proper arrangements for children. Indeed the only such arrangement I had at this place was from the excursions to &

the excellent dinner at the Lake, where we got Trout Bass woodcock & young partridges & potatoes deliciously cooked. We took also some other pleasant rides & made some agreeable acquaintances. Two days after our arrival I went to N York for a couple of days to make some arrangements for our voyage. From Saratoga we went to Newport via Troy Albany and Springfield, at which latter we remained one night at a Mr Warriner's capital hotel. The next morning we visited the Armory & the arsenal both well worth a visit. From Springfield to Boston by the R Road & thence to Newport by boat, which place we reached about 8 in the evening.

Throughout the whole way from Saratoga to Newport we had continued crowds around my father whenever the Car stopped & in them, indeed the feeling of his friends seemed only to increase with each successive act of injustice done him by a party which he has made & which was every thing to him.

We took the Lord's bath the morning after our arrival & my wife & children continued to take it every day, but we during a stay of

two weeks, with benefit to all except Livingston with whom it did not seem to agree. I had written from Saratoga to Mr. Clayton to know when he would receive a visit from me to confer upon the duties of my mission & to give me my instructions. He replied "whenever I liked" & in two days after our arrival at Newport I set out for Washington to see him. The morning after my arrival I called on the great man at the Dept. of State, and after waiting an hour in the anti room for an audience to the President or some other Minister to be concluded, was ushered into his presence. Mr. Clayton is a man whose appearance certainly indicates intellect, especially the eye. He is large portly & extremely urbane. Complains of hard work & more from appetite I thought than from real cause. I do not think him decean & such I believe is the general opinion of him. He talked with me for an hour and a half & that portion of his conversation which was not taken up by protestations of his extreme desire to see & confer with my father, for the purpose of acquainting him with the views of the administration & of taking his advice, was occupied

by a detail of the secrets of the Diplomacy of the U.S. which he was pleased to say I might to be made acquainted with, & all of which I had previously learned from the public papers – he was very kind & promised to let me off in as short a time as I could have expected. & finally handed me over to Mr. Marcoux clerk in the diplomatic Bureau, who placed in my hands all the papers in the Dept. dispatches instructions &c relating to the legation at Lisbon – on which I occupied myself 3 hours a day for the next two days – after which Mr. Clayton gave me my final audience of an other hour & a half, the greater part of which was taken up as the other had been. My instructions &c he assured me should follow me to N York in a few days; so that I was finally ready to return to Newport – ~~at which place~~ after remaining two or three days longer, enjoying the bath, we left that delightful place for N York – the day before the grand fancy ball of the season, as we had also done at Saratoga – In N York we had five or six days previous to our sailing, which passed off very rapidly and not very pleasantly. We have again seen my father, who

we left, at Newport, for a few moments on his way to Albany, & took quick leave of him. He is much improved by his trip & God grant that he & we may all be spared to meet again. My dispatches arrived 2 or 3 days before the 5th Sept. on which day at 11 o'clock we embarked on the Steamer Canada for Liverpool. My party consists of my wife & 3 children Old Lotty Aaron and Mary Ann, Tommy Jacob & Henry Clay jr. Before I go further I must set down the names of some of those persons who have been kind to us & whom society afforded us pleasure. At Saratoga Mr. & Mrs Stan Miller Miss Young Mrs McGregor Mr. & Mrs Abrad (Portugese) and Mr. Lo Grate at Newport Mr. Paddock & Dr. Kittredge & lady of N.Y. these last among the pleasantest acquaintances we have made. In N York my fathers old friends Nicholas Dean & Mr. Muir & N Carole both devoted to my father. All these people have been very kind and attentive, as has also been Mr. Henry Grinnell of the firm of Grinnell Minturn & Co.

Shortly after 12 on the 5th Sept. we got under sail & proceeded rapidly down the Bay

it had been cloudy & we could all the morning but just as we hauled out from the dock, the sun came out fairly & we had good views of Staten Island & the other interesting points between the City & Sandy Hook. off which place we discharged our pilot & were at sea. The children were all quite sick the first afternoon & for a few hours the next day, but soon got their appetites & became as noisy & boisterous as possible. I was scarcely at all sick, but all the rest for some days I did Lotty much harm. but our passage until we reached Cape Race the South Eastern most Cape of Nova Scotia has been quite uneventful enough. We stopped at Halifax two hours. where we took on board the passengers of the Britannia which left Boston on the 29th August & was run down just inside Halifax light in the fog, doing considerable damage to herself. She started the next day to continue her voyage after a report that she was seaworthy, but after proceeding some 60 or 70 miles beyond Cape Race was forced to put back to Halifax, making water so badly, that but for the use of her extraordinary pumps, she must have

gone down; we left her at Halifax making her pumps to keep her afloat at the dock. I think in her case the superior safety of steamers has been demonstrated. It seems almost impossible, with their powerful pumps worked by the engine, for them to founder. Up to this time the 11th our voyage has been very monotonous, nothing doing but to eat sleep, try to read, and an occasional game of cards out. We have about 120 passengers including those of the Hibernia. Some very nice people. Among them old Mr. Balestier, when I met in Washington I also delighted in the title of Special Envoy to Cochin China. Mr. ~~Falconette~~ Falconette, agent of the Barings. Mr. Forstall of N Orleans, Hart the Sculptor, Sir Charity formerly of Leicester, now of the house of Cope & Co Phila with a host of other Phila merchants going over to make purchases. A Mr. Malleson, quite an agreeable young man from Montreal with his sister etc etc. I find the officers of the ship from Capt. Sadkins to the stewards, including the Queen Mail Agent, quite polite & attentive. indeed every one seems disposed to be kind & friendly to me & mine & altogether I find the passage

more pleasant & to pass away more rapidly than I had supposed it would. All this day and yesterday we have had a sea smooth as a lake, & altho the wind has continued almost invariably dead ahead we have been making good progress at the rate of 10 or 10½ knots an hour.

12th This morning we have rather more sea, with the wind still ahead. At 12 o'clock we are just a mile out. & have passed considerably more than half the distance to Liverpool, where we expect to arrive on Monday next, perhaps at night. Since leaving Halifax it has been quite cool, with the sun shining only at rare intervals. Aunt Letty is still sick, all the rest pretty well.

13th last night about 11 we had a brilliant Aurora Borealis, the dark ground beneath the lights appeared precisely like land, along which we seemed to be sailing. This morning we have it fine & fair, with a wind from the S. West, so that we are now carrying studding sails & going at some 12 knots the hour.

14 We have a fine day but cool, still carrying all sail, with wind from the north. Last night it was supposed that the Cambria was in sight

a light being visible some two miles to leeward. rockets were sent up & blue lights burnt, but there was no response – At 11 we passed quite close under the stern of the Ship Angelo of Boston sailing with top gallants set, on her course South West.

15th. The wind still continues fair & the day very fine, we are still carrying all sail and making from 12 to 13 knots the hour. To-morrow afternoon we expect to see land & the day after to be in Liverpool

16 To day the wind still fair but too strong to carry all sail – it being Sunday we have had so we had the last divine service in the Saloon the Captain officiating – At 12 we came in sight of land on the Irish coast & at ½ one off Cape Clear, near which we met the Steamer America on her way to the U.S. She came quite near, in hailing distance & looked beautifully on the water.

17. Since 12 to day, at which time we came off Holy head, we have been running along the land – At ½ past 2 we took on board Pilot No. 11 & in a few hours will be in Liverpool

18th. We reached what is called the Bell Buoy about half a knot last evening, & the tide being out so that the ship could not get up to the dock, we

a smaller steamer belonging to the company came along side for the mails & aboard which we with the greater portion of the passengers proceeded up to Liverpool which we reached about 8 o'clock – Under the advice of our friend Mr. Berry we took cabs & went to the Adelphi hotel, the first house on English soil in which we set foot. We found it quite a good hotel – our rooms very good & the table which we had in our own parlor, very passable except the oysters which we found uneatable. We found that the train for London started about ½ past 9 the next morning – so after an early breakfast I went to the Custom House with Mr Berry for the luggage – We were not detained very long & after Mr Berry had made known my rank I was waited on first by the officers, whom I found quite polite & well disposed – They made no objection to any portion of my baggage except a repeating rifle which they were disposed to demur to, but when I offered to present it to the officer, it was put back. From the Custom House after a short delay at the hotel, we proceeded to the Rail Way Station, took place in the 1st Class carriage which we found admirable & at the hour

designated started for London. Of course we saw very little of Liverpool, in riding through the streets it struck me as a noble little city.

We could not conceive how any one could express disappointment in passing through England, a land rare done. We were delighted with every thing we saw. the fine scenery - the green fields, the hedges the admirable cultivation, the fine substantial buildings - the road study - its splendid stations houses & the shipping looks in many places beautifully cultivated in gardens & flowers, all having the appearance of a country complete & finished. We travelled at the rate of about 30 miles the hour at at about 2½ o'clock reached the magnificent station in London, from which we took carriages to our Hotel - Fenton's in St James Street, one of the first hotels in the West End. We were shown to capital appartments on the 3d floor, consisting of a parlor dining room & bed rooms. As soon as we got settled the servant came with his bill of fare & I ordered dinner at 6. with Soup Fish & various dishes well cooked. Mr. Berry who is my friend & attention is at the same house & dined with us. We retired at 9

pretty well fatigued with our first day in England.

19. Waked this morning in the great city of the world with a thousand things to do & see in the next three days, as we have determined to go to Paris for the residue of the time until the Steamer sails for Lisbon from Southampton. At 10 we set off in a good carriage I had ordered, to see a few of the great objects of interest – first we went to St Pauls, through the great Strand – We had not an opportunity to see it to advantage, as Service was being performed & we could not get a guide until it was over – Altogether I was disappointed not with the vastness of the structure, in this it rather exceeded my expectations, but its decorations were far below what I had expected – it impressed me as vast, barren, & gloomy. We next went to the Tower, where after waiting half an hour, we were shown over the Armory, containing quantities of arms of all ages – Weights on horseback in full armour &c We were struck with the diminutive size of some of the celebrated persons & with the vast size of Henry 8th whose armour we were told weighed 160 pounds. We were shown the room in which Sir Walter Raleigh was

occupied by Queen Bess; something better than a dungeon but more than ~~a room~~ an apartment - instruments of torture of all sorts, armor of every kind age & nation, saw of it exceedingly rich.

We had just got through the armory & were proceeding to the jewel room, when my wife was taken sick - it was only from fatigue, but we had to return home & leave the boys to see the jewels & afterwards the Tower. After taking my wife home I jumped into a Cab & went full speed into the City - saw my Bankers made arrangements to send my luggage to Southampton, after which I returned to dinner at 6. At dinner the card of Mr Barnuje Minister to Spain was brought me with a request that I would call on him - he with his wife & 2 young men, attaches, are at the same hotel with us. Mr Rios Minister to France is also in the City on neighborhood. Mr Bancroft has returned home, recalled, & Mr Lawrence his successor to London has not yet arrived. I saw yesterday on my arrival Mr Davis the Secy of Legation. He appeared to be a clever young man & is the son of Hamet John Davis

After dinner I called on Mr Barrington, with whom I passed an hour or two very pleasantly. I do not think from his appearance & conversation that he is a man of much ability – he is quite plain & I fancied I knew more of manners &c in Europe than he did – They go in the morning to Paris, where I expect to meet them again.

20th This day I devoted to business. At 10 I sent my wife & the boys in the carriage to see sights & took a Cab. & went to the office of the Lisbon Steamers & engaged passage, to cost 98 pounds 14 £ being the charge for a single person. They provide horses, wines &c. After this I did a variety of shopping finding everything much more dear than I expected – but good – I paid for instance for a pair of boots to button up £2.– I got through about 1 – when I returned home & found them all there. We took lunch & started to see Westminster Abbey. Here again I was disappointed – It was all vast & glorious, with not near so much fine sculpture as I had expected to see – indeed very few groups or figures impressed me – Of them the monument to Lady Nightingale which represents the figure of her husband endeavouring to shield her from the

arrow of Death, who in skeleton form appears emerging from the base of the tomb, the Statue of Mrs Siddons & if I recollect aright that of Lady Walpole, more these I must admire – The chapel of Henry 7th was very fine – Except from the antiquity of many of the tombs & the high renown the Abbey has, as the depository of the most illustrious English dead I do not think it worthy of the great name it has. Nearly opposite we saw the new houses of Parliament, of beautiful architecture & the famous Westminster Hall. After seeing these we drove through the Parks, by the Zoological Gardens & the residences of many of the nobility which were pointed out to us. I admired the Parks extremely, their Lawns covered with flocks of South down Sheep, Streams of water filled with wild fowl & many pleasure boats, the flowers & pleasant walks have a delightful appearance in the midst of a great City. I want time & should want space to attempt to describe one half the noble monuments & splendid buildings we saw, suffice it that altho disappointed with St Pauls and Westminster Abbey, I was very far from being so with London, as a whole it very far exceeded

my ideas I had of its grandeur. Regent Street is now the ~~great~~ fashionable street for Shops &c, the buildings are much finer, but I did not think the Shops themselves were, than those of Broadway. Of course we saw but little of London, I hope hereafter that we shall be able to see more of it. Contrary to my expectations I have been delighted with every thing I have so far seen of England. The manners of the people I never can like. The cringing servility of the second class, the shopmen Hotel keepers &c to whomever any have rank or money dignants me. Whom they make you pay for it, as the bills, that for washing alone exceeded mine enormous. I think our bill at Pentons was at about the rate of $6.00 per day for a single person. But then we could not stir, not a inch, without the bows & courtesies of half a dozen servants all well dressed & genteel. Tomorrow morning we leave for Paris via Folkestone & Boulogne. 21st This morning we breakfasted at 6, so as to be at the R. Way Station in time for the train at ½ past 7. to which we went in Cabs over London Bridge, a distance

of a mile and a half I should think from our hotel. We arrived in good time I again in excellent first class carriages started away to Folkestone. I had expected to have found great crowds I confess in at the great stations of the Rail Ways. In this I was disappointed; owing to the great expense of travelling, about 3 or 4 times as much as for the same distance in the U.S. I do not think that there are more than one tenth the number we see on roads of similar importance in the U.S. the high charge arises from the great cost of the roads, at which rate, they pay I am told very small dividends; the roads are not very much better than our good ones, the iron a little heavier, but the station houses are everywhere magnificent. They are well regulated & really there is no difficulty either for persons or luggage. The 1st class carriages have usually, each, seats for six persons & the luggage is put on top.

From London to Folkestone we were in a slow train, not going more I should think than from 15 to 20 miles the hour. The country between the two places is neither so beautiful nor so

well cultivated as that between Liverpool & London & owing to the slow rate of the train the road was sometimes very rough. We reached Folkestone about 12 o'clock. This place is of no great importance is situated below the Chalk Cliffs on the sea shore between Dover & Hastings, the landing place of William the Conqueror, but only some six or eight miles from the former. The rail way continues to Dover, but being tunnelled a great part of the way through the Chalk Cliffs, is considered by some to be dangerous; the channel indeed is narrowest between Folkestone & Boulogne & most of the travelling now goes that way. We went at sea from the Car to the little Steamer and after a rough passage, the decks of the boat continually washed by the sea, we arrived along side the Pier at Boulogne, which was crowded with persons curious to see the arrivals. From the boat we were ushered through lines of officials & populace, to the Custom House, where we were in turn called before the presiding dignitaries. My party especially the black servants, created quite a sensation. I exhibited my passport & they were preparing to open my trunk boxes, when I called

out to the office to know whether they were in the habit of examining the baggage of a Minister of a friendly power – they at once denied – but I was informed that after I had gone they did examine some of my trunks, which were left with the keys, under the charge of the Commissionaire of the Hotel du Nord. We arrived at Boulogne just in time to be too late for the train to Paris, which left at 3 – & we had to wait for that at 9 – We went to the Hotel du Nord, a very good house & took a stroll over the town before dinner. Boulogne sur Mer is quite a fashionable place for sea bathing & a resort of English who go there to live cheaply & to avoid their creditors at home. The shops is pretty good, the town old & dirty. The contrast, between every thing, towns people language manners &c which two hours of time & 30 miles of space, produces, is very striking to a stranger. At the Hotel du Nord we took our first French dinner; we dined at the Table d'Hôte with some 20 others; we found the dinner, which was served in courses, very good & also the wine, in which we drank the health of Old Mrs Mountfallon.

At 9. we once again upon the Chemin de Fer on our way to Paris. We found the French road

quite as good & the Cars much better than the English indeed the better were the best I ever saw. As we travelled all night, of course we saw nothing of the country & nothing worth mentioning, except a cup of coffee, we got at Midnight at Amiens, the very best cup of as had ever tasted. We arrived at the Station in Paris at ½ past four in the morning.

22d. Our first reception in Paris was by the officers of the Octroi Customs – The Octroi is a duty which every thing eatable or drinkable pays at the City gates & is I believe common to most European Cities. After very slight examination, we were politely shown to our carriages, when thinking I directed to proceed to the hotel Meurice Rue Rivoli – being the hotel recommended by Morrison & at which I had requested our friend Berry, who preceded us to Paris to engage our apartments. When we reached it we found that Mr Berry had not been able to get rooms to suit him & had taken them for us at the Hotel Bourgogne, a few doors from Meurices & in the same street, where we drove with all speed. Our first impressions of Paris contrary to what they had been of London, were of profound disappointment.

The streets appeared narrow & dirty, the houses old, the carriages ugly & lumbering, the horses mean, & every thing strange to us. The apartments to which we now chose did not impose our selections; they were in what the French call the 3d. or the 4th. floor, up a very steep stairs, having the floors of oak, laid in mosaic, without vestige of carpet; the furniture thoroughly French, with a profusion of clocks & other ornaments. As fire 5 o'clock in the evening, altogether we felt of disappointment were extreme. We ordered a fire, which was started by the Garçon in a Porcelain stove. But soon began to smoke - we began to be in despair - I rang for the Garçon to fix the fire, when we found that the smoking was all our own fault, as in handling some ornament upon the stove, some one had turned a ventilator or some cock cut off, which caused it. The Garçon soon made it go & by the time we were warm, a delicious breakfast, of Coffee bread & butter omelette & mutton chops, was on the table. After we had eaten, we felt in much better humour with ourselves & with Paris; indeed we began to think our apartments rather fine, for altho high

up, we had a good parlor dining room & three chambers, looking out upon the Palace & beautiful gardens of the Tuilleries, & up & down the Rue Rivoli through which something of interest was constantly passing.

After breakfast I took a short walk & then to see our friend Mr Berry. He has resided in Paris some 15 years & is at present what is called a Commissionaire, that is a broker - he has his office, clerks &c - in his office he keeps samples of the goods manufactured in every part of France, which he exhibits to the agents of their houses in America & then when for them, upon their selection, he makes purchases, ships &c &c. for certain commissions. He went with me to select I order my uniform & which I got very handsome for about ½ the London price. We then went to my hotel where he gave us various recommendations to shops &c. The rest of the day my wife & I occupied in driving about the City shopping &c until 6 o'clock our dinner hour. I cannot speak too highly of Paris cookery - we found it all we had been induced to expect - We drank Clos Vougeaut & Chateau Lafitte & retired early

having had no sleep except in the Cars, on our leaving London.

23. This day being the Sabbath, we concluded it was better to devote it to sight seeing than shopping our time being so limited that we must do one or the other. At 10 our carriage was at the door, with a remarkably intelligent coachman, whom French I could understand very well – indeed I have had but very little difficulty in understanding & making myself understood; altho my French must sometimes make them laugh they are too polite to do so to my face. The first ~~place~~ thing we went to see was the Church of St Germain Auxerrois, a Gothic church in comparison to many we have seen but very handsome. Mass was being performed & the church & some of the side chapels were quite full of people. We next drove acc. the Pont Neuf, & just as we got into the Cité on the other side is quite a fine statue of Henry IV. The Seine disappointed me very much, it is quite a small stream at Paris not more I should think than one third larger than the Kentucky; the quays which confine it to its bed on either side, are beautifully built of fine stone & extend a great distance; very few boats of any

description are seen upon it, and the bathing houses & them for the washwomen, with an occasional small steamer &c all that give an appearance of life to it. On the way to Notre Dame, we passed by the Palais de Justice; it is a very large old building, in part a prison, many of its dungeons being entirely under the Seine. We were told it was capable of containing 20 000 prisoners. On the other side of the Seine we saw at a distance the Tower of St Jacques la Boucherie, one of the oldest Churches in Paris, of which the Tower only remains. By the Palais de Justice we were pointed out the Church of St Chapelle next we went to the celebrated Church of Notre Dame the exterior of the part is full of sculpture as the interior is of paintings & statuary. On every side in the interior are chapels to particular Saints, as is the custom in all the Catholic Churches, and in each fine old paintings and statues. Mass was being performed & a good many people attending. None of the Catholic Churches are provided with pews as are our protestant Churches, in one of the largest there are common chairs, which are let to any one who pleases, at a small pittance. We thought Notre Dame by far the most imposing Church

we have seen. From Notre Dame we went by the Morgue or Dead house, where the dead who are found about Paris or in the Seine are exposed for the recognition of their friends; at this time there was no corpse there. From thence through the Rue Street of St Jacques, we went to the Pantheon; in the square we took lunch at an excellent Caffé. With the exception of the Church of the Madeline I consider the Pantheon the finest monument I have seen. The masonry above & below ground is splendid & the structure altogether ~~so~~ seems likely to endure for centuries, altho the architect is said to have committed suicide from the apprehension that it might fall through into the Catacombs which extend beneath it. The echo in the vaults is remarkable, a drum being struck, ~~so~~ the sound reverberates through the arches like the ~~sound~~ roar of many cannon. We went next to the Hotel Cluny one of the greatest curiosities of Paris. It is built on the ruins of an old Roman Palace & baths, many portions of which are still to be seen; in the last 12 or 15 years it has been converted into a Museum of antiquities filled with old armour, pottery, glass, chairs

Tapestry works in ivory & precious stones, many of the articles extremely beautiful & curious; the mirrors of old Venice glass are much more perfect & finer any of the present day. Many all the curiosities the belt of Virtue for is the most curious.

We next went to St Cloud where the Sunday fête was in progress, the view was beautiful, the Chateau fine, & the fair a perfect vanity fair – tents filled with toys perfumes shows, theatres & every variety of nuisance that one can imagine – We saw the Cathedral & Church of the Sorbonne the Palace des Beaux Arts D'Orsay. Chamber of Deputies Hôtel des Invalides Champ de Mars &c &c We returned from St Cloud through Passy. the Bois de Boulogne – the Champs Elysées & Place de Concorde, by the side of Monsieur the Elysées Bambino &c. We got home to dinner at 6 – At night I went for a few moments to Vaucaire through the Champs Elysées – At the Cirque there was a great crowd & pretty good horsemanship & in the Champs all sorts of amusements swinging puppet shows, lotty horses &c &c.

24th We intended to get to Southampton via Havre and this morning I thought of enquiring about

the mode of getting there, and much to my regret found that the Havre Steamer must only 3 times a week & if I waited for the next I would be too late for the Lisbon steamer, so after much consultation of road books &c I find we must start at daylight ~~to-morrow~~ Wednesday morning to get to Southampton for the Steamer on Thursday & if we happen to miss a single connexion of routes, we lose 10 days & £ 100 pounds. So this day ~~and~~ to-morrow we occupy ourselves in completing our shopping & hurrying the people who are making things for us. In the course of which we have had occasion to walk through the Palais Royal the Boulevards the Passage Panorama & many other streets & passages. Now that we have got somewhat accustomed to the sights & ways around us, we are all delighted with Paris. The kind and almost affectionate manner of our host & hostess, have quite captivated us - indeed every body we have any thing to do with, exhibits the proverbial kind manner of the French. I will mention some of our shopping places. Texier, Palais Royal jewelry - Bonin Gloves Hopkins & DeLisle general shopping - Aucoq Silver ware Mlle. Henry Rue Louis le Grand Milliner. Mde Place Vendome Bonnets Hamon & Tailor

We called on Mr. & Mrs Barrington who are at the Hôtel des Princes & like us engaged in making their purchases. They returned our visit & we found them quite pleasant. At the office of Livingston Wills & Co. who have a forwarding office here as they have all over the U.S. I met George Saunders, he does not & I am afraid make much of his speculation in Old U.S. securities, the fate of the Bourgeoisie was being a great disappointment to him. To day Old Genl. Sir Edward Kerrison an Englishman who is at the same hotel with us, sent to request that I would come & see him. He wanted me to certify a transfer of some American Stocks & I could hardly explain to him, from his own papers, that the U.S. Consul at Paris was the proper person & not I. But as we were about to leave he sent up a box of bon bons for the children.

The morning of the 25th was occupied in packing up & in paying off the various tradespeople. Mr. Berry who has been very civil to us called with Sir Christy to bid good bye.

26. This morning we rose up at daylight & after a hurried breakfast we took leave of our kind host & hostess, whom till I found very

moderate compared with the London Bill, and proceeded to the Depot to retrace our steps over the same way we had come. I had almost a quarrel with an old Frenchman in the Cars who did not like the noise of my children, I advised him to change his seat rather roughly. I finally made an exchange for him with Tom, which pleased us all much better. We had in the Same Car only a polite old French gentleman & lady, besides my own family & had a good day to see the Country we passed over to Boulogne. The scenery is very different from that of England. The cultivation not near so good, nor the country so beautiful. We missed the green hedges & lanes & trees. We arrived at Boulogne just in time for the Steamer which landed us at Folkestone just at night after a rough passage, the Children all sea sick. After taking dinner & supper in one we laid down to try & sleep until 2 o'clock when we rose again upon the Road for London. where we arrived at ~~the first~~ daylight, having made the trip in an Express train in about half the time it had taken us to go down. We went to the London Bridge Hotel &

ordered something for breakfast – My wife who was very much fatigued laid down to snatch a few minutes rest – indeed she has stood the journey wonderfully considering her situation. Jim & I walked over London Bridge & saw the life of London & the Thames at that early hour – About the middle of the bridge, in one of the embrasures, lay a poor woman, who had evidently been there all night – We were very much shocked, but before we have Europe we shall see many more sights – ~~After~~

27th After trying to swallow the most miserable breakfast I ever sat down to, we went to the depot of the Southampton R Road & set off at ½ past 7 – We arrived at Southampton at ½ past 11 & went at once on board the Steamer Montreal, which sails at 2 for Lisbon – When the Agent of the Steamer came on board I found that my accommodations were not such as I had contracted for: instead of a State room with 4 berths, they gave me two – one with 3 & the other with one berth – I offered to give up the latter, but was informed I would have to pay just as much if I did, so I kept it

I stowed a part of my luggage in it. At about 2 we left the dock, passing amidst a fleet of large Steamers of the Merchant Company & before night had lost sight of Old England.

Our Ship is quite small compared with the Canada, but the accomodation, meals &c about is good. Our voyage was a long one & very rough; we made only about an average of 4 or 5 knots & had nothing in the world to interest until we entered Vigo harbour on the 4th. Night out. We have quite a number of passengers, among others Mr. Machado a N York merchant a Portuguese born in the Madeira Islands, who came with us on the Canada, & whom we have found a very kind & clever gentleman & we decided in his American favour than any one I have met with. Two Brothers Barrel are among the first physicians of Lisbon the other a Surgeon. Mr. Machado a German by birth, but an old resident of Lisbon lately in the employment of the Duke of Palmella. With several other English officers going to Gibraltar &c on &c.

Vigo is a port on the Coast of Spain. We approached it by a narrow entrance through rocky Shoals. The harbour is spacious & entirely

land looked. The buildings from the distance we
saw, about ½ a mile apparent old & dilapidated
the Country around Mountainous & picturesque
We only stopped to land the mail for Spain
& Oporto. We found the quarantine regulations
very strict, the letters were taken off on a long
fork & fumigated by rolling on an oven.
After remaining a couple of hours & taking
some provision fruit & vegetables we again
set off for Lisbon. The trade of Vigo with
England is quite extensive in fruits & especially
eggs. tens of which I am told are sometimes
taken by the Steamers. They send also great
numbers of their people called Galleguos to Lisbon
where they act as water carriers & in other labourers
capacities. We took about 20 with us.

On the 3d Oct. we were running along the
Coast of Portugal, in sight all day, about
noon we were passing the Valley of Cintra
with Mafra & Cintra in full view, an hour
or two afterwards rounding a low sandy point
we were in the mouth of the Tagus, & steaming
past first St Julian & the Bonjie, we were made
fast to the buoy about 3 o'clock, just opposite Belem

Town. The appearance of the Country at first sight filled me with disappointment. I expected to have seen a Country of perpetual Green, with groves of orange & Olive & cork trees. But instead vegetation of any sort was very rare. The Country hilly rough & to appearance barren, with only an occasional sandy tract or small range green to relieve its nakedness.

We found the Quarantine regulations in full force, & that we should have to undergo eight days inclusive, of the one of our arrival & going out in the Lazaretto, which is kept at the Torre Velha just opposite Belem tower & about in Portugese leagues of 4 miles from the Centre of the City. And to which we with our baggage were transported at about ½ past 4 in a lumbering Portugese craft. We were landed at some Warehouses below the tower, into which all goods & baggage is taken to undergo Quarantine & an examination before going into the Custom house in Lisbon. The most of the passengers had their baggage examined at once & taken up to the Town & demanded that mine should be supposed to pass without examination, which they supposed to allow without an order from the Treasury; so I sat down upon a trunk & wrote a note to Mr Hopkins

the Chargé who I have come to succeed to procure it for me, & in the meantime offered to allow an examination. The examination at this place seemed to be only for Tobacco & Soap, which one or two officers formed out to contraband. Not even a single extra cake of shaving soap or a little canister of snuff was suffered to pass, but was immediately seized & confiscated. I opened some of my Trunks to get at some necessary articles & among others a single box of cigars which was immediately snatched by an officer. I was however told that I could take a dozen & come back & get more when I had unlocked them. The rest were confiscated in my presence. The next day when I attempted to get more, they refused to give me any. So I secreted the box in my Cura & told them to report to their Govt. if they pleased. It created some pattering in Portuguese. But when I told them I would give a receipt to save the officer harmless, no one was said. After being detained an hour we were marched up to the Town, many bodies wondering as if we had the Plague. Through close walls & soldiers. The Town Vitoria.

is a tower second hundred years old - it is part built by the Moors - it is part convent & part fortification - built on the side of a bluff - its foundation washed by the Tagus - The accommodation for passengers in Lucanatine are very meagre - The rooms bare & cold, with no furniture except hard beds & a few chairs - It is under the superintendence of the head waiter of the Braganza Hotel, the first in Lisbon p. It is better known than the old hulks in the river in which the Lucanatine was formerly kept - & the only thing against which we could not complain, with justice was the Table, which was very good, with a great variety of meats vegetables & fruits - indeed in this respect we had well, as most of the Lisbon gentlemen had every day fruits wines & nice things sent them by their friends - The day after our arrival Mr Hopkins came to see us with the Consul Mr Hutchins & tendered every thing in his power with much kindness - The next day he sent us a present of fruits wines & brandy - which were very acceptable after our voyage - Every day we were allowed to take a walk on the hills in through the vineyards in the neighbourhood under the charge of a guard

and during the next week had sufficient opportunity to admire the fine view from the lofty windows of our prison. Below us we could look out to sea - directly opposite lay the shipping in Leghorn. The City may be said to commence at the Belvedere Tower immediately facing our prison - it is a beautiful Tower with fortifications around it. About it at a distance of about a mile is the Palace of the Ayida, only in part completed & which never will be finished & for a distance of some two miles the City was in full view as far up as the Black Horse Square about its centre. The time passed rapidly away with quite a pleasant company & on the 10th at the Consul came for us in the Boat of the Consulate now which flaunted the Stars & Stripes, & took us baggage & all up to Leghorn, a distance of some three miles by the river, & we were met at the Quay Sandonai by Mr & Mrs Hopkins with their Carriage & conducted to Mrs Bolts Hotel, where Mr H. had kindly provided rooms for us. In passing the Russian Frigate in the river quite a compliment was paid to my country, by their mounting up the American flag at the fore -

I cannot exactly describe my first impression of Lisbon. Every thing was strange and new - the appearance of the houses old & dirty - the streets almost entirely without sidewalks, the donkeys the Gallegos the beggars all presented such an appearance as an American can form very little idea of - At Mrs Bolts we had apartments on the 4th floor - very good & comfortable especially in comparison with the villainous Lazaretto. We took tea & Breakfast in our own rooms & dined at the table d'hote - there being only three boarders besides ourselves - two Englishmen & one American a Mr Robinson a secretary to Capt. Taylor, a gentleman whom we found sick in the house & who has been in the service of the U.S. Govt. making a survey of the Mouth of the Mississippi in the harbour of Gibraltar, with a view to its improvement which has been required by the British Govt. - Poor fellow I think he has Consumption & that he will never reach home. Until the 18th I was occupied most of the time with Mr Hopkins, whose entire furniture carriage horses &c I have bought & taken the same house he occupied - on that day we moved up to his house, & he had his audience of leave & I my presentation to the Queen

The Lords here went at the Palace of Necessidades but a short distance from our house which is in Buenos Aires, Rua Sacramento da Lapa – Pursuant to an arrangement made by Mr. H, with Count Tojal the Minister of Foreign Affairs we were to be received at 1 o'clock – We alighted at the steps of the Palace, up which we ascended through files of liveried servants & in the state room were met by Count Tojal to whom I was introduced & presented my credentials – Mr. H, first had audience & afterwards went in with & introduced me – The King & Queen were standing at the further end of the room she leaning upon a table, he on her left & Count Tojal on her right – When introduced I advanced to within 10 or 15 feet of her & made her a speech in English, when I had got through the King advanced close up to me & made a short speech to me, as the Queen does not speak English, when he had got through the speech, which he read with some embarrassment, he asked me some questions about my voyage family &c & the audience being at an end we commenced backing out & bowing out, Mr. H, being more used to the thing than I, continued it something longer, & when I finally turned round I almost burst out laughing, to meet his bow –

for he returned to his house & having changed our coats
dresses for other more in accordance with our tastes, met
quite a large party whom he had invited to dinner -
After the ladies had left the table we drank our fair
guests, when he informed the company, that to that time
they had been his guests, but now are mine - Among
the Company were Mr & Mrs Martin & Mr Hatchins &
lady, both English the latter acting consul - Mr Dizey
& Mr Belden two American who came to the Levantine
from Gibraltar just as we were leaving it & whom I
recognized as American before I saw them, from hearing
them sing a negro melody just above me - Mr Hatchins
& several other ladies & gentlemen -

I have never seen in any book a description
of Lisbon or of the Country from which one could have the
slightest idea of it - I shall attempt one, but do not
flatter myself that I can have much better success -

From the Square of the Black horse about the centre
of the City the Tagus runs perfectly straight to the sea
between ranges of hills on each side which slope down
with considerable break to the water edge, a distance
to Fort St Julian of about 8 miles - On the left
side going down nearly opposite the square is a small
village called on a height above it & below

on the river is a fortification & between it and the ~~village~~ fishing village of nearly opposite Nat St Julia are one or two manufactories, & one few Quintas or small farms with large houses, mills on every height a boat building village, the Torre Velha &c on this side are many mirgalhas & some few orange & olive groves – The river below the Square is generally about a mile & a half wide, with good deep water, just opposite the Square it widens to several miles, I should think six or eight & continues to get wider for some distance up – Lisbon is on the right bank going down, and is said like Rome to be built upon 7 hills, altho one would think it then more like 77 in number – The ground on which it is built is rough broken & hilly, gradually getting higher as they recede from the River – For a convenience of description of the buildings &c I shall divide it into four Sections, the first extending from Belem town to the Bridge over the Rio Alcantara, the second from the Bridge to the Quay Sodré third from the Quay to the Custom house & the fourth that part above the Custom house.

From Belem to the Alcantara bridge the

City is nearly upon one street the Belem Road, which is well McAdamized & lined. The first fine building you meet with is the Church & Convent of St Jerome. The Church is built on the spot where King Emmanuel took leave of Vasco de Gama on his departure on his first voyage of discovery. The Church is large and fine with much sculpture about its doors & windows. In the interior are several chapels, and the arched roof of stone is supported by rich columns, so slight that when the work was finished it was feared they would not sustain the roof, and connected pillars were employed at the expense of liberty to remove the scaffolding. The Cloisters are extensive & fine. They are now used I believe for a school for foundlings. This Church is immediately on the Road. Above it at the distance of a third of a mile stands a chapel erected on the spot where King was found at as he returned to the city from some expedition, and intended to commemorate that event. It is small but handsome & said to built after the model of St Peters at Rome. At a distance of a quarter of a mile still further up the hill, is the Palace of the

Aqueduct, intended to be common in Lisbon, the part of it ~~shown~~ which is finished is alone enough to convince me of the folly as well as magnificence of its founder. The front & parts of the two sides are finished. It was intended I believe to surround a Square. built of white Stone or marble. Lined stone high, with Splendid Staircases. Statues hall & apartments some of them painted in Fresco from the floor to the roof, even as it stands in its unfinished state it is magnificent It is upon a high fountain & can be seen from almost any quarter. Returning to the Belem road we passed several very handsome walks some manufactories, two or three very handsome palaces of noblemen with handsome gardens. One of them (Pelica) with a front entirely of porcelain which is quite commonly used here, & has a strange effect, as we got near the bridge the houses became more crowded, not far from it is a government depository of antique carriages some of them very rich & all covered with a profusion of gilding, & resembling those we sometimes see with Cavalcades & Shows in America. The bridge of Alcantara is quite a Lofty

structure built over the Rio Alcantara, a small stream, running through the Valley of Alcantara, which is nothing more than a fast Ravine between hills almost mountains & which is spanned, one mile & a half above the Bridge by the famous Aqueduct In the center of the Bridge is a Statue & at its upper end are the gates of the City proper

The Belem road under various names, as the Rua Boa vista &c &c is almost the only street which has a continuation of any great distance. & it & its continuations runs at the foot ~~for~~ of the hills & near the river for the most part, from one end of Lisbon to the other — nearly all of the other streets are crooked Zig Zag, sometimes terminating abruptly or running off into others —

After crossing the Bridge of Alcantara the first prominent building, is a new one in process of completion for a barrack, large & handsome — built as almost all the houses are with window & door sills & frames of solid stone — Above it on the hill side & off from the Belem road stands the Palace of Necessidades the ordinary residence of the Royal family

It is a small palace without exterior decoration painted or washed a rose colour. Its interior, altho the apartments are small for a palace is quite handsome. Still further up the valley of Alcantara ~~on the~~ about half way to the Arches, on the hill side is a handsome cemetary, with some fine monuments, particularly that just being finished by the Duke of Palmella which is the finest private tomb I have ever seen. It is a pyramid of hewn stone, with a fine Grecian entrance and the other sides, with Grecian projections, all of elaborately worked stone. It contains a chapel & underneath vaults for I should think 100 ~~persons~~ bodies. It is said to have cost 20.000 $

Following the Belem road & at a distance of a quarter of a mile from the Necessidades is the Palace of the Ex Emperor. Large & handsome above it is the hill of Buenos Ayres, where many of the Diplomatic Corps reside. The English Minister the Russian the Nuncio &c on its top, from a tower five stories high float the Stars & Stripes over my own house. Still further back is the Church of the Estrella, a very fine building with two towers & a dome like St Peters at Rome.

in its front are a great number of statues & connected with it a large convent - indeed you cannot go amiss for Convents in any part of the City - they are mostly large & old not at all handsome & are generally devoted to barracks for the Soldiers - going towards the city from the Estrella you pass down a very long hill, by the Palace of the Prime Minister Conde de Thomar one of the handsomest private houses in the city for the completion of parts of which they charge him with bringing the stone from the Ajuda palace. below it is the Cortes - a large old convent without much pretention to exterior or interior decoration - Returning to the Belem Road, after leaving the Palace of the Empeiro we came next to the Church of Santos, by no means handsome but in it the Marriage of Columbus is said to have been solemnized - Whether this be true or not I cannot say, it has been asserted to me as beyond doubt by Conde Tojal the Minister of Foreign Affairs - Entering down into the City you pass the Church & Square of St Paul & come to the Largo Saldré -

Back from the Belem Road between the Palace

of the Empero & the Lazy Sodré are a vast number of crooked winding dirty streets, some few good ones, and many fine edifices public & private many others as I before mentioned the Cortes, the Convent & church of Jesus, the Post office the Palace of the Duke of Palmella of the Marquis of Vicoma & many others. The city from the Emperors Palace to the Arsenal or Fundaco as it is called I should think extended back over the hills for a distance of at least a mile, in many parts closely built with tall houses crowded with population, in other large vegetable gardens attached to the houses & surrounded by high walls, supply the city with vegetables.

From the Lazy Sodré one of the principal landing places runs back the fine street of Alecrim on the right of which is the Square of the Churches so called from two large churches opposite each other, & at right angles with the Rua Alecrim from this Square runs the street of the Chiado the fashionable shopping street, close into the Square of San Pedro called also the Rocio. passing the Square of the Churches upon the Rua Alecrim you come to the church of San Roque on the

right hand, in which is the celebrated Mosaic Chapel - it is about 25 feet deep by 15 wide & is composed wholly of the finest of marbles & precious marbles & stones - it was built in Rome at a cost of 500,000 new crowns - some of the Mosaic pictures are very beautiful, & cannot be distinguished except by close inspection from fine oil paintings

From the Quay Sodré you pass the Marine Arsenal & come to the Black horse Square as it is called, which is about the centre of Lisbon, it is a fine square of some 10 acres, on the right hand side of which, looking to the river is the offices of the ~~Ministry~~ Foreign Affairs & other offices, on the left Public offices & the Custom house - all very fine buildings - in the centre of the Square, which is a level plain of sand, is the celebrated equestrian Bronze Statue of with pedestal horse & rider it is some 30 feet in height & a magnificent statue - I have seen its counterpart in Plaster of Paris & stood under the belly of the horse with my hat on - Fronting the Square & coming into it one side of the finest streets in Lisbon ~~&~~ the centre are crowded by a fine arch now in process of erection - This part of the City

which lies in a valley between the hill of St George & the hill upon which is the Square of the Chiado is that part which suffered most terribly from the great Earthquake of 1755; it was & is now the most populous - it was wretchedly built up by and according to the plan of the Marquis of Pombal the greatest man whom Portugal has produced in centuries - The fine streets in this valley run from the Square of the Black Horse to the Square of Dom Pedro or Rocio - and are named for different trades & occupations which are principally carried on in them The four principal ones are the Gold street the Cloth street, the Silver street, & the Cotton street The houses are uniform, large lofty & fine -

The Square of Dom Pedro is a fine square of 5 or 6 acres, entirely paved with small pieces of black & white stone laid in mosaic The greater part of which has been done since I have been in Lisbon - in digging upon the Square the workmen came suddenly upon the tops of houses which had been swallowed up by the Earthquake - & I have in my possession some grains of

wheat which was thrown out of one of them — The people had so little curiosity & to so great dread, that the excavation was immediately closed up, without the slightest explanation

This Square is fronted by the Theatre of Dona Maria 2d. a beautiful structure erected a few years since, upon the site & the foundation of the Inquisition, which has been long since abolished — beyond the square to the left is the public garden of some 15 acres — on the right street leads up to the Campo Sta Anna, where is the place of the bull fights & where the Thieves fair is held every Tuesday —

The Custom house on one side of the Black Horse Square is a fine large building with some splendid rooms — just above it is a very fine old church back of which again, ~~upon~~ near the Square of the Rocio is the Church of San Domingo, very large & fine — In the last division I have made of the City is the Castle of St George, upon one of the highest parts of Lisbon & commanding a great part of it There is nothing remarkable about it, except a Moorish Tower & remains of a wall, the

Tower is on the side of the hill, some 30 feet square & as I said that the large stones of which it is composed are perfectly heavy combined - whilst the mortar remains for the most part sound - Between the Castle & the river on the hill side are several churches & palaces - among the former is the Cathedral ~~for~~ built it is said by the Moors - & the Church of St Vincente, the latter only remains as the ~~depository~~ resting place of several of the Portuguese Kings & Queens. whose bodies are kept in large boxes or trunks, in a miserable room near the high altar - Below there again & on the River are the Custom house for Wine for Grain Tobacco &c & the government arsenal, which contains a good many guns but all in miserable condition - Above these the city begins again about confined to the River bank & extends a mile or a mile & a half, with some handsome palaces & ~~&c~~ large convents -

It is almost impossible to give an adequate idea of the site of the City - it is nothing but a continued

succession of hills & ravines, some of the latter being worthy of the name of Valley, except perhaps that, upon which is the Black Horse Square the Square of the Rozio & the public gardens. The hills are for the most part excessively steep, some on that account impassible for vehicles. The range upon which is the Castle of St George runs back a great distance & the view quite from the small public square & garden near the Church of San Roque, is quite picturesque, from the many points & projections

As a whole the City is well & strongly built. Most of the houses as I have observed having very thick walls, composed of rubble stone flat lead bricks & cement, with door & window frames of stone. The Portuguese excel in their cement, in their stone work & in painting the walls in fresco, most of the houses being decorated in this way. Their interior arrangements are as a general thing, inconvenient & ill prepared for cold the wood work especially is very bad.

The best houses are all built with

~~open~~ Carts into which the carriages drive the servants rooms mostly below & the living rooms above, with in some cases fine marble stair ways.

Some of the Streets particularly in the old part of the City, below the Castle of St George, are exceedingly filthy, so much so that you cannot walk through them — There is no city which could be more easily drained by sewers, but there are very few of them & the filth is for the most part cast into the middle of the street — it is sometimes dangerous to pass through the streets after 10 o'clock at night, or especially if one is well dressed & you may happen the first thing you know to have the filthy contents of chamber vessels cast upon you —

Since writing the above inspect description I have procured a work entitled the Strangers Guide to Lisbon which I have found very accurate — I have visited all the remarkable objects it mentions, and as it is now at length, ~~then~~ I ~~so~~ have indication to be

I refer to it for further description with Dates &c

After the King & Queen I called in State upon the Infanta Dona Isabel - altho she spoke no English & I very little French, I was quite pleased with her; she was wholly unaffected lively & agreeable. She is one of two sisters of Don Pedro & Don Miguel & consequently the Aunt of the present Queen - before the return of Don Pedro from Brazil, she was also for some time Regent of the Kingdom of Portugal. The other sister is the wife of the Marquis of Loulé whose father Don Miguel put to death in an unjust manner, he turned a mild Bull into a furious upon him, who gored him to death - The Marquise having married below her rank does not receive the same consideration at Court or elsewhere as the Infanta Isabel, indeed her character from all accounts is bad - Dona Isabel resides at the beautiful little Palace of Bemfica about a league from the City & is much respected by every body -

Of the Nobles the three first in rank now here, are the Duke of Palmella the Duke of ~~Torre~~ Saldanha & the Duke of Terceira -

The first of these is a veteran Diplomatist & is

regarded as one of the most able men of Portugal
He is in possession of a very large estate, they
say 70 or 80 000 pounds per annum - It is not known
if not his daughter in Law - She was the
daughter of a rich contractor ~~of the time~~ of
Wellington's army & whilst very young was stolen
by the Duke & married to his son the Marquis
of Fogal, she is not pretty, but very fat.

The Duke of Saldanha is ~~very~~ looked
upon as the best general of the Portuguese -
He is stout & good humoured, speaks English
well - He is poor & extravagant & of very
uncertain principles

The Duke of Terceira is also one of
the best generals; he acquired great reputation
in the time of Don Miguel, where forces
to the number of 50 or 60 000 occupied Lisbon
which they evacuated on Terceira appearing
on the opposite side with some 2500 men
~~they~~ Miguelists were deceived as to his
numbers - He is a fine looking man
of about 60, a good deal like Dr Moncrieff
& altogether shows more blood & breeding
than any Portuguese I have seen - He is

considered in Civil affairs, not to have much capacity — His wife is a fine looking woman of 45 or thereabouts very much like Mrs Genl. Ashley. They are also poor.

Next to them of my acquaintance is the Marquis of Pontevia Civil Governor of Lisbon a fine looking well bred man of some 40 years of age — His wife & daughter are not pretty, but speak English & are almost the only Portuguese family who entertain.

The most considerable man of the Kingdom is Costa Cabral Count of Thomar the President of the Council & Minister of the Interior — He is a good looking man of middle size, his face displaying more of cunning than ability He is excessively unpopular & the Cortes has just been resounding with speeches against him charging him with peculation sale of offices &c He is a great favorite of the Queen, the malcontents say too much so, but the opposition is so violent that I do not think he can maintain himself —

We left Lisbon on the evening of the 19th July & on the following morning put to sea bound for Gibraltar & Naples the Mississippi vessel on at side of the bar & accompanied us until off Cadiz, for which port she then steered. We had the greater part of the way to Gibraltar a fine sea but heavy & the voyage altogether occupied three days. We passed in sight of Tangier & the scene of the battle of Mafelgar, but as we passed through the Straits at night, saw but little of their shores, until we anchored at Gibraltar on the morning of the 23d. After breakfast we went ashore with the Commodore, to the house of our hospitable & excellent Consul Mr Hector Sprague, and at 11 we called on the Governor Sir Robt. Gardiner, a fine old man between 60 & 70, a companion in arms of Sir John Moore when I had met 10 years ago in Canada, both having been on the Staff of Sir ~~John~~ John Moore. After this visit, leaving the Commodore to make some purchases we went all over the Rock accompanied by Mr. Sprague, I mounted on a splendid Barb of his & my wife on a Donkey. We went through the excavations, to the signal

Staff, St Michaels Cave, Europa point &c &c & returned in time for a sumptuous dinner at 5 at Mr. Sprague's. The Governor had asked us to dine, but we declined. After dinner my wife & I went to look for curiosities Moorish slippers; we bought some specimens of Gibraltar rock, but saw nothing else worth taking home. We returned to the Ship at sun down, glad to get back after a days fatigue to our comfortable bed.

The next morning I went ashore directly after breakfast to send my despatches to Washington & various letters, and intending to spend the day ashore, but I found it so hot & dusty that after an hour & a half I got a sail boat & returned to the Ship. I was very near meeting with an accident on getting to the Ship which would have served as a remembrance of Gibraltar bay; in attempting to hold the shore boat to the gangway in a pretty heavy sea, she was washed off by a wave & I fell half my person, that is one arm & a leg, over=board; I escaped however very wet.

At 2 I returned again with Capt. Wake Lieut. Minor & Dr. Whelan, to dine with Mr. Sprague; before dinner we met the Queens Atto. General, an agreeable mild Irishman named Castillo, who had been one of O'Connell's agitators, & was ~~sent to~~ given his present post to get him out of the way; he has £1000.- a year & seems a clever fellow. We showed me a beautiful Brazilian home; he had got from Cairo, and then took us to see the Garrison library; it is quite extensive with many fine books & engravings, of the latter we saw shown a beautiful book, describing the Alhambra &c &c. We dined sumptuously with Mr Sprague at 4, & after dinner he took me in his carriage, on the Neutral ground & past the Spanish outposts into Spain. On our return we drove around the water batteries. At ½ past nine we heard the fine bands of the Garrison playing off & at ten, returned on board from the Jagged Staff, at which point, a ~~portcullis~~ portcullis was raised & drawbridge lowered to let us pass; it was at this place, as I was told, that Commodore Stockton, ~~after shooting~~ shortly after the war, after shooting an English officer in a duel, escaped from the ramparts, to escape

from the angry Englishmen & was received in the arms of the boats crew below.

At about 10 a the 25th we left the rock in tow of the Steamer, which had joined us from Cadiz & Tangier, the night before & at the rate of six knots, steered nearly due East for Naples. For two days & a half we steamed along the Spanish Coast, very where mountainous & in some of which we distinguished Snow. Near Malaga we saw at a distance in shore what we took for the English flag, some 8 or nine vessels in all & some of them very large. We passed within a few miles of Cape de Gata near which we saw the Spanish squadron, steering towards Gibraltar & took our leave of the land on the morning of the 27th off Cape ~~St~~ ~~Martin~~ Palos. We steamed along without incident until about 10 a the morning of the 28th, when the 12 inch cable by which we were towed, parted, & half an hour after the Steamer, quietly to the joy of all the sailors & young officers, left us to make the best of her way to Malta, Marseilles Spezzia, & to join us again at Naples. Mr Jacob had accepted a passing invitation

of Capt. Lay to go on the Steamer, at Gibraltar so it is doubtful when we shall see him again. At 5 or 6 o'clock in the evening it began to look a little squally & sail after sail was taken in on topsails; at 7 or 8 a regular squall came on with heavy rain, & until 1 o'clock it was squall after squall, very violent with deluges of rain & incessant lightning. We were in no danger but to a landsman of delicate nerves it would have been quite alarming; tackles falling on & everything rattling. Indeed the gale was so violent at about 11, that our main topsail which was closed up, was split to ribbons. The poor fellows on watch must have had a hard time of it, but in my comfortable berth, I should have done very well, had it not been for my nervous unfortunate nerves. Indeed it was pretty bad, from Capt. Blake's account, he said that it was one of the most tremendous squalls he had seen, the lightning all around the horizon & blazing from every quarter, & the rain in such torrents that he could scarcely draw his breath. But Capt Blake had been in one of the most terrible storms one knows in the Gulf of Mexico, can't when

and all that, & I presume he was a little bundle footed. This morning the 29th. it is quite calm, the ~~lat~~ ocean looking as quiet as though it had never done any harm. There are clouds known which look as if we might have a breeze before night.

For days we continued our voyage without incident worthy of record, constant head winds & of course beating all the time; we passed in sight of the African coast near Algiers & within ~~about~~ 50 or 100 miles of Malta; on the 7th August we were in sight of and quite near Sardinia, when we at last got a good wind & on the morning of the 9th were in sight of Ischia & soon after of Vesuvius: The last day or two of the voyage was enlivened by an affair somewhat personal in its nature; it seems from what I hear that Commr. Magan is disliked by some of his officers & it is said that underhand means are taken to injure him, even at home; one day on the poop Mr Bradford (the acting flag Lieut. in Mr. Drayton's absence on leave of absence) after having had some conversation with Mr. Clay, came

up to me & in the presence of Mr Minor the 1st Lieut, said that a report was going the round of the ship to the effect, that my wife had said that she during the Squall on the Coast of Africa she was not at all alarmed, until she saw the Commodore in tears; he told me this with some heat & Minor asked who was the originator; he replied that he did not feel at liberty to say. Knowing the utter falsity of the report, & suspecting that some base person desired to injure the Comr through my wife, after conversing with her on the subject I addressed Mr Bradford a very temperate note, pronouncing it a false hood; (a copy of which I attach) whilst writing it the Commodore came in & asked what I was writing about, when I showed him the note. I understand that the next morning he had a long talk with Capt Blake about it — As I was going to breakfast the Capt requested me to come to his cabin when I had finished — I did so, & he opened the conversation by expressing great concern & regret, at what had taken place & repeated to me a conversation which he had with Mr Minor, in which he

said he had told him in a jesting way in answer to his enquiry as to how Mrs Eley had passed the night, that she had spoken of her alarm, of the having heard as she thought that the topsail was blown on board & when I had laughed at her fears she had said that she thought she had good reason for alarm, when both the Commodore & he (Capt Wales) were uneasy; this indeed was the substance of what had been said in the presence of the Commr the Captain & myself — I believe my note created quite a sensation — I heard that Bradford sent it round at the Mess table & that after reading it Minor & Dr Whelan both left the table — I heard that the Doctor was the person who had first stated the report in the board room — The next day Minor said that he wanted to talk with me about the matter, blamed Bradford for having said any thing about it & said that perhaps I had written the note with out much consideration, that the report was not general over the Ship & I thought wanted me to withdraw the note or do

something of the sort, I said something about the discipline of the service, I spoke of Capt. Bishop being most yet. I replied that I knew but little about discipline, that I fully and entirely ~~exonerated~~ acquitted Capt B from ~~the~~ having originated the report, that I felt grateful to Mr Bradford for having informed me of it, that my wife was not intended to refer to I did not refer to what the Capt had repeated to me, but that my wife was falsely implicated by an untrue report, which I would not allow to any man to do I that the wife was intended to give the lie I to draw out any one who would own its origination — Mr M, was quite excited in manner during this conversation — My wife I think had almost as much force as a 36 pounder in some quarter —

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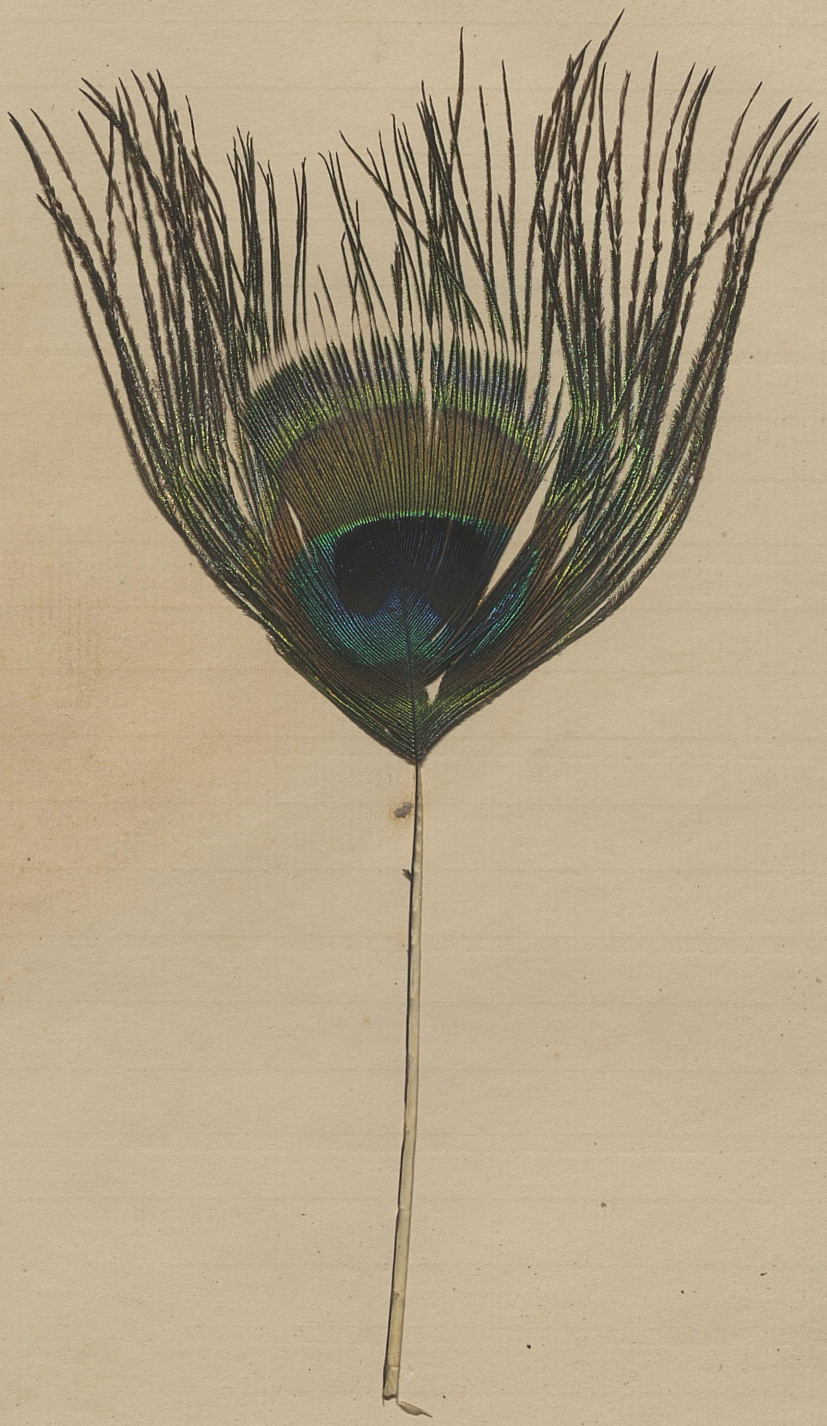

To my daughter Theodosia H.
Clay from her Mother
Susan M. Clay
Mansfield Oct 20th 1879

The Minister of Foreign Affairs the Conde do Tojal, is the head of the House of Oliveira & of Madeira & Lada. He is about 5 feet nine inches high stout & pitted with the small pox; he is an agreeable man in conversation but unprincipled in private life. He has been Minister of Foreign Affairs, & is said to be a very weak Minister of Foreign Affairs, altho' it is said he was better as Minister of Finance. He has an English woman who lives in the house & is the mother of a little girl, evidently his, & the other a Portuguese who lives out of the house. His brother Dr. Alexander Oliveira told me many anecdotes of his private relations; he amuses himself sometimes playing off one of these women against the other, telling the English woman that the Portuguese woman had said that the child was not his but his groom's; she of course would go into hysterics & send off for the Doctor, a very amiable good man to settle affairs. Both these two brothers are inclined to go to sleep after dinner. I heard a good story of the Conde in this respect. The Ministers had dined with Lieutenant Ceff the Russian & after dinner went to the palace to a concert; the King is a fine musician & was singing, when Tojal went fast asleep. Count Thomaz, pulled his coat to awaken him, when he started, rubbed his eyes & said, "I was just thinking of those amused

American affairs & the answer I must make to Mr. Clay, last ante." He is fond of paintings of which his parlors are full, some of them of good merit. He entertains handsomely & well but his house though quite large, is not well arranged for company. He was some time in America with his father Dr. Thomson & also a long time in England. He speaks English like an American & much very well. On the whole I consider him in public life as weak but kind & amiable; in his private affairs he is said to be unprincipled & tricky.

The Duke of Palmella, is a fine looking old man & considered the best diplomatist of Portugal; he was at the Congress of Vienna & has held the order of Europe; he has a good head, but he mills, & is liable to be swayed from his own opinions by any one, who is near fortune. He had no great estate of his own, but enjoys that of his daughter in law the Marchioness of Fayal, which is about £80.000 per annum. This lady, who is universally well spoken of, is the daughter of a contractor who made a very large fortune under Wellington. He was very able & indeed indispensible to the Duke, but not very honest, they say of him that on one occasion he went to the Duke to complain of Pedro or some other general, who had threatened to hang him, if he did not furnish better beef. What did he say? says the Duke; why you Excellency he said that he would hang me if I ~~did~~ did not furnish better beef. Well replied the Duke, I ~~to~~ would advise you to do it, for I know him very well & he will be apt to keep his word. The marriage of the Duke's son to this lady was abominable; the Marquis of Fayal is a

poor young fellow who is subject to epileptic fits so severe that after one of them, he forgets every thing which has previously occurred, so that he carries his memory in his pocket, or the head of his Confessor, who constantly accompanies him. His young daughter, is also afflicted in the same way. The lady was taken from school by the Duke & married to his son when both were very young & so particular was he that all the forms should be observed, that it is now said that he called in ~~not~~ witnesses to see the marriage consummated. The large fortune of £80. 000 a year is barely sufficient for the Duke of Marequez He has besides several fine Palaces in the City, the beautiful Place called Lumiar two or three Leagues off, inferred in the English Style & the prettiest thing in Portugal of the kind except perhaps the Kings at the Pena.

His fashion of marrying his son was imitated by a Relation of Costa Cabral, who married his son to one of the most beautiful girls I saw in Portugal, in the same way

with intrusion &c &c, when I saw her she did not seem more than 17 or 18; her husband was about 17 and at college at Coimbra. Her fortune herein was only Some $80 000. The Duke is in very bad health & cannot live long. He speaks English well.

The Duke of Saldanha is a man of some 60 years of age, about 5 feet 10, stout, good looking and agreeable. He is considered the best general of Portugal, but as a politician is weak and uncertain; at the opening of the Cortes, he for some time sided with the opposition against Count Thomar, and had at one time, without doubt the power to put him down. But he flew off, at the rate upon the address to the throne & lost the opportunity. Subsequently he is said to have gone to the Queen & urged her to get rid of Thomar, & to have told her that if he were King he should kick him out of the Palace, on account of an affidavit he had made in his suit against the London Post, in England, in which he had said something respecting his relations with the Queen, which was offensive to loyalty. The result of his interview was, that he was dismissed

of all the offices which he held, except that of Marshal of the Kingdom, which could not be taken from him. He is very popular with the soldiery & the English Chargé told me that he had said to him, after his deprivation of his offices, that he had three times preserved ~~so~~ revolution; the Queen undoubtedly owed her throne to him & his treatment was harsh. He is poor & a great spendthrift. Speaks English well.

The Duke of Tarifa is a fine looking man of some 60 years of age, tall & slender. He has been a very fortunate soldier in their undertakings, but otherwise has no ability. He is also a Marshal & succeeded Saldanha in all his offices. He is also poor & a spendthrift, fond of eating & drinking. His wife the Dutchess is a fine looking woman & a Countess of Villa Flor is said some years since to have made a great sensation in London. The Duke understands not little English; he speaks French quite well

The Marquis of Pontevia is a fine looking man of some 40 odd, with a very homely wife. He has known no ability, but entertains handsomely & more than any other Portuguese. His brother Don Carlos, military governor is a fine soldierly looking man, is said to be a good soldier & of possess ability. He looks known like a hard drinker. Neither of them speak English, but the Marchioness & her daughter do.

Porta Cabral, Count of Thomar Prime Minister &c &c is a man of about 45 or 50 years of age, very short not more I should think than 5 feet 5 or 6 inches high but well made proud. His face expresses cunning & resolution. I think him the most able man I saw in Portugal. This person is ~~descended~~ from of obscure parentage, but he as well as his brother possess an ability which has raised them to the highest position. I think Count Thomar the most unpopular man in Portugal. He is an absolutist as far as he can be under a government which pretends to have a constitution. He is said now to have a large fortune obtained in a few years by peculations; but this is not singular, as I do not think there is one man of public virtue or honesty in the kingdom. During the whole time I was in Lisbon, the other

Opposition Papers were full of most violent abuse & attacks of every sort upon him; Caricatures & strictures such as I have never known to be made upon any public man in America, were made daily. Indeed nothing but the partiality of the Queen & his own indomitable resolution could have sustained him. It is a common expression in Lisbon, "that he will not die in his bed". An interview which I had with him, of his asking, at my own residence, inspired me favorably. The contrast between him & Royal Rowan, made him appear much better; he was prompt energetic & to the point in every thing he said, whilst the other was rambling mountain & rude. His wife is an English woman of some pretention to good looks, but of no appearance of high breeding; she is however quick, speaks audible, & was evidently uneasy about her husband. He lives in one of the finest palaces in Lisbon, which he has been decorating in handsome style & which has been one of the most permanent causes of the attacks upon him. He speaks French but no English

opposition. The Count of Lavradio, was the principal speaker in the Cortes, whilst I was in Lisbon I had no personal acquaintance with him; he spoke well, but too much. –

The Count of Farrobo, was one of the great gains in private & fashionable life – His father was a contractor of some sort & left a large fortune, as Baron Quintella. The Count also had something to do with the tobacco contract. He has a fine house in town & a country & palace, with a handsome theatre &c at Belem. He is a great patron of the opera & of artists. but is unprincipled & a gambler; many think his fortune is not much if his debts were paid.

The Count of Porto Covo is a very good man of very large fortune. they say $150. or 200.000 a year he is a bachelor, about 60 years of age; has a fine palace at Buenos Ayres. & sometimes gives handsome dinners, with good show of plate &c he is the head of the Casa Pia at Belem, for orphans; one of the best managed & best institutions in Portugal.

The Marquis of Fiamma is quite a young man, with no head, but makes a great dash & sometimes gives fine balls.

His relative the Count of Taipa is a man of considerable ability but considered cracked.

Sig.r Arila the Minister of Finance is a young man, who is thought to have great ability.

Diplomatic Corps.

Monseigneur Di Pietro, Archbishop of Bento is the Pope's nuncio. A young man of some 40 years. He is kind & amiable, entertains very handsomely, but is a great talker. I do not think he has much ability, except in managing petit intrigues & affairs of that kind, in which he is unrivalled. He is said to have a large revenue, attends all balls & a action & is done at a bargain. He speaks no English

The Count Colombi, Spanish Minister is very nice a gentleman & I think the most able of the Corps Diplomatique. ~~He~~ The Countess is a kind amiable good person. Both speak English fluently & well.

M. de Lamoroff, the Russian Minister is a little old man, of decided Tartar appearance, who affects gallantry, dress & a great fondness for Americans, in which latter I think him sincere; he was several years in

the U.S. attached to the Legation of Mr. Pohlica & afterwards for some years as Minister in Brazil. He knows a great deal of our ~~con~~ public men; speaks English well & entertains handsomely & oftener in the way of dinners than any one else. As a Diplomat he is very mistrustful & fussy & hates the English as all Russians are beginning to do.

Monsieur Banet the French Minister is the brother of the celebrated Othello Banet; this gentleman is I should think from 45 to 50 years of age, he has been in ~~the~~ the U.S. & speaks English well. He has been a great traveller in Northern South America & almost every quarter of the world. I believe his mission to Lisbon is his first strictly diplomatic employment; he had previously been Consul General & Consul at Alexandria. He is a man of some ability & one whom I like extremely. In Lisbon he entertained a great deal & handsomely indeed his house was the centre of fashion. In principle my impression is that he is

a monarchist; he had been known too good a humble act to have liberal ideas.
Mdme Brandt is a splendid woman, but entirely a woman of the world, somewhat spoiled by the attentions she has received. I was told, but its truth I cannot vouch, that she is the niece of the celebrated woman who was mistress of the Prince de Condé, & with whom Louis Philippe had a law-suit or something of the sort, about a legacy left him by the Prince.
M. Brandt is a man of wealth; he told me his estate was worth some $300,000. or & that his children had other expectations

Mr Drummond the Minister of Brazil is a person with whom I had no intercourse he was said to be a shrewd intriguer, but I heard of some things to his prejudice which indisposed me to cultivate his acquaintance.

The Chevalier de Rantzau Swedish ~~Minister~~ Chargé is the son of the gentleman who many years since was Minister to the U.S. & uncle of the gentleman who married Louisa Bartlett. He is a good man but eccentric & indeed seems a little cracked; he has injured his fortune very much by foolish speculations & cards. All his interests are in Portugal & he will most likely die there. His wife is a shrewd woman, but almost as eccentric as her husband. They are kind good people.

The Baron de Ranitz, Prussian Chargé is a young man of from 35 to 40. He speaks English & is a man of good sense, but knows nothing of the U.S. so little that in one conversation he asked me if Genl Jackson was still President. I liked him very much —

The Baron Wattin Austrian Chargé is a man of about 50 years of age, puffed up with pride & vanity & altogether a great ass. He is the only one of my colleagues with whom I was not on good terms; he began to grow cool about the time the resolution was offered in Congress to discontinue diplomatic relations with Austria on account of her treatment of the Hungarians, & I soon ceased to speak to him. He told Lomonoff that I had not called on him, but it was a falsehood as I shewed by producing his card.

The Vicomte de Serre was first the Belgian Chargé; he was a very handsome clever young man – He spoke no English. He was succeeded by the Count Van der Straten the Partner also a young man, whom I liked extremely; he had spent some time in the U.S. & had written an excellent book thereupon, as a sort of guide to Emigrants. His manners were rather French but I liked him extremely.

Mr. Henry Howard the English Chargé is a young man of 35 or 36, brother to Lord Mapleton, the present Earl of Carlisle & husband of the unfortunate Mary McSwick. He was a young man of good sense, but his unfortunate marriage had evidently affected his character. He was living separated from his wife, who was in Paris, almost on the pave; he was said to have allowed her £300. a year until her death, which I was told occurred in ~~childb~~ giving birth to a child the fruit of one of her amours; he went into mourning for her.

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Friday, July 22. 1881. Left Ritenbenk, North Greenland, at 2.15 P.M. in Steamship "Proteus" for Upernavik. Instead of going around Disco Island, which is the usual route, we took the more direct course through the Waigatt. Fog with a light rain towards night. Passed out of the Strait into Baffin Bay at 10.30 P.M. Came very near running upon some low rocks which, though they are laid down on the chart, we were unable to see, on account of the fog, until we were pretty close to them.

Saturday, July 23. A dense fog all the morning. In the afternoon sighted the land near Parker. Were able to make out Sanderson's Hope very distinctly in passing. ~~the~~ Fog again settled down towards night. We are now, 11 P.M., lying to about five miles from Upernavik, waiting for the fog to raise so that we can go nearer and signal for a pilot. Very few icebergs have been seen to

day, and they were small. The temperature has not been at all cold, but I do not know how the thermometer stood.

Sunday, July 24. Dropped anchor in Upernavik harbor at 6 A.M. Cloudy, with a light rain. East wind.

Wednesday, July 27. Went hunting with Capt. Kislingbury and three of the men to a bird-mountain near Sanderson's Hope. Killed three hundred and three auks, or looms, as they are called by the English.

Thursday, July 28. Went again to the bird-mountain with the same party, and killed one hundred and fifteen auks. We had two Greenlanders with us in their Kayaks, to pick up the birds. One of them turned over and had a very narrow escape from drowning. He succeeded, in some way, in getting his head out of water, and, though at least a quarter of a mile from him at the time of the accident, we were able to reach him in with the

whale-boat in time to save him. He was very much frightened, and his cries for help were piteous.
Friday, July 29. Left our anchorage at 4.15 P.M. North wind and quite cool. Passed several icebergs, two of them the largest I have ever seen.
Saturday, July 30. Dense fog in the morning, which cleared up about half past ten. A point of land was in sight at that time which I took to be Whitney Head. Latitude at noon 74° 13' N. No ice in sight except a few small bergs. Since tiffin last night we have been steering directly for Lapie Spit, instead of pursuing the "North about passage" around Melville Bay. From present indications, we will meet with no ice in any quantity until we enter Smith Sound.
8 P.M. About 6 P.M. we sighted several loose pieces of ice, but nothing like the "Middle Pack". About half-an-hour afterwards, while we were at supper

considerable excitement was created by the cry of "bear". Of course, the table was at once deserted. When I reached the deck with my gun, I saw the bear on a cake of ice about a hundred and fifty yards from the vessel, quietly eating a seal which we had caught. Several shots were fired at him from the vessel, two of which took effect, but not in a vital spot. The poor brute was very much surprised, and evidently badly frightened. Every now and then he would take to the water, but after swimming about twenty yards from the ice would return and crawl upon it again, all the time the blood spouting from his wounds. A boat was soon lowered, and Kishington, Lockwood and myself started for him. When we reached the ice, he was lying down. We all three fired, but the motion of the boat prevented us from taking very accurate aim. My

shot, the only one that took effect, struck him in the fore leg. He then took to the water, and we rowed around the piece of ice and started in pursuit. When we were within forty yards of him Kislinghury put a ball through his head, which settled him. His head dropped, and he did not move after the shot was fired. We towed him to the vessel, hoisted him on board, and set the two Greenlanders to work at skinning him. He was very large and fat, and the only polar-bear I ever saw. Our latitude at the time was about 75° N. and we were fully sixty miles from the nearest land. In the item of game, we have thus far surpassed the English Expedition. We have killed four on five times as many auks as they did. They saw one bear in crossing Melville Bay, but, though many shots were fired at it, it succeeded in making its escape unhurt.

Sunday, July 31. Dense fog all day. About 9 A.M. when we were from eight to nine miles by log from Cape York, we again struck some loose pieces of ice. We had no difficulty in steaming through, but, on account of the fog and our proximity to land, we slackened up and went at slow speed; most of the time we lay to. Soundings were made, but no bottom found. A great many seals were seen in the water and upon the ice. A very large one, called a Square Flipper (Phoca barbata) was shot by Lockwood and Kislingbury. Many flocks of rotches have been seen to day. A shot into one of them bagged down six.

P.M. At 11 A.M. land, or what appeared to be land, was dimly seen through the fog. It was thought to be Cape York or the high land in its neighborhood. From local attraction, or some other cause, no dependence can be placed in our compasses. There are

five or six on board, no two of which point alike.
On account of the fog, we have been lying to most all day; we have not made good fifteen miles. Most of the time we were surrounded by ice, but it was very loose, and we could have steamed through it at full speed if ~~it had~~ there had been no fog.
In the afternoon, what seemed to be a rock was seen about a quarter of a mile to starboard. There are no rocks mentioned on the chart in this immediate locality, so, in order to be certain, the captain sent a boat's crew to inspect it. It proved to be a cake of ice with mud and pebbles upon it. Several of the latter were brought on board, and I saved one as a curiosity. There was no land in sight at the time, but there would have been if the weather had been clear.
Another attempt was made this

afternoon to kill a seal, but, though wounded, it succeeded in making its escape. It was an unusually large one, and would have made a fine specimen. I saw a sandpiper to day flying about among the cakes of ice, a pretty sure indication I thought of the nearness of land.

At the time I am writing we have passed through the pack, if the few pieces of ice we encountered can be called a pack, and there is now no ice in sight except a few icebergs. These seem to be much larger than they are further South. The fog has cleared up all around us except in the direction of land.

Monday, August 1. Started at half-speed at 4 A.M. and at full-speed at seven. By eight o'clock the fog had cleared up a little and land could be dimly seen on our starboard quarter. By half-past-eight the whole coast line could be made out. The men

then almost of Petermann Glacier, just south of Cape Bendley Higgs. It is very difficult to estimate it with any degree of accuracy, but I judge the width of the glacier at its mouth to be about two miles. It comes down abruptly to the sea, and extends back with a gradual ascent until it becomes merged in the immense mer de glace which covers the interior of Greenland. It does not seem to be very high but is precipitous where it strikes the sea. The land along the coast is a succession of low hills, with small patches of snow upon them here and there. They do not seem to be as rugged or rocky as the more southern coasts of Greenland.

When we first sighted land we were from twelve to fifteen miles from it. Soundings were made at that distance, but no bottom was found. At 10 A.M. we put in towards the glacier, and, when two miles distant

from it, bottom was found at seventy-two fathoms. It seemed to be composed of mud and sand.
On account of the fog which still enveloped it, we could not make out Conical Rock very distinctly.
We are now, 12 M., nearly abreast of Uoldsinkoeme Island, with our course shaped for the Cary Islands.
3.10 P.M. The Cary Islands are just coming in sight.
As we passed the Crimson Cliffs of Sir John Ross, a few patches of dirty coating, snow, of a dull reddish color, could be seen here and there, but nothing at all resembling the brilliant illustration accompanying his narrative.
The unusual small quantity of ice encountered on our passage across the mouth of Melville Bay seems to be regarded by most on board as a favorable indication. I dont know whether it is or not. If what is

known as the Middle Pack is formed from the ice of Smith, Jones and Lancaster Sounds, the absence of the pack from its usual position appears to my mind as an indication that the ice has not yet left those sounds, and that we will find the former still filled with ice. Mr. Norman, our mate, however, has just told me that he saw quite an extension pack yesterday to the westward of us.

At 5.45 P.M. we reached the Cary Islands. We did not drop anchor, but two boats were lowered, and a large party landed on the south-eastern island. I accompanied Sients. Lyeller and Lockwood in a search for the depot left by the English Expedition in 1875. We found it without much trouble. It was placed on the rocks, just above high-water, on the southern shore of the island, and consisted of the following articles:

One Whale-boat, with oars and sails,
958 Cans of Preserved Beef,
14 Barrels of Biscuit,
1 " " Preserved Potatoes,
2 " " Sugar,
2 " " Stearine,
1 " " Salt,
2 " " Pickled Onions,
1 " " Picalilli,
2 Casks of Rum,
2 " " Chocolate,
1 " " Tea and Pepper,
in all thirty-six hundred rations of provisions. They were all exposed on the rocks without any effort at concealment. We opened a can of beef, and found it in excellent condition. The biscuits also were very good, and the rum had lost nothing in strength or quality. Indeed it had improved with age.