

A3\_002\_012\_002\_001\_1862-08-01

[Page 1]

Paris 1<sup>st</sup> of August 1862

My dear Mother

I wrote to Father on 27<sup>th</sup> Inst (last Sunday) from Marseilles, giving a full description of my voyage to that place. Since my arrival in France I think my health has improved, owing to the change of air, diet to. I am very much pleased with the French people, and have thus far got along without the least trouble. Marseilles is a dreadful hot place, the heat is caused by the hot winds from the Mediterranean & the reflection from the limestone rocks which surround it; so I was anxious to get away from there as soon as possible. On Monday last I visited Toulon in company with McGregor (a [Scotch] friend of the Captains), and after getting a permit visited the French Navy Yard & arsenal, and I was very glad that I had gone there; it was well worth seeing. The convicts in chain-gangs were the most miserable looking creatures I think I ever saw. The piles of cannon of all sizes & kinds, ammunition, ships on the stocks, others floating in the harbor, the Salle D'Armes on gallery of arms where every kind of muskets, pistols, [unclear], swords etc etc. were to be seen arranged in every form, the Museum of models, machinery, ancient relics, were all visited in their turn, and as I had but a few hours to spend I had to make a hasty examination. The convicts of a higher grade as lawyers are in a hall by themselves & there is a Bazaar where [unclear] made by them are sold to visitors. I bought something as a remembrance. I returned to Marseilles in the evening, and left there the next evening for Paris at 9 ¼. There was not a great deal to see at Marseilles, & I stayed there for a few days after landing, more to get accustomed to French manners & customs, to facilitate me in travelling than any thing else. The first night was not very pleasant & comfortable as the car (I travelled 2<sup>nd</sup> class) was rather crowded, and I did not sleep more than an hour or two. At 9 the next morning the train reached Lyons, and as it did not start for Paris till 11, I had time to get a good breakfast, & [buy] in a stock of bread & wine to last the rest of the journey. I had thought something of stopping at Lyons for a day or two, but I came to the conclusion, as the weather was very hot, to get north as fast as possible. So I had but a slight view of the city. Friday instead of being as hot as I expected, after leaving Lyons, was rather cloudy, & in the afternoon, several slight showers were very refreshing. I got a very fine car this time & had plenty of room. Most of the people in this country travel 2<sup>nd</sup> class, and I prefer to save the money in travelling & spend it some other way. It is more valuable to me than time & gave

[Page 2]

Me an opportunity to see more of the country as I want along, than if I had travelled in the Express train. The country near Marseilles is comparatively rocky & of poor soil, hardly any thing but Olive trees growing below Lyons & above there, one see the hills & valleys covered with grape vines, together with fruit & vegetables, grains etc. The women do a good deal of the field work & the peasantry as a general thing seemed to be very cleanly. At 4 the next morning

we were in Paris, and after going to a Hotel I went to bed & slept till 3 in the afternoon, when I arose considerably refreshed. After a [unclear] & cup of tea, the best I have had in this country & still nothing to compare with that black not green tea at home, I started out to find Miss [Haughuont] & Cahill's office which I did after some trouble, but Mr C was at his rooms, where I went & found there Mr. Haughuont & his son Frank about 13 years old, also a Mr. Steele some one [unclear] with Mr. H's house. Mr. Haughuont had just arrived in Paris from the baths & I can assure you I was glad to find him here, & he intends staying about 10 days longer about the same time as myself. I shall move to his Hotel (the Hotel de Bade) to day & I shall feel quite at home. Last evening I took a stroll in the [Champs] [Elysees] while Miss Haughuont & Cahill made a call on Mr. & Mrs. Budd of New York (firm of Sullivan Randolph [& B] NY Dick knows him probably), who are here on a sort of wedding trip. Mr. Sam Tiffany left a memorandum here for me on the 12<sup>th</sup> July that he & his daughter had been here about 10 days & would leave for Switzerland on 14<sup>th</sup>. I have since learned that they have returned to NY rather unexpectedly. I am sorry that I could not meet them here. This morning I breakfasted at Mr. Cahill's & am now at his office. I have just read Bells letter of 23<sup>rd</sup> June & Olly's of 26<sup>th</sup>. News from home is very welcome, I have learned nothing since Libs & Dicks letters received at Marseilles. As a mail leaves to night [sic] I thought I would acquaint you of my progress. I have not commenced sight-seeing yet, but shall do so as soon as I get settled at my new Hotel. I am glad to hear that Joe had improved so much; if he can climb a tree to pick & eat cherries I don't think you need worry about him. It is the heighth [sic] of the fruit season here, and it tastes most delicious after a long sea voyage. Tell Bell I will write to her some evening when I have more time; the day time is precious & I must make

[Page 3]

the most of it. I am in hopes that I shall have seen all that I wish by the time that Mr Haughuont leaves here & then I will go on to London with him. He intends resting there only 2 or 3 days & will sail for the States on 16<sup>th</sup> July by the Persia. I shall stay in London longer & shall most probably return by a steamer. I hope that Dick has recovered from his fever & ague before this. I shall not miss seeing Dora in London. I have got so much to write that it would occupy me the whole day, but I must reserve it for another time. I am delighted with travelling and as one does not have the comforts of home, it learns one to value them rightly. There is so much to see & learn that I could keep on the go for an indefinite period, but my object is to recover my health & then, as I getting along in years, I have got work to do, and a way to make through the world. With much love to yourself & all the family and inquiring friends

Believe me, ever your affectionate son

Charley