

Aix-la-Chapelle and
Cologne Railway
Monday Jan. 3^d 1858

My dear Papa,

I left Brussels this morning
and got into a carriage
full of foreigners. I thought
I should not have to change
~~the~~ carriages but at ^{verriers} ~~etice~~
they bawled out something
about "changez" and on
asking a porter he said we
changed, and having got

out the guard said (in German) that we waited for some time. There had been an Englishman in the ~~the~~ carriage from Louvain who seemed to know even less of the languages than myself, we kept near one another and got into the same carriage, some talk ensued and he said he was going to

Corfu. I think, and thought before he told me his destination, that he looked like a government official. He seemed to be in considerable doubt how he was to get there! I lent him my Bradshaw for which he was much obliged, our Passports were taken from us at the last

station by a Russian
soldier, I asked my
fellow traveller if he
~~had~~ knew when we
should get them back
but he said he had not
the least idea. The
country about here is
very like England,
in everything except the
people. We have just
passed Aix where I got
back my passport with
out.

- out any trouble at the
Bureau de Passports.

I find I can understand
the French pretty well
but the German always
comes into my head when
I want to speak. Uncle
W. got me some choco-
-late sticks, and two
of Sir W. Scott's novels
before I left Brussels
so I am well provided
with food for mind and

body. There are an immense
lot of tunnels about
here. None in Belgium
of course. I shall
finish this at Cologne.
Every place in these
countries is so well
warmed that one never
feels the cold, which
indeed, as yet, has not
been greater than in
Ireland. The guard of

this train, who is a re-
markably civil person
and speaks English
walks along the foot-
board of the carriages
while the train is at
full speed collecting
tickets &c.

Hotel de Belle Vue
Cologne. Arrived all
right, every body seems
to speak English.
If the post does not

go out immediately
I will write more
F. E. P.

The room I have got is a
capital one large and lofty.
The examination of the bag-
gage at the station was
a mere farce, just opening
and shutting the trunks,
and when they were done
carefully fastening them
up again.

In the Train near
Aix. Monday Jan. 3. 1859

My dear uncle W
I had the carriage full
of ~~foreigners~~ foreigners
as far as Louvain, from
that I had one person
whom I immediately set
down as a British govern-
ment official. He seemed
to know even less of

the languages than I
do. at Verviers we had
to change carriages and
wait half an hour.

He got into the carriage
with me and some talk
ensued. He said he
was going ^{to Corfu} via Dresden
and Trieste but did
not seem to ~~be~~ know
much about ^{it}. I lent him
my Bradshaw for which

he was much obliged.
At some station near
Aix our passports were
taken from us but at
Aix the guard pointed
out the Bureau des
Passports where I got
it without any trouble
on presenting the cover.
While waiting in the
carriage a waiter brought
round some buns, when

he was gone my companion said he was very hungry but had nothing but English money & did not understand foreign money!!! I offered him 2 sticks of chocolate which I had not eaten and which he was very glad to get. The country about here is very like

England. The guard who is a remarkably civil person and speaks English, walks along the foot board outside while the train is at full speed collecting the tickets &c. I intend to finish this at ~~Cologne~~ Cologne. Hotel de Belle vue Cologne arrived here all right everybody seems to

speaking English. The examination of the baggage was a mere farce, just opening and shutting the trunks.

I will write more if I have time. F.E.J.

A Waiter has just brought me the Hotel Book to sign. I have ordered mutton cutlets and potatoes, the last word he did not understand however I knew the German. The bed room I have got

is large and about 15 feet high. The waiter when I asked for dinner mentioned "bifstecks" but I thought the cutlets preferable. This room overlooks the Rhine but I shall not see much of it. I have written a letter to Tower Terrace and will have it posted with this. In this room I have got a large engraving two large pier glasses a sofa and

had talked over all these little matters before.

a bed, with a feather
bed coverlet.

Your affectionate nephew
Francis E. Hendergast

Cologne & Leipzig train
8.30 a.m. Jan 4 1858.
(Tuesday)

My dear Papa
I am writing this in a
2^d class carriage which
is exactly the same as 1st
class in England - pad-
ded, divisions of the seats,
hat stings, umbrella
racks, ~~blinds~~ blinds,

Camps, and everything
the same as 1st class
except hot water. On
getting in they ask you
"rauchten Sie"? (do you
smoke?) if you reply
"nein" they put you in a
carriage where smoking
is not allowed. My
Hotel bill last night
was about 10/. I do
not know how much

my ticket ~~to~~ to Dresden)
cost, but I know I
gave 3 £ and got back
about 5/. The luggage
cost about 9/ or 10/.
I was put into a carriage
where there was one
person who turned out
to be the Englishman
I met yesterday. He is
going the whole way to
Dresden to day and

will arrive in the
middle of the night.
At the Hotel de Belle
Vue everything was
good except the grub.
Perhaps however this
was caused by their
desire to have it "à
l'Anglaise". At the first
station there got in a
young German and his
wife, who chatter German

at a rate that would
throw Albert Smith
into the shade, however
they speak distinctly &
I can make a pretty
good guess at what
they say. The lady (gm?)
asked me some ques-
-tion which I did not
understand. I replied
in German that I did
not understand and

I hear them talking
about the "Englander."

12.65. Just passed a blind
and I have also just
finished 2 rolls which
I put in my pocket this morn-
-ning and 3 or 4 sticks
of chocolate. I have fairly
got into Germany, at the
stations you hear nothing
but German. The whistles here
on this railway are terrific
lasting about 2 minutes and
of the most ear piercing kind.
A young Austrian-looking

couple have just got into the
carriage who speak German
in the most delightful clear
sweet tones. The lady is
about 18 and is the ~~only~~ only
lady I have seen as yet in
Germany. The young man is
rather dandy in dress black
kids tight boots &c. The
country is very uninteresting,
but every now and again
one comes on a pretty bit.
I have seen some hills
but nothing in the shape
of mountains as yet

9.45 p. m. Hotel de Baviere
Leipsic

I arrived here not without some trouble as I had to get a cab for myself at the station and use more German than I ever did before. I have only seen one waiter here who speaks English and I have ordered some coffee and cutlets.

Francis E. Rindergast.

In the Leipsic and
Dresden Train 11 am

Wednesday Jan 5. 1859

My dear papa

I had some difficulty in getting started this morning as the waiter did not speak English. However I got to the station just in time. in going from the cab to the train I got a fall (there was ice & snow) but got up so quickly as to astonish the bystanders.

It is so cold that the
breath freezes on the in-
-side of the window,
but strange to say it
does not feel cold, I
suppose this is from
the absence of wind.
I observe that nobody
the ever stands still
but ~~that~~ either walks
up and down or keeps
stamping. Almost every-
-body seems to speak
a little English, but still
it is very little.

Breslau 12.12.

at Professor Hughes.

I found uncle Jeffry
at the station and
We drove here direct
The post goes out almost
immediately so I shall
finish and write more
to morrow or next day.

Francis E. Pendergast