

5. p.m.

Dresden

Feb 21. 1859.

My dear mamma,

My last with aunt Flora's enclosed was despatched in such a hurry that I had not time to answer your questions. My German master I am happy to say, comes to me, and I do not go to him, as you seem to imagine, my French master comes twice a week to me, and once I go to him. I believe that we will be on the same floor as we are now, when we go to Prager Strasse, I do not know if uncle Jeffry told you, that the Eckendorffs are going to have an American family living with them whenever we move, they or rather it, consists of an American Dr, his wife and an only son, who is somewhere about my own age, they come from Philadelphia, but have lived a

great deal in France. I have made inquiries in all directions, but have been able to make out nothing more than that they are said to be very nice people. Miss von Teckendorff's hair is like Mary's, or a little lighter her eyes are blue. She goes out to some masters, and when at home, I think she is either occupied in the kitchen preparing the sweetmeats and superintending the cooking, or playing on the piano. By the way the brother plays very nicely on the piano. He and I went through a Sir R. De Coverly for the benefit of the Baroness the other day, and afterwards I tried a German (old) waltz with Miss Teckendorff, and I have promised to teach her and her brother the Lancers. Is not this like Magherafelt? Miss T. does not skate, but she

goes to dances occasionally. At dinner
to day the Baroness asked me would
I like to go to a ball to morrow,
that the Roes (the sisters and mother
of the Countess of Mostwitz who was
here the other evening) were going to
give, and that if I wished to go I
had only to call and I would be
invited, I declined as my German
is not sufficient to allow me to
enjoy myself in Society. How-
ever I expect that in a fortnight
I shall be able to get on tolerably.

My room here is 21 feet by ~~13~~
 $13\frac{1}{2}$, and has 2 windows, it is very
light and cheerful, and altogether
I enjoy the house amazingly. It
seems to me quite natural to speak
German, but I am reminded pretty
often of its being not quite so natu-
-ral by being at a loss for a word,

Feb 23.^d 10 a.m. After all I went to
the Pooles ball last night. They were
kind enough to send me a special in-
vitation, and as uncle J. had recommen-
ded me to make acquaintance with
~~me~~ them, I thought it better to accept it.
We had about 30 people only 2 not
being dancers, and beginning about 9
or a little before it, kept it up till
half past three, which was too long
as we were all pretty well tired at
the end. It was very agreeable, but I
spoke more ~~for~~ English than German,
almost everybody in the room speaking
more or less English. You have no
idea how spiritedly the Russians dance
- more than half the ladies, and many of
the Gentlemen being Russians. The last
Ball that these Pooles gave the ladies
half killed the gentlemen, but this time
it was the ladies who were tired.

I shall not give a particular account of anyone, for you would not be much the wiser, however we had 4 students who had been telegraphed for, to Leipzig 2 or 3 Russian gentlemen and the rest Dresdeners. There are 5 Miss Roeses (they come from Odessa) their mother, the Baroness and Miss Leckendorf and some other German ladies. They seemed to be all well-bred people and mostly very good dancers, the Russians all seem to be very agreeable people in every point of view, and certainly no complaints can be made of their dancing. There was tip-top music, consisting of 3 violins, a violincello and a flageolet! The supper was very good, and was managed better than anything I ever saw, instead of our going to it, a long table was brought in and placed in the middle of the dancing room, and when we had done the table

was lifted out again; was not that
neat? Tell uncle Willy that I was
up to extra tours before I was a
week in Dresden, and that last
night I depended almost ~~entirely~~
entirely on them. Altogether it was
very pleasant, no English stiffness
about not dancing unless you were
introduced. I had heard previously
that when the Pooles gave a dance
that they did nothing but dance,
but I could not have believed that
it was so completely the case. The
only drawback was that the rooms
were so small, this however is almost
always the case in Dresden. No less
than two gentlemen came down from
the slipperiness of the floor. I fully
expect that this will cross a letter of
yours but that is unavoidable.

Francis E. Prendergast.

5.45 p.m.

Dresden.

Feb 21. 1859.

My dear papa,

On Friday last I went out with
uncle Jeffy to look for some maps,
and I got one of Europe and another
of Germany. The one of Europe con-
tains in addition to Europe, all Af-
-rica north of 25° and Asia ^{west} ~~east~~
of the Persian Gulf and Sea of Aral,
it has also small border maps of
the population, religion and ethnology.
Size 3 feet 6 inches by 2 feet 10.
It is on Canvass in a case, price 7/6.

The one of Germany is the same size
and contains not only Germany but
the south east of England, north east
of France, Italy north of Ravenna
and Bologna, parts of Croatia Hungary
and Poland, and Denmark south of
Copenhagen, with all the interjacent
countries; it was 9/-, on canvass and
in a case with six most beautiful

Railway maps which are given gratis. They are far superior to anything that we have at the same price, and contain one thing that our maps are sadly deficient in, viz. ~~the~~ scales of the miles used in every country contained in the map. Yesterday and this morning it was a hard frost, and we were beginning to talk about skating, but this evening it is a thaw again, the Elbe too is much swollen so that I suppose there is a thaw in the mountains. To day I have had a hard days work, at 7.30 I started off to my gymnastic fellow who lives more than a mile off, at 9.15 I got back and got my 2nd breakfast, at 9.45 I went off to my ^{French} ~~drawing~~ master who lives nearly half a mile from my this, at 11 I went from him to my drawing master who

lives about a mile away from him, and
at one I was back here; at 3.30
I went out for a walk and came back
at 4.30, and now, (6.15) I am expec-
-ting my German master every min-
-ute. Feb 23^d. 3.30. h. m.

I kept this letter open so long as I
had expected to hear this afternoon,
but as nothing came I shall post it,
and afterwards go and call on uncle
J. who I have not seen since Sun-
-day. You will find an account of
a ball I was at last night in
mamma's. I have had 3 French
lessons only as yet, so I can not
say much about it as yet, but my
master seems anxious that I should
get on, which is a great point. 4. p. m.
Your letter has just come with another
from uncle W. which I have not
yet read. I shall not give up

the drawing unless I cannot help it,
for I like my master very much and
the two Professors of uncle J's ac-
quaintance say he is the best in
Dresden. Fitzgibbon is only Mr E's
friend - the brother of his pupil.

Tell mamma I will answer her
questions in my next. I don't imagine
Crookhaven (and never did) or Berehaven
will be ~~any~~ ever anything more than
ports for occasional visits. Bere-
haven I had always understood was
very dangerous for strangers. I should
think that the Turkish bath might
be very well once in a way but
I have always read that it is very
enervating.

Francis E. Prendergast.