

Dresden.

Thursday April 7
1859.

My dear mamma

We have at last got some fine weather again, which is very lucky on account of the moving, it is to be on Saturday and this morning some of the furniture was removed. I expect to get the parcel this evening as Mrs O'Frene is probably here now and Miss Preusser is to be with her. I shall have only one envelope remaining after I despatch this so that your supply will be very acceptable, my paper too is just out so I must get a fresh supply, what I expected to last more than 6 months has only lasted $2\frac{1}{2}$! Envelopes, sealing-wax, soap and one or two other articles of the same nature I strongly advise being brought from England. The German sealing-wax

is execrable and the Leckendorffs
were in great admiration of my
English sealingwax; the seals
themselves too are anything but
well cut. I think you and grand-
-mama would like the plan for
taking cattle through the streets
here, they have an chain halter and
ring through the nose generally but
the grand contrivance is this; there
is a ~~X~~ strong girth round the animal
with an iron ring at the lowest
part, through this a double cord
goes which is fastened to the fetlocks
so that if the animal runs away
the man has only to pull the
cord and the animal comes down
on its nose. This of course course
would not do with a large herd

as every beast must have a man.
Friday. To day is again most lovely
weather and is a great Holyday or
rather Holy-day in Germany and
it is strictly forbidden to work.
Nevertheless I have had my gymnastic
lesson and will have a German
lesson in the Evening. We were at
the Pools last night - Poël is the
name I believe - and they gave us a
very good dinner, all the young ladies
smoke, what would you think
if you saw a pretty young lady of
23 with a cigarette in her mouth
puffing away as hard as she can?
I hear that the mother - a most agreeable
ladylike person - and the two eldest
daughters smoke almost incessantly.
They all draw very nicely and I hear

play and sing well also, they are
more German than Russian by birth
but all their ideas and customs are
Russian witness smoking, they have
also got a samovar which was
the first I had ever seen, it is
nearly identical with our tea-urn;
they seem to drink no wine whatever
but they make up for it by drinking
tea in a way that would beat
Bridget hollow. The only stranger
who was there was a German named
Hartmann. My next letter will be
from our new quarters. Nothing from
Glenties as yet.

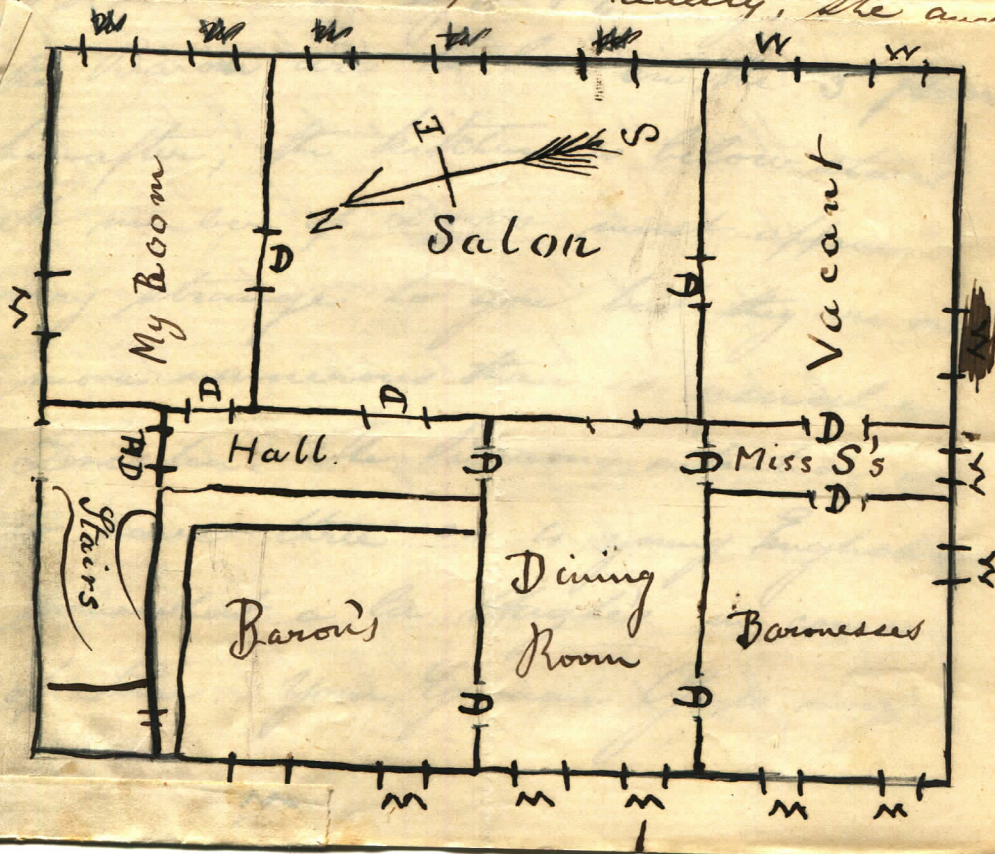
Francis E. Prendergast.

12 of Prager St. Dresden

April 10th 1859.

My dear mamma

We are in the new house at last
and I forward you a plan with
explanation on the back. I shall
make out another of my room and
send it as soon as I can. The
present plan is far from correct as
my room is nearly square and Miss
S. is much larger in reality, she and

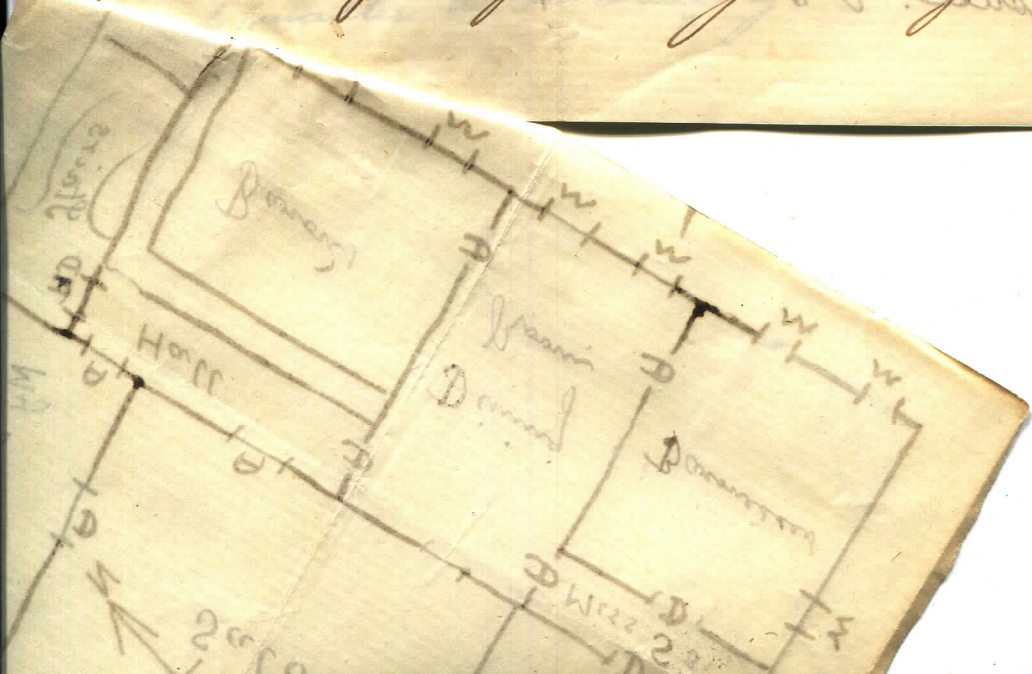


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present plan is far from correct as
my room is nearly square and Miss
G. is much larger in reality, she and
the Baron are to live in the 3^d floor
hereafter; the kitchen is below stairs.
The number of Doors must appear
very strange to you but they are not
more numerous than is usual in
Dresden. The Barons intention is
to have three or 4 young Englishmen
somewhat a la Hughes in course
of time. Your German G. is very



creditable, but it looks somewhat
shaky in comparison with the English.
Could you not make it so - O

Here are railway times fares and
distances that you wished to know.

Dresden to Prague (118 miles) 2^d class

11/6 . 3 trains daily. Dresden to Vienna

distance 270 miles 2^d class £ 1.14 time 20 hours

Vienna to Buda (Pesth) 2^d class 19/6

distance 170 miles time 10 hours. Is

that sufficient? I consider that any

time spent at Dresden after I have got

some idea of Germany would be wasted

and that if I am to stay (residing) after

the summer in Germany that some of

the southern cities would be more advantageous

though some other country would be better

still. I think that if I am to travel in

the summer I would lose a great deal of
the pleasure of travelling. I wish very much
that uncle Charles would send Georgy
here to the Barons for a month or so
in summer and then let him come with
me. In spite of all his boyish ways
he has more common sense than most ^{young} people
and of all the young people I know
I would sooner have him as a companion
than anyone else that I know - always
excepting Jack. Suppose you suggested
it to uncle Charles? I really am in
earnest about this. Your packet came all
safe yesterday. Miss Preuser sent it in
to uncle Jiffy and he sent it to me.
How do you like this upright writing?
I shall try to have this ready to send off
to morrow morning as I go from my
French master to the drawing.

I have not got my room quite in order yet, but I think very little more can be done to it. I do not think that Mrs O'Freer has much of aunt Margaret's appearance but still I can see some. I was out at Lock-witz (about 5 miles off) on Friday evening, but not having a minute of spare time, and not knowing anything about the Preussers I did not call. I suppose I shall be starting on my tour some time next week but nothing is settled yet however I shall write as soon as I am certain about it. To day has been fine but showery.

Francis E. Prendergast.

Here are a few of my hairs from which you will see what a variety I have

12 of Prager Str. Dresden

9:30 a.m.

Sunday, April 10. 1858

My dear papa

We are at last fixed here after a good deal of trouble with the moving. My room is somewhat larger than my old one, and even already I am beginning to think that I shall like it as well or better. I have got the morning sun until 10.30 or 11 o'clock which is a thing I am very fond of. I got your 2 last letters at the same time on Friday last. I think I am all right again but this now roast, now freeze weather is anything but conducive to health. The 9 days that uncle J. was away I did not speak any English which is the longest time I have yet

been so, but I am afraid that
my progress in reading and writing
it does not correspond with the
speaking, but I have several times
had to write notes to my masters.

The French that I am learning now
I look upon more as a help to
learning it hereafter, for the little
German I knew before I came
made an immense difference.

Yesterday as I was settling my room
I heard a great deal of talking
apparently English and German at
the Hall door and presently the
Baroness knocked at my door
and asked me to come and in-
terpret, this was young Boyton
who had come to look for Adolf.

Though he has been here since (& before) Christmas he could as not make himself understood and the Baroness does not understand a word of anything but German and French. I shall make inquiries about a horse but I should not fancy riding alone, and there is nobody who rides here that I should care to be with. At the gymnastics we have some horses for vaulting rings for swinging horizontal ladders, ditto sloping, bars, parallel bars and ropes for climbing. I do not know whether I ever told you that he does not profess to teach feats, but only what tends to strengthen the body. I can vault over the horse as high as my shoulder, which is the highest he

has. He has never more than one
at a time, so I never can have
company. He is the only teacher here.
I do not know what coat I shall
walk in, the black venetian is the
only one that would do as the
shooting coat is not adapted for
walking and is too tight across
the chest. I think that perhaps
the best thing I can do would
be to get one of the 9/6 frieze
upa's such as I mentioned.

Jacks tandem drive is beyond my
comprehension for I am sure we
had work enough with one horse
in the little bit of the way we went.

Francis E. Prndergast

Dresden

April 14. 1859

My dear Papa

I went out yesterday evening for a walk and got as far as the Golden Height which lies about 5 miles to the south from whence there is a splendid (for the vicinity of Dresden I mean) view down towards Bohemia and the Erz Mountains, or rather hills; the country round Dresden is every where ruined by coal works, which are absolutely everywhere, on the tops of hills in valleys in the plains - everywhere in short.

On returning I found your letter of the ninth and also a terrific packet from uncle Frank. The coat which I mentioned as only costing 9/ (not 11/) is not a shooting coat, but is a short coat of brown frieze with green stand up collar and buttoning closely from the throat

to the bottom, I think I heard that
it is of Bohemian or Hungarian origin.

Miss Kreusser I have not yet seen nor
so I expect to see her very soon.

This ^{house} (is very comfortable and as far
as I am concerned a great improve-
-ment for me, as my room is better
and larger, but I suspect that it
will not be so convenient for the
Baron and his family. This morning
they have been hanging a bookcase
and a picture in my room. I am now
quite settled and what is better I am
all square again. This morning it is
snowing raining and blowing in a
way that would put December to
shame, and the unlucky Baroness
who has been rather unwell after
the tumult of moving must go

off tomorrow morning with her
youngest son to the Moravian settle-
-ment at Ebersdorf near Gera, a
long days journey from this, she is
going to leave this son at school with
the Moravians there and to bring home
X another son who is going to enter
the Polytechnic here. In the last 2nd
volume of uncle Wills American
travels, near the end I think, you will
find an account of a Moravian
settlement, and from what I have
heard from the Baroness, who was
educated by the Moravians, I
think they seem to be pretty much
the same everywhere. I do not
know precisely on what day we
shall be going off on our tour
but it will be next week, nor do

I know how long we shall be away
certainly not over a fortnight. I am
afraid ~~that~~ ^(young G) he seems rather doubtful
about going with me to Prague (on
the score of money I suspect) but
if he will not come so far
I should be inclined to go alone
(~~per~~ rail) if you thought well
of it, for a couple of days, but
I hope to succeed in getting him
to come. I shall get the 9/ coat
as soon as possible for I want some
such thing for fencing and riding
as the shooting coat is too tight
and warm and the black is too
good.

Francis E. Prud'homme.