

Dresden.

April 14. 1859

My dear Emma

I am beginning this in a furious
hurry as my uncle Jeffry has just sent
me a note saying that they are going
to dine at 3.30 and going to the Theatre
afterwards and asking me to come
with them, and my French master
will be here in a few minutes and
I am in tremendous hurry so as to
get everything done which must ac-
-count for this bad writing. I am
all right again - at least I think so,
so you may make your mind easy
about me. I believe that Mr Ensell
really intends to write to me but
at the same time I believe he will
not write, nor do I imagine that
he will get his pupils to form a class.

I have also just got per uncle Jeffry
a note from aunt Elixia at Pondwell
all well. - My French master has
just taken his departure and I am waiting
for the announcement of dinner, for
the Tschendorffs would not rest easy
in their graves if I was ^{not} at table
at one o'clock, though I must dine
again at 3.30! I am very jolly
in my new quarters here and when-
-ever I can find a little spare time
- which most certainly I shall not in
this week - I will send you a pane
of my room. I never saw anything
so nice as the Vigours here, they are
so tame that you might kick them
if you liked, and you never by
any chance see boys throwing stones
at them. Return my thanks to uncle

Frank for his gigantic package
which came to hand yesterday;
I shall answer in due course of time
but I owe a fearful quantity of
letters at present, Jack uncle Joe
uncle Willy uncle Frank aunt Eliza
and I don't know who besides.
I have not seen any butterflies since,
nor is the snow that we had
this morning likely to be long more
soon. Mrs. Rufine ^{has} not much
resemblance to aunt Margaret except
in size and voice, the last is almost
identical. The fruit trees here are all
in blossom ~~here~~ and as almost
all are fruit trees and every road
~~has~~ has a row at each side they
make a great show.

I took a very pleasant 3 hours
~~walk~~ walk yesterday, and the
day, without being warm was par-
-ticularly fine. Did I tell you
that uncle Jeffry had brought
me a very nice cane stick from
Hamburg? it is too short for
my fancy but I think it would
be the very thing for Papa.

I shall write again as soon as
I can to make up for this
short letter.

Francis E. Pencilgast

Dresden

April 18. 1859

My dear Charlotte

Your letter enclosing Marys came along with that enclosing Jacks, and is such a long time past that I had answered it before I got your query about it. You wonder who the 5 letters could be to, they were ^{to} uncles Frank, Willie and Joe, Mary and Jack.

Mrs Aufvere is somewhat like aunt Elizabeth in ways and appearance and looks 15 years younger than aunt Margaret. I am rather curious about this young Miss Paget, I hope that she may make her way to the Rowleys if suitable. I should think that they were almost more in want of an educated companion with ladylike man-
-ners than a governess, for which she would apparently be the very thing.

I do not think that there is any steamer whatever that goes between this and Hamburg, but there are plenty of barges

which go and take 2 months to get
there and about twice as much to come
back. The purse I think decidedly
unsafe whatever it may be in theory,
and I shall try and find one like my
own here. The sovereign was all safe.
Please give or send the enclosed to
uncle Willie, in the next will be
one for Jack, so you might have a
letter ready to send him. Two of
Hugh's fellows are gone (Smith and
Ettinger) so I suppose there will be
some new arrivals there soon, he has
got a young Guardaman named
Burnaby since I left.

Francis E. Pendergast.

P.S. If you want to be very correct in
addressing letters you ~~x~~ must put
the number last. Thus

Prager Strasse. 12. G.
which is the German style.

Dresden.

April 18. 1859

My dear Papa

Yours of the 15th with note for uncle
Jeffrey enclosed, came this afternoon,
but I am sorry to say that our walking
trip to Prague has fallen to the ground
and will end in a 3 or 4 days trip
in the Saxon Switzerland, as young
J. will at no time be able to be away
from Dresden for more than 5 days, ^{if so much}

however after this, as I said before
I should be inclined to take a run
down to Prague ^{or} alone for a couple
of days; perhaps you might also think
it advisable for me to take a run
up to Berlin for a few days while
the time allows of it (it is 6 hours ^{only})
or you ^{might} perhaps suggest some other place.

The Baron is wishing to get another young fellow as soon as possible; ~~see~~

will have nothing but English (Irish
not objected to) as he ^{he} says does
not want to have anything to say
to Americans; it will make a
considerable difference to me whoever
comes, and I wish I was sure of
getting some agreeable person. Do you
happen to know of anybody?

You say you thought that no European
ladies ~~at~~ smoked, but surely those
of Spain do, as well as the Russians.
The weather for the past three days
has been very disagreeable, a constant
cold north-west wind with occasional
showers of hail and snow.

I took my last drawing lesson
today and was not at all sorry
that it was the last, except that

I was sorry to leave Friebbe who is
really a very nice fellow, as the Germans
go. I have long been wanting a good
German book to read, as Schiller is
not much in my line and I can't
stand the petty little German novels
and have invested 10/ in a book
of Travels in two octavo volumes
which had been recommended to me
by my German master, as being very
amusing, good German and not
difficult. I had been labouring
under the impression that I could
hardly read any German at all
but I find it much easier than
I was aware of. I am translating
parts of Middleton's Cicero into
German, but as you may imagine
it is rather difficult.

The uncles have been felting uncle J.
to a most fearful extent with the
extract from the Mail about Alger.
They have already sent through me
4! all exactly the same and direct
he has got 2 of the same !!!

I have been reading in a German book
of travels a most flourishing account
of Chile and the natives. By the
way the title of my new purchase is
Geographische Wanderungen von Dr
Andree 1859. They are travels in al-
most every part of the world.

Tell uncle Frank that I shall begin
to make him up a long letter im-
-mediately, but not now as it is
11.15 p.m. and I was up at 7 a.m.
this morning

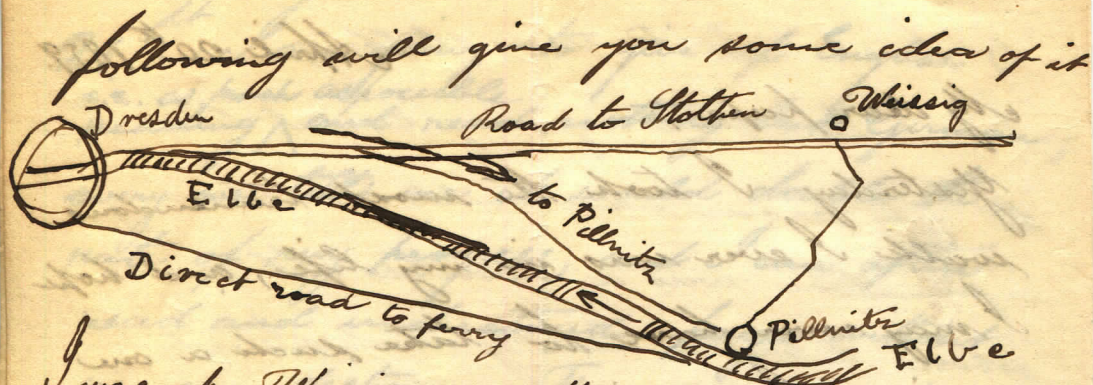
Francis E Prindergast

Dresden

April 20th 1859.

My dear papa,

Yesterday I took the most tremendous walk I ever was in my life, and hope I may never have to take such a one again. Immediately after dinner - at 2.10 - I started off intending to walk to Pillnitz, which lies upon the Elbe about 7 or 8 miles off, I walked on and on, enjoying the fineness of the day and the the magnificent view which extended over the Saxon Switzerland and far into Bohemia, and having walked on at my 4 miles an hour for 2½ hours and having lost sight of the Elbe, I began to think I could not be on the right road, and on studying the map I found I was about 9 miles from Dresden and 4 or 5 from Pillnitz, well up in the country in fact; the



I was at Weising and thought it would be quite easy to get down to Pillnitz, cross the ferry and come home the direct way, but when I had got about halfway down I got bewildered by the many field roads and regularly lost my way. Pleasant this, with the consciousness of being 9 or 10 miles from Dresden at 6 o'clock and the certainty of having to walk every inch of the way! However at last I ~~had~~ hit on a glimpse of the Elbe and immediately made the best way I could to it, which luckily was pretty straight, and there pursued my way along the Elbe without troubling my head any more about Pillnitz, and got home at 8.10 having been walking

6 hours without once stopping.

I had ~~to~~ asked my way several times but the only person who could give me any information was a toothless old man whom I could hardly understand.

I was, as you may imagine pretty well done, and what was still worse could not sleep; strange to say it was my arms that were tired and not my legs. I shall certainly take good care another time how I leave the high road at any distance from Dresden. I am not tired this morning nor have I a single blister which proves that I must be in pretty good condition. Tell uncle Joe of this un-
intentional walk. According to my measurement on the Map it would be about 21 miles which I suppose is about what it was.

21st. I am going to give up English
i.e. as much as possible
reading, and read nothing but German;
every one tells me it would double the
rate of my progress, and I can often
read and understand pages without
using a dictionary. The grand point is to
get to think in German which I already
partially do. I must get some lighter
clothing soon, for, with the exception of
waistcoats, all my rig is winter costume.
I have used no coat so much as the old
paletot, certainly it was a well invested
£2. for it has lasted 3 (or 4 is it?) years
and is as good as ever. I wish I
could find some light, thin, and hard
stuff for ~~winter~~ summer trousers, like
those I had in Donegal. I wish also
I could find somebody to take walking
trips with, for though I know plenty of
fellows here I like none of them, with the
exception of young Boyton, and he is going
home immediately.

Francis E. Pundergast.

Dresden

April 20th 1859

My dear mamma

I have been sewing on some buttons lately and found that you had given me an immense stock of white thread but only one small cardfull of black, which is the cause of what I wrote outside my last letter. I study my maps a great deal to see where there ^{is} a possibility of going if wars break out with violence. I feel as if I must travel in the summer, come what will; as the weather gets finer I am gradually getting what the Germans call "Reise-fieber" or travel-fever, which has not been lessened by some books (German) of Travels which I have been reading, particularly one about South America, in which there are glowing descriptions of Chile and the beauty of the Andes with their white snow and the blue Pacific in the

distance. In my walk yesterday I
had some splendid views, but un-
-fortunately there was a blue haze
which prevented my seeing as far as
the actual range of the eye. The
parts through which I walked were
very much like parts of the I. of Wight
about ~~the~~ Godshill and thereaway,
only without the hedges and with
pine forests. To the north of Dresden
the forests extend a very long way
and the trees are all pines; the smell
and noise coming from these is very
pleasant and tranquillising, but
they stop up the views considerably.
I saw two butterflies both little tor-
-toise-shells and great numbers
of larks, chaffinches and starlings
You never give me any information now
a-days about the Galway or Belfast &

Queenstown lines. I wish you would tell
me something about them every now and
then. I am greatly surprised at the numbers
of Russian and Polish Cooks one sees
here, and you will see most of the
Laquais de Places advertised as speaking
Russian or Polish. In the north of Saxony
about Bautzen, are the remnants of a
tribe of Vandals, they are called Wends
and speak a language which has not the
least affinity to German, the women
are much sought after as nursery maids.
Think of this tribe being within 25 miles
of Dresden! Again in Bohemia
they speak another language (a Slavonic
dialect I think) totally different from
German, and again the Hungarian is
quite different from this. On the coasts
of the Baltic ^{about Riga and Revel} they speak a language
called Lettish and which has only a
faint resemblance to Russian. Did

discovered I cannot

you ever think there was such a lot of
languages in Europe, and it is only
of central Europe that I have spoken?

21st This morning it was very fine and
afterdinner I took a walk of about
8 miles or so but the day being very
hot I did not feel inclined to go very
far particularly as I saw a thunderstorm
coming up and which is now just
beginning. I saw a Brimstone Butterfly
(see "Blue Book" ^{on little page}) another which I could
not make out, and a yellow-hammer.
Do you keep my letters anyway regularly?
If you do I should wish you to keep them
carefully as I have no time for writing a
journal or diary and they would be nearly
as good. I had a letter from uncle
Joe this evening, in which he suggests
the possibility of my making a trip to Vienna.
On my walk out this evening I met Mr
Dale and walked with him for about
half an hour. (will be posted 22nd)

Francis E. Rundergast.