

In the train for Prague
5.30 p.m. May 1st 1859.

My dear papa
I left Dresden this morning
at 7. with young G. having
agreed to pay his expenses, as
money is not too plenty with the
G's, and he could not come other-
-wise. We shall be in Prague
at 7. if all goes right. We
stopped from 9 till 3 at
Bodenbach on the frontier,
walking about and dining
there; it is in the Bohemian

Switzerland which is much
superior to the Saxon, and
is really very pretty but with-
out any pretensions to grandeur.
The weather is lovely and my
intention is to see Prague
tomorrow, and on Tuesday
morning take the rail up to
the pretty country and then
walk home through the
two Switzerlands, coming home
on Thursday. Troops are
travelling about in all direc-
-tions and some of the Saxon
troops moved off yesterday

The proclamation of the Em-
-peror of Austria has excited
the greatest enthusiasm all
through Germany, and the
people seem to be raging
to get at the French and
Russians; this morning we
had soldiers (Austrian) in
the train and they were
singing songs and shouting
out "God save our
~~the~~ Kaiser Franz".

There is an Austrian officer
sitting next to me at this

moment and we have at
least 60 soldiers in the
train. The Russians are
not more than 150 miles
from this spot, and it is
supposed we shall have
the Danes making a grab
at something before long.

Altogether there is a prospect
of a jolly good row all
over Europe before long,
and I suppose that at
this moment the Austrians
and ~~Russ~~ French are cutting
one another

one anothers throats. Young
I. will have next year to
enter the army of some small
Prince but he thinks he will
volunteer before his time
comes. There are 30 from
the Polytechnic already made
officers and a priest in this
cavirage said that the school
at Prague has been broken
up, on account of so many
having gone off.

The Saxon troops are in
capital order, particularly
the Artillery and the

cavalry are very good also.

In the streets you hear nothing
but - "Troops" - "30,000 men",
"French" - "Russians" - "30 canon" -
"Gallicia" - "Florence" - and
such like. There can be
no doubt that the feeling in
Germany is very strong indeed
and they are all anxiously
looking out to see if England
will assist. Affairs are
certainly in a state of extra-
ordinary complication.

These Austrian Railways
are so badly constructed and

they go so fast that it
is almost impossible to
write. The kit I have
brought with me is fasten-
-ed up in one of my leggings
~~and~~ tied with one of the
straps of the Inverness
cape, and suspended by
the genuine large strap
is not that sterning
things to use?

Blower Stern, Prague

10. p. m. We arrived here at
7. p. m. and then went out about
the town for $1\frac{1}{2}$ hour, came

back and got some tea and
meat in a remarkably fine
coffee room which was nearly
full of officers and gentlemen
as well as a few ladies;
all were talking as usual
about the war and I could
occasionally distinguish
"Engländer" "Lachsen" "Zeitung".
People were walking about the
city in all directions and
lively and very good dance
music was playing in almost
every third house. We went
on the walls too and found
numbers of people there mostly
seeming

seeming to be people of the
upper classes; the theatre was
lighted up also, and every-
thing was so merry looking
- quite another story from
Dresden, particularly in
regard to the crowds of
well dressed people.

Soldiers surpass in number
even those of Dresden
and that is a bold word.
This Hotel is a very large
one and seems much in
request; it has a evocous
name "Blue Star". I am
greatly surprised at the
numbers of Roman Catholic

statues and pictures - one
on every bridge and constantly
little temples occurring in
the fields. I have heard
very little Bohemian as
yet, but what I did hear
sound clear and musical.
The lower orders seem pas-
-sionately fond of lively
music, and I think I
have heard more music
today as than in any one
day in my life before.
Monday morning we are
now going to get some

breakfast and then go
and see the town.

We have not had to
give up our passports
but to fill up two
sheets of paper with
names, ages, religions
and professions. This
is such an ~~and~~ odious pen
that it is impossible to
write cleanly with it. I enclose
two old railway tickets.

Francis E. Bundergast.

In Hotel, on the Winterberg
the highest point in the
Laxon Switzerland.

6.30 p.m.

~~April~~ 1859.
May 4.th

My dear Papa,

My last letter was dated from
Prague and posted on the
morning of the second day there,
~~on~~ which day we employed to
great purpose, going about with
a valet de place and doing
nine churches (chapels) Woadschin
Wallenstein's palace and I don't
know what besides. I should
have much preferred wandering
about minus the commissionaire
but I did it at the recommendation
of uncle Jeffry who thought
I had lost the time in Berlin

because I had not done
any of the lions. I liked what
I saw of Prague very much
and should like to spend a
week or two there, it is most
beautifully situated and has
very good shops, organs were
playing everywhere and the
music was invariably polka
galop or Wiener waltz, Tell
uncle Frank that I asked
twice for Butlers grave and
was at both times assured
that his tomb is not there;
also I asked in one library
for the Latin-Irish books
but they had no catalogues!
But they said that they thought

it very probable there were
some in other libraries. Next
morning we left by 8 a.m.
train and went as far as
Lobositz, which we reached
at eleven and then ascended
a mount (not mountain for
I am beginning to think that
there is no such thing in
Germany) from which we had
a splendid view over the
central plain of Bohemia and
where I also saw several
Swallow tail Butterflies, one
Camberwell Beauty and one
Pearl Fortillary, all scarce insects
with us. We then walked on

as far as Füssig where we
slept and were off this morning
before 8 and walked on to
Bodenbach where we arrived
at 1.30 having been walking
the whole time. We then took
steamer as far as Herini -

- Schretzen where got some
- thing to eat and then went
off again. This far all was
through the Elbe valley which
is really magnificent, scarcely
grand but most lovely.

Leaving ^{Hermischretzen} Bodenbach at 2.30
we walked on into the Locom
Switzerland till we regularly
lost our way and did not know

~~whether~~ whether

whether to climb one of
the precipitous bluffs of
sandstone or to keep in
the valleys; at last we
determined to climb upwards
and after a terrific scramble
through pine woods, over
rocks and up precipices of
apparent impossibility at last
reached the summit in about
 $\frac{3}{4}$ of an hour and had thence
a most glorious view, but
were none the wiser ^{as to} where
we were; so continuing ^{on}
over rocks and through woods
at last hit the boundary line
of little forts which separates

Saxony and Bohemia and
where we found the footprints
of numerous rare or wild
deer, and continuing on at
last hit on this Wittenberg
the highest point in Saxony
and on the summit of which
is a most comfortable little
hotel somewhat à la Guidone.
It commands views over
all the adjacent country
for many miles and really
seems to be well built and
well kept. Yesterday we
walked $8\frac{1}{2}$ hours not very
quick but going steadily and

seldom stopping probably about
25 miles to day we walked
 $5\frac{1}{2}$ hours in the morning and
then $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours the best part
of which was literal climbing
somewhat like that we had
in going up the Eagle ~~mountain~~
mountain but much more
and - dangerous. All this
too has been with a kit on
~~my~~ my back weighing with my
paletot strapped to it about
10 pounds; I have got so
accustomed to the knapsack
(which was troublesome at
first) that I feel quite

uncomfortable without it!
Adolf can walk very well
but is not up to more than
 $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles an hour for any
long distance. At this
moment he is playing the
piano at the other side of
the room and at the same
time(!) smoking a cigar of
Austrian origin. He is a
very pleasant companion
and if he could only keep
up $\frac{1}{2}$ miles an hour for
 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours I would desire no
better companion

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