

Dresden. June 2^d. 1859.

My dear Papa

I am beginning this in answer to your letter of Sunday which came yesterday (Wednesday). You speak about the Greek being so different - well the first day Scherib came I could scarcely follow him when reading it and without the book would not have been able to tell what it was. The Latin is not so very much changed, but still a good deal, it is pronounced so; a always the same; e, ay; j like y c before e and i ~~bet~~, g always hard; th like t; &c. thus jungera is pronounced youngeray (g ~~hard~~ as in gone) res gestae like rays gestay (g hard) and so on.

However I find it easy enough to read, but to translate the Latin into German or vice versa is some-
-thing dreadful, a short chapter in Sallust taking at least three quarters of the hour that Hübner is here, while with the Greek I can translate two good pages in the same time.

The prince and princess who arrived were prince George - the 2^d son of the king - and ^{his} Portuguese bride. The weather is now very curious here from sunrise you have a clear blue sky with a staring, glaring, roasting sun keeping everyone at home who is not obliged to go out; at about 4 or 5 o'clock thunderclouds begin to collect and we have a slight

thunderstorm with or without rain
which soon passes off and the
remainder of the evening is fine,
people beginning to go out walking
at 8.30 or 9 p.m.

The Prussian colonel has come;
he is a little man with large
moustache somewhat like colonel
Roxburg but certainly somewhat
larger. I shall have an opportunity
of learning Prussian which is consider-
ably different from the Saxon, the
principal difference is that g is always
pronounced like y, which is different
from ordinary German where it is
always hard, they also speak very
fast and somewhat through the nose.
I can understand most of what
he says but not all.

June 3^d

The heat is getting tremendous; yesterday
uncle J's thermometer, which is hung
in the coldest possible place where
no sun ever comes, registered

21° of Reaumur which corresponds
to ^{about} 100 of Fahrenheit! It often
gets up to 24° which equals 86°!

I have made a most important
discovery about travelling, viz that

the 3^d class is considerably

better than our second and
the people certainly more respectable
than those you meet in our 2nd class
and the difference in price is very
considerable; in winter of course
it would not do.

There are now tickets issued for
3 or four days duration to Teplitz
one of the bathing places in
north

north Bohemia and as they only
cost 7/6 there and back - about
70 miles off it is - I shall try and
get down for a day at Whitewitch.

I have just come in from looking
for a coloured flannel shirt, and
though I was in the best shop here
they had no such thing on hand!

I also must go and look for
a pair of shoes which I want very
badly but I am almost afraid to
go as probably they will not be
to be found ready made; the shops
there are certainly wretched. I have
arrived at the conclusion that
double soles on shoes are worse than
useless as the moment the outer
sole is gone - and that is very soon
the shoe is useless.

7.45 p.m. a train of 45 carriages
has just passed by full of hussars,
such a train carries about 250 men
and horses; the trains now
as fast as ever but they ~~are~~ are now
always full of cavalry and artillery.
I have not done anything yet
in the way of bathing or looking
for a swimming master but I
will ask uncle Jeffry about it
on Sunday. Adolf says
there is no use bathing now as
the water is hotter than the air but
that I think is scarcely possible.

Francis E. Prendergast.

P.S. This will not be posted
till tomorrow morning.

Dresden

June 3^d 1859

My dear mamma

Since I last wrote to you we have got the Prussian colonel of whom you will find a full description in papa's letter. I was a very

pleasant walk with the two young

Is yesterday, viz to the Rabenauer

Grund (valley) near Tharandt we walked there and came back in the train. We left after dinner at 3 o'clock and got there at 6 coming home at half past 8.

On our way there we saw several of the long tailed swallowtail butterfly whose picture you will find in the naturalists library - (not in the Blue-book) they flew most

beautifully with a long steady sculling
flight. The German name is
the sculling-flyer - most appropriate.

I knocked one of them down
with my stick but though we
hunted for him for more than
10 minutes he could not be found.

The dust here is dreadful, it
lies an inch thick everywhere
and and as there is generally
a little wind it keeps it in
motion. The English lady is ex=
=pected to night, and I hope she
may find her room (the one corresponding
to mine pleasant, but I strongly
~~suspect~~ suspect it will be like an
oven as it has ^{the} sun all day;
mine has it only till 11 o'clock
and ^{is} unpleasant even so.

6.30 p.m. I am writing this in the
Grosener Garten as it so hot in the
house after dinner that it is impossible
to avoid falling asleep if you try to
do anything in the shape of working.
I brought out all the work I could
conveniently carry and worked for
about $1\frac{1}{2}$ hour when I moved to another
point which commands a view of the
Laxon Switzerland and where I am now
writing this. Before coming out here

I ordered a pair of shoes and also
got a flannel shirt, things are very
cheap here but by no means equal
to ours. There is a concert here every
morning at 6 a.m. when people come
out to take their breakfasts and I shall
walk out some morning soon. The
mineral waters about which you were
asking are all made here by Dr

Struve in whose garden they are to
be had, and where you can go
through any prescribed course of
drinking without the trouble of going
to the watering place! No letter
from aunt Channie as yet, and you
may tell uncle Frank he has owed
me one for 6 weeks! The hot
weather I think seems going to
break as the clouds are quite changed

We always sit on the balcony or
in the garden from supper till bed
time which is a very pleasant way
of spending the evening, as the air
is so dry and warm here; it is now
seven so I must be mending my
homeward way.

Francis E Prendergast