

as Frank & I of course, give from my remembrance.
P.S. How are you getting along with Ruth?
42b

Paris, June 7, 1867.

Dear Wife:

My letter to you, last week, was broken off very abruptly, even before putting my name or initials to it, in consequence of my being obliged to meet an engagement at that time; so I had to get Frank to finish it for me.

I received a letter from you on Monday, and Fanny's one from Ellie, the contents of both being eagerly devoured by us all. The matter of absorbing interest to me, while I am gone, will be the state of your health and spirits; and I want you to keep me truly apprised of your actual condition, so that I may govern myself accordingly. You write that you are feeling very well, and getting along comfortably; and this gives me great relief and pleasure. You do not say whether you have had any change in your treatment; whether Miss Andrews has gone to Tiverton, as she contemplated doing; and if so, whether you intend employing Miss Houghton for a time, as an experiment, under Mrs. Snow's direction. I wish you to do nothing which is not entirely agreeable to your feelings and judgment; yet I feel as if the galvanic battery, skilfully applied, in connection with manipulation by the hand, will be an additional force for good in your case. You know how highly I appreciate what Miss Andrews has done for you, and how glad I shall be to en-

large her professional sphere, both for her own sake and that of suffering humanity. I hope to hear, from time to time, that you are still losing in weight and growing more compact, at the same time improving in health, as you have been doing for the past year. Do try to walk as much as you can, and especially to swing your arm with all the will power you can muster. I also want you to improve the beautiful summer to ride out often, no matter about the expense, taking Ellie and darling Agnes, whom I sigh to see, and Mrs. Johnson or Julia, as the case may be, along with you. I take it for granted that Mary Ann is now at Longwood, as this is the week for holding the Progressive Friends' meetings in that place. Such are her sisterly sympathy and kindness, I have no doubt she will most cheerfully return to Rockledge by the first of July, in case she is needed. In the mean time, I trust it will be both agreeable and convenient for Julia to be with you; but if she cannot, then Hespera.

My desire is to return home without any unnecessary prolongation of my visit on this side of the Atlantic; but Harry, and Fanny, and Frank are urgent for me to remain until the middle of October, in order that I may see Switzerland without haste, and perhaps other portions of Europe, certainly including the Rhine, and possibly going to Munich. All this on the supposition that every thing is going on well at home, and no pressing need presents itself for my return at an earlier period. By remaining till that

time, I shall have the unspeakable satisfaction of bringing Fanny along with me, unless some unforeseen obstacle prevents, as she cannot leave at an earlier period. Should she return, she would probably remain with us till next Spring, and then come back to Paris or Munich; or perhaps it will be possible for Harry to come over to her, and remain in the United States. Very much will depend, however, in his case, upon the state of his father's, aunt's, and sister's health. Nothing has been heard from them since I last wrote.

My own health is now excellent, and I get so thoroughly tired during the day in going about that I sleep very soundly. My arm gives me no trouble, although not entirely free from pain. I feel confident that I shall return home much improved, both in regard to my mental and my physical condition.

The children are well and happy as usual, and we are all enjoying ourselves to the brim. Fanny is at present troubled with a slight eruption in her face, the effect of the poisonous air at Rockledge; but it is simply uncomfortable with its burning sensation, and not at all serious. I am surprised to see how much physical endurance she possesses; for she is quite equal to any of us, not excepting stalwart Harry, in making pedestrian and other excursions. And I again assure you that you need ^{not} give yourself any uneasiness about her "changed appearance," in reference to her card photograph; for she has not altered one whit, that I can perceive, since the day of her marriage. You may not like to have her remain quite so stationary!

You can easily imagine how surprised, pained and shocked we were by the intelligence of the death of Lydia Spooner; and we still find it hard to credit the fact. You know how kind and loving she always was to Fanny, and with what affection Fanny has ever regarded her. Lydia was also much attached to our whole family. She was remarkable for her personal beauty and attractions, and, of course, was praised and flattered to a perilous extent; but she never exhibited any vanity, and retained her ingenuousness and self poise in an admirable manner. It was always a pleasure to me to meet her, she was so kind, bright, cheerful, companionable. Poor John must feel the blow heavily; and as for our dear, stricken friends, Mr. and Mrs. Bourne Spooner, they must be overwhelmed by this terrible bereavement. I shall write to them by this mail, expressive of my sympathy and grief at the sad event. Who is next to follow in the circle of our friends and acquaintances? For how the list has been extended within the past year! Truly, there is no certainty of our earthly life at any time.

For the past week we have been as busy as possible in seeing still more of Paris and its suburbs, and the Great Exposition. On Sunday we were at Versailles, and wondered at the magnitude of its domains, were fascinated by its varied attractions, examined its miles of paintings and statuary in the galleries of the palace, rambled in its broad avenues under trees arranged in Gothic shape, and were inexpressibly delighted at the playing of scores of fountains at the same hour, (one of them costing in its erection over three hundred thousand dollars, and over two thousand dollars for every

half hour it is in operation, some ten or fifteen thousand spectators being present. Mr. and Mrs. Snow, of Fitchburg, (who are stopping at the same hotel with us,) being with us. But Frank, who is now writing to you, will doubtless give you some further particulars of our visit. Also an account of the immense military demonstration made yesterday afternoon at the Bois de Boulogne race-course, — sixty thousand and cavalry, infantry, artillery, &c., &c., — the Emperor Napoleon, the Emperor Alexander of Russia, and the King of Prussia, with various princes and nobles, reviewing them — the procession occupying two hours' time in marching, and each brigade numbering three thousand men. As a spectacle, it was the most gorgeous and the most imposing of any I have ever witnessed, or ever expect to witness. The sun shone clearly out, adding to the brilliancy and effectiveness of the scene. There was no end to the number of vehicles present, and it would be useless to estimate the number of spectators. [It is estimated that half a million of persons were at the horse-race, at the same spot, last Sunday.] Of course, in a moral point of view, this mighty warlike display gave me no pleasure, but rather much pain at seeing such a perversion of human nature in support of usurpation and oppression. As the royal party rode out of the park, they were fired upon by a Pole, who doubtless intended to kill the Emperor of Russia, but he only succeeded in killing the horse of an officer riding by the side of the royal carriage, the pistol bursting in his hand. He was immediately arrested.

I have dined with Madame Coignet and Miss Dowling, who have been at the head of the Freedmen's movement in Paris, and to whom Mr. Shaw, at Staten Island, gave me a letter of introduction. Miss Dowling is an English lady, and acted as my interpreter, though Mad-

ame Coignet is able to speak English to some extent. I
 there met the Editor of the Journal des Debats, but as
 he could not speak English, nothing passed between us. I
 have also dined with Monsieur Tourgueneff, my Russian
 admirer, and a nobleman by nature as well as by station,
 -Fanny and Frank being with me, Harry being confined at
 home by a neuralgic attack. Madame Tourgueneff was
 suffering from a similar attack, but for our sakes bore
 up bravely under it until after the sumptuous dinner
 was over. She is very stout, very fair, and very pleas-
 ant in her manners, and was partly educated in Scot-
 land. I have also had a very agreeable interview with
 the celebrated Professor Laboulaye, who strongly remind-
 ed me in his sweet, gentle manners, and in the shape
 of his head, of the lamented Professor Follen. Even he
 is not allowed to address a class or assemblage of
 persons in more than two places in the whole city of
 Paris! Every thing here is under governmental espio-
 nage and dictation, and therefore in a volcanic con-
 dition, although the volcano is capped for the present.

I have now seen in detail the greater portion
 of this wonderful city, but not half of the Exposition.
 A week from to-morrow we shall leave for London,
 (excepting Harry,) to be gone probably five or six
 weeks; then return, and go to Switzerland during the
 month of August. Until notified to the contrary,
 let all letters be directed to me to the care of Fr.
 W. Chesson, Esq., office of the Morning Star, London.

It is strange that I have not yet received
 a line or word from Mr. Thompson since I parted
 from him, though I sent him a letter a fortnight ago.
 I have written to Mr. Chesson, to inquire into the
 cause of his silence.

I am glad to hear that you received the letter I wrote to you at Halifax.

Yesterday Frank and I called upon Mrs. Eddy, but remained only a few minutes, as she was evidently just going out, and as we were in a hurry to go to the Exposition. She was very pleasant and in good spirits, and renewed her statement that she intended to sail for Boston in the China on the 20th of next month.

Fanny returns a "unanimous vote of thanks" to Ellie for her entertaining letter, and will try to reciprocate the favor soon. Ellie, singularly enough, forgot to enclose the card photograph of Agnes; so she must try again. If it is ^{not} a good one, I would let Whipple or Black try to better it. As Agnes will be a year old on the 14th of this month, I hope it will occur to William and Ellie to celebrate the event by having her likeness taken; and so every succeeding year. A few days later, this year, will make no difference, if they have not already anticipated this idea.

We all remembered dear Wendell's birthday on the 4th inst., and wished we could make him hear our good wishes in his behalf. We hope to hear continued good news in regard to Lucy and Lloyd. We constantly bear you all in our hearts and memories.

What a delightful time you all must have had at the visit of our affectionate and attached friends, Dr. Drew and his wife and baby! Would there not have been "high times," if I had been present when the two babies were on the floor together, confronting each other in infantile play! A curious coincidence

that - their weighing just nineteen and a half pounds each! I hope Agnes will touch twenty when she is one year old. I was much gratified with the kind letter the Dr. sent me from Rockledge, as was Fanny with the one sent by Mrs. Brew. We shall not forget their favors. They appeared to have enjoyed their visit very highly.

It is pleasant to hear of the visit of old friends to the house to see you. Our loving remembrances to dear Mr. Wallcut and family, Miss Lannan, Mary Willey, Dora, &c., &c.

On rereading your letter I perceive that you are trying electricity, but given by whom, or how often, you do not say. I presume, however, that you are employing Miss Houghton. If so, I hope you are trying Mrs. Snow's preparation for your conker, or whatever the internal humor may be; and be sure to follow her directions strictly, in order to test the experiment fairly and fully. Give me further particulars.

It is possible that our beloved Charlotte Coffin is with you. In that case, receive my congratulations, and give her my benediction.

Give my regards to Dr. Putnam and Mr. Thwing when you see them. Also to the Simmondses.

I shall be interested to hear from William as to his visit to Ohio, and the state of the wool business.

Tell George time is flying, and he must try to fall in love with some worthy girl, and push the matter, remembering "faint heart never yet won fair lady."

Adieu, my beloved! W. L. G.