

January 7, 1858

Dear Sisters

I gave (yesterday) to Consul Brown No 24 to mail to E. Mayer at Vienna for him to forward, and shall leave this for Jaffa to-morrow. Snow is now several inches deep here, but weather not cold. The place is so uncomfortable I shall not regret leaving, we missed it very much in not taking the English Hotel, which I should have done. I find all foreigners with whom I converse here, agree in the utter depravity of Christian population (I suppose this is only living up to its faith) here and the general integrity of the Turks. Mr. Brown has resided here 25 years and has no hesitation in saying their shopkeepers are more honest than with us, while the few merchants of extensive business who are Turks are men of very high tone. The higher classes of Turks are also said to be gentlemen in a very high sense of the term. The Chivalry of the Saracen of the middle ages was more than a match for that of the Christian. I suppose the detestation of Christians entertained by Turks is founded pretty justly upon the character of those around them, of that faith, by whom they very naturally judge all of them. Muezzins cry (not very loudly) from the minarets 4 or 5 times per day to prayer. Beside this there is family worship ~~to~~ at home before each evening meal, in which I suppose the women participate. So far as I can judge their worship is more in spirit than that of most Christian denominations I have seen, ^{in their mosques} and exhibits nothing that I can understand that is disgusting. I have not seen a Turk or negro warmly clothed. This contrasts strongly with Wallachia &c. Pasha Paşa (Grand vizier, whom I saw at the Mosque with the Sultan, died suddenly to day. They say the best man, one of the most liberal in Turkey, ever desirous to improve its condition. Blend Broyery is not at all monopolized by Christians I think the Turks in this respect ^{as much} worse as they are by enlightend. It seems mosques in Constantinople are closed against Christians, but during the late war this was much mitigated.

My opportunity of half an hour in that of the mother ⁽²⁾
of the Sultan was one few enjoy. With a Feraman that
costs 25 dolls, I think all may be seen, including the
now empty Seraglio. I have seen no continental
wild geese but hear they fly in the same form as
do ours. I think they are not ~~staples~~ staples here. ⁽¹⁾
On board Steamer Sphinx in Harbour
of Smyrna, July 10th, 58.

I have been quite ill for a week and had to take
a sedan to the boat at Constantinople and grow
rather worse daily. Harbour of Beyoot 23^d July 58

I have been on deck daily but too unwell to write,
I will begin at leaving Constantinople from which
we sailed through the narrow Dardanelles to
Smyrna where we lay 2 days. The Country by the
way is semi-mountainous, generally sterile with
occasional evergreen trees. Houses few, those of
stone, in towns. A tower for less or two of older
time adds to the effect of the Dardanelles.
Snow is on the higher peaks all the way. On
Mytiline (an Island of Rocks) is quite a large
town that looks very well as it rises from the
water. I saw a few large butchers in that vicinity,
occasional Lombardy poplars appear to be indigenous.
Smyrna has about 130,000 people with a fine Har-
bour in which were several Steamers, merchant
ships & ships or two with 3 foreign vessels of war.
Back of it are high, rocky hills, on one of which is
the ruin of a very large ancient castle
that reminded me of that at Rindal.
The streets of the town are narrow as those of Con-
stantinople but better paved, not dirty, and
the houses (generally of 2 stories) ^{tile roofs} tolerably built
and frequently of substantial stone masonry.
There are very few rural houses I should think
in Turkey. I saw none & none are hereabout.
They are comparatively (with us) rare on the continent
and do not even so abound in England as with us.
The market of Smyrna abounds in great varieties of
fruits, millions of delicious flavoured. The Sultan's
raisin, I am told, has seeds, but very small sized.
Apples, Quinces, pears, Oranges, lemons, dates
and all sorts of dried fruits, Dates, prunes, figs,
nuts &c. Cockles here are large and excellent
(I saw shrimps at Constantinople) and the mar-
kets pretty well supplied with meats. I saw wild
Bovine in a stall and great varieties of game,
Woodcock, Snipe, partridges, Hares &c with which

The whole country appears to abound, there (3)
are many christians here and a greek church
with a tower over the Gate way, but none on the church.
The chief street of the town is ^{about} 18 feet wide, no side
walks. In this I met 14 camels, part of a caravan
just arrived. I see a great many noble look-
ing men among the turks & from all I can
learn they are a noble people. I cannot find
any foundation for the charge of opium
chewing & smoking among them. I doubt
if it be so common as with us, some use it and
are known as such by the appearance it gives
them. Some of the Peaks here must reach 2000 feet
and the scenery is rather grand. Mr Schomburgk
told me the Boos of Caffarwa (dutch) would
not spit him or encourage him to kill lions,
unless it might be one known to have destroyed
some of their cattle. Otherwise they considered
it wrong. Leaving Sumna we sailed amid very
wild looking idles of Steele rocks rising in bold
peaks from the water and very fine, until
we came to Rhodes, where I also went ashore
The town next the water is a mass of old towers
butrep & very substantially built Stone houses
the material being like French burn mill stone
on the rising ground back the town spread
with room for plenty of evergreen trees about the
houses which are generally simple, and look
very pretty. The tall beautiful date Palm
is common and a beautiful object. The first
I have seen. One Sycamore only known with
not another quite green. Then by the water
which is very warm and a beautiful light
blue in colour. The harbour is an open roadstead.
Close by the landing is the street of houses (it
is 21 feet wide) in which resided the ancient
Knights. They are not large, but solid. Their
fronts decorated with Armorial bearings &c.
I enclose some plants growing on their walls.
An earthquake last year toppled off the tops
of many houses and a magazine of 1800 barrels
of powder exploding from a flash of lightning
at the same time reduced its entire vicinity
to a stone heap. Mosque & Church alike.
The Steam & officers are French a Surgeon is gratis
but I do not employ him. The Steward are very kind

but speak no English. Capt'n has 24 £ Stiding
per month. Chief engineer 12 £.
Leaving Rhodes on the 12th, we put into the
castle Roads on the next day, a nice little
harbour on the Caramanian coast where
we sheltered from a storm about 2 days &
then left for ^{Alexandretta} Saticka where we arrived on the 18th,
passing Cyprus by the way. Alexandretta
is on a bay at the N. East corner of the Mediterranean
on the 19th we were at Saticka, the 20th at
Tripoli & thence to Beyroot, which is a considerable
town, having trade & about 25000 people.
It is substantially built of stone like all
the towns I have seen from Smyrna here. It
is the port of Damascus, that is about 4 days
journey hence.

8000 people in Jaffa 24th June 5-8

After 15 days ^{Sail} journey we are landed at Jaffa
a substantial stone town on the shore crowning
a hill. The beach is of sand and the harbour
an open roadstead but a little ledge of rocks
in front makes a place where small boats can
land passengers in the town. Over there quite a
surf is running & we were fortunate in being
able to land. I hear several Steamers have
passed without being able to do so. Our voyage
has been tempestuous but to day is fine. Weather
thus not cold but not one day equal to many
such as we have in every month of winter at home.
Our steamer was a propeller (changed at Smyrna)
and rolled badly in the least sea. We find a
Mr Francis here (son of the life boat man) the only
Tourist I have seen since I left Vienna, save
the 2 Americans mentioned. The Coast of Asia
Minor is remarkably similar in character of
Scenery all the way from Dardanelles to Beyroot.
Here it flattens away and is beautiful with mul-
titudes of Palm-trees. Gulls are numerous, & I see
Cormorants sitting on the ledge of Rocks in the
sea which breaks upon the beach immediately
under my window. Its roar is delightful and
carries me back to Sea-side. I have not sat
down to table in 3 weeks & think I must have
fallen off fully 30th in weight. I have suffered

from debility but not pain. The character (5
of the minarets is somewhat changed on the Asiatic
Coast, not nearly so pretty as those of Turkey. Jaffa
is famous for its oranges they are larger & 3 of those
of Cuba average. I could not see that dried figs
at Smyrna are better than those we import.
I mean our good ones, excepting they are sweeter.
The Portuoguese Kup Smyrna well stocked with
rum & probably some other missionaries are sent,
much cheap American furniture goes there, at some
of the towns at which we stopped our ship took tobacco
in bales for Egypt, which seems to be a great article of
export from Asia Minor. At one port, not far west
of Cyprus I think we took in Pig lead also.
Oranges & lemon groves abound here, oranges 15 for one
Piastra about 3 1/2 cents. On our steamer were 4 classes
of Papangus. Rich merchants with ^{their} servants took deck
& slept under an awning much exposed to wind & rain.
Turks they say are afraid to go below. A Pacha on a
late trip with 16 servants took passage on deck, ~~on~~
~~certain parts~~ A ceremony of one day required
that each of these servants should hand each article
plate, knife, fork, as well as viands 4 times before it
was accepted. Thus each article was handed
64 times. He dined solely on rice & chicken, but
4 hours were exhausted in getting through with
the simple meal. A couple of monks who came
on board for a short distance also took deck.
Our cabin was large but not a seat fit to sit in.
The noise of the ship intolerable, much like
living in a room with all Birmingham on the
floor above and inferno in the cellar beneath.
The scripture most justly says, in substance "Damned
is he who goes to sea." Sea grows the sweet lemon
as well as the acid. It is a round, light lemon colour
having the little protuberance at the blossom end
only. It is dead sweet, not agreeable to me.

abt. 22000 people in Jerusalem Jan'y 25. 58
we left Jaffa yesterday at 1 P.M. and rode
10 miles ^(3 1/2 hours) to Remlin where we slept very comfort
ably at a convent of Italian monks. whence we came
to day about 26 miles ^(9 hours) more to Jerusalem. The last 20
miles amid semi mountains almost impractical
to be even on horse back. As to any sort of vehicle, it is
unknown. The ride is very interesting, ~~but~~ now
I got through it in a state so weak

that I am power up to stand even 5 minutes (6
I cannot comprehend, yet ~~in~~ ^{after} one hour out in bed
I feel no fatigue. We met hundreds of camels
as many donkeys, mules & asses, driven by Arabs who
appear to be engaged in bringing food, especially fruit
from Jaffa to Jerusalem. The road is almost
lined with them. These Arabs are a handsome
race, and of various hues, many nearly black
their shanks below the knee even naked except
a rude sort of bag of a shoe, are quite as black as
negroes. I saw one Negro of the blackest die and
two mulattoes. One Arab on a little donkey,
led by a rope a ~~camel~~ ^{horse} that followed bearing
a sort of crib panier on each side in which
his two wives sat well stowed or dunnaged in
nice nest of bedding. One carried an infant. The
horses are small bony & tough. The Arab carries loads
much heavier I think than himself. Panier loaded &
a ~~man~~ pretty solid man beside. Arabs however
have no extra flesh. Many of them singing as they pass.
A lawless set, the acqueduct to this city from the pools
of Solomon is broken open by them to water their herds,
left running and there being no law in the country,
it is almost abandoned as a means of city supply.
The Pool of Hezekiah (Rain water is used here) is under
the window of the hotel, rather like a horse pond.
The Mount of Olives is in sight close on the other
side, with valley of Jehoshaphat between. The Valley
of Hinnom is deep & by the gate we entered this walled
city by, on Mount Zion (within the city in part) where
Abou received his stone slabs with so much less scandal
than for Smith's pretensions to those only less preposterous
blap plates. The "Towers of David" are on a hill just
without built probably 2500 years after that godly man's
death. There is George 4th's. The stock of the country
from Jaffa, consists of cattle, sheep, a pretty goat with
drooping ears. The kids are beautiful. The sack cloth is
made of goats hair, still used. They plough with both
camel and oxen. The implement is a rude crooked stick
with an iron point that only turns up a little ground.
after entering the mountains which are of limestone, and
some marble, with very little else, the little spots of
cult are dug up with pickaxes; full of stone but very
fertile, as are the alluvial plains thence to Jaffa.
These grounds are never fertilized, yet yield fine crops
though probably ploughed for thousands of years past. I should

think much sugar could be made, if there be rain enough. The shows at this season are very heavy & frequent. The horse shoe here as in Turkey is merely a thin flat piece of iron with a round hole ~~in~~ it. They slip terribly in steep rocky places. The camel moves both feet on one side at a time and ~~goes~~ walks a little faster than a horse. They kneel for loading & mounting with great docility. Mules are numerous, and great numbers of many kinds of Hawks. By the shores of ponds little bittern like birds of snipe family similar to ours. The country swarms with Myriads of small birds. The spiny is just opening on the plain by the sea and beautiful swallows are numerous. Jerusalem being 1500 feet above the mediterranean is still cold and tempestuous. The Rook, Woodcock crow & Lapping are there common. Lark, Starling, and a sort of Magpie I recognized. A bird rather larger than our bob link, of beautiful form, is purely white, excepting his jet black wings. I heard Sparrows in Jaffa and at the convent, but saw none. In that section the ground abounds in wild flowers the ground is often painted with little ones. a Daisy like the English is common, both the white & pink tinges, but they are 3 times as large. The Almond tree is just blooming, but the flower is like that of the plum, not at all like the peach in colour. A very bright scarlet Single Parony is very rich and numerous in the fields, there also white ones and others of delicate purple. Many fields are fairly clothed in Lillies of various kind, some of which are in clustered bud and appear to promise great beauty. There are three kind of Gorse are seen, and what I suppose also to be varieties of heath. Among the western portion of mountains all is clothed in Evergreen. There I saw a variety of Mahonia several of the rich velvety thick leaved herbaceous plants, Laurel, and I think Kalmia, a sort of Holly. Evergreen oaks, both shrub & trees that bear a beautiful and very long slender Acorn. Myrtle trees, very rich and handsome 30 feet high & spreading. at least I take them for Myrtle. Besides countess I know not. Blackberry (evergreen here) is abundant, and there is a wild cherry. The Fumaria and Pride of china are on the plain. The country about Jaffa appears to have more ~~fruit than~~ variety of fruit than any country I know of. Olive Orchard that look a thousand years old are every where even on tops the rocky mountains. They are interesting but not a handsome tree. In one after grove of Oranges and Sour and Sweet Lemons ^{& Limes} Golden with fruit, soon to gather, Orchard of Almond, Pomegranates, figs. Trunks, Date palms arising in all directions objects of highly picturesque beauty. Peas also grow here.

Peaches, Apricots, Quinces, Grapes, water and other melons (8
Apples, but only used for cider. Strangers can eat these
with impunity (staying but a short time) but for residents
most are unhealthy. The watermelon is among the excep-
tions as also ^{are} oranges. Sugar cane grows here, and an
corn, oats, wheat, Barley &c. Many of the orchards are
enclosed with Cactus hedges (Prickly pear) with 10 feet high
that a man cannot get through. The leaves are an
inch thick, and nearly as large as a barrel head, now in
bud for a yellow flower. The camels are fond of these
coarse leaves, as well as of a sort of thistle that they
bite as they go. Jasmine grows in great quantity and I
think used as hedge. The country is generally entirely un-
fenced, but among the mountains some rude stone
wall is seen enclosing numerous little lots. Then I
also saw much a plant like a giant Sage but odour-
less. Arab villages are numerous, always on a hill &
look like strong fortresses at a little distance. They are
generally of solid stone buildings, sometimes of mud &
straw, ^{mixed} Some houses are shaped like a sugar loaf
of this material, with only a low hole for a door
without windows. Glass has been introduced even
in Jerusalem within 20 years and some Turks here
now have tables, arm chairs &c in their houses.
Remlin is quite a village with two or three pretty
high towers, one of which in the distance looks like
that of Galaterra, the Pera of Constantinople, a very
fine one, about 200 feet high, 50 feet diameter, with
stone walls 12 feet thick, one of the most time defying I
have seen. By the convent, where we staid at Rem-
lin I saw a Lepus, and half the country appears
to have diseased eyes, and many have lost one. This
convent was so secluded & quiet, and quite comfortable,
I felt like staying there a week. They receive pay
but are well satisfied with 4 or 5 francs per day, and
ask nothing. The same accommodation are offered here
but we are at a hotel at 12 francs per day, the most
comfortable one I have seen since Dresden & only one
that is more than tolerable. The Landlord is from Ba-
varia & speaks English like a native as also one of his ser-
vants. He has 2 houses, accommodating 40 guests, for those
he pays 500 dollars per year. a few years ago less than half
that sum would have leased them (both). They are heavy
walls building, & arched floors, tolerably constructed and
would cost at least 8000 each in America. Labour
here is very precarious, 5 paces per day, to day and
very possibly 10 tomorrow.

Journal 1st no 26. The Landlord is a very kind
man and for the first time I have been able to get
something cooked I dare eat, and am half well to day
but not going out yet. My journey yesterday was after a
breakfast of only a little boiled milk, than which I tasted
nothing until evening when I got rice boiled to a drink
that was fit which on the French Steam or at Jaffa
they know not how to do or prepare any thing else
proper for an invalid. Since the fourth of January
I have not taken 2 lb of Nutriment of any kind and
went sometimes 60 or 70 hours without a particle. I
conceive a strange abhorrence for bread generally
more than half my diet, but would give at any
time 10 dollars for a peck of Hominy. Fuel is exceedingly
dear here, wood must be at least 30 or 40 dollars per
cord, charcoal is used also. We had snow last night
but not to lie, it also rained heavy, and showers
every 5 minutes to day, very windy & cold. A
rail way is much talked of to Jaffa, it would
be easily done, but the want of a harbour there
is a great discouragement, but I should not be
surprised if the increasing dearth of fuel should
ever long do much to carry out the project.
The wells along the way are several & made much
of with Stone Structures about them. The water flows
as from a spring, but the one I tasted at Karkish,
a little Stream I drank from is clear & sweet.
I thought the Sea at Jaffa quite or more salt
than the Atlantic, but not bitter. Near to Jaffa
we crossed a mile over a desert of sterile land
and near it much of the tilled land was at
most clear sand, yet producing ^{promising} crops
of grain. Further this way the Soil becomes
very rich, stiff ^{the earth is originally rugged & granular.} ~~in~~ ^{clay}. In passing on
the road caravans do take the left, but the way is often
so narrow among the rocks the danger of being knocked
off our horse by paniers de is considerable. There is scarcely
wood at all in buildings. I have not seen a cut nail
since I left England. Very many of these nails, even
those 6 inches in length are of common wire flattened
at one end for a head. The labour of making this
kind of thing used all over Europe that I have seen,
would be worth more in London than a pound of Silver.

tables for government. average temperature for the year 56°. He thinks in a stone house the thermometer would not change 2° the year round. The climate perfectly delicious, Sky as fine as in the world, no disease, all the trees evergreen, Scarlet Laurels 30 ft high, Roses 80 feet high (Single white also red) and spread among the tree tops in vast net work of luxuriant branches from tree to tree. He has known a man to kill 14 kinds of game there in one day on a mile square, Tiger, Wild Boar, Ibis, Jungle Shrike, Hare, Woodcock &c. Peasants. He says as fine potatoes as the English have grown there by getting English seed every 2 years.

The streets of Jerusalem are narrow and paved with hard flat stones and piouss lies that are flatter & harder still. One is disgusted with such audacity. The plan certainly might rest on its plain facts. How Jesus of Nazareth suffered in the cause of truth. How unfortunate for the world this wonderful mind could not have been spared to its full maturity. How probably in that case his last days would have in many respects even eclipsed those of his youth. Roofs of houses here are of square blocks of stones and often entirely flat. They are laid in mortar or cement as common masonry. Some roofs are of tile. That of the church of the Sepulchre (of the dome) is in ruinous condition. The rain pours freely in, but such is the animosity existing between the sects who hold the chapels there under, that no one will allow the other to repair, least some new strength should arise therefrom to a party repairing it. I hear, lately a general fight sword & blood on in hand, occurred within the walls of this church among the prints and their respective adherents.

28th. A very boisterous day after a night of hail rain and snow with some showers this morning. Near by this hotel is the Mosque of Omar, said to be on the site of Solomon's Temple and I think it very probably it is so or very near it, from what I can hear, as it appears to be in a measure marked by natural objects and the remains of a bridge supposed to be described in Scripture. The place where the cross was found is in St. Sepulchre. One of the ~~best~~ Indian men (English here) had 30 servants, the pay for them is from 3 to 5 dollars per month.

and board themselves. Living in such style costs 12
men 1000 £ per year, each house has 2 servants, His
room would give a ball for 2 or 300 people, and they
live quite as well or better than in England.
at the departure of the company from one of his balls
one night, a Cobra was found on the steps by which
they were descending. Jerusalem is pretty strongly
defended by a romantic looking wall and surrounded
by valleys & deep narrow gorges that add a formidable
look. Under is an extensive cavern where stone
has been procured for its massive houses. As this
is entered from without the wall I see no reason
why any enemy besieging the place might not
charge it with gunpowder and blow the town
out of sight. I rode around the walls this
afternoon, saw the tombs on the side of the
valley of Jehoshaphat, some of them ~~that~~ large
cut out of solid rock. There are also of course
tomb behind them where are doubtless graves many
several thousand years old. These consist of
mere rough slabs of stone 12 to 16 inches thick
2 1/2 by 4 or 5 feet long, lying on the ground. The tomb
purported to be Abraham is shown. The garden of
Gethsemane is at the foot of Mt of Olives, about
1/8 of an acre enclosed in a wall 12 ft high
with Olive trees and evergreen shrubs there in.
The Chapel of Mary is close by it. A hundred
spots are shown as those on which particular
incidents occurred chiefly in the life of Christ.
All he did must have been stated down
at the time & labeled on the spot. In the small
chapel (all that is left of the church destroyed by
Saladin) on the Mt of Olives is the bare rock
whence Christ ascended with such force as
to leave an impression from his foot an inch
deep in the solid stone. Many olive trees
are on this mount, as every where else about
Jerusalem. We also have a good view of the
Dead Sea from there, 1300 feet below the Medi-
terranean with mountains on its margin that
look 5000 feet high. I enclose herein plants from
the wall around the spot whence Christ as-
cended. Points connected with Abucadrezzar
Judah, the Ahathas & Prophets are gravely shown.

Jerusalem is supplied by rain water and all (13)
around the city in small pools appropriated
to its use. There is one spring only, quite
a copious one. The dwellings have cisterns beside.
The ^{rain} water is considered nevertheless unwholesome by our
landlord. Sheep here have long coarse wool and
pendant long ears. The Jordan notwithstanding
3 day rain, is entirely dry. Near Jaffa lives a fam-
ily from America (Groton Map) who are farming.
A Prussian son in Law was murdered by Arab robbers
in the house a few days since. I believe the Arabs this
side of Jordan are considered generally honest & harmless.
The Consuls of America, France & Prussia are at Ram-
leh in conclave of enquiry for the offenders.
Walter Crepon of Philadelphia turned Jew, lives here
with (I am told) a most filthy looking ^{Spanish Jew} wife
& house & children correspond. It

29th Yesterday we rode to Bethlehem where in a convent
(these are numerous in holy land and one nice new one built
by about 100 acres of Olive trees very beautifully on side of a Rocky
Hill just this side Bethlehem) we were shown the place of
Christ's Birth the manger &c. It is down in a hole cut out
of solid rock descended by stairs and a queer place for Stables.
St. Jerome is buried there. Bethlehem is the filthiest place
I ever saw. Like all the other towns (& these are numerous)
built of massive solid masonry of Square Stones, but houses,
as in Jerusalem &c, not large. Many roofs are of earth
just a little rounded on the flat top of the house to turn
off the rain. We were taken to another cave where the Angel
told the Mary to go to Egypt. Before getting to Bethlehem
we passed the Tomb of Rachel (a chapel I suppose) also what is
said to be the ruin of the House of David, a mere heap of stones
with arched subterranean apartment or cistern. Bethlehem is
2 hours from here - we then rode one hour farther to the "Pools
of Solomon". 3 Reservoirs in a ravine, dammed & walled all
around, receiving a small stream. They are larger than
our largest dry docks but not over $\frac{1}{2}$ or $\frac{3}{5}$ ~~th~~ so deep.
I enclose some plants from the upper one, where is also quite
a fatig or strong hold formerly used to guard these cisterns.
There are many towns about Bethlehem, whither I hear the
Citizens flee in case of wild Arab approach. The aqueduct
conveying the water from the pools to Jerusalem is seen all
the way - a rude ridge of stones, occasionally open where we
could see the round stones, bored for the flow of water.
Near the pools is a little English farm, where are plenty of
vegetables & fine fruit trees, products for Market. But I was
mistaken in taking a sort of grain in field for Oats. Barley
and wheat, Maize, and a round seed are grown. Cauliflowers
here is very fine. Potatoes, Tomatoes, Egg plant, Oca, Spinage,
very rich pumpkin, very nicely fried in slices, I think in Egg

a butter of some part and tastes much like Pumpkin (14
fitter, it is cut half an inch thick. Wild mullen is very
abundant, Our Hackberry grows here. The Olive trees yield
on an average about 5 dollars worth of fruit per tree. The trees
are all grafted young - The wildings being mere crab. There
is a Thorn here that bears a sort of very small apple, said to
be very nice. Chickens here are excellent, mutton not fat
but pretty good & good cooking. I saw a laye Jay, and a
Fine fox, he moved off very luxuriously. The country is very
interesting, all rock and generally without a tree, a
tumult of some stone hills, but every crack & crevice
is cultivated with much industry, and there is consider-
able stone wall in some places, though nearly all the coun-
try is without fence of any kind. There are vineyards and the
native wine is quite good table drink. Raisins fine.
I saw Wagtails also, several very black Negroes. The horse
trade is almost impassable in parts, bad every where and
much aggravated by the stupidity of the race of horses here
which exercise no more judgment in picking out a path
than does a stone rolling down hill. They are tough
animals, but entirely detestable as saddle horses.
Women here wear caps of several pound weight, being hung
with silver coins, they say to the amount of 100 dollars. They are
in form like a brimless hat, always worn & covered with a
sag, so that only a glimpse of the thing is occasionally caught.
I saw one on a child of 2 years old, uncovered. This cap is the
down of the young bride & worn after marriage. ^{remember do} ^{not wear them}
Jerusalem is on a hill not higher than those all about
it, but 1500 feet above the Mediterranean. Scarcely a
tree in the town. The mountains by the Dead Sea are
covered with snow at the summits, and look exceedingly
wild grand, gloomy desolate, not a shaft thrown
to be seen at this distance. The sea is not 20 miles
from this city I think. If Isaac thinks well of the plan
I wish he would have about a dozen stout kegs of oak
or chestnut, with brass hoops, made of about 2 1/2 gallon capaci-
ty each. no being but a place for a laden screw faucet.
These would hold about a barrel of the fine new cider
that Stanton gets from Greenwich, which could be drawn
off into them, so soon as it had settled clear in the orig-
inal cask, and would be drunk before ~~the~~ daily
drawing of the little keg it became acid. It might
be well to rinse the kegs with whisky or Alcohol before
filling. This with washing as soon as emptied of cider
would probably keep them sweet, ever. I have tasted
some boiled camel, very juicy tender & good, not very
delicate, with a flavour like some bird I have eaten,
far better than the average of venison. Under Crepon
remember Isaac & Thomas very well. He says this year he
bore a man (in his garden) for the first time in the 14 years
he has been here. Olive trees are often hollow & then strengthened
by filling up inside with stone work, as are Apple & Pear trees
with brick & mortar in Switzerland. The Pumpkin is boiled

them sliced and simply fried. It is also fried in butter also often mashed & mixed with meal or flour & fried. The apricot is much used, dried, stewed and better than preserved peaches, and are often as transparent & golden. There are different qualities, the good cost about 9 cents per lb. They are abundant in Smyrna, fine ones are brought from Damascus. I think if Isaac would speak to a wool or other firm trading to Smyrna to have a few pounds nicely packed and impaled, you would never be without them, if they stand the voyage well. Cream with them is an impossibility here, but the milk is very good.

The pride of China is a common tree in these parts, Warden Crepon desires to be remembered to Isaac & Thomas. He is very enthusiastic and sincere I doubt not, as to bring in man I can see no want of a centrepiece and his conversation is entirely coherent. I believe his conscientiousness is remarkable. He thinks all spiritualizing of Scripture is a mistake - it must be taken literally, I should think it thus the most nauseous out of books in many of its parts. He considers most of the localities absolutely unknown though there is a place fixed for every thing by the moderns. Hill of Scandal, Hill of temptation, Hill of evil council - (Judaea) The pool of Job, Silvan, Bethesda the latter close by the St. Stephen gate, inside the city wall.

Tomorrow we start for the Dead Sea & Jordan. The Shicks have been in the habit of levying black mail on all who visit that part, and the savage tribes over the Jordan are dangerous & not subject to law. The various consuls some years since gathered the Shicks in council & arranged that each individual visiting their country should pay the Shick (who has to accompany the party & protect it) 100 Piasters (about 3 dollars) each when less than 4 in the party, if more than that ~~to be~~ number, he receives 75 Piasters each. For this he meets the party some 10 miles out of Jerusalem and accompanies them to the Dead Sea & returns with them to the neighbourhood of the city. There is neither compact nor security with the tribes beyond Jordan.

2 month 2^d - Jerusalem; We left here with quite a cavalcade, cooks, servants, dragoman &c, with 4 beds, 4 arm camp chairs, table, stoves &c (our old establishment from Jaffa) and rode about 3 1/2 hours to the convent at Saba (Sarber) I saw no spicy groves there nor trees nor dwelling on the way, which is almost a desert of high hills, that are very precipitous. The narrow horse path, as usual, either in or beside the dry bed of a torrent. Flocks of several kinds, geese & some heath, with occasional grass afford pasture to flocks all the way. The sheep are often of the Proud tail variety (originally Persian shear) are white as

Cotton ^{+ fine} with either black or ~~brown~~ beautiful brown (16)
drooping ears, and cheeks, beautiful animals,
To get to the convent at Saba we diverged a mile
from our road along a very remarkable gorge of
Rock sides, about 150 feet, very fine, winding, a
bit of Nica Mala. These sides are perpendicular and
full of caverns, cut out the faces thereof, a sort of Eden,
formerly dwellings of human beings, now of various
birds among them 2 kinds of doves are very numerous,
among them is a variety much resembling the turtle dove,
another is blue, probably the rock pigeon. There were many
other birds there, some jet black, I suppose Starlings, also
a partridge in flocks that fly and alight like our quails.
The convent is a cluster of tower courts & hanging upon
the side of ^{this} cliff, down which we descend about 75 steps
in various flights to a most picturesque place in
and when we were comfortably entertained for the night.
Ladies are not allowed to enter within the walls, These
pitch tents outside. The gates close at an early hour
and all is strong and secure as a fortress. Numerous
sparrows, a few vipers, and a small lemon tree also
a few olives (that I at first took for yellow willows. So
young vigorous + yellow are these young olives in this
sheltered spot) ~~give a pleasant~~ add a pleasant effect
to this most romantic locality. Next morning we
were joined by our Shick, and were off for the Dead Sea
before 8. A.M. We found most of the way a desert of
high barren hills, a hard surface of stiff clay mix
ed with gravel. The wind blowing almost a pale
Sometimes so strong our horses were nearly unman-
ageable, I was nearly blown off, but the day was
bright and mild, though so far as I have seen this
climate is abominable. There is occasional pasture
& brown scattered every where (no trees) under which are
~~at~~ great numbers of snails in white shells. These
also cover the sandy desert near Jaffa. Burrows as of
rats, are very numerous. A good many wild flowers
in spots also. A sort of purple thymacinth, some of which
I enclose from the east of the hills ~~or~~ we emerge upon
the dead sea. We saw not a dwelling save a small
encampment of Bedouin Arabs who have come from
beyond Jordan and are at feud with our Shick
demanding "backshish" for passing through the
country they have thus lately taken possession of.
Their tents about 8 feet high are about 30 or 40 feet long
and 16 feet wide, made entirely of sack cloth of the
black hair of goats. The roof of which are ^{or} nearly flat
I should think they could not turn much rain.
I saw several flocks of Shuk + goats thereby. As we approached

This encampment our Shick started off for safety (17) leaving with us his 4 armed men whom he has lately found necessary for his protection. Arabs generally carry a long rifle each, with flint rocks, these are heavy, and appear to be native made, with many nap nails in the meagre breach of the rude stock gilt straps around the barrel and often embellished with filigree. I see some short rifles also. The Ataghan and large pistol are ~~often~~ pretty generally carried. We soon found our guard holding on to a party of armed men (about 4 of them) but they said they only wanted to kill ~~the~~ our Shick. They did not notice us, apparently. As we came to the Plain by the dead sea, there was brown in a valley 10 feet high. There also a caravan of camels was passing, almost the only persons (excepting those at the tents) we saw on the route were with it. The plain for miles north of the dead sea is covered in spots with a scum of salt. It has no grass, but many thorny shrubs, ~~the~~ soil is soft & appears to be a rich mixture of ~~salt~~ sand and clay, that I think would be very fertile if but for the salt. A mile or so from the hills we were on the shores of the dead sea. Its water was much agitated by the high wind. The water is clear, but so intensely salt that on taking only enough of it to cover my tongue it made me nearly sick, and I could not be rid of it without the aid of an orange. A very sweet scented catnip like leaved plant grows upon the shore of which I enclose a piece. I could not see a shell or fish or bird there. The shore is lined with much drift which I suppose comes out the Jordan. The trees were short, but some of them 2 feet diameter. Much cane from 10 to 16 feet long lay ~~scattered~~ for fishing poles is also driven ashore. I can see no difference between this and the great reed of our South, save that grows twice as large & tall. One of the English gentlemen here (a physician) says the bamboo of India is often 150 feet high a foot in diameter and makes fine flag staff, it is so strong. It dies in the jungle about once in 7 years (as does our cane) ~~when~~ its decay much increases the deadly character of the climate of the uninhabited jungle countries at the foot of the Nil gerry hills in India. The climate ~~say~~ he says is exactly like ours of Carolina. Figs are so abundant and so may be started sometimes in 1/4 of a mile, tempting hunters to almost certain death in a climate where to sleep one night for

a large portion of the year) is as dangerous as the (18
Rice fields of Carolina in summer. The Doctor says
5 gentlemen dined at his house on the way to one of
these jungles to hunt tigers. He warned them of their
danger, demonstrated but all in vain, they returned
and all were sick 3 died, among them was Sir
Jas Ostram, (lately dead) On one occasion he
treated Ostram with Quinine, the first used
in India. He gave I think 50 dobs for one ounce,
This fever generally appears within 9 days, after leaving
jungle, seldom before 7 or 8 days but sometimes 14 days.
He believes Ostram has killed more tigers, personally,
than any other man ~~there~~ he thinks 3 or 400 have
been slain by him. After a lunch on the shore of the
Dead Sea (it is surrounded by mountains, save the
plain at the North which is that of Jericho and
extends by the Jordan to the Sea of Galilee and is
very rich, but lies waste, a Salt Mountain is at
the South end of the Dead Sea) we mounted and
rode an hour to the Jordan which we followed a
short distance to the point where pilgrims go and
which is said to be that of Christ's baptism. The
stream is nearly as muddy as the Mississippi and
twice as rapid, about 100 feet wide undermining its
banks, which are in some places 30 feet high, of very rich
looking alluvial. The waters are cold & palatable
The cane I mentioned abounds on its banks in the lower
spots, also Willows, a kind of Balm Gilead poplar &
but not of large size, 30 or 40 feet high at most.
I saw several small sized white gulls, I saw some
yellow flowers from this spot on the Jordan, and gathered
some small pebbles there, as well as on the gravelly
shore of the Dead Sea, which that of the Jordan is not.
The Song is no fiction, "Jordan is a hard road to travel"
We now proceeded over the shrubby plain of Jericho, about
2 1/4 hours to Jericho, saw a pheasant that flew and
looked exactly like ours, but rather smaller. We passed
a large stone ruin, a rapid brook, and many thorny
shrubs, we found our 2 fine tents (one for the kitchen
& servants) already pitched, ~~but~~ beset with Arabs whom
we soon found to be of one of the wild tribes of hostile
Bedouins from beyond Jordan, their thick with them.
There is a stone out of fort where 7 Turkish soldiers are
stationed by the Sultan for protection. The village consists
of a very few miserable mud huts. I could find
no vestige of walls (perhaps they were blown away) but
a numerous aqueduct of stone may be seen running

toward the mountains. Here the fig trees have much of last years foliage yet green upon them, and are dotted with myrtle. The apple of the dead sea looks like our small yellow tomatoes, growing a rather pretty herbaceous plant, about 3 or 4 feet high with a good large crown of numerous branches that are full of foliage resembling in form of leaf that of the Carter bean, but smaller. It is Solanum, our Night shade family, and I suppose that of the ground apple (which is not in the salt on the plain does not extend quite to Jericho. The dead sea is seen from the place, many of the Arabs are as black as full negroes. Our enemies had European guns double barreled with percussion locks. Our thick appeared to be afraid of them, at least to offend them. They were down by their own country and could burn 1000 in an hour by lighting fires, ~~with~~ Their his small tribe cannot contend with and they sometimes drive off his herd. It proved after all but 4 of the group we found were of the hostile tribes. Our dragoman an Italian who could talk with them, was terribly frightened and trembled like a leaf. He saved them coffee to appease them, They threatened him terribly, took all the powder and ball they could find, bread, and broke one of his china cups. Said they would make soup of him if he did not give them money. demanded 5 £ and succeeded in exacting 40 frank. Our thick by the contract is bound to repay 4 for 1 of every thing they eat for want of his protection. After our dinner the few villagers came out to stand guard, the 7 soldiers from the stone barrack, our servants and the two fellow travellers with me. As I felt no particular apprehension I took my bed and slept despite the howling of 40 dogs, baying of Jackass, ^{half the night} noise of patrol and a perfect hurricane of wind with rain that poured in torrents. Our tent was made of 3 thick knaps so that it did not leak a drop or flare a candle. That it must blow down seemed inevitable, it constantly flapped with a noise like the sails of a ship in stary, and one so far gave way as to almost come to the ground, which had softened so that the tent pegs loosed. There were soon readjusted and all stood the racket till morning. Though I did not feel entirely safe, I was pretty certain we were only in danger of being robbed.

But the fellows did not return, all seems to ^{only wanted what money he} ~~be~~ ^{could get.} I did
 fear they would do so with reinforcements, I did
 not think the Shick a bad looking ^{man}, though
 at the time I could have shot one of his men for
 his evil looks and movements without compunction,
 but nothing would have been more foolish, he should
 certainly have been cut if a fight had been com-
 menced. ~~Soon after~~ after passing the encamp-
 ment in the morning, it was evident our Shick
 and guard were apprehensive of an attack from
 that ~~from~~ tribe until we got out of the desert
 hills into the plain by the dead sea, we started
 in the morning before 8 o'clock and were soon among
 the hills and rain with high wind, The old aqueduct
 extending some miles therein, This was by a desert route
 about 22 miles (all the way among mountains) to Jer-
 usalem, not a house on the way save one tent until
 we came to Bethany within an hour of Jerusalem,
 (I forgot to say that the Jordan is wider and so
 spread as to be fordable, not far above the point
 at which we left it) The storm soon turned to snow
 and I have rarely seen a more violent one in our
 country. It is now over 1 foot deep in Jerusalem
 and Mr. Crepon & our landlord one of 14 the other 17
 years resident never knew the like. By the way Mr
 C. entirely confirms the idea that Turks are far
 more charitable and kind to Jews than Christians
 nations have generally been, ~~After~~ at Bethany our
 party was so cold and exhausted they stopped in one of
 the stone huts of the place to warm by a fire of a few
 sticks on the earthen floor, the smoking trying to es-
 cape by a small hole in the arched roof above, The
 room about 14 by 16, not a particle of furniture save
 some coarse mats by the side on which I suppose
 they sleep. Mats of grass & thin, not a chair a table,
 another one was still worse, neither had any glass in
 the window. Bethany is a small place of stone with
 many olive trees. Our Shick was barefoot and
 almost perished, though a fine hardy looking fellow,
 In an hour we started, but the storm had now become
 so violent and the snow much like hail, that
 our horses would go no further than a quarter of a
 mile or so, and we returned to Bethany. The drifts
 had also proved too much for the horses to get through
 without much danger and difficulty. We entered

Another tent this time, the man appeared to be hospitable and used wood in our behalf without stint. He had a fire place also but it smoked awfully - his room was neat, but had no furniture, a wife or daughter was there. All the people appeared to be arabs. The storm soon abated and we rode on to Jerusalem, where we found all much concerned for our safety, Crepon awaiting our arrival, our landlord exceedingly anxious and the English Doctor & Lawyer & all hand half determined to send aid in case we might be storm bound. The violent wind was in our faces all the way, and I never suffered ~~more~~ from inclement weather so many hours before. I am yet far from well, eating nothing but bread & milk, peas, and apprehended sickness, but I put by the fire til midnight refusing the change of clothes kindly offered by the English to soldiers and find myself better to day than I have before been, in a month, though I think I could not walk over 1/2 a mile yet. On waking this morning, half a dozen sparrows were singing on the iron grating of my chamber window, when I have some bread to feed them during the snow, now over one foot deep. The day is bright and fine but it does not appear to be thawing much. The dead sea is 1350 feet deep. Along the base of the Himalaya mountain is a strip of country that takes a day to cross with relays of fast horses where like Carolina none can sleep at night with any safety. Elephants live also in jungles but tigers are not numerous where these are found though in the tiger districts. They appear to fear the mountains. I hear the mountains of the dead sea are only 2000 ft high. There on the East shore there of are the Phoenician acacia of all oak. I saw but one swallow on the plain of Jericho, it looked like our chimney swallow. One of the numerous lillies so abundant all about is the Popill - It spreads in patches like our Lilly of the valley, leaves similar in form but coarser & twice as large. Much of the "latter rain" that so fertilizes the soil has fallen during this and last seasons. It is said to be Iron rust colour, and I suppose is the same as our Red snow. A Phoenician substance. Since the storm our landlord has had work to get wood for our fire

or provisions for the table. He says the farmers have obtained such high prices latter years, that they only come to market when it suits them now, Butter which is dirty as soap Grease, and would sell for nothing else in America, brings about 29 cts per lb but is sometimes as low as 17 cents. Very small chickens, not over 1 lb each, or even less, 50 cts per pair. Lamb brings 13 cts per lb. Flour is about 10 cents per lb. Charcoal 4 3/8 cts per lb. Living here of the natives consists very much of Bread and Olives. Occasionally they kill a sheep all over the country much soap is made from olive oil. There are large Manufactories of it I hear, and the Doctor from India (who it seems was taken prisoner of war by Commodore Rogers in the President on the coast of Norway) says he saw a large one just erecting, at Nazareth I think. He and his friend the Surgeon have just journeyed by land from Beyroot to this place through Balbec, Damascus &c. They saw scarce a tree on the way, excepting the olives, at least no fruit, and could not obtain milk more than once in 4 days. They always got good eggs, seemed to stop very much as I did in Turkey. Say Damascus is a mud town, and do not much admire its very extensive gardens. The Ruins of Balbec the finest they ever saw. Stones in the wall, several of them 63 feet long. The edifice enormous & beautiful but never completed. They found no convent until reaching Nazareth.

Jaffa 2 mo 5th 1858

Left Jerusalem ~~last~~ day before yesterday with snow a full foot on the ground and very bad getting through it for the first few miles. in 10 hours including 3/4 stop to lunch on a rock in an old olive Orchard we were again at the Convent of Ramla where the same kind monk again welcomed us with a real hospitality. The good officers of this man I shall always remember with grateful pleasure. On leaving the mountain and even before the snow disappeared, all having been rain on and near the plain which was awfully muddy and we had difficulty with a swollen brook which is sometimes impassable, but found none. We nearly expected to find the Surf in condition to admit going off to the steamer, which will be done tomorrow.

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but the heavy surf is subsiding, so that we shall
probably be able to go on board. Should we not, we
will be delayed 2 weeks & probably take 7 days journey
to Beyrout to insure the next boat when there is a
harbour. I have had enough of this country though
Christian Hauser's hotel at Jerusalem is very
good. The best I have been in since Perth if not
since Dresden. Jerusalem is a fountain over-
flowing with falsehood and I rather think
ever has been. The climate is detestable so far
as I have seen it, and with the country appears
to be a remarkable choice for the inheritance
and residence of a favoured people. I hope to
escape the doom of such partiality. As we come
this way from it the olive trees which are planted
like our apple orchard are often very numerous
covering hundreds of acres in a single locality.
I should not be surprised if Jesus had plucked fruit
from some I saw, or ~~concealed~~ & guarded ~~as~~ they look,
they appear to become hollow without decay, or
infirmity like our beech & maple. The red Paeonies
bright as little suns, sticking out of the snow are
very charming. I saw tracks of numerous Gali-
nada, also of Jackals, and some said to be those
of the Gazelle, many of the Arabs, women as well
as men were barefoot in the snow. We often met
5 or 6 Arabs with a woman or two walking in
it. The women always with a load on their heads,
the men without burthen. One of these women
was beautiful, with a most rich complexion.
The only native I have seen with pretension to
beauty since leaving Constantinople - We have
just given our dragoon (at his request) a full
statement in writing of the outrages com-
mitted by the Bedouins at Jericho. With this
he expects to be able to bring him to justice, as
he may be expected to be caught in Jerusalem
one of these days, after he shall have come to the
conclusion that the matter is all blown over.
I see there are silk mulberry trees here & people
in the Bazaar selling silk. Grass grows here suitable
for mats which I see them making also in Bazaar.
The family farming here from Gator elap, is
named Dixon. I have also just seen Charles
Saunders, a missionary from

Westerly R. I. four years ago. He says the Bedouin (24)
Arabs treat persons kindly who go among them
and rely upon their hospitality, although
they rob such as do not do so, if they find oppor-
tunity to do so. The American Consul General
has just arrived from ~~Ab~~ for the purpose of
enquiry into the late murder of some of
the Dixon family near this town. Whenever I
have seen the Arabs, they appear to be habitual
smokers of Chabogueu Naryya cigars, and
I see much Claret wine here in casks from
Marseille. Their lights are lamps fed with
sesame oil, that appears to burn well at the
hotels & convents, then latter abound in cats.
On arrival here 2 weeks ago grain, apparently
sown very lately, was already up 2 or 3 inches
but neither it or the winter grain appear to
have grown much since. The Cauliflowers
of the country are very rich in flavour, and
some of them nearly 1 foot in diameter. The Honey
at Jerusalem is very ~~opaque~~ opaque dirty
looking and inferior in flavour. I think that
city could never have been very populous.
The scanty supply of water forbids the idea, or
even that of a large army being subsisted long
in its neighbourhood, for the same reason. The
streets of Jaffa are very narrow, and filthy.
The houses solid stone masonry, with roofs of arches
Small domes plastered over. It is a remarkable
circumstance, that every watch in our party
(5 watches) entirely stopped during our trip
to the Dead Sea & Jordan, none giving out
last (by the chain) 3 hours before we got back to
Jaffa.



Beirut 2^d mo 6th 58

We were fortunate enough to be able to get through
the surf to the French Steamer "Cyprus" at Jaffa
yesterday, and left for Alexandria at 5 P. M.
but after proceeding a few hours in that direction
a storm came up obliging us to seek shelter
at this port which is 12 hours South of Jaffa
out of our way entirely. They say also we could
not have gotten into the port of Alexandria on
arrival there (30 hours from Jaffa) even if we had
been able to proceed. So tempestuous a season
has not been known for many years.

7th. Still lying at Beyrut, where is no harbour (25)
that I can see, only a sort of bar appears to break
the sea some. Several steamers are lying here.
The town has narrow dirty streets and all
goods carried on poles by men as in other towns
of the East I have seen. The mountains of Lebanon
range are close by us, some of them look lofty.
I hear are 10,000 feet. Great quantities of very
various fruits are in the Bazaar and good nut
tun. The late war threw folded prices of provisions.
The ~~Aldies~~ had agents all over Asia Minor
glad to procure them at any price, and
they say there has been little or no reduction
therein since, throughout the country. There
is a steam flouring mill here, coals from England
Several colliers lying in Port now. We have very
fine peas on board our steamer but I suppose
they are french. our table is well served, and
we have a large state room each, but the roll
of these narrow propellers is often perfectly horrible.
With the 2 Englishmen we have only 3 cabin passages.
Neither the French, Austrian or Russian steam
ers pay, but the governments make up the deficit
& support the lines on this and Black sea from
motives of policy. France paid last year 4,000,000
dollars to the French line. I saw the other day a
notice of the death of Gliddon, in which it was
stated he had procured some skulls for Doctor
Morton of Philadelphia at considerable personal
risk. In conversation with the English Doctor
he happened to mention that he had procured
in India 2 parsee skulls for Mr Gliddon
at great risk. The parsees have high stone
towers covered at top with iron grating, on these
they place their dead. These are surrounded by
beds of prey and the bones fall through into the
town. He bribed some natives to procure the
skulls. These fellows broke open the door below &
were nearly being caught by the enraged feet.

These steamers furnish warm baths gratuitously.
Alexandria 2 ms 9th 58
we arrived here this morning after quite a
pleasant passage from Beyroot, though squalls appeared
to be generally imminent, Alexandria surprises
me, they say it has 9,000 people and increasing

rapidly. European population is numerous, (26
and the portion occupied by them fronts handsomely
on the shore all around, with large houses of what I
suppose is Magnesian limestone, ~~and~~ quarried
beneath the surface in and about the town,
much is also of coarse brick. Houses substantial
and 3 and 4 stories high on good smooth wide
streets. I am at the Peninsular and Oriental
Hotel which is on a very good oblong parcel
of ground $\frac{1}{4}$ mile long and 200 feet wide.

As we enter the harbour forts & windmills of stone
with 6 arms (at least 100 of them latter & apparently
very efficient) give a very good effect, heightened
by such a light house as I never saw before, of
great height and diameter, from the point on
which this stands projects a dangerous looking
reef of rocks far into the sea. I think there are
fully 250 ships and briggs lying in the capacious
harbour, beside some 20 men of war of Egypt.
The Canal behind is full of feluccas, which a few
their picturesque sails are about the harbour.
The general character of the coast is low with occa-
sional elevations of 20 to 50 or 60 feet. On one
of these without the walls, stand "Pompey's pillar"
from the original ~~stone~~ foundation of which
the earth has washed & blown away about 6 feet,
so exposing the rude subterranean support, that
its stones are falling out and the pillar must
fall ere long unless measures are taken to
prevent it. Cleopatra's it is of red granite
with a capital apparently of red sandstone,
the latter being much worn. Cleopatra's
nude stands within the walls, close by the
sea and only a few feet above its level. It is
of red granite, but although the figures are often
4 inches deep they are mostly obliterated on two sides
and on all the base for the first 10 feet. Other
portions are very perfect. I think the difference
is ascribable to the superior solidity of some por-
tions of the stone to the other, although it consists
of but one block. The corner for 2 wide the entire
height on one side that is most worn, is nearly
perfect. The city is walled and has pleasant

drive and walk in the shade of an ash (27)
looking acacia, and the tree I take for
tamarisk, for a mile or two ~~before~~ outside
the rear wall of the place. There are also many
pleasant looking country seats by the shore out
there, good carriages and horses are here but
most of the visitors ride out on donkeys. Caravels
are numerous, and oxen and buffaloes are also
used. The great occupation of these appears
to be carrying water in goat skins, with occa-
sional ~~leaves~~ probably these latter supply Englishmen.
6 feet down water is abundant, but salt from
the sea, a little back however it is to some
extent water from the Nile. There wells are
very numerous and the wheel and stone jugs
on a rope are driven by mules or oxen for the
purpose of raising it. Much appears to be
used for irrigation. Large groves of date palms
are all about the outskirts. In there also are
the thousands of stone huts of about 8 feet high
more or less above ground, in which the Arab
& native live. A mud filled trough in front
looking race, and much afflicted with disease
of eyes. They are said never to wash, deeming
water bad for them. Their appearance evinces
the idea of abstinence therefrom, fully. Though
there is so much shipping here, I saw but little
in ~~Constantinople~~ the Mediterranean. I saw one
very large turkey going to the coast. There were
numerous in Turkey and running in flocks
about the straits (market place I suppose) of Con-
stantinople. Many of the houses here are stuccoed
and present long pilastered facades ~~that~~ in
block) that remind me of Ruspian towns.
domestic pigeons are numerous also beautiful
sparrows, and doves in the groves. Wagtails com-
mon. also ~~rustlers~~. a beautiful variety of various
coloured worms. Chamae Melon & Nettle and a
portulaca are abundant weeds. Grapes and Ban-
nanas grow here. Much of a wild cane ^{or reed} much
like our, but different from what we call Mediterranean
man. "The Nile Grog Shop" is a conspicuous sign.
("Paddy Goose" another)

The women wear a veil below the eyes, but (28
often without. They tattoo blue on the forehead
at the junction of the nose, and also on the chin.
Hanging in front of the face is a paul of gold or
gilt, most of it being in strips of golden
coin, at least apparently. These are the na-
tives, and vulgar. Many fig trees are here, all
yet leafless. The weather is mild, but so far
as I have been, latitude 30° here is not so warm
as our Charleston S. C. in 32°, I think, but the
season is very unusual, though fleas appear to be
doing well. There are many swallows here like
those I saw on the plains of Sharon, beyond Jaffa.
This place is full of Europeans, many English &
a regiment is here on its way to India. Bayaze
has not been examined since I left Constantinople
but passport demanded ~~at~~ Jaffa, on which
to give a steamer ticket, as well as at Constantinople.
This hotel is near 250 ft long, charge ~~at~~ 287½ ct
per day. A good stout organ is now playing under
its windows. I see Cotton bales by the Rail Station
like ours, but in ~~more~~ better packages far more
sturdily roped.

Grand Cairo July 11. 1858

I arrived here at "Shepherd's Hotel" last evening
after 8 hours passage by rail 133 miles from Alexandria
including one hour delay for dinner on the Nile
a very good one for 1.25 ct - passage in first class
carriage about 3 dollars, the 2^d class only about one
dollar less. There were ^{an} hundred or more arabs on
the train in 2^d & 3^d class. The carriages are English,
very good & furnished with 2 roofs, one being
about a foot above the other & projecting over
the edges, to guard from the hot sun of summer.
The rail is single track, and supported on a
new sort of chain which is of cast iron & resembles
a sort of kettle. The cross ties are also of iron.
So there is no wood whatever. This communicates
a rather unpleasant jarring to the carriages, as
did the old stone blocks formerly used in Jersey.
The fuel is coke, and the entire route over the rich
delta of Egypt is apparently dead level without

a cut or embankment. Several of the fairs (29
miles are by the shore of an arm of the sea, where I
saw innumerable ducks, the first since a few
I saw in a small lake back of Jaffa. With these
N. delta abound, as well as in wild geese,
Egrets, white as snow, Ibis, Oyster Catchers, Gulls
Loons & littoral birds in endless varieties. In fact
the whole country abounds in birds, every sort of snipe
even to a. Steelyard birds & like ours I could see
no difference, and many, entirely new to me and
often beautiful in white & black. Thousands of
stags of every size and in great variety are
at the fairs. And vultures that delight in the
dead come in very numerous. The camel
is a delicate animal and does not live so
long as the horse. Geese & chickens are plenty, and
camels, mules, horses are tethered and or watched
at grazing in the most luxuriant pasturage
I ever saw. Great quantities of wheat fields, now
often near a foot high. Horse beans, often in blossom
& some just up, are the chief crops, but there is con-
siderable Indian corn grown (not planted yet) also
cotton, of which many fields are yet full of bolls
that will not be gathered. The stalks are dead
and 4 or 5 feet high full of branches and quite
equal to that of our best districts, I should think,
in yield. I believe its quality is superior. There
is also flax - Sugar fields are frequent but all
that is raised on this waste is sold in the stalk
which the natives eat as food. It is in every market
The sugar making district is above Cairo. The native
Cane is not one half so high as that from the West
Indies which is growing, or rather standing now, by its
side. There are rice fields, not a fence is seen.
Not a fruit, but innumerable groves of date palms,
give a most interesting effect to this wonderfully rich
plain, and instantly remind one he has passed into
another climate & a new country. There are many
nice country residences for some miles out of Alexandria
and the Canal is near the road for a long distance
Villages of the most squalid mud huts are everywhere, such

such as convey an idea of great unhealthiness. There are frequent tents also, in which cattle husbandry appears to take shelter, mostly. ~~There are villages~~ Our plantation villages consist of palaces compared with these mud towns, which however mean have a little mud mosque nevertheless. Besides these are ~~very~~ many considerable towns of unburned brick, these bricks last 50 years. I saw some fine roses nearly in bloom. The Palm Christi is frequent, a sort of tree 10 or 12 ft high. Some orange & lemon groves, also Sycamore fig trees that look like small live oaks, and bear a coarse fruit eaten by the natives. Charlock or something very like it is a common weed, in full bloom. Cotton not yet planted. The Cypripis is seen near Cairo. Pygmy abound at all the stations & the impudence of hosts of fellows with donkeys to take baggage is enough to set one wild. The locusts & frogs and reptiles were doubtless worse. Rooks, daws & Hooded crows & Sparrows are common. The whole country abounds in drains & levees & canals for bringing water from the Nile for purposes of irrigation. (They have little or no rain) The Nile is not yet full, so that the wheels are at work raising the water a few feet from these canals. This too is also often performed by 2 men with a sort of bucket suspended by a rope between them and which they distemperly raise & discharge by a simultaneous jerk at each end which straightens the rope as to the overflow of the Nile over these fields, it is an illusion. The canals which lead the water from that river over the delta, are cut from the river hundred miles above the point supplied that by the fall of the Country below with that of the inclination of the river, its

31
fertilizing water may be tapped from
these canals into the fields. When one set of
fields is sufficiently irrigated, the water
is passed off from them to another set.
The country is never a lake. It is never
theless very important that the Nile
should rise high every year. I crossed
several of its channels, but saw no
levees on either, but I thought the Mayja
higher than the country a little back.
The main stream appeared to be about
300 yds wide and the water 20 feet
below the banks. There was darker &
finer soil than that of the Mesopotamia
having much the appearance of moist
ashes. The stream is turbid & rapid
as is the Nile. Some farms are begin-
ning to use ~~manure~~ fertilizing material.
The main river of the Nile we crossed in a steam-
er, but a iron bridge is now constructing. The rail
is also now complete to within about 25 miles of
Suez. Just as the sun went down I discovered from
the cars the two of the great pyramids, which I had
long desired to see, a noble sight. We also see the
desert at one point near us ~~before~~ shortly before arriving
at Cairo. It is higher than the alluvial plain which
has been deposited in its basin so that the line between
the richest vegetation and entire brown sterility
is as well defined as emerald and brown could
be painted on a board. The women here also wear an
hundred dollars worth of gold on their faces, though all
the rest of their dress is not worth 50 cts. Such is the force
of custom with even the most wretchedly poor - Sure enough
"where there is a will, there is a way."
On going to my banker here "Joad Rathbone & Co" I found
a very agreeable ~~modest~~ young man, Rathbone, whom

I soon found to be the great grandson of Richard (32)
Reynolds, and I think named after him "R. R. R."
Two Gazelles were in the yard. There are plenty in the
country and chased with hounds &c. In execution
of a Commission from Miss C. Williams in Vienna, I
visited the Protestant cemetery at Old Cairo, (about 2
miles from Grand Cairo) near which I saw the palace
of the Viceroys - In the cemetery is a pepper tree 25 feet
high full of green fruit, The leaves are very like those
of the honey locust but of finer and more delicate.
The odour of them on being handled, is delightful,
though like pepper - There are Banyan trees also, from
India, that spread 60 feet, but are not allowed to
root from the branches - The Zanier is planted in
fields here. It is called yam. Boiled first, then baked
for the table. There is the ox with a hump on his
shoulder, This hump serves to hold the strap by
which he draws load. I find beef excellent here,
also the bread. Cabbage is rich as marrow. The
English Doctors say, the Luk of Bombay is so rich & fine
that it is often eaten like a fruit. This Doctor was in
a Brig of war in the Persian Gulf - 200 persons all on board,
a sudden and violent gale came upon them in the
night, The main hatches were entirely open. The ship
filled instantly and sunk almost like a stone. He
was asleep in the cabin, yet managed to get out, to find
himself paddling about in a furious sea. He at length
saw a canoe (about 20 feet long and 18 inches wide) to
which he swam. It belonged to the brig. It rolled over
with every sea & threw the few off who could had
gotten to it, every minute. I think they were on it 18
hours, and the night was chilly, with the water. It so
happened that both wind & sea set exactly toward the
little island (of Canack I think) but none expected to
be able to survive till the boat should reach it. They
had no oars, no clothes. Nevertheless, if were saved
most kindly treated by the Arabs of the Island they so
unexpectedly reached. All the rest perished. Donkeys here
are very numerous and many of them fine, gay, spirited
animals. I have nowhere on this side the Atlantic
seen any sign of that obstinacy with which they are
charged in America. They are apparently far more docile
than our horses. I am told obstinacy is only the result
of unskilful breaking and bad treatment. Silk worms
are fed here and I see the article in beautiful dyes, being

(33)

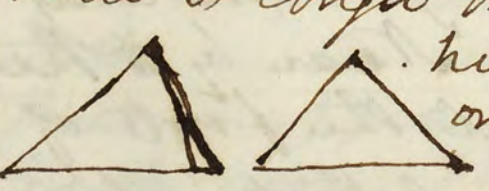
dried in the streets. About the Pachas residence
are seen many jet black slaves, well dressed looking
nubians. The soldiers are small, copper colored, clean
and well dressed. All very young and said to be
excellent troops. The old roman Aqueduct that
led water to the citadel on the hill is a considerable
work, and appears to be in full preservation. It is 35
or 45 feet high. By is also the Nilometer, ~~also large~~
basin of an acre extent or more several feet deep
by which are great heaps of earth. From this earth is
washed at stated periods, salt peter. The earth is
replaid in the great heap or hill, and in a few years
washed again. A lady here says at this season 2
years ago, the weather was opprobriously hot. All are
now complaining of the cold in the house. The sun is very
comfortable out doors but there is considerable cloudy sky.
Thorp no rain. Coal (English) is 25 dollars per ton. We
have only a small fire in the evening. There are fully
15 Americans. Several of them consumptives I fear.
A Rev. Mr. Phillips from Providence is here. I have
not seen many sheep in the country. They are usually black
and coarse wooled. The Pacha of Egypt is hereditary. The
Sultan cannot appoint. The oldest male is heir, so
that the Grandson sometimes take the throne before the
son. This independence of the Sultan I think must
involve an entire excision, sooner or later. The Copts
have several churches here. They claim to be the oldest
church. Priest seem to think addled eggs the best.
Once the natural instinct of religion is abandoned for
the absurdities and abominations of doctrine, the human
victim appears to go on wandering deeper and deeper into
the thickets and thorns of outer darkness. The church craves
unwillingly to shackle the reason and delude the judgments
of others, pretending their "faith is the evidence of things
unseen" instead of rather the assumed evidence of some
thing we know nothing about. If we do know any thing about
it, it appears to me that knowledge however little, is worth
more than all the blind faith they can talk about.
The Copts take off their shoes on going into their churches. Their
marriage service is long as a law suit. Their great ambi-
tion is to be clerks, especially in the government service. They
are almost the only scribes of the country. Churches at Alex-
andria also. The reed grows 15 feet high here, is valuable
crop used for Roofs. Grand Cairo has over 300,000 people
Our hotel is in the outskirts where are pleasant drives on
pretty smooth roads adorned with trees, among these are

fields and those of other crops, for some miles. (34)
Bananas are quite numerous, but I see no fruit.
The blood orange is here, but I do not like it so
well as the common. On being opened, its appearance
is repulsive. There are good looking watermelons
in market. Popped Corn also. Boys are spinning
tops as if they had as good right to be joyful as
true believers, but I suppose Satan will prove
the rascals a sweet one of these days. What
a scandal if he should let them them off.
This would be worse than Lord Carnarvon's clemency
in India - What's the use in being victorious, if
infidels are not to be damned?
14th - We had news day before yesterday from London
(of Feb 2^d. 10 days old) by which I am rejoiced to find
the Leviathan rider safely in the Thames. There
is also by the steamer quite an accession of English
most of whom are on their way to India. ~~Many~~
travellers are also arriving from their bouts of
excursions up the Nile from Thebes north, but many
go as far as the 2^d Cataract. A party of 4 or
more are taken on contract at a cost ^(open up) to
each individual of about 100 dollars per month
all expenses included. About 5 or 6 weeks
are generally consumed on the trip to Thebes.
All I hear speak of these voyages do so
with utter loathing of the entire thing and
many declare even the ruins themselves
to be uninteresting, but this latter appears
to me to be impossible. Cairo is a remarkably
picturesque city. It is much built from the ruins
of Alexandria, and of Memphis, the site of the
Memphis is near here but offers nothing interest-
ing. I am told there is scarcely a vestige left.
Cairo is clean, though its streets are narrow and
crooked. Carriages & a sort of 4 wheel truck move
with care through many of them. They are unpaved
so that a continual outcry is kept up in front.
Principal streets in all eastern towns I have seen
are almost impassable even on foot for the crowd of
people who fill them. Vultures and hawks are all
over the town. The houses are of stone, unburnt brick or
stucco, and 3 or 4 stories high. Many have...

rich workmanship, in Byzantine style. Some of the mosques (said to be 400 in number) have very elaborate minarets, some of them quite handsome too, but none I like nearly so well as the tall slender simpler ones of Constantinople. A new mosque here by the Citadel on high desert ground, has similar ones. I believe, no Christians are allowed to enter mosques here, without a large fee at least. Some of them are of great size. A striking feature in the East is the very early age at which boys are seen performing the duties of adults mechanics with us. There is a fellow not 9 years of age shoeing a mule another as young is ~~beating~~ beating a plate of copper into a copper kettle. A child holds the mules nose with a couple of sticks like a pair of Linnon Squares, while the other worker is paring his hoofs and shoeing - Another 9 years old turns a grindstone with his own foot ~~at~~ the crank, while with his hand a hold a ~~knife~~ implement from the anvil at his side, which he is grinding to edge or form or only brighten, as the case may require. Many of the streets are exceedingly picturesque. English Gold & Silver appear to be current here as at Alexandria, but to get a Sovereign changed for English silver costs 5 per cent though the silver is not standard by 10 per cent probably - Gold only being legal tender in England for amounts more than a Sovereign. I rode to day to the Pyramids of Gizeh. They are not over 7 miles off I think, about 7 hours is requisite. I saw a son of Ibrahim Pasha (I think) driving ~~alone~~ in a simple open barouche and 4 gray. I suppose Ibrahim is our Abraham. I crossed the Nile at old Cairo close by the Nilometer. The river appears to be some 6 or 7 hundred yards wide its water, turbid but cool and sweet. The river on the opposite side is leaved. Where it happens to overflow its banks it destroys the crops in that vicinity just as a Crevasse does on our Mississippi. In riding from the mud village of Gizeh (where I landed, opposite old Cairo) I had a fair view of the system of canals of all sizes from that of an eve Spout to those that must be navigable for considerable barges, when full of water. These have involved a large expenditure of labour. The

nice terms with feluccas in which its trade and products are transported. Its sand bars and islands of the same, that are covered with water during full river remind one of the Mississippi as also its precipitous water washed & carving banks. A few willow & the same variety or looking Lombardy poplar (of 40 ft high) are seen here that I saw on the shores of the Aegean Sea. The groves of ^{date} Palm are large and numerous - many of these are planted in regular rows, while their beauty tops admit of good pasturage to within the groves - A sort of Sycamore and a kind of clover with Sabunium like leaves furnish pasturage for cattle, buffalo, goats & camels to that are to thank so they can eat but at the edge of the ~~high~~ ^{own} herbage, a foot high, but cannot trample it with their feet. Some of the others are large - This rich looking grass furnishes butter from a light yellow, to that which is so white as to resemble, wax, sperm or boiled rice flour. The cleanest and nicest looking I have seen in many a day but not fit to eat. Strong, bad wild flowers are very few. I saw plenty of Scirpus in an uncultivated spot, but not in bloom. A few miles from the Nile ~~and~~ came at one step from the rich green plain to the utterly sterile desert. I enclose some clover from this, which only some 250 yds from the Sphinx and Pyramids. The desert rises rapidly and ~~then~~ looks like semimountain East west and South. The Sphinx is utterly uninteresting save as an ancient mystery. The Pyramids of Giza are 9 - ~~old~~ ^{old} near to each other, founded on the rocks. That lies just below the loose sand. 3 of them are large, the rest insignificant. The large ones amaze one who is acquainted with their dimensions, with their apparent inadequacy thereto; but when one stands at the base and looks up the slope they amaze him as much by their enormous proportion. It is like looking up a mountain of rock. Hawk a Buzzard or hawk seen about the apex as though they were alps. The blocks are not very large - I went inside, but had to

stop to get along in some of the narrow, low and difficult passages to the Chambers. There are several little bedouin villages on the plain near by. We pay a shik 50 ets to enter, and the same to ascend, besides fighting with the unceasing impetuosity of a whole host for "backshik" An unceasing set apparently, but so disgustingly clamorous and mean, I would not go but then again for any ordinary consideration. I believe few repeat the visit, even if they remain in Cairo for months. There ~~several~~ Bedouins speak English. I gave money to 5 boys near one of the villages because they did not ask for it. With few exceptions the cry is, the whole way, "Howadji (or Howaggi) Backshik" Then 5 boys ran when I hailed them, but one came up and received the money, which he fairly divided with the rest. The whole earth around the Pyramids is bored with tombs, and the cliff of rock perforated with them (or dulling perhaps) a sort of Petra. I hoped to be able to see all Sinai, but could not I should like to see when Mrs got his tables, but am determined not to go to Suez, even. The 3 pyramids of Saqqara are seen a very few miles south from those of Giza and 6 more beyond them. Some of them look like. The Sphinx looks east toward Cairo. The entrance of the Pyramid which I partially explored is on the North side of the structure. ~~It descends~~ By a narrow entry one (not over 4 ft wide) one descends rapidly, though the door is not over 4 or 5 ft above the base of the pyramid - we soon rise again where it is necessary to clamber part of the distance. The way has frequent angular turnings, and is destitute of other than speculative interest. The Angles of the Pyramids differ in the same structure, the North side of one being longer than the South in one, in another the South side is longer than the North. Only in Belzoni's time



he was obliged to take a small army on his visit to these monuments for protection. I was surprised to find a donkey's gait so easy and agreeable, and the

creature so enduring and docile. I see many with nails died red though the hands are as dirty as possible. The black about the eyes is also common. Mahomedans appear to keep their heads shaved all over. I see mothers shaving their childrens heads. Men are sprinkling ^{with water} from goat skins on their backs, the streets (here in the outskirts where all is broad walks trees & wide open gardens). I see chickweed here. There are very few deciduous trees and the varieties of trees shrubs & plants is very limited. They call the Janier (if Janier it be as it leaves appear to indicate) yarn. Many of the often are very large, all appear to worked simply, not in pairs. Cairo is said to be a remarkably healthy point. Some 3 or 4 short streets are nearly 40ft wide many of the streets are covered at intervals from top to top of houses, with a sort of bridge of board. Sometimes this shading is merely a reticulation of canes. a net work of 6 inch meshes.

The sale of slaves is no longer permitted. 15th. To day I rode a donkey (both I have used stumple some) to the citadel. it is on a height in the desert (for well & Alons well not far off) over which the city extends and rises from the rich alluvial plain there. Here I had a fine view of the entire city. I think I could have counted nearly 300 minarets of Mosques & Tombs. The tomb of Mahomet Ali is at this citadel. Here also the Janiera Mamelukes were massacred. ~~not far~~ The view of the Desert is before one ~~with~~ its ranges of mountains almost, of rock and sand. The Pyramids of Giza in full view, more impressive in this distance, than when close at hand. I think the 3rd sized one of the group is not 1/8 so large as either of the two principal ones thereof. Panoramic views are the finest & most striking though less satisfactory than any of the realities I have seen both of. Near by the enormous mosque of Sultan Hassan at the foot of the Hill. I entered it. Saw the tomb of that Sultan

a most wretched affair. The Mosque is in a (39)
state of dilapidation inside, but service is per-
formed therein. I suppose its style and that of
many other buildings here, to be Saracenic.
Many of the Streets in Jerusalem & Jaffa are covered
for spaces of from 50 to 200 yds with heavy stone
arches, but these are not over 15 to 20 feet to the
top of the arch. By the citadel here they were exa-
minating what appeared to me to be a very massive
temple, but I think of Roman origin. I saw
semicircular arches of great strength & solidity.
The old loom for bowing cotton & wool is still
used here as also in Palestine and Turkey.
I saw a little fire engine drawn by 3 men at full
speed, whom a driver followed up and laid his
whip upon as if they were Jackasses. There are Arabian
and other fine horses here some of which are more richly
caparisoned than any I have before seen. Very plump
and fine roast turkey (not over 6 or 8 lb weight) are on
table every day. No person is allowed in the street without
a light, ^{after} 3 hours after sunset.

Alexandria 16 July 58

I came by train from Cairo to day. The weather is
milder, ^{the hottest month} the cloudy sky has been clear for 2 days past.
It is nevertheless chilly in the shade. I noticed a few
groves of olives on the Delta. Sweet potatoes are raised
here. A Capt'n Marshall of Boston (uncle to Marshall
Wood) appears to be interesting himself, introducing
American seeds, books &c. He has just shown me a
cooking book of the amiable Mrs Widdowfield. It
has many receipts for Indian cakes &c, new here.
Also others for Architecture. The tillage of the
country is bad. The wheat fields are often so unpro-
duced (not harrowed at all) that they look as if
covered with stones (the clods) as big as a straw hat,
some under the edges of which the young grain
escapes with just its life. It can scarcely be otherwise
under existing government, when the Pasha or Pasha
owns every foot of land in Egypt and takes about
4/5 of the products for his share. He must be the richest
man in the world. The Railway is all his, The officials
then of appear to be French & Italian. There are many
Greeks here. These latter as merchants are driving

(by Competition) French English & American, all (40
over Turkey Servant & Egypt &c. One reason of
this doubtless is, their superior acquaintance with
the habits of these countries, of which they are na-
tives. ~~I saw cotton~~ There are many cotton fields
yet white. In one of these I saw persons picking the staple.
There are very considerable tracts of the North West
of the Delta (between the West branch or Nile
mouth and Lake Merois) is too wet for any thing
but rushes (There are plenty of Cut tails) and often
so deeply submerged that even the coarse grass does
not grow. The Dutch would soon reclaim all this
with pumps. There are very large cranes. Plenty of Sea
Crows. Capt'n Marshall of ~~Savannah~~ says he
was in the harbour of Savannah Georgia, on the 25
th day of December 1819, when the Steam ship Savannah
of Savannah, Captain Hazard, arrived in that port
from Rupia, whither she had been sent with hope
of sale to that country. The first vessel Steamer
that ever crossed. I had thought the Royal William
(of Sir John Caldwell) had preceded her.
I saw to day many King fishes, also flocks of wild
Pigeons. Spinning cotton by a single thread in the hands
of children as they walk about, I also noticed. The Pasha
as a special favour occasionally grants a building
lot to some one so that the property is absolutely con-
veyed as in case of purchase with us. Foreigners
appear to be in favour and Egypt is on the verge of
a new era. Station appear to be beginning to con-
sider land as property the highway of all men
as are the seas, and the right to pass unmolested
on peaceable errand will doubtless involve the subje-
gation of many savage tribes who will perish from
off the face of the earth before the steady ^{stride of} march of
stronger races. Here in Alexandria are plenty of
Moorish - Also Boot Blacks. And Capt'n Marshall
has set a fellow up in the sale of mineral water
as at our druggists. Mills of very simple and
rude construction for grinding, driven as a cider
mill is, by one horse are very numerous and
appear to do the work tolerably fast. I dare say
similar ones on our farms for cattle food & hominy
would be an improvement on sending 5 miles to mill,
without always getting the grist. They are in the
midst of Carnival here, a disgusting affair.

They are introducing oysters here by planting (41
from Gibraltar, and I hear Capt. Marshall's mission
here is the introduction of ice from Boston
on board steamer Bombay (of Austrian Lloyd Line) for
Cebu Feb 18, 58. I am at last clear of the bay
of Jackaber and the more intolerable clamour
of Arabs from which there seems to be no es-
cape in any part of the East which I have
visited. The filth of these people is beyond
conception almost, and their baseness in all
manner of lies and expedients to cheat all
is to me a new experience. This applies to Egypt.
The most improving of the worst class I ever before
saw (New York hucksters) would be comparatively
fair dealers in this land of the 7 plagues. Nearly
all who carry baggage, drive markets, row to and from
the steamers, guides & appear to be of the same stamp.
I am quite sure they consider it fair, following
only the example of the train of creatures that
have come from abroad with the current that
has of late years set in the East. I am told
it is even worse in Arabia, and many officers
from India tell me it is about as bad there.
I have not penetrated the East, but think I
have seen enough of the selvage to judge of the
cloth. As to Eastern story, I conclude it is like
those delightful flavours and odours which
the magic of modern chemistry extracts from the
most revolting and repulsive ^{realities} sources. Such I
presume is the base of every thing that has found
fashion in Eastern life. As we left the harbour
the noble light house, a system of new mullis
tower and other fortification with 81 nice stone
wind mills of 6 arms each flanked the ~~shores~~
~~with very few~~ low sandy shores with good effect.
I hear the Pasha's income from Egypt (his estate)
is 12 millions sterling annually. I doubt it is
half that sum. He must be one of the richest
men on earth. Two sons of Col. John S. Panton
are on board; very agreeable young men. There
is also Captain Pelly, just returning from a
political mission to Mesopotamia. A man
of high tone and intelligence. A forthcoming work
will (I hope) attract much attention. A soldier
himself, entirely opposed to brute force. The
the objects of this work will be to prove the superior

ity of moral power than to, from results, derived from the application of moral power in India by Col. Jacob, who it would seem has established a most happy state of things within his administration. Capt. Pelly is also ready to show that high wages are cheaper than results in his own practice in India. Young Purton would not go again up the Nile on any consideration. They remained the 2^d of the east, were about 3 months on the voyage. The rains however they think very interesting, not a fast, no fruit, only a few date palms. They had good corn cakes though; and green corn about Christmas. Eng. Coal at Alexandria is 2 £ per Ton. In India 5 £.

Harbour of Capri 21st Feb. I shall get out here and go to Athens, but hope to be in Rome very soon. My health is improving. We passed Navarino yesterday in a gale of wind. All the west coast of Greece and Albania is sterile & mountainous, and tops tipped with snow. To day is rainy (first he seen for some time, the Purton saw only one tiny shower all the time they were on the Nile) with high N. East wind but not cold. With love to all friends yours affectionate brother Jor.

Set me know if you have received my 25th Letter. This being No 25. I shall give this to Capt. Pelly to mail on his arrival in England. Steam fare on the Mediterranean is about 7^{cts} per mile, this includes meals. On our Western river it is about 1^{ct} per mile with far finer accommodations better table and higher speed. Spent 1197 dollars in 1856. less than 100 dollars per month. But expenses from point outiripple around to this point have been about 300 dollars for 52 days.

No 25 of 42 pages
Conitamment July 7. 1858

No. 25,

Place of Christ's baptism
on bank of Jordan





from Sools of Solomon





