

12 Aug 1844

Thomas / Chaley to Rachel Whaley
Coudonges

(Damaged letter - instructions
for Reading)

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible][illegible]

have at
 every time
 they will
 I am going
 one day
 I hope the
 my home

[illegible]

[illegible]

Thomas Whaley to Rachel Whaley

Letter addressed to:

Mrs. Thomas Whaley,

care of

William N. Pye,

Cannon & Delancy Streets,

New York , Les Etats Unis D'Amerique

per Le Havre Packet

Coulonges August 12th, 1844

(a damaged letter - instructions for reading: read every other)

(line beginning with Dear Mother)

Dear Mother,

When I returned home last ev-----s Mallet
and his gentle Sister Mademoiselle Olide from a prov---of
Le Mesle I found laying upon the table a letter for me from
ho-----forded me greater pleasure that the receiving of a
letter which for So-----ad anxiously been expecting. The
direction was familiar to-----in answer to mine of the 8th
of June and 17th of July. fo-----you letter to Paris Chez
Drouard Desneufbourgs Rue St. Ma ----- your letter after a
little Searching and turning over I was-----commencement.
I was much Surprised as you may well im-----rrible Sickness
dissatisfaction and disappointment! I thou-----(?) an you
ever were your cares being lessened I can not help thinking
----- (?) been Something wrong on your part too. Perhaps a
little more for b-----w might have retained you the
friendship of Mrs. Underhill I----- w-ll conceived how So
warm an attachment existing so long between two persons

can so easily be broken therefore I come to this conclusion that there could never have been any real friendship or the grounds upon which it is discontinued were so Strong that not even a friend with the least dignity of nature could forget much more forgive. That one of you is more to blame than the other is evident. I hope it is not you yet I have my doubts. Mrs. U appeared was always so kind and ever willing to assist. I cannot for one moment Suppose a woman possessing So many good parts to be the cause of all you represent and yet I am unwilling to believe it my Mother I am very sorry for what has happened both for your sake and Harriet's but especially for her. She is now a young lady. I wish that she was more like other young ladies. She wants many things to make her agreeable in company. These are only to be acquired by being in the best of company. At first she would appear and feel a little awkward but this would gradually wear away and finally seem quite natural. I thought that the position in which Mrs. Underhill's family would afford her all these advantages and that she would be introduced into good Society form new connections and become more sociable, polite and learned. You say you will recommence housekeeping and never again be persuaded to board. Do not let this first trial discourage you. I would not advise you to keep house now. You will lead but a poor miserable life of it so lonely. There is nothing to interest or excite when but two persons live together. It would be the ruining of Harriet She naturally talks but little, to encourage her she must be in company often. (Page 2- begin 2nd line and then every other line.) I think you would do well to advertise for board in Some some small genteel family where there are two or three young ladies and no other boarders. You will be

better able to make out with Strangers. I would hire a room to store away the furniture do not drag it with you where you go for if you do not like your place of board it -----Or instead of boarding in New York you might go to John's to board c-----ned home, but upon no account do not be persuaded to live (?)-----(?) it I think. You would only take your furniture there to bring ----- and your interests are in N.Y. But Since this law business is goin-----leave N.Y. You attention to it will be required I see no other w-----rtable but to board in Some genteel private family. But very li-----will have commenced housekeeping. If so continue and in Su-----table. I hope you have taken very neat appartments where our-----ed to come and we not ashamed to receive them. Get a girl,-----but one that can do everything. Have your meals regularly three time----- So Set and that upon it to which you will not be ashamed to -----to dine or Sup with you if they should happen to drop in just at the hour i--ne--ve well. Have a good deal of company. Three or four evenings in the week calculate to have some one to tea and to spend the evening. You must invite people both old and young; and when they come receive them well and amuse them as long as they will Stay even till 11 o'clock Harriet must learn to play at games, chess, domenos, chequers cards & etc. Buy 4 of those little coquette tables with a chess board upon one of them, a Set of chess, a good set of domenos cards and a backgammon board. Place these upon a table where they can be Seen and never introduce them but let the company call for them. You can never give offence then. These are played in all fashionable circles in N.Y. You must live different from

what you have been used to; you must be livelier & live better and neater. Harriet has long enough been restrained. She must be introduced into company and form a large circle of friends. This cannot be done without she has it in her power in turn to invite them. You are able to give her this. power your expenses are now considerably lessened, you have no Schooling to pay, what you formerly Spent for that you can now lay out in an other way. She must give a party on my birthday or in the commencement of winter. She must invite all the young folks she knows and some she dont know if by inviting them She can form their acquaintance & is likely to be invited to their party in return. If it is given in honor of my birth She may invite as many of my friends as she pleases. I give her a carte blanche, this party will likely be the means of her being introduced to Several during the winter. Perhaps when you are making all this Show and arrangement to ketch a bow for her you may ketch one for yourself. You must not be afraid to trust her in the care of any young gentleman you (page 3 - 2nd line)(then read everyother line) to be honourable, if he wishes to take her to a respectable ball theatre museum concert opera etc. You must have confidence in her and She must not abuse that confidence and elope with the young man. I knew the anxiety you would feel to hear from--It(gave) me (p)ain to think of it and the neglect that you might think me guilty of, believing that I-----ays instead of 50 and had wantonly omitted writing. I was only anxious to a ----- account. ~~alone~~ During the week previous to arrival the weather was lovely an----- (arm) I was contented and happy

in that little world on the ocean it-----d's and interests
seemed to me placed there. I left it with regret cu-----y
newly made acquaintances. I wrote to you by the packet of the
8th -----teamers from England or the 19th but I thought at
the time that the packet-----ing your letter, I now wish that
I had Sent by the Steamer as----tter Sooner. But there is no
calculating upon the winds I had no idea that---- -----eeks
returning to NCS wrote you another letter July 16th the Same
day-----). In this letter were enclosed three others one
for Anson & the other for C-----e very long. I have direct-
ed my letters to the care of Mrs Underhill, if She has -----on
enquired at the post office as they were urgent, if not be
sure to get them,---are---irected Mrs. Thos W. I left Paris
Jul 16th for here. I was two nights on the route, one, the
most miserable I have ever spent on the outside of a Sta(ge)
Coach in the rain. I chose this place for two reasons. it was
much cheaper and afforded a good (op)portunity of seeing the
country. but I had no idea it would rain. I engaged and paid
for my place three days before hand.(---- obliged to do this)
When the day arrived I would have taken a place in----but
there were none So my only alternative was to go or forfeiting
passage money. I left at 7 in the evening and arrived at Mamers
the next afternoon at 4. Here I found an Uncle and a friend of
M. Desneufbou(rg) who received me well I took dinner at his
Uncle's at 5 and was there till 11 in the evening when I went
to my hotel to spend the night, the next morning at 7 I visit-
ed his friend. In a couple of hours returned to the hotel got
breakfast at 10 and Set off for Colonges distant 15 miles on
foot at 11 leaving my trunk to be forwarded by Mr. D's friend
but he neglecting to do it I was obliged to go myself in the

in the night on the 29th. It cost to come here \$4.50 distance about 40 miles. I found Mons---expecting my arrival as I sent a letter before me requesting him to meet me (at) Mamers he would have done so but he did not feel very well. His mother is a good motherly lady of 60 a fine large Stout active woman who is likely to live half a century yet. His father is a very small man of about the same age, He is a very curious and extraordinary man. He does not live with any degree of intimacy with his family, at home only at dinner and at night retires early and rises the same. He is peevish and cross, like a despot in some things and like a child in many others. He will have no one to oppose his will or propose anything new. He will sooner be persuaded by an indifferent person than listen to the advice of his friends. I do not wonder that Monsieur Mallet bore him so little affection. The old gentleman & I are however very good friends. I have been twice au cafe with him, he talks of (page 4 second line and every other one thereafter) nothing but hay, hay, hay, of which he has over \$1.500 worth which has been exposed to the weather these 4 years. He is so foolish and obstinate that no one can induce him to sell for anything less reasonable more than 1/4 of it is become rotten Mademoiselle Olide is the finest girl I ever saw. So thoughtful attentive and accommodating. She is but 4 or 5 months my junior.-----nd lovely. Not as tall as I am by 3 inches, her face is ~~new~~ full complexion fair natu--- to the weather, her hair dark and her eyes of the same colour as mine. She -----and I have not yet seen one that would better suit me. but She tell me that -----e is going to live with Emile whom she loves very much. Their love is ---ual honey-moon of a newly married couple. After hearing this ----if placing my affections there however I will remember the

the girl. (Bottom section- first line and then every other one)
She has a great desire to return to America with her brother
if he should ever go. She says that she would visit Misses
Devereaux and Harriet to whom she -----will present as a
Souvener of France. Monsieurs folks live very comfortably
they depend only upon their land for a living. Hay is all
the land produces which is very good and sells for the Same as
in New York. Mademoiselle has a fine flower garden very neatly
arranged. She places in my room a bouquet (w)hich gives me
much pleasure to Smell knowing the hand which placed it there.
We frequently go out to promenade in the evening and often go
a fishing for frogs & crab fish. I pass my time very pleasantly
here nothing to do but eat drink and be merry. Sunday I gener-
ally go Mess in the morning and to vespers in the afternoon
with Mademoiselle. I am going to confession very soon (also
last line) Mademoiselle learning that I was not yet baptized
has prevailed upon me as she assured me I shall (first page,
page 1, read first six lines at top of page and then every
other line) certainly be damned. So I am going pretty soon,
She is to be my Godmother and Emile is to be my godfather,
and as it is customary for the child to take the name of the
godparents, this is the pretty name she proposes to give me
Emile Alphonse Olide. does not that Sound very pretty? I am
determined to go Since I have not been baptized, It will be
quite a private not more than 20 or 30 friends present. It is
also customary for Sugar plumbs to be destributed among the
friends. I have no objections to this as it is the Godfather
who must Stand the Shot of all. I am glad that you have enough
confidence in me not to believe that I would will---- one

moments uneasiness in not writing to you. My letter was written at Sea and ready to be-----d three weeks sooner. I can well imagine your feelings which must well nigh have been as toom--- natural for you to suppose that some disaster had befallen me upon the mighty deep bu-----e less I think you must have heard some intelligence of the vessel as we spoke 3 or 4 du--- you have to written me a letter a month after my departure. You do not know -----to me. It is terrible to be nearly 4 long months without receiving the least tidings of ones hon----- months after my departure. Thank God I have been in good health and enjoyed myself -----orments of ennui which tis natural for anyone to feel. I eat heartily and enjoy me -----ll and dine at 5, Sometimes if I feel very hungry I take a bit $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour just before g----- and as much bread as any frenchman. Soup is always served at dinner witho----- believe he had dined. The French take very little that is either sweet sour or hot an-----So good teeth. I have met several old persons ~~over~~ beyond 70 who had every tooth in their h-----The part of the country where I am in is celebrated for its cider, it is the only drink always on the table breakfast and dinner and it is all that is drank but I do not like it what we have is not much better than than vinegar So I content myself with a glass of water at breakfast now and then however I get a colouring of wine with it but it is ra(re) however as it is not customary here as it is at Paris always to drink wine at table. I miss coffee and tea very much. When I return to Paris always to drink wine at table. I miss coffee and tea very much. When I return to Paris I will buy a tea kettle and a coffee pot. only the druggists sell tea in France and coffee is 50¢ a pound but for all that I must have it. I have always been accustomed to it. It never Seems to me

that I have breakfasted it is more like a repast got ready at the moment and to be eaten in a hurry. Dinner is my best meal for then I drink water as though I was at home and as for tea or supper I go to bed thinking I have forgotten it. But don't think that I am complaining, though I eat what I am little accustomed to and served up in a manner altogether different yet I partake of the best. I never make a meal without meat, either chicken, duck rabbit mutton beef or Something else and always with fruit plumbs, prunes, peaches, pairs or apricots and cheeses of different kinds. I did not like these at first, the outside Stunk so that I was disgusted with it but I have now got over that and like them very much I never make a meal without taking a slice. We also have for desert Sometimes custards and Something which tastes much like a pudding, it is made of a grain which is called millet it is white and is excelent. I am sorry to hear that Henry is unwell, he lesses loses his time and money in coming home, & his business must suffer some during his absence. They have had a good deal of trouble and disappointment in business, I hope they may yet succeed, Henry is more a man for business than John, they must act mutually if they will aecomplish anything. I hope they are making money for I may be obliged to call upon them Someday if I do not fall into some good luck. They have but little now tis true but with right management they may have a good deel. All depends upon management.

(page 2 beginning top line and then every other line.) I am sorry they feel the loss of the little aid I rendered. I would willingly extend it to them if I were at home, but they are fortunate to have found a friend in Codman Pye. Why is he returned from Havanna? No doubt you have seen Capt. Chase and asked him many questions, he is very gentlemanly, & I have no doubt he furnished

you with all the information you required. If I am ever travelling in Maine I will----call upon him as he invited me. He has a fine little wife who tendered the Sick ladies on---- kindnesses. I was not present at the meeting of Mr. Mallet with his family, but a mother and Sis----dear and near as he is to them must have expressed more love happiness and Satisfaction than-----upon meeting after So long a Separation. His father wept as a child but Said nothi-----t doubt it. But yet that man upon parting with his Son treated him worse than a rib---6 years only knew where he was, his wife and daughter im--ted him but little---and is unwilling to listen to his councilor afford him the least assistance a-----s Son tomorrow no parents would grieve more. I do not wish you to mention to any---uely. France is a fine rich country but I could not have come at a more unhfort--o weeks of pleasant weather put all together since my landing. It is most extraordinari---ving Paris I did not see the sun and during the last three weeks it has been cloudy Som-----times but--part half of the day and scarcely aday passes but what we have rain. This----cling France! It gives me at first no favorable opinion, I hope to see pleasanter and warmer weather than this before--- I don't like to be trembling out of doors or sitting in the chimney corner during this hot month of august. We pass our evenings around the fire chatting or playing at Chess. And Sometimes Mademoiselle who has a fine voice and loves to sing amuses us in that way. The oldest people Say that the weather is most extraordinary and that it is not within their recollection ever to have Seen any so extraordinary& unfavorable/ I hope you are enjoying yourselves. Do not let my absence cause you a moment of the least uneasiness

It is not the first time I have been away from home. There is not fear of me I am among a civilized people. You have only to think to be at rest, that I am on a visit up the North River and that I am not to come home before next Summer. I am very careful and considerate as much so as it is possible for a young man of my age. So do not let this disturb you. I should like to know where Edward Cooper is and the route he intends to take? I would be pleased if I could tumble over him at Paris in one of my walks when I return. You may depend upon receiving letters but do not set any particular time if you would not be disappointed. Remember the little dependance to be placed upon the winds. You must always allow 40 days to receive a letter, you may get it sooner in 30 or 35 days and rarely ever sooner. Allow 30 days for me to receive a letter I may sometimes get in in 20 or 25 but all depends upon chance. Never write by the Steamer but where you have something very pressing as the postage is very high/ The best way for you to send me papers my petition & other papers if they be, is to do them up in a form of letter as light as possible. Send my petition as soon as possible if you have not sent it, I want it in good time so as not to keep my friend waiting for his money. Let Mr. Lozier write all the necessary instructions upon it in lead pencil that I may know how to proceed. I hope there will not be a deal of trouble and anxiety, so tell him to be very particular. Make a good lot of preserves for I get very little here. I trust I shall be home to eat some of them I like delicacies of this kind. The French make very little. You ask me if I feel as proud as usual? No I do not I feel unusually proud (page 3 -read top line and then every other line) just about 10 times as proud as I ever did. It raises a persons pride to make such a voyage and travel as I have. I am gaining in formation

everyday not as much as I should wish however I commence to speak and und erstand French tolerably well, even most of what the peasants say I understand though they speak brokenly and with a particular accent. Everywhere all over France the pronunciation differs. they give the----nch will be my school. I have been for days without speaking a word of English and can c----- And is Charlotte C. the only one of my female acquaintances who deserve to be remembered to me? -----Her for it She is a sweet innocent little girl Harriet in kissing her for me will say recei---- token of my friendship. I love the young ladies and would think myself but doing m----asures I could conduce to their happiness. As they all generally wish to be remembered to---ll of them. They have my best wishes my te--a(der)est sensibilities and most affection-----music yet nothing would please me more than to hear Sister play some of her favourites-----ill's quick step the serenade & the (?)iano waltz She must improve all she can m-----called the Polka is all the rage at Paris She must learn that, It will take very-----ady heard it. It is very fine So buy it for her as Soon as possible. I shall be pleased to -----e it at the chaumiere. I hope when we meet we shall be more worthy of each other and --- ----ive & duty. You must be very careful how you manage with that old beaux of yours or yo-----ver. I hardly thought he would give he could give me any letters of introduction as it is 4 or 5 years since he was in Europe and his friends have died or been removeved(removed). I thank him very much for his commercial letters of introduction which if I were going in to business would be invaluable to me. I wish you would take a nice house for \$500 per and have him an another gentleman to take tea I think if you were situated So you would be more comfortable and like it (b)etter you cou(1)d then make Some little Sho(w) I do not feel the loss of home. I w(as) not happy there. wrangling

and qu(a)rreling c(on)tinually made it more like a hell. And yet I was as much the cause of all the unhappiness as anyone. No, home must be home Sweet home and some hundred times dearer to be before I shall ever wish to return to it. Why should I wish myself there to be unhappy when I enjoy myself So much here? I have not heard a cross word addressed to me Since I left N.Y. nor have I had occasion to be angry with anyone or Speak any harsh words. All is uniformity. I am friends with all and all are my friends. Why is Harriet So pale? poor girl she must take care of herself, be happy and Smiling. I trust she is better now. I am glad to hear that John and Henry have sent \$100 worth of metal. This shows that they are doing something. Stick to it boys you will soon commen(ce) to send a thousand. I hope you have no difficulty in collecting your rents. Surely you have lost enough. How do the dutchman and Mc Gay make out. I hope the securing of the latter is----- upon the man he looks too much like a sharper. You must pin him tight and look well to security. If he be good you may let the whole years rent run on if you cannot collect it from Mc Gay. but you must be well assured of this first. No doubt Misses Deveraux were as anxiou to hear from Mr Mallet as you were to hear from me. Mr Mallet wro(te) to them by the first mate of the vessel they would not hear from him as Soon as you would from me by 2 or 3 weeks. I hope they are well remember m to them. You must visit them and have them to take tea with you. They are very nice people. I am sorry to hear my friend Harris has been sick, I hope nothing Severe. Remember me to Charley & Anson tell them(page 4 -read first line and then every other line)(in top and bottom sections) I will write to them Soon. By next packet I intend writing to Bushnell & Mr. Cornwall, they have reason to think I have forgotten them,

remember me to thm and then I must write to Misses deveraux as I promised. I have had both of my rotten teeth pulled Since I have been at Colonges. They pained me a little so I thought rather than suffer with the-----out. The first one the most newly decayed broke off at the roots Some day I will have then ----to keep snags, the operation will be very painful but no matter for that, the other----of years, was pulled with Some difficulty causing me Sever pain, the prong ----the roots, I keep it as a remembrance My cheeks were very much i----- could eat nothing but what was very soft. I thought I should be obliged to-----entirely over it now and can bite into the hardest crusts. (bottom section - begin 2nd line) All my teeth are sound, I have only -----what remains. Do you think that the young man who passed by Mrs. M was me? No doubt you wished it was. I believe I write you all the particulars, if I do not it is because I cannot write finer. I would very much liked you to have Seen the Ship and how coozily we were situated. Did grandfather come from Newark to See me off? If so was very kind of the old gentleman and I shall remember him for it. I (a)m glad that Mary is married. I believe that was her last chance for if the doctor had not taken her I do not know who would. She played the coquette too often. Long life and success to her. But Henry must get his portrait and the other traps from her. (middle section at fold.) (Read every other line straight through twice) I am glad to hear that the birds enjoy themselves but poor unfortunate things they are to be pitied for the loss of their offspring. Why is Henry dissatisfied? Can they not agree? They had better part at once then and each one go on their own hook.

But still it would be better for them to be united. In union there is strength. Give to all who (en)quire about me a particular account. Do not regret not having gone to live with Mrs. Montgomery. I do not believe you would have been a bit better Satisfied there. It is better to deal with strangers. There is very little danger of my forgetting English I have to often an opportunity to Speak. And in case I did forget, to turn frenchman is the last thing I should think of I would not do it for the world. I am too much of a republican for that. I would have you to get likenesses from Mr. Whitney for an other reason beside that of Henry having Sent for it, which by the way shows he bears me Some little love. It was ordered with your consent and I am surprised you should have delayed getting it so long. It is a very good one though at the time I was very thin. He may destroy it as it is not to his interest to lumber himself with plates . T.W.

Thomas Whaley to Rachel Whaley

Letter addressed to:

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care of

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what you have been used to; you must be livelier & live better and keeter. Harriet has long enough been restrained. She must be introduced into company and form a large circle of friends. This cannot be done without she has it in her power in turn to invite them. You are able to give her this. power your expenses are now considerably lessened, you have no Schooling to pay, what you formerly spent for that you can now lay out in an other way. She must give a party on my birthday or in the commencement of winter. She must invite all the young folks she knows and some she dont know if by inviting them She can form their acquaintance & is likely to be invited to their party in return. If it is given in honor of my birth she may invite as many of my friends as she pleases. I give her a carte blanche, this party will likely be the means of her being introduced to several during the winter. Perhaps when you are making all this show and arrangement to catch a bow for her you may catch one for yourself. You must not be afraid to trust her in the care of any young gentleman you (page 3 - 2nd line)(then read every other line) to be honourable, if he wishes to take her to a respectable ball theatre museum concert opera etc. You must have confidence in her and she must not abuse that confidence and elope with the young man. I knew the anxiety you would feel to hear from--It(gave) me (p)ain to think of it and the neglect that you might think me guilty of, believing that I-----ays instead of 50 and had wantonly omitted writing. I was only anxious to a ----- account. alone During the week previous to arrival the weather was lovely an----- (arm) I was contented and happy

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I had Sent by the Steamer as-----tter Sooner. But there is no
calculating upon the winds I had no idea that---- -----eeks
returning to MCS wrote you another letter July 16th the Same
day-----). In this letter were enclosed three others one
for Anson & the other for C-----e very long. I have direct-
ed my letters to the care of Mrs Underhill, if She has -----on
enquired at the post office as they were urgent, if not be
sure to get them,---are---irected Mrs. Thos W. I left Paris
Jul 16th for here. I was two nights on the route, one, the
most miserable I have ever spent on the outside of a Sta(ge)
Coach in the rain. I chose this place for two reasons. it was
much cheaper and afforded a good (opportunity of seeing the
country. but I had no idea it would rain. I engaged and paid
for my place three days before hand.(---- obliged to do this)
When the day arrived I would have taken a place in----but
there were none so my only alternative was to go or forfeiting
passage money. I left at 7 in the evening and arrived at Namers
the next afternoon at 4. Here I found an Uncle and a friend of
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in the night on the 29th. It cost to come here \$4.50 distance about 40 miles. I found Mons---expecting my arrival as I sent a letter before me requesting him to meet me (at) Mamers he would have done so but he did not feel very well. His mother is a good motherly lady of 60 a fine large Stout active woman who is likely to live half a century yet. His father is a very small man of about the same age, He is a very curious and extraordinary man. He does not live with any degree of intimacy with his family, at home on(ly) at dinner and at night retires early and rises the same. He is peevish and cross, like a despot in some thi(n)gs and like a child in many others. He will have no one to oppose his will or propose anything new. He will sooner be persuaded by an indifferent person than listen to the advice of his friends. I do not wonder that Monsieur Hallet bore him so little affection. The old gentleman & I are however very good friends. I have been twice au cafe with him, he talks of (page 4 second line and every other one thereafter) nothing but hay, hay, hay, of which he has over \$1,500 worth which has been exposed to the weather these 4 years. He is so foolish and obstinate that no one can induce him to sell for anything un reasonable more than 1/4 of it is become rotten Mademoiselle Olide is the finest girl I ever (sa)w. So thoughtful attentive and accommodating. She is but 4 or 5 months my junior.-----nd lovely. Not as tall as I am by 3 inches, her face is swa- full complexion fair natu--- to the weather, her hair dark and her eyes of the same colour as mine. She -----and I have not yet seen one that would better suit me. but she tell me that -----e is going to live with uncle whom she loves very much. Their love is --- ual honey-moon of a newly married couple. After hearing this ----if placing my affections there however I will remember the

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that I have breakfasted it is more like a repast got ready at the moment and to be eaten in a hurry. Dinner is my best meal for then I drink water as though I was at home and as for tea or supper I go to bed thinking I have forgotten it. But don't think that I am complaining, though I eat what I am little accustomed to and served up in a manner altogether different yet I partake of the best. I never make a meal without meat, either chicken, duck rabbit mutton beef or Something else and always with fruit plums, prunes, peaches, pears or apricots and cheeses of different kinds. I did not like these at first, the outside stunk so that I was disgusted with it but I have now got over that and like them very much I never make a meal without taking a slice. We also have for desert Sometimes custards and Something which tastes much like a pudding, it is made of a grain which is called millet it is white and is excellent. I am sorry to hear that Henry is unwell, he loses his time and money in coming home, & his business must suffer some during his absence. They have had a good deal of trouble and disappointment in business, I hope they may yet succeed, Henry is more a man for business than John, they must act mutually if they will accomplish anything. I hope they are making money for I may be obliged to call upon them Someday if I do not fall into some good luck. They have but little now tis true but with right management they may have a good deal. All depends upon management. (page 2 beginning top line and then every other line.) I am sorry they feel the loss of the little aid I rendered. I would willingly extend it to them if I were at home, but they are fortunate to have found a friend in Codman Pye. Why is he returned from Havanna? No doubt you have seen Capt. Case and asked him many questions, he is very gentlemanly, & I have no doubt he furnished

you with all the information you required. If I am ever travelling in Maine I will----call upon him as he invited me. He has a fine little wife who tendered the Sick ladies on---- kindnesses. I was not present at the meeting of Mr. Mallet with his family, but a mother and Sis----dear and near as he is to them must have expressed more love happiness and Satisfaction than----upon meeting after So long a Separation. His father wept as a child but Said nothi-----t doubt it. But yet that man upon parting with his Son treated him worse than a rib---6 years only knew where he was, his wife and daughter im---ted him but little---and is unwilling to listen to his councilor afford him the least assistance a-----s Son tomorrow no parents would grieve more. I do not wish you to mention to any---wally. France is a fine rich country but I could not have come at a more unfort--o weeks of pleasant weather put all together since my landing. It is most extraordinary---ving Paris I did not see the sun and during the last three weeks it has been cloudy Som-----times but---part half of the day and scarcely a day passes but what we have rain. This-----ding France! It gives me at first no favorable opinion, I hope to see pleasanter and warmer weather than this before--- I don't like to be trembling out of doors or sitting in the chimney corner during this hot month of august. We pass our evenings around the fire chatting or playing at Chess. And Sometimes Mademoiselle who has a fine voice and loves to sing amuses us in that way. The oldest people Say that the weather is most extraordinary and that it is not within their recollection ever to have Seen any so extraordinary; unfavorable/ I hope you are enjoying yourselves. Do not let my absence cause you a moment of the least uneasiness

It is not the first time I have been away from home. There is not fear of me I am among a civilized people. You have only to think to be at rest, that I am on a visit up the North River and that I am not to come home before next Summer. I am very careful and considerate as much so as it is possible for a young man of my age. So do not let this disturb you. I should like to know where Edward Cooper is and the route he intends to take? I would be pleased if I could tumble over him at Paris in one of my walks when I return. You may depend upon receiving letters but do not set any particular time if you would not be disappointed. Remember the little dependance to be placed upon the winds. You must always allow 40 days to receive a letter, you may get it sooner in 30 or 35 days and rarely ever sooner. Allow 30 days for me to receive a letter I may sometimes get in in 20 or 25 but all depends upon chance. Never write by the Steamer but where you have something very pressing as the postage is very high/ The best way for You to send me papers my petition & other papers if they be, is to do them up in a form of letter as light as possible. Send my petition as soon as possible if you have not sent it, I want it in good time so as not to keep my friend waiting for his money. Let Mr. Lozier write all the necessary instructions upon it in lead pencil that I may know how to proceed. I hope there will not be a deal of trouble and anxiety, So tell him to be very particular. Make a good lot of preserves for I get very little here. I trust I shall be home to eat some of them I like delicacies of this kind. The French make very little. You ask me if I feel as proud as usual? No I do not I feel unusually proud (page 3 -read top line and then every other line) just about 10 times as proud as I ever did. It raises a persons pride to make such a voyage and travel as I have. I am gaining information

everyday not as much as I should wish however I commence to speak and und erstani French tolerably well, even most of what the peasants say I understand though they speak brokenly and with a particular accent. Everywhere all over France the pronunciation differs. they give the-----nch will be my school. I have been for days without speaking a word of English and can c----- And is Charlotte C. the only one of my female acquaintances who deserve to be remembered to me? -----Her for it She is a sweet innocent little girl Harriet in kissing her for me will say recei----- token of my friendship. I love the young ladies and would think myself but doing m-----asures I could conduce to their happiness. As they all generally wish to be remembered to---ll of them. They have my best wishes my te--n(der)est sensibilities and most affection-----music yet nothing would please me more than to hear Sister play some of her favourites-----ill's quick step the serenade & the (?)iano waltz She must improve all she can m-----called the Polka is all the rage at Paris She must learn that, It will take very-----ady heard it. It is very fine So buy it for her as Soon as possible. I shall be pleased to -----e it at the chaumiere. I hope when we meet we shall be more worthy of each other and ----ive & duty. You must be very careful how you manage with that old beaux of yours or yo-----ver. I hardly thought he would give he could give me any letters of introduction as it is 4 or 5 years since he was in Europe and his friends have died or been removeved(removed). I thank him very much for his commercial letters of introduction which if + were going in to business would be invaluable to me. I wish you would take a nice house for \$500 per and have him an another gentleman to take tea I think if you were situated So you would be more comfortable and like it (b)etter you cou(l)d then make Some little Sho(w) I do not feel the loss of home. I w(as) not happy there. wrangling n

and qu(a)rreling c(on)tinually made it more like a hell. And yet I was as much the cause of all the unhappiness as anyone. No, home must be home Sweet home and some hundred times dearer to be before I shall ever wish to return to it. Why should I wish myself there to be unhappy when I enjoy myself So much here? I have not heard a cross word addressed to me Since I left N.Y. nor have I had occasion to be angry with anyone or Speak any harsh words. All is uniformity. I am friends with all and all are my friends. Why is Harriet So pale? poor girl she must take care of herself, be happy and Smiling. I trust she is better now. I am glad to hear that John and Henry have sent \$100 worth of metal. This shows that they are doing something. Stick to it boys you will soon commence to send a thousand. I hope you have no difficulty in collecting your rents. Surely you have lost enough. How do the dutchman and Mc Gay make out. I hope the securing of the latter is----- upon the man he looks too much like a sharper. You must pin him tight and look well to security. If he be good you may let the whole years rent run on if you cannot collect it from Mc Gay. but you must be well assured of this first. No doubt Misses Deveraux were as anxios to hear from Mr Mallet as you were to hear from me. Mr Mallet wro(te) to them by the first mate of the vessel they would not hear from him as Soon as you would from me by 2 or 3 weeks. I hope they are well remember m to them. You must visit them and have them to take tea with you. They are very nice people. I am sorry to hear my friend Harris has been sick, I hope nothing Severe. Remember me to Charley & Anson tell them(page 4 -read first line and then every other line)(in top and bottom sections) I will write to them Soon. By next packer I intend writing to Bushnell & Mr. Cornwall, they have reason to think I have forgotten them,

remember me to him and then I must write to Misses deveraux as I promised. I have had both of my rotten teeth pulled Since I have been at Colonges. They pained me a little so I thought rather than suffer with the-----out. The first one the most newly decayed broke off at the roots Some day I will have then -----to keep snags, the operation will be very painful but no matter for that, the other-----of years, was pulled with Some difficulty causing me Sever pain, the prong ----the roots, I keep it as a remembrance My cheeks were very much i----- could eat nothing but what was very soft. I thought I should be obliged to-----entirely over it now and can bite into the hardest crusts. (bottom section - begin 2nd line) All my teeth are sound, I have only -----what remains. Do you think that the young man who passed by Mrs. H was me? No doubt you wished it was. I believe I write you all the particulars, if I do not it is because I cannot write finer. I would very much liked you to have seen the Ship and how cozily we were situated. Did grandfather come from Newark to see me off? If so was very kind of the old gentleman and I shall remember him for it. I (a)m glad that Mary is married. I believe that was her last chance for if the doctor had not taken her I do not know who would. She played the coquette too often. Long life and success to her. But Henry must get his portrait and the other traps from her. (middle section at fold.) (Read every other line straight through twice) I am glad to hear that the birds enjoy themselves but poor unfortunate things they are to be pitied for the loss of their offspring. Why is Henry dissatisfied? Can they not agree? They had better part at once then and each one go on their own hook.

But still it would be better for them to be united. In union there is strength. Give to all who (en)quire about me a particular account. Do not regret not having gone to live with Mrs. Montgomery. I do not believe you would have been a bit better Satisfied there. It is better to deal with strangers. There is very little danger of my forgetting English I have to often an opportunity to Speak. And in case I did forget, to turn frenchman is the last thing I should think of I would not do it for the world. I am too much of a republican for that. I would have you to get likenesses from Mr. Whitney for an other reason beside that of Henry having Sent for it, which by the way shows he bears me Some little love. It was ordered with your consent and I am surprised you should have delayed getting it so long. It is a very good one though at the time I was very thin. He may destroy it as it is not to his interest to lumber himself with plates . T.W.

Thomas Whaley to Rachel Whaley

Letter addressed to:

Mrs. Thomas Whaley,

care of

William H. Pye,

Cannon & Delancy Streets,

New York , Les Etats Unis D'Amerique

per Le Havre Packet

Coulonges August 12th, 1844

(a damaged letter - instructions for reading: read every other)

(line beginning with Dear Mother)

Dear Mother,

When I returned home last ev-----s Mallets
and his gentle Sister Mademoiselle Olide from a prov---of
Le Mosle I found laying upon the table a letter for me from
ho-----forded me greater pleasure that the receiving of a
letter which for So-----ad anxiously been expecting. The
direction was familiar to-----in answer to mine of the 8th
of June and 17th of July. fo-----you letter to Paris Chez
Drouard Desneufbourgs Rue St. Ma ----- your letter after a
little Searching and turning over I was-----commencement.
I was much Surprised as you may well im-----rible Sickness
dissatisfaction and disappointment! I thou-----(?) an you
ever were your cares being lessened I can not help thinking
----- (?) been Something wrong on your part too. Perhaps a
little more for b-----w might have retained you the
friendship of Mrs. Underhill I----- w-ll conceived how So
warm an attachment existing so long between two persons

can so easily be broken therefore I come to this conclusion that there could never have been any real friendship or the grounds upon which it is discontinued were so Strong that not even a friend with the least dignity of nature could forget much more forgive. That one of you is more to blame than the other is evident. I hope it is not you yet I have my doubts. Mrs. U appeared was always so kind and ever willing to assist. I cannot for one moment suppose a woman possessing so many good parts to be the cause of all you represent and yet I am unwilling to believe it my Mother I am very sorry for what has happened both for your sake and Harriet's but especially for her. She is now a young lady. I wish that she was more like other young ladies. She wants many things to make her agreeable in company. These are only to be acquired by being in the best of company. At first she would appear and feel a little awkward but this would gradually wear away and finally seem quite natural. I thought that the position in which Mrs. Underhill's family would afford her all these advantages and that she would be introduced into good Society form new connections and become more sociable, polite and learned. You say you will recommence housekeeping and never again be persuaded to board. Do not let this first trial discourage you. I would not advise you to keep house now. You will lead but a poor miserable life of it so lonely. There is nothing to interest or excite when but two persons live together. It would be the ruining of Harriet She naturally talks but little, to encourage her she must be in company often. (Page 2- begin 2nd line and then every other line.) I think you would do well to advertise for board in some small genteel family where there are two or three young ladies and no other boarders. You will be

better able to make out with Strangers. I would hire a room to store away the furniture do not drag it with you where you go for if you do not like your place of board it -----Or instead of boarding in New York you might go to John's to board c-----ned home, but upon no account do not be persuaded to live (?)-----(?) it I think. You would only take your furniture there to bring ----- and your interests are in N.Y. But Since this law business is goin-----leave N.Y. You attention to it will be required I see no other w-----rtable but to board in Some genteel private family. But very li-----will have commenced housekeeping. If so continue and in Su-----table. I hope you have taken very neat apartments where our-----ed to come and we not ashamed to receive them. Get a girl,-----but one that can do everything. Have your meals regularly three time----- So Set and that upon it to which you will not be ashamed to -----to dine or Sup with you if they should happen to drop in just at the hour i-----ve well. Have a good deal of company. Three or four evenings in the week calculate to have some one to tea and to spend the evening. You must invite people both old and young; and when they come receive them well and amuse them as long as they will Stay even till 11 o'clock Harriet must learn to play at games, chess, domenos, chequers cards & etc. Buy 4 of those little coquette tables with a chess board upon one of them, a Set of chess, a good set of domenos cards and a backgammon board. Place these upon a table where they can be Seen and never introduce them but let the company call for them. You can never give offence then. Those are played in all fashionable circles in N.Y. You must live different from

what you have been used to; you must be livelier & live better and nester. Harriet has long enough been restrained. She must be introduced into company and form a large circle of friends. This cannot be done without she has it in her power in turn to invite them. You are able to give her this power your expenses are now considerably lessened, you have no Schooling to pay, what you formerly spent for that you can now lay out in an other way. She must give a party on my birthday or in the commencement of winter. She must invite all the young folks she knows and some she dont know if by inviting them she can form their acquaintance & is likely to be invited to their party in return. If it is given in honor of my birth she may invite as many of my friends as she pleases. I give her a carte blanche, this party will likely be the means of her being introduced to several during the winter. Perhaps when you are making all this show and arrangement to catch a bow for her you may catch one for yourself. You must not be afraid to trust her in the care of any young gentleman you (page 3 - 2nd line)(then read everyother line) to be honourable, if he wishes to take her to a respectable ball theatre museum concert opera etc. You must have confidence in her and she must not abuse that confidence and elope with the young man. I knew the anxiety you would feel to hear from--It(gave) me (p)ain to think of it and the neglect that you might think me guilty of, believing that I-----ays instead of 50 and had wantonly omitted writing. I was only anxious to a ----- account. alone During the week previous to arrival the weather was lovely an------(arm) I was contented and happy

in that little world on the ocean it-----d's and interests
seemed to me placed there. I left it with regret cu-----y
newly made acquaintances. I wrote to you by the packet of the
8th -----steamers from England on the 19th but I thought at
the time that the packet-----ing your letter, I now wish that
I had sent by the Steamer as-----tter Sooner. But there is no
calculating upon the winds I had no idea that-----eeks
returning to MCS wrote you another letter July 16th the same
day-----). In this letter were enclosed three others one
for Anson & the other for C-----e very long. I have direct-
ed my letters to the care of Mrs Underhill, if she has -----on
enquired at the post office as they were urgent, if not be
sure to get them,---are---irected Mrs. Thos W. I left Paris
Jul 16th for here. I was two nights on the route, one, the
most miserable I have ever spent on the outside of a Sta(ge)
Coach in the rain. I chose this place for two reasons. it was
much cheaper and afforded a good (op)portunity of seeing the
country. but I had no idea it would rain. I engaged and paid
for my place three days before hand. (---- obliged to do this)
When the day arrived I would have taken a place in----but
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confidence in me not to believe that I would will---- one

moments uneasiness in not writing to you. My letter was written at Sea and ready to be-----d three weeks sooner. I can well imagine your feelings which must well nigh have been as toom--- natural for you to suppose that some disaster had befallen me upon the mighty deep bu-----e less I think you must have heard some intelligence of the vessel as we spoke 3 or 4 du--- you have to written me a letter a month after my departure. You do not know -----to me. It is terrible to be nearly 4 long months without receiving the least tidings of ones hon----- months after my departure. Thank God I have been in good health and enjoyed myself -----orments of ennui which tis natural for anyone to feel. I eat heartily and enjoy me -----ll and dine at 5, Sometimes if I feel very hungry I take a bit $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour just before g----- and as much bread as any french man. Soup is always served at dinner witho----- believe he had dined. The French take very little that is eit er sweet sour or hot an-----So good teeth. I have met several old persons ~~over~~ beyond 70 who had every tooth in their h-----The part of the country where I am in is celebrated for its cider, it is the only drink always on the table breakfast and dinner and it is all that is drank but I do not like it what we have is not much better than than vinegar So I content myself with a glass of water at breakfast now and then however I get a colouring of wine with it but it is ra(re) however as it is not customary here as it is at Paris always to drink wine at table. I miss coffee and tea very much. When I return to Paris always to drink wine at table. I miss coffee and tea very much. When I return to Paris I will buy a tea kettle and a coffee pot. only the druggists sell tea in France and coffee is 50¢ a pound but for all that I must have it. I have always been accustomed to it. It never seems to me

that I have breakfasted it is more like a repast got ready at the moment and to be eaten in a hurry. Dinner is my best meal for then I drink water as though I was at home and as for tea or supper I go to bed thinking I have forgotten it. But don't think that I am complaining, though I eat what I am little accustomed to and served up in a manner altogether different yet I partake of the best. I never make a meal without meat, either chicken, duck rabbit mutton beef or something else and always with fruit plums, prunes, peaches, pears or apricots and cheeses of different kinds. I did not like these at first, the outside stunk so that I was disgusted with it but I have now got over that and like them very much I never make a meal without taking a slice. We also have for desert Sometimes custards and something which tastes much like a pudding, it is made of a grain which is called millet it is white and is excellent. I am sorry to hear that Henry is unwell, he loses loses his time and money in coming home, his business must suffer some during his absence. They have had a good deal of trouble and disappointment in business, I hope they may yet succeed, Henry is more a man for business than John, they must act mutually if they will accomplish anything. I hope they are making money for I may be obliged to call upon them Someday if I do not fall into some good luck. They have but little now tis true but with right management they may have a good deal. All depends upon management. (page 2 beginning top line and then every other line) I am sorry they feel the loss of the little aid I rendered. I would willingly extend it to them if I were at home, but they are fortunate to have found a friend in Codman Pye. Why is he returned from Havana? No doubt you have seen Capt. Case and asked him many questions, he is very gentlemanly, & I have no doubt he furnished

you with all the information you required. If I am ever travelling in Maine I will----call upon him as he invited me. He has a fine little wife who tendered the Sick ladies on---- kindnesses. I was not present at the meeting of Mr. Mallet with his family, but a mother and sis----dear and near as he is to them must have expressed more love happiness and satisfaction than----upon meeting after so long a Separation. His father wept as a child but Said nothi-----t doubt it. But yet that man upon parting with his Son treated him worse than a rib---6 years only knew where he was, his wife and daughter im---ted him but little---and is unwilling to listen to his councilor afford him the least assistance a-----s Son tomorrow no parents would grieve more. I do not wish you to mention to any---usly. France is a fine rich country but I could not have come at a more unfort--o weeks of pleasant weather put all together since my landing. It is most extraordinari---ving Paris I did not see the sun and during the last three weeks it has been cloudy Som---times but---ast half of the day and scarcely a day passes but what we have rain. This-----ding France! It gives me at first no favorable opinion, I hope to see pleasanter and warmer weather than this before--- I don't like to be trembling out of doors or sitting in the chimney corner during this hot month of august. We pass our evenings around the fire chatting or playing at Chess. And Sometimes Mademoiselle who has a fine voice and loves to sing amuses us in that way. The oldest people Say that the weather is most extraordinary and that it is not within their recollection ever to have seen any so extraordinary; unfavorable/ I hope you are enjoying yourselves. Do not let my absence cause you a moment of the least uneasiness

It is not the first time I have been away from home. There is not fear of me I am among a civilized people. You have only to think to be at rest, that I am on a visit up the North River and that I am not to come home before next Summer. I am very careful and considerate as much so as it is possible for a young man of my age. So do not let this disturb you. I should like to know where Edward Cooper is and the route he intends to take? I would be pleased if I could tumble over him at Paris in one of my walks when I return. You may depend upon receiving letters but do not set any particular time if you would not be disappointed. Remember the little dependance to be placed upon the winds. You must always allow 40 days to receive a letter, you may get it sooner in 30 or 35 days and rarely ever sooner. Allow 30 days for me to receive a letter I may sometimes get in in 20 or 25 but all depends upon chance. Never write by the Steamer but where you have something very pressing as the postage is very high/ The best way for You to send me papers my petition & other papers if they be, is to do them up in a form of letter as light as possible. Send my petition as soon as possible if you have not sent it, I want it in good time so as not to keep my friend waiting for his money. Let Mr. Lozier write all the necessary instructions upon it in lead pencil that I may know how to proceed. I hope there will not be a deal of trouble and anxiety, So tell him to be very particular. Make a good lot of preserves for I get very little here. I trust I shall be home to eat some of them I like delicacies of this kind. The French make very little. You ask me if I feel as proud as usual? No I do not I feel unusually proud (page 3 -read top line and then every other line) just about 10 times as proud as I ever did. It raises a persons pride to make such a voyage and travel as I have. I am gaining in formation

everyday not as much as I should wish however I commence to speak and understand French tolerably well, even most of what the peasants say I understand though they speak brokenly and with a particular accent. Everywhere all over France the pronunciation differs. they give the----ach will be my school. I have been for days without speaking a word of English and can c----- And is Charlotte C. the only one of my female acquaintances who deserve to be remembered to me? -----Her for it She is a sweet innocent little girl Harriet in kissing her for me will say received token of my friendship. I love the young ladies and would think myself but doing measures I could conduce to their happiness. As they all generally wish to be remembered to---all of them. They have my best wishes my tenderest sensibilities and most affection-----music yet nothing would please me more than to hear Sister play some of her favourites-----ill's quick step the serenade & the (?)iano waltz She must improve all she can m-----called the Polka is all the rage at Paris She must learn that, It will take very-----ady heard it. It is very fine so buy it for her as soon as possible. I shall be pleased to -----e it at the chaumiere. I hope when we meet we shall be more worthy of each other and -----ive a duty. You must be very careful how you manage with that old beaux of yours or yo-----ever. I hardly thought he would give he could give me any letters of introduction as it is 4 or 5 years since he was in Europe and his friends have died or been removed(removed). I thank him very much for his commercial letters of introduction which if I were going in to business would be invaluable to me. I wish you would take a nice house for 2500 per and have him an another gentleman to take tea I think if you were situated so you would be more comfortable and like it (b)etter you could then make some little Sho(w) I do not feel the loss of home. I w(as) not happy there. wrangling a

and qu(a)rreling c(on)tinually made it more like a hell. And yet I was as much the cause of all the unhappiness as anyone. No, home must be home Sweet home and some hundred times dearer to be before I shall ever wish to return to it. Why should I wish myself there to be unhappy when I enjoy myself so much here? I have not heard a cross word addressed to me Since I left N.Y. nor have I had occasion to be angry with anyone or Speak any harsh words. All is uniformity. I am friends with all and all are my friends. Why is Harriet so pale? poor girl she must take care of herself, be happy and smiling. I trust she is better now. I am glad to hear that John and Henry have sent \$100 worth of metal. This shows that they are doing something. Stick to it boys you will soon commence to send a thousand. I hope you have no difficulty in collecting your rents. Surely you have lost enough. How do the dutchman and Mc Gay make out. I hope the securing of the latter is----- upon the man he looks too much like a sharper. You must pin him tight and look well to security. If he be good you may let the whole years rent run on if you cannot collect it from Mc Gay. but you must be well assured of this first. No doubt Misses Severaux were as anxious to hear from Mr Mallet as you were to hear from me. Mr Mallet wro(te) to them by the first mate of the vessel they would not hear from him as soon as you would from me by 2 or 3 weeks. I hope they are well remember m to them. You must visit them and have them to take tea with you. They are very nice people. I am sorry to hear my friend Harris has been sick, I hope nothing Severe. Remember me to Charley & Anson tell them (page 4 -read first line and then every other line) (in top and bottom sections) I will write to them soon. By next packet I intend writing to Bushnell & Mr. Cornwall, they have reason to think I have forgotten them,

remember me to them and then I must write to Misses devereaux as I promised. I have had both of my rotten teeth pulled Since I have been at Colonges. They pained me a little so I thought rather than suffer with the-----out. The first one the most newly decayed broke off at the roots Some day I will have then -----to keep snags, the operation will be very painful but no matter for that, the other-----of years, was pulled with Some difficulty causing me Sever pain, the prong ----the roots, I keep it as a remembrance My cheeks were very much i----- could eat nothing but what was very soft. I thought I should be obliged to-----entirely over it now and can bite into the hardest crusts. (bottom section - begin 2nd line) All my teeth are sound, I have only -----what remains. So you think that the young man who passed by Mrs. H was me? No doubt you wished it was. I believe I write you all the particulars, if I do not it is because I cannot write finer. I would very much liked you to have Seen the ship and how coozily we were situated. Did grandfather come from Newark to See me off? If so was very kind of the old gentleman and I shall remember him for it. I (a)m glad that Mary is married. I believe that was her last chance for if the doctor had not taken her I do not know who would. She played the coquette too often. Long life and success to her. But Henry must get his portrait and the other traps from her. (middle section at fold.) (Read every other line straight through twice) I am glad to hear that the birds enjoy themselves but poor unfortunate things they are to be pitied for the loss of their offspring. Why is Henry dissatisfied? Can they not agree? They had better part at once then and each one go on their own hook.

11
But still it would be better for them to be united. In union there is strength. Give to all who (en)quire about me a particular account. Do not regret not having gone to live with Mrs. Montgomery. I do not believe you would have been a bit better Satisfied there. It is better to deal with strangers. There is very little danger of my forgetting English I have to often an opportunity to Speak. And in case I did forget, to turn frenchman is the last thing I should think of I would not do it for the world. I am too much of a republican for that. I would have you to get likenesses from Mr. Whitney for an other reason beside that of Henry having Sent for it, which by the way shows he bears me Some little love. It was ordered with your consent and I am surprised you should have delayed getting it so long. It is a very good one though at the time I was very thin. He may destroy it as it is not to his interest to lumber himself with plates . T.W.

(damaged) 11 London 28 August 12th 1844
(every other line beginning Dear Mother)
Dear Mother,

When I returned home last w—
—s invalid and his gentle sister Mademoiselle
slide from a prov— of the week I found
laying upon the table a letter for me from
ho—forded me greater pleasure than
the receiving of a letter which for so—
—ad anxiously been expecting. The
direction was familiar to — in
answer to mine of the 5th of June and 17th
of July. — you letter to Paris Ches
Drouard Deneufbourg Rue St Ma—
your letter after a little searching and turning
over I was — commencement. I was
much surprised as you may well im—
—rible sickness dissatisfaction and disappoint-
ment! I thou— in you ever were
your cares being lessened I can not help
thinking — I been something
wrong on your part too. Perhaps a little more
for b— might have retained you
the friendship of Mr Underhill I— will
conceived how so ev. in an attachment existing
so long between two persons can so easily
be broken therefore I come to this conclusion

2
inclusion

Colonges - Aug. 12th, '44

there either could never have been any real
friendship or the grounds upon which
it is discontinued were so strong that
not even a friend with the least dignity
of nature could for get much more
forgive. That one of you is more to blame
than the other is evident. I hope it is not
you yet I have my doubts. Mrs W.
~~appeared~~ was always so kind and ever
willing to assist. I cannot for one moment
suppose a woman possessing so many good
parts to be the cause of all you represent
and yet I am unwilling to believe it my
mother I am very sorry for what has
happened both for your sake and Harriet's
but especially for her she is now a
young lady I wish that she was more like
other young ladies she wants many
things to make her agreeable in company.
These are only to be acquired by being
in the best of company. At first she would
appear and feel a little awkward but this
would gradually wear away and finally
be quite natural. I thought that the
position in which Mrs Underhill's family
would afford her all these advantages and
that she would be introduced into good
society form new connections and become more

3
(Helen Hunt)
Colleges - Aug. 12th, '44

sociable, polite and learned. You say you will recommence house keeping and never again be persuaded to board. Do not let this first trial discourage you. I would not advise you to keep house now. You will lead but a poor miserable life of it so lonely. There is nothing to interest or excite when but two persons live together. It would be the ruining of Harriet. She naturally talks but little, to encourage her she must be in company often.

(Pg 2 - begin 2nd line and then every other line)

I think you would do well to advertize for board in some small genteel family where there are two or three young ladies and no other boarders. You will be better able to make out with strangers. I would hire a room to store away the furniture do not drag it with you where you go for if you do not like your place of board it — On instead of boarding in New York you might go to John's to board — — — — — ed home, but upon no account do not be persuaded to live — — — — — at I think you would only take your furniture there to bring — — — — — and your interests are in N.Y. But since this law business is gone — — — — — leave N.Y. your attention to it will be required. I see no other — — — — — stable but to

4
(but to)

Colonges - Aug. 12th, '44

board in some genteel private family. But
very li_____ will have commenced house
keeping. If so continue and in su_____
-table. I hope you have taken very neat
apartments where our _____ed to come
and we not ashamed to receive them. Get
a girl, _____ but one that can do everything.
Have your meals regularly three times _____
so sit and that upon it to which you will
not be ashamed to _____ to dine or sup
with you if they should happen to drop in
just at the hour. i - n - e - well. Have a
good deal of company. Three or four evenings
in the week calculate to have some one to tea
and to spend the evening. You must invite
people both old and young; and when
they come receive them well and amuse
them as long as they will stay even till
11 o'clock. Harriet must learn to play at
games, chess dominoes, chequers & cards &c
Buy 4 of those little coquette tables with a
chess board upon one of them, a set of
chess, a good set of dominoes cards and a
back gammon board. Place these upon a
table where they can be seen and never
introduce them but let the company
call for them. You can never give offence
then. These are played in all fashionable

5
(Helen's)

Colonge - Aug 12th, '44

circles in N.Y. You must live different from what you have been used to; you must be livelier & live better & neater. Harriet has long enough been restrained. She must be introduced into company and form a large circle of friends. This cannot be done without she has it in her power in turn to invite them. You are able to give her this power your expenses are now considerably lessened, you have no schooling to pay, what you formerly spent for that you can now lay out in an other way. She must give a party on my birthday or in the commencement of winter. She must invite all the young folks she knows and some she don't know if by inviting them she can form their acquaintance & is likely to be invited to their party in return. If it is given in honor of my birth she may invite as many of my friends as she pleases. I give her a carte blanche, This party will likely be the means of her being introduced to several during the winter. Perhaps when you are making all this show and arrangement to kitch a bow for her you may kitch one for yourself. You must not be afraid to trust her in the care of any young gentleman - you (Pg. 3 - 2nd line and then every other line) to be honourable, ~~you must~~ if he wishes to take her to a respectable ball

6
(ball)

Colonges Aug 12th, '44

theatre museum concert opera &c. You must have confidence in her and she must not abuse that confidence and elope with the young man. I knew the anxiety you would feel to hear from — It ~~was~~ ^{was} me ~~pain~~ to think of it and the neglect that you might think me guilty of, believing that I ———— ays instead of 50 and had wantonly omitted writing. I was only anxious to a ———— account ~~there~~. During the week previous to arrival the weather was lovely an ———— ^{day} I was contented and happy in that little world on the ocean it ———— d's and interests seemed to me placed there. I left it with regret ~~on~~ ^{to} newly made acquaintances. I wrote to you by the packet of the 8th ~~of~~ ^{of} ———— steamers from England or the 17th but I thought at the time that the packet ———— ing your letter, I now wish that I had sent by the steamer an ———— ~~other~~ ^{other} sooner. But there is no calculating upon the winds I had no idea that ———— weeks returning to NCS wrote you another letter July 16th the same day ————. In this letter were enclosed three others one for Anson & the other for C ———— e very long. I have directed my letters to the care of Mrs Underhill, if she has ———— on enquired at

7.
(Inverted)

Colonge Aug. 12th 44

the post office as they were urgent, if not be
sure to get them, — are — visited Mrs. Thos W. I
left Paris Jul 16th for here. I was two nights on
the route, one, the most miserable I ever spent
on the outside of a stage coach in the rain. I
chose this place for two reasons. it was much
cheaper and afforded a good opportunity of
seeing the country. but I had no idea it
would rain. I engaged and paid for my
place three days before hand. (— obliged
to do this) When the day arrived I would have
taken a place in — but there were none so
my only alternative was to go or forfeit my
passage money. I left at 7 in evening
and arrived at Manure the next afternoon
at 4. Here I found an Uncle and a friend of
Mr Desmoulin who received me well I took
dinner at his Uncle at 5 and was there till 11
in the evening when I went to my hotel to
spend the night, the next morning at 7 I visited
his friend. In a couple of hours returned to
the hotel got breakfast at 10 and set off for
Colonge distant 15 miles on foot at 11 leaving
my trunk to be forwarded by Mr W's friend
but he neglecting to do it I was obliged to go
myself in the night on the 29th. It cost to
come here \$4.50 distance about 40 miles.
I found Mrs — expecting my arrival
as I sent a letter before me requesting him to

8
thin to)

Colonge - Aug. 12th, '44

meet me (out) Manners he would have done so but he did not feel very well. His mother is a good motherly lady of 60 a fine large stout active woman who is likely to live half a century yet. His father is a very small man of about the same age, He is a very curious and extraordinary man. He does not live with any degree of intimacy with his family, at home only at dinner and at night retires early and rises the same. He is purish and cross, like a despot in some things and like a child in many others. He will have no one to oppose his will or propose anything new. He will sooner be persuaded by an indifferent person than listen to the advice of his friends. I do not wonder that Monsieur Maillet bore him so little affection. The old gentleman & I are however very good friends. I have been twice au cafe with him, he talks of (pg. 4 second line and every other one thereafter) nothing but hay, hay, hay, of which he has over \$1500 worth which has been exposed to the weather these 4 years. He is so foolish and obstinate that no one can induce him to sell for anything ~~unreasonable~~ more than $\frac{1}{4}$ of it is become rotten. Mademoiselle Slide is the finest girl I ever saw so thoughtful attentive and accommodating. She is but 4 or 5 months my junior. ————— and lonely. Notes

9
(not ab)

Colonge - Aug. 12th '44

tall as I am by 3 inches, her face is ~~now~~ full
complexion fair & clear ——— to the weather,
her hair dark and her eyes of the same
colour as mine. She ——— and I have not
yet seen one that would better suit me. but
she tell me that ——— is going to live
with Emile whom she loves very much.
Their love is ——— not honey-moon of
a newly married couple, after hearing this
——— if placing my affections there
however I will remember the girl. (Bottom
section — first time and then every other one)
she has a great desire to return to America
with her brother if he should ever go. she
says that she would visit Misses Duveraux and
Harriet to whom she ——— will present as a
Sovereign of France. Monsieur's folks live very
comfortably they depend only upon their
land for a living. Hay is all the land produced
which is very good and sells for the same
as in New York. Mademoiselle has a fine flower
garden very neatly arranged. she places
in my room a bouquet ~~which~~ gives me
much pleasure to smell knowing the hand
which placed it there. We frequently go out
to promenade in the evening and often go
a fishing for frogs & cat-fish. I pass my

10
I'm writing)

Colonges - Aug 12th, '44

time very pleasantly here nothing to do but eat drink and be merry. Sunday I generally go Mass in the morning and to vespers in the afternoon with Mademoiselle. I am going to confession very soon (also last line) Mademoiselle learning that I was not yet baptized has prevailed upon me as she assured me I shall (first page (read first six lines at top of page + then every other line) certainly be damned, so I am going pretty soon, she is to be my god mother and Emile is to be my god father, and and as it is customary for the child to take the name of the god parents, this is the pretty name she proposes to give me Emile Alphonse Olike. does not that sound very pretty? I am determined to go since I have not been baptized, it will be quite ~~a~~ private not more than 20 or 30 friends present. It is also customary for sugar plums to be distributed among the friends. I have no objections to this as it is the god father who must stand the shot of all. I am glad that you have enough confidence in me not to believe that I would ~~will~~ ——— one moment's uneasiness in not writing to you. My letter was written at sea and ready to be ——— and 3 weeks sooner. I can well imagine your feelings which must well nigh have been as soon ——— natural for you to suppose that some disaster had befallen me upon the mighty deep ——— e lies I think you

11
think you

Colonges - Aug. 12th '84

must have heard some intelligence of the vessel
as we spoke 3 or 4 ~~du~~ — you to have written
me a letter a month after my departure. You do
not know — to me. It is terrible to be
nearly 4 long months without receiving the
least tidings of one ~~hon~~ — months after
my departure. Thank God I have been in good
health and enjoyed myself — ornaments
of ennui which tis natural for any one to
feel. I eat heartily and enjoy me — 11
and dine at 5, sometimes if I feel very hungry
I take a bit 1/2 on hour just before g — and
as much bread as any frenchman
Soup is always served at dinner with —
believe he had dined. The french take very little
that is either sweet sour or hot. an —
— so good teeth. I have met several old persons
~~over~~ beyond 70 who had every tooth in their
h — — The part of the country where I am
in is celebrated for its cider, it is the only drink
always on the table breakfast and dinner and
it is all that is drank but I do not like it
what we have is not much better than vinegar
so I content myself with a glass of water at
breakfast now and then however I get a colouring
of ^{wine} with it but it is ~~not~~ however as it is not customary
here as it is at Paris always to drink wine at
table. I miss coffee and tea very much. When
I return to Paris I will buy a tea kettle and a
coffee pot. only the druggists ^{sell tea} in France and

12
(framed)

Colonges - Aug 12th, 44

Coffee is 50¢ a pound but for all that I must have it. I have always been accustomed to it. It never seems to me that I have breakfasted it is more like a repast got ready at the moment and to be eaten in a hurry. Dinner is my best meal for then I drink water as though I was at home and as for tea or supper I go to bed thinking I have forgotten it. But don't think that I am complaining, though I eat what I am little accustomed to and served up in a manner altogether different yet I partake of the best. I never make a meal without meat, either chicken, duck rabbit mutton beef or something else and always with fruit, plums, prunes, peaches, pears or apricots and cheeses of different kinds. I did not like these at first, the outside stunk so that I was disgusted with it but I have now got over that and like them very much I never make a meal without taking a slice. We also have for dessert sometimes custards and something which tastes much like a pudding, it is made of a grain which is called millet it is white and is excellent. I am sorry to hear that Henry is unwell, he ~~loses~~ loses his time and money in coming home, his business must suffer some during his absence. They have had a good deal of trouble and disappointment in business, I hope they may yet succeed, Henry is more a man for business than John, they must act mutually if they will

13
(copy all)

Coloresses - Aug 10th, '44

accomplish anything. I hope they are making money for I may be obliged to call upon them someday if I do not fall into some good luck. They have but little now tis true but with right management they may have a good deal. all depends upon management.

(Pg. 2 beginning top line and then every other line)
I am sorry they feel the loss of the little aid I rendered. I would willingly extend it to them if I were at home, but they are fortunate to have found a friend in Codman Pye. Why is he returned from Havanna? No doubt you have seen Capt Chase and asked him many questions, he is very gentlemanly & I have no doubt he furnished you with all the information you required. If I am ever travelling in Maine I will ——— call upon him, as he invited me. He has a fine little wife who tendered the sick soldiers ——— kindnesses. I was not present at the meeting of Mr Gullett with his family, but a mother and sis ——— near and dear as he is to them must have expressed more love happiness & satisfaction than ——— upon meeting after so long a separation. His father kept as a child but said nothing ——— it doubt it. But yet that man upon parting with his son treated him worse than a rob ——— 6 years only knows where he was, his wife

14
(his wife)

Colonges - Aug. 15th, '44

and daughter im? ted him but little —
— and is unwilling to listen to his councilor
afford him the least assistance and
son tomorrow — a parents would grieve more.
I do not wish you to mention to any
— only. France is a fine rich country but I
could not have come at a more unfort —
— weeks of pleasant weather put all together
since my landing. It is most extraordin —
— ar — ing Paris I did not see the sun
and during the last three weeks it has been
cloudy some — times ~~but not~~ half of
the day and scarcely a day passes but
what we have rain. This — — — — — cling
France! It gives me at first no favorable
opinion, I hope to see pleasanter and
warmer weather than this before — I don't
like to be tramping out of doors or sitting in
the chimney corner during this hot month
of August. We pass our evenings around the
fire chatting or playing at Chess. And sometimes
Mademoiselle who has a fine voice and loves
to sing amuses us in that way. The oldest people
say that the weather is most extra ordinary
and that it is not within their recollection
ever to have seen any so extraordinary &
unfavorable. I hope you are enjoying
yourselves. Do not let my absence cause

15
(canceled)

Colonges - Aug. 15th, '44

you a moment of the least uneasiness.
It is not the first time I have been away
from home. There is not fear of me I am among
a civilized people. You have only to think, to be
at rest, that I am on a visit up the North River
and that I am not to come home before next
summer. I am very careful and considerate
as much so as it is possible for a young man
of my age. So do not let this disturb you. I
should like to know where Edward Cooper is and
the route he intends to take? I would be
pleased if I could tumble over him at Paris in
one of my walks when I return. You may
depend upon receiving letters but do not let
any particular time if you would not be disap-
pointed. Remember the little dependance to be
placed upon the winds. You must always
allow 40 days to receive a letter, you may get it
~~sooner~~ in 30 or 35 days and rarely ever sooner.
Allow 30 days for me to receive a letter. I may
sometimes get it in 20 or 25 - but all depends
upon chance. Never write by the steamer but
where you have something very pressing as
the postage is very high. The best way for you,
to send me ~~papers~~ my petition & other papers if
they be, is to do them up in a from of a letter
and not depend upon any one, make them
as light as possible. Send my petition as
soon as possible if you have not sent it,
I want it in good time so as not to keep my
friend waiting for his money. Tell Mrs. Lozier

16
(Mr. Rogers)

Colonges- Aug. 15th, '44

write all the necessary instructions upon it in such a way that I may know how to proceed. I hope there will be no mistake as it will cost me a deal of trouble and anxiety, I tell him to be very particular. Make a good lot of preserves for I get very little here. I trust I shall be home to eat some of them I like delicacies of this kind. The French make very little. You ask me if I feel as proud as usual? No I do not I feel unusually proud (Pg. 3 read top line and then every other one) just about 10 times as proud as I ever did. It raises a persons pride to make such a voyage and travel as I have. I am gaining information every day not as much as I should wish however I commence to speak & to understand French tolerably well, even most of what the peasants say I understand though they speak brokenly and with a particular accent. Every where all over France the pronunciation differs. They give the _____ which will be my school. I have been for days without speaking a word of English and can _____ And is Charlotte C. the only one of my female acquaintances who deserve to be remembered to me _____ her for it is a sweet innocent little girl. Harriet in passing her for me will say _____ of my friendships. I love the young ladies and would think myself

17
(think myself)

Colonies Aug. 15th, '44

but doing my _____ assured I could conduce
to their happiness. As they all generally wish
to be remembered to _____ all of them. They
have my best wishes my tenderest sensitivities
and most affectionate _____ music yet no-
thing would please me more than to hear
Sister play some of her favourites _____
it's quick step the serenade & the "Diana" waltz
she must improve all she can in _____
called the Polka is all the rage at Paris she
must learn that, It will take very _____
ady heard it. It is very fine so buy it
for her as soon as possible, I shall be
pleased to _____ it at the Chaumiere.
I hope when we meet we shall be more worthy
of each other and _____ in & duty. You must
be very careful how you manage with
that old bear of yours or you _____ over. I hardly
thought he would give he could give me any
letters of introduction as it is 4 or 5 years since
he was in Europe and his friends have died
or been removed. I thank him very
much for his commercial letters of introduction
which if I were going in to business would
be invaluable to me. I wish you would
take a nice house for \$500 per and have
him and an other gentleman to take tea
I think if you were situated so you would
be more comfortable and like it better
you could then make some little stock I

Colonges Aug. 15th, '44

not feel the loss of home. I was not happy there. wrangling and quarrelling continually made And yet I was as much the cause of all the unhappiness as anyone. No, home must be home sweet home and home hundred times dearer to me before I shall ever wish to return to it. Why should I wish myself there to be unhappy when I enjoy myself so much here? I have not heard a cross word addressed to me since I left it nor have I had occasion to be angry with anyone or speak any harsh words. All is uniformity. I am friends with all and all are my friends. Why is Harriet so pale? poor girl she must take care of herself, be happy and smiling. I trust she is better now. I am glad to hear that John and Henry have sent \$100 worth of metal. This shows that they are doing something. Stick to it boys you will soon commence to send a thousand. I hope you have no difficulty in collecting your rents. Surely you have not enough. How do the dutchman and Mulay make out I hope the securing of the latter is upon the man - he looks too much like a sharpshooter. You must pin him tight and look well to the security. If he be good you may let the whole year's rent run on if you cannot collect it from the day. but you

it more like a hell.

19
(put you)

Colonge Aug. 15th, '24

must be well assured of this first. No doubt Misses Deveraux were as anxious to hear from Mr Mallet as you were to hear from me. Mr Mallet wrote to them by the first mate of the vessel they would not hear from him as soon as you would from me by 2 or 3 weeks. I hope they all will remember me to ~~th~~ them. You must visit them and have them to take tea with you. They are very nice people.

I am sorry to hear my friend Harris has been sick, I hope nothing severe. Remember me to Charley & Anson tell them (Pg. 4 read first line and then every other line in top and bottom sections) I will write to them soon. By next packet I intend writing to Bushnell & Mrs. Cornwell, they have reason to think I have forgotten them, remember me to them and then I must write to Misses Deveraux as I promised. I have had both of my rotten teeth pulled since I have been at Colonge. They pained me a little so I thought rather than suffer with the _____ out. The first one the most newly decayed broke off at the roots some day I will have them _____ to keep snags, the operation will be very painful but no matter for that, the other _____ of years, was pulled with some difficulty causing me severe pain, the prong _____ the roots, I keep it as a remembrance. My cheeks were very much in _____ I could eat nothing but what was very

20
(wrong)

Colongue Aug. 15th, '44

soft. I thought I should be obliged to —
— entirely over it now and can bite into the
hardest crumts. (bottom section - begin 2nd line) All my teeth
are sound, I have only — what remains. Do
you think that the young man who passed by
Mrs M. was me? No doubt you wished it was.
I believe I write you all the particulars, if I do
not it is because I cannot write finer. I
would very much liked you to have seen the
ship and how cozely we were situated. Did grand-
father come from Newark to see me off? If so was
very kind of the old gentleman and I shall remem-
ber him for it. I am glad that John went to Newark
for I believe that the folks there wanted to see
him. I am glad that Mary is married. I believe
that was her last was her last chance for if
the doctor had not taken her I do not know
who would. She played the coquette too often.
Long life and success to her. But Henry must
get his portrait and other traps from her.
(Middle section, at fold.) ^(read straight through) Read every other line
of this letter twice through. I am glad to hear
that the birds enjoy themselves but poor unfor-
tunate things they are to be pitied for the loss
of their offspring. Why is Henry dissatisfied? Can
they not agree? They had better part at once then
and each one go on their own hook. But still
it would be better for them to be united. In
union there is strength. Live to all who

Colonges Aug. 15th, '44

all who
~~en~~quire about me a particular account. Do not regret not having gone to live with Mrs Montgomery. I do not believe you would have been a bit better satisfied there. It is better to deal with strangers. There is very little danger of my forgetting English. I have to often an opportunity to speak. And even if I did forget, to turn Frenchman is the last thing I should think of I would not do it for the world. I am too much of a republican for that. I would have you to get likeness from Mr Whitney for another reason beside that of Henry having sent for it, which by the way shows he bears me some little love. It was ordered with your consent and I am surprised you should have delayed getting it so long. It is a very good one though at the time I was very thin. He may destroy it as it is not to his interest to lumber himself with plates F. W.