

CHARLES HARRIS LETTER
TO THOMAS W -
JAN 7, 1845

[illegible]

and if you can fetch me a bit of the but a minute messenger of the story of your journey
till we something in your work as to the matter of your return. I do not know how
but what you are to do by behaving a little respectfully - I should like with you at the
disaffection of you not that in the shape of a family there is not a better to be given
or through a few more. you may find the good qualities amply compensate for
the physical defects. Take care you work full in crop with my tracks and me
and thus forget her. But now for some of the news - I have not had the pleasure
of seeing your mother and sister for some time. In your first letter or rather should
say your second one was included a note with your mother's address upon it. Unfortunately
it was mis-laid and I was as much as the loss as even if your mother sent me a note last
Saturday however in which your letter was enclosed. I am sorry of her mother and I shall
write directly about myself. If the opportunity to call upon her. I believe much she is in good
health as well as your sister. My own health is wonderfully good, never having felt better than
I do at present. My grandfather is rather feeble, but the rest are in flourishing condition
and there is to be remembered to you. My Uncle needs me to say to you that unfortunately
he is not acquainted with a single merchant or any resident whatever in France, so that
he should be much obliged to accommodate you. I will however write to any further who
is doubtless acquainted with many of the merchants and give them your address
The Porters are the same old two and no change, nothing change. I believe would be cutting
away of a large slice of bread for anything purposes on the other side of the Atlantic, which
like the life Thomas takes off the system the same of so much preserving labor on your part
of so many hours of anxiety and trouble. Do you remember the wicked blacksmiths, and
"you look faded" in the paper which I gave you for a present. But I am wanting of p. Please
that kind mother as you gently sleep her dear ones. I am sure that the Institute for the young blind
after you. I called there in the first week and saw Mrs. Pollock and Mrs. Dingle. The latter
is very feeble. Mrs. Dr. Shaw is now in the hospital and is getting better by being inside.
I found a Jacob Beigum there. He is quite a fine looking man. As I came out the
house I met Mr. and Dr. coming up the hill with the old John. He was lame and
they were in this account, surprised to find him here before having been called.
Cook is in Yale College but is also in Paris to attend to the young ladies in her place.
at once. Harris is also in Paris but I have not seen him. There is also a young man in college
of Yale and the University of New York. I have seen him in the city. As for myself
I am now in the second term of my course and shall graduate in November. I find
my sickness somewhat of a drawback but I have no other to think of. I am sure I must
thank you for the solicitude you take for me. I am sure that the work
of book-keeping and shall ever remember to you my good wishes at present in the translation of
a work entitled "Practical Principles of the French and Italian languages". This is the little volume
a work upon Natural Philosophy and is voluminous. I have finished the introduction
and shall persevere. Mr. Fordell is a well known & reliable man in France and a very
probably you may hear of him. I must again thank you for the kind offer you
make me to provide me with a ticket and myself off if the opportunity occurs yet I think

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Paper has a very good standing. But I must close soon. I have our friend Cornwall
 last week. He will write soon and I must be going. But I am a little troubled.
 He is attending medical lectures. Your mother Hymen, seems disposed to begin
 travel and I urge him to impress to let you go. The last conversation with Dr.
 Porter on the subject and he says that he thought it a good plan. You may be
 sure your friends to counsel. Take good care of yourself at Harrow. I will be
 to be sure. I am glad to hear that you are well and hope for a long time. I am
 Remember me to Miss Warner and tell her I hope her health will be restored. I am
 O. S. Write soon according to promise.

your truly
 J. T. Davis.

Miss Thomas May
 Chermond Deyoungburg
 51 Rue St. Martin
 à Paris.

J. T. Davis from Harrow.
 Received at Harrow Feb 16 1861.

Charles Harris to T. Whaley,
addressed:

Mons. Thomas Whaley

Chez Drouard Desneufbourgs

51 Rue St. Martin

Jan 7th, 1845

Friend Thomas -

Happy New Year to you, a very happy New Year- I don't know but what I am almost too late for fashionable compliments but I wish you a happy time during the whole of 1845- I had almost made a mistake and wrote 1844 as you may see I have done at the top of my letter. Just think Thomas how quickly 12 months have rolled over our heads- And what changes it has brought about in the condition of both of us You are a young man , free to do as you like, and at liberty to roam the wild world over, and I have jumped forward years, or I have seemed to have done so, in my existence. The knowledge I have acquired in this time I would not part with any price.- But I am beginning at the wrong end of the letter- I have received your epistles of the 30th of September, and of the 28th of October or at least I should say of November as I find the latter epistle dated near the end. Need I express to you the gratification and pleasure I felt at their reception. Your first letter which was handed me by Mr. Cornwall at a meeting of our association, was a real treat, I sat down as soon as I got home, although it was then 11 o'clock in the evening and commenced reading it. I got half through when my eyes gave out and I was compelled to lay over until next day. Then I can assure you I took time and read every word in red ink and black. And I must say I ^{never} was more highly interested. -How I should like to have visited the Old Marquis de Pusai with you

and had a good hearty pull at that old inne you speak of. We^{only}/have alcohol -----hue. I suppose the old gentleman is a specimen of the regime ancien, of which but few remain now. Not less interesting must have been your stay of La Trappe, that remnant of the Old Church of Rome's spirit which condemns men to perpetual seclusion - I must say that I think them very kind and charitable however in furnishing food and lodging gratis to travellers. Don't you think though Thomas that they take little private snacks besides the bread and water once in a while? I for one would should be sorely tempted to do so, I took the liberty to read your entertaining description of your stay at La Trappe "a ma chere Helene" and she expressed herself highly gratified. Mais plus d'elle tout a la l'heure- So you don't like the style of living in Paris. I hardly wonder at it as it seems to be very unsociable and uncomfortable manner of life.- Besides you do not know at the restaurants what you are eating, at least such is the on dit- I have seen in the newspapers complaints of the exceedingly cold winter you are suffering from in France, which describe it as being still worse than you have. I am sorry that you should have arrived at such an unlucky time as it must decidedly impair your comfort. So far we have been exempt from severe weather here having been neither much snow or cold- The merry ring of the sleigh bells has enlivened our streets but for one day and then all the pleasure destroyed by hearing the runners grate upon the projecting stones.- I was sorry to see ~~but~~ your last letter consisted of but half a sheet, but I can tender you full pardon for not writing more as your correspondance is as you say very voluminous. I wonder how you can write so much and do it so beautifully. I am afraid that you cannot make out my writing, but it is useless for me to attempt to write in a straight line- So you have seen the

Colonne de Juillet and do not think it a stove pipe after all- From the cuts I have come across I must say that I agree in opinion with you that it is a fine Structure. The gallery of the Musee Royall is a grand affair I have no doubt. How insignificant our Galleries and large edifices by the side of it.- I can imagine you Thomas walking up and down the squares, and boulevards surveying everything busily, and how I itch to join you, We may yet be able to travel together- Do by all means Thomas pay a visit to the spot where St. ----- house stood and if you can fetch away a bit of it be but a minute morsel of the abbey of Jumieges. Tell me something in your next about the grisettes if you will. I do not know however but what you are too steady to have any little adventures - I condole with you at the disappointment you met with in Brooklyn, I hardly knew at first whether to be grave or to laugh- Never mind, you may find her good qualities amply compensate for ~~ether~~ physical aspects. Take care you do not fall in love with any dark eyed miss and thus forget her. But now for some of the news. I have not had the pleasure of seeing your mother and sister for sometime. In your first letter or rather I should say your second one was enclosed a card with your mothers residence upon it. Unfortunately it was mislaid and I was as much in the dark as ever. You mother sent me a note last Saturday however in which your letter was enclosed informing me of her residence and I shall immediately avail myself of the opportunity to call upon her. I believe however she is in good health as well as your sister. My own health is exceedingly good, never having felt better than I do at present. My grandmother is feeble, but the rest are in flourishing condition and desire to be remembered to you. My uncle desires me to say to you that unfortunately he is not acquaint-

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I have finished the introduction and shall persevere. M. Pouillet is a well known scientific man in France and very probably you may hear of him- I must again thank you for the kind offer you make me to procure me books. I will avail myself of it, if opportunity occurs yet I think it would be putting you to unnecessary trouble were the work a rare one- But to return to our friends, I have not seen Anson Sutton, though I have called often at his office and left notes for him. I shall waive scruples soon and go out to his house. Mr. Cromwell was well the last time I saw him, which was before Christmas- Mr. Taylor is also well. Mr. Harrison has entered the Theological Seminary at Princeton- Harens is about the only old Scholar remaining at the Institute. It has vastly degenerated since our day. Roberts is in town it being vacation with him. His mother is very ill although recovering. Henry Clay as of course you have learned before this is whipped and James K. Polk is elected. It galled me pretty sorely as I am a stiff whig! Better luck next time! We had great doings before election, I can assure you, processions and meetings in abundance. There were too whig processions, on the 23rd of Oct. and on the 30th also. I walked in the first one and was heartily tired as well as hoarse.-----All the houses in Broadway, Chatham Street and the Bowery were dressed out with flags and the windows filled with ladies who threw down wreaths of flowers. - I was most exciting I can assure you.--Mon chere Thomas je veux parler un peu de mon ange, de ma belle Helene qui occupe mes pensees , nuit et jour. Oh qu'elle est belle! Je suis mon ami que je N'aimerai qu'une firs pendant ma vie, je n'aimerai jamais personne que mon Helene. Il y a quelques personnes au monde qui volent de femme a femme comme les papillons volent de fleur a fleur, mais j'ai la vanite de penser que je ne suis pas decette classe. Peutetre vous me pensez bite mais je pris pour elle tous

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P.S. Write Soon according to promise

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cannot make out my writing, but it is useless for me to attempt
to write in a straight line- So you have seen the

Coloune de Juillet and do not think it a stove pipe after all- From the cuts I have come across I must say that I agree in opinion with you that it is a fine Structure. The gallery of the Musee Royall is a grand affair I have no doubt. How insignificant our Galleries and large edifices by the side of it.- I can imagine you Thomas walking up and down the squares, and boulevards surveying everything busily, and how I itch to join you, We may yet be able to travel together- Do by all means Thomas pay a visit to the spot where St. ----- house stood and if you can fetch away a bit of it be but a minute morsel of the abbey of Jumieges. Tell me something in your next about the grisettes if you will. I do not know however but what you are too steady to have any little adventures - I condole with you at the disappointment you met with in Brooklyn, I hardly knew at first whether to be grave or to laugh- Never mind, you may find her good qualities amply compensate for other physical aspects. Take care you do not fall in love with any dark eyed miss and thus forget her. But now for some of the news. I have not had the pleasure of seeing your mother and sister for sometime. In your first letter or rather I should say your second one was enclosed a card with your mothers residence upon it. Unfortunately it was mislaid and I was as much in the dark as ever. You mother sent me a note last Saturday however in which your letter was enclosed informing me of her residence and I shall immediately avail myself of the opportunity to call upon her. I believe however she is in good health as well as your sister. My own health is exceedingly good, never having felt better than I do at present. My grandmother is feeble, but the rest are in flourishing condition and desire to be remembered to you. My uncle desires me to say to you that unfortunately he is not acquaint-

ted with a single merchant or any resident whatever in France, otherwise he should be most happy to accomodate you. I will however write to my father who is doubtless acquainted with many by the next steamer and give him your address The Postes are the same old two and sixpence, nothing changed I believe butt the cutting away of a large slice of land for building purposes on the third avenue side, which bye the bye Thomas takes off the Lyceum the scene of so much preserving (also on your part) of so many hours of anxiety and trouble. Do you remember the corked Mustailines(Mustelines), and "You look pale" in that play which Gray wrote for us- But I am wandering off. Eliza that kind mother as you justly style her remains at the Institute. She enquires kindly after you. I called there on New Years and saw Mr. Porter and Mrs. Dr. P. The old lady is very feeble. Mrs. Dr. P. has no indications in front of any little P's being inside. I found Jacob Bigelow there. He is quite a fine looking man. As I came out the house I met Mr. and Dr. coming up the hill with old Robin. He was lame and they were in this account compelled to bring him home before finishing their calls. Cooke's in Yale College but is also in town just now(that's queer being in two places at once) Nevins is also in town but I have not seen him. I hear he does very well in college. Of Wells and the Hepburns I know nothing. Merrick is in Boudoin College- As for myself I am now in the second term of junior year and shall graduate in 13 months. I found my sickness somewhat of a drawback but I have made it all up. And here Thomas I must thank you for the solicitude you have exhibited for my recovery. I am grateful for this mark of friendship and shall ever remember it. I am engaged at present in the translation of a work called Pouillet's Elements of Physics and Meteorology. It is as the title indicates a work on Natural Philosophy and is voluminous. I

les sous. Je ne sais pas si'elle m'aime ou non mais j'espere
qu'elle a quel qu'aimour pour moi. "On dira que je suis trop
jeune, trop inexperience pour aimer, mais je me blatte que je
peune aimer aussi bien cuisout plus vieux. Mais je've te fa cherci
pas la raconte de mon amour, parlons d'autres choses. Jan. 23d,
1845- Friend Thomas I was obliged to break off very abruptly by
the entrance of a friend and from the multiplicity of my engage-
ments found it impossible to resume my pen until now. Since I
began my letter I have had the pleasure of seeing your mother and
sister whom I found very well. I shall call upon them often here-
after as they are near , or comparatively so- As to letters of
introduction, my Uncle says he doesn't know a single person res-
ident in Ireland, otherwise he would be most happy to assist you
but I will write to my father by the first opportunity and tell
him to send you some as he must be acquainted with them. A Mr.
Taylor with whom my father's connected in business and who is
acquainted with many of the nobility and gentry of France and
other countries will no doubt furnish you with letters at the
request of my father- You ask me what I want you to write about,
in regard to things which may be read before the Scientific Soc-
ieties - I mean if you see anything curious in the way of nature
or art to describe it if you feel so disposed for the purpose of
affording us information upon Scientific Topics. Our Association
is getting on bravely and begins to get a name. I have not been
able to procure an Episcopal Recorder of date you mention but
will call at the office again shortly and see if they have procured
one- Speaking again of your letters, which I proposed having insert-
ed in some one of the newspapers, I shall be most happy if you
are willing . I can have them inserted in the Free (?) Sun, the
editor of which I knew and whose paper has a very good standing.

I have finished the introduction and shall persevere. M. Pouillet is a well known scientific man in France and very probably you may hear of him- I must again thank you for the kind offer you make me to procure me books. I will avail myself of it, if opportunity occurs yet I think it would be putting you to unnecessary trouble were the work a rare one- But to return to our friends, I have not seen Anson Sutton, though I have called often at his office and left notes for him. I shall waive scruples soon and go out to his house. Mr. Cromwell was well the last time I saw him, which was before Christmas- Mr. Taylor is also well. Mr. Harrison has entered the Theological Seminary at Princeton- Harens is about the only old Scholar remaining at the Institute. It has vastly degenerated since our day. Roberts is in town it being vacation with him. His mother is very ill although recovering. Henry Clay as of course you have learned before this is whipped and James K. Polk is elected. It galled me pretty sorely as I am a stiff whig! Better luck next time! We had great doings before election, I can assure you, processions and meetings in abundance. There were too whig processions, on the 23rd of Oct. and on the 30th also. I walked in the first one and was heartily tired as well as hoarse.-----All the houses in Broadway, Chatham Street and the Bowery were dressed out with flags and the windows filled with ladies who threw down wreaths of flowers. - I was most exciting I can assure you.--Mon chere Thomas je veux parler un peu de mon ange, de ma belle Helene qui occupe mes pensees, nuit et jour. Oh qu'elle est belle! Je suis mon ami et je n'aimerais qu'une firs pendant ma vie, je n'aimerais jamais personne que mon Helene. Il y a quelques personnes au monde qui volent de femme a femme comme les papillons volent de fleur a fleur, mais j'ai la vanite de penser que je ne suis pas de cette classe. Peutetre vous me pensez bete mais je pris pour elle tous

But I must close soon I saw our friend Cornwall last week. He will write soon and desires to be remembered to you and Mons. Mallet. He is attending medical Lectures. -Your mother Thomas, seems disposed to let you travel and I urged her to consent to let you go. She had conversation with Dr. Porter upon the subject and he said that he thought it a good plan you may be sure your point is carried. Take good care of your health Thomas- I will endeavor to be more punctual with my letters hereafter and make up for deficiencies. Remember me to Mons. Mallet and tell him I hope his health will be restored. I remain

Your's truly,

C.T. Harris

P.S. Write Soon according to promise.