

16 May 1845

Rome

Thomas to Mother & Harriet

Thos to Harriet
& Mother

Rome May 16, 1845

To: Mrs Thomas Wheley,
Care of Wm M. Pye,
Corner of Delancey & Cannon Sts,
New York
Etats Unis d'Amerique
Par le Paquetat
des Houre

Par le Houre 20
received July 16, 1845

Rome May 16th 1845

Dear Tat,

Upon leaving Naples the 8th of this month I mailed a letter for mother, in which I made a promise to write to you next time. The day being so miserable as to compel me to remain within doors, I will now fulfill it, believing that you will be highly gratified in receiving a letter coming so far, and, especially from Rome! — If you have received my last letter which I sent by the way of Marseilles you must have learned how undecided I was whether I should proceed from Naples to Rome by land or sea. I finally determined upon the former and am not sorry to have taken ^{that} route as it is a very interesting one. Everywhere we met ruins, grown with moss and crumbling into dust, relics of ancient Rome which not with standing the lapse of centuries still speak of their once former magnificence. The road is level pretty much all the way so that I was disappointed in meeting with many beautiful points of view, but then I was gratified in beholding fields of vines, figs, olives, orange & lemon trees which were either blossoming or bending beneath their ripening fruit. These trees which with us require so much care and attention, grow here in the ~~same~~ ^{same} manner as do our apple or pear trees and they are of the same size! I remarked once thing coming from

Rome May 16th 1845

(2)
(orig from)

Naples which surprised me that there were no
barnd and very few scattering houses I
don't think that I saw more than fifty! The
Italian peasantry (I speak of the women) wear
only a handkerchief upon their heads. It
is differently folded, according to the place,
and is so lightly laid on that the least
breath of air would remove it were it not
that it is attached to their hair by a long
gilt pin which projects two or three inches
on either side of the head. Their hair behind
is done up in a bob and that which is
before either hangs or falls in curls upon
their burnette cheeks. I noticed that this
custom prevailed even with the most aged.
In their dress there is no other peculiarity
than that they wear tight sleeves, a spencer and
a iordice which is generally of red flannel.
The men wrap themselves up in dark woollen
cloaks and wear what we call a bugand hat,
in fact they resemble bugands. Upon entering
the Popes dominions I perceive a great change.
The country is quite flat and looks like a
dreary waste. The fields are uncultivated and
every thing seems so sad. In traversing the
Karais Pontine which is 25 miles long we did
not meet half a dozen of persons, but then
the road is the finest that ever I saw. It
is level as water the whole distance and
planted on either side with large trees,

3/4
(large trees)

Rome May 16th, '45

the tops of which meeting in the center form a most beautiful house which protects the traveller from the scorching rays of the sun. Upon this large marsh, the part which has been drained, were many horses and cattle feeding and in one place a herd of fifty or sixty tame bufalos. Just as we were about to leave this marsh we were obliged to stop a minute or two to let a large herd of pigs pass. I think that there were more than 500. They were all small and quite black with very little or no hair. In fact I believe that there were no white pigs in this part of Italy. I remember to have seen a few at Naples but they were black. — I came from Naples by a Vetturini which is the same as a stage only it is driven by the same horses all the way. It is just the same as a private carriage you travel only during the day time and at night stop to rest and feed the horses. It is a slow manner of travelling but then it is pleasant when the weather is fine. I was three days coming to Rome unfortunately the weather was not pleasant all the time but then I must not complain this is the rainiest month in this part of Italy. I may not see a beautiful day during the whole time I stay here. It has rained I believe every day since I have been here but then

4
(but then)
Rome May 16th, '45

only in the morning, all of this day, however is miserable. As I wish to stay here a month I found myself furnished lodgings immediately. I have a beautifully papered room carpeted and with mahogany furniture. It is situated in the Strada de Condotti, No 85 near the Piazza de Spagna, the most fashionable part of Rome. I pay but \$4 a month. Had I gone to a good hotel I must have paid fifty cents a night. It costs me very little to live here not more than it did at Paris. I have not seen much of the city yet owing to the weather but I must not put myself out of the way on that account. It is useless to wait for pleasant weather. I must commence tomorrow, rain hail or shine. To see all of the curiosities of Rome in 3 or 4 weeks time I have got to work pretty sharp. I have seen some of the principal wonders however and shall take pleasure in telling you about them if I have room in this letter. As how often I have wished that mother, you, John & Henry might see all that I have and still hope to. I wish that we were rich or that I was then when I return I would have you and mother, John & Henry too, come to Europe with me again. I would be a very good guide and protector. If mother had the means I think that I could prevail upon her to come and let you too. There is no more fatigue or danger in travelling in Europe than there

5
(then there)

Rome May 16th '45

is in going from N.Y. to Boston. If we are successful in. (pg. 2) the lawsuit and gain as much as I think we shall there will be enough to defray all expenses and purchase many other pleasures. I wish myself home sometimes on this account, not that I could be of any good in advancing it but just to see how things work. It will be thirteen months tomorrow since I left home. How the time flies! I can hardly believe it to be so long & I would very much like to know if our affairs with Uncle's Estate are in a way of being settled or if any steps have been made towards settlement? I suppose not. How dilatory mother! What does she mean by this dilly dallying? Does she mean to die without getting and enjoying that which is hers? She will soon be old and will want more comforts than she stands in need of now and perhaps none of us may be able to provide her with them but had she the money which is due her she would be able to purchase them. I think John & Henry see that mother is not capable of managing them; they are older than I am therefore it is more expected of them - than of myself. If when I return home there is nothing done in the matter of this lawsuit I must see what I can do. I believe that the way of managing it simply: to put it in the hands of a good lawyer with some competent person to superintend it. Why

Rome - May 16, '45

6
(W. ally)

cannot mother do this instead of doing nothing but wasting time and money and rendering the thing more and more complicated by delay? I can not tell when I shall return home I hope however that it will be soon I am getting tired of this life. Don't misunderstand me I like travelling very much and would willingly devote my life to it had I money. It is the want of this which makes me feel unhappy. I think that I ought to return home & do something useful that I may gain money. But here I am in Europe and must not return before I have seen all that I purpose. In a few months time I hope to have accomplished my object. As I begin to speak a little Italian and find that the language is not hard to learn I wish to remain in Italy till the first of July which, if so, will use up the greater part of my money so that I shall not have much left for travelling. I will therefore be obliged to shorten my routes as I will ask no more of mother than I have.

Sunday afternoon, May 18. Yesterday was pretty fine all the day so that I was engaged in looking at what is curious. This is a middling pleasant day too I have been out all the morning I would be now only that I must finish this letter so as to send it at 6 o'clock - I shall enclose it in one I have written for Leopold & requesting him to send it by the way of Rome. So that it will travel some thousands of miles I calculate

7
(calculator)

Rome - May 15, 45

that you will get it some time the latter end of June. You will direct your answer to Paris where I hope to be about the same time as it arrives. The 7th of June I leave Rome for Curta Vecchia to take the steamer for Lythorn there I shall remain as short a time as possible and then go to Pisa to see the famous leaning tower, Lucca and Florence where I shall spend at least a week as there are many things curious to be seen there. I cannot tell exactly what course I shall take from Florence but it will most likely be toward Venice and from there to Milan and then to ~~the~~ Switzerland I cannot be decided as to what route I shall take farther than Florence as all depends upon how my money lasts. It will not do for me to go so far out of my way or remain travelling so long as not to have enough to get back to Paris. There would be no such thing as borrowing any up on the road. This is what I have spent since I left Paris, but you must keep it a secret at least till no one but mother because I do now wish every one to know what I spend for certain reasons I had when I left Paris eight hundred and twenty francs. I have spent 330 so that I have 490 left which is about ninety five dollars. By being more economical than I have been this will be enough till I return to Paris which will likely be some time during the first part of August.

8
(18 August)

Rome - May 16th '45

providing my money lasts so long. Since I left Paris I have spent about sixty three dollars. I did not think that I should spend near as much as this as little as it is but then I could not for see the expense on passports and a thousand other things. During the three weeks while at Naples I spent more than twenty dollars. I shall be at Rome a month and will not spend one half as much. The reason is because I have a furnished room and shall live more economically. I would have taken a room at Naples but they are not let for a less time than a month and then again I did not expect to remain there longer than ten days — You will see by referring to the calculation in my letter of the 16th of January that I wished mother to send after receiving the may rests, \$95 which is 507 francs if she has not done so I wish you would remind her of it and to add the 150 francs that was short and which I borrowed from Mr Herouard. I explained in one of my letters how there was 150 francs but will do so again least you may not find the (pg. 3) letter. I think that it was in the last I wrote from Paris under the date of 26 March my money received from Chancery was \$263 so this mother was to add \$125 of which I wished her to send me for travelling on the continent \$75. This \$75 added to my money

9
my money

Rome - May 16, '45

263 makes \$338 or 1803 francs. I have received but 1.653 francs so that there is a balance of 150 still due on this account. Refer to letter of March 26 1845. The \$95 which I now ask to be sent is as you will see looking at the calculations to make up the balance of the \$125 which is \$50 and the remainder of the \$95, being \$45 ^{towards} ~~for~~ watch and to refund me for what I paid for dancing and Italian. The \$95 equal 507 francs which added to the 150 that was

\$263
\$75
\$338
equal
1.803 frs
1.650
150 fr
balance due
\$50 balance of
25 watch
12 Italian
8 dancing
\$95 equal
507 francs
150 balance
657 francs
to be sent

short makes 657 francs to be sent. I was thinking that if mother had not sent my money that it would be better to get two bills for this amount. One upon Paris for 300 francs so that I may pay Mr Drouard his 150 francs and the other bill upon London the amount would be in pounds sterling. I can not tell exactly how many. I would wish both of these bills sent as soon as possible to Mr Drouard and for them to be made payable 2 mos after sight. When I arrive at Paris I can give Mr D the bill for 300 frs and receive 150 in change, the other bill I will take to London with me. By having my money payable at London I shall have something, for if it was payable at Paris I must get french money changed in to English by which I would lose 4 or 5 percent. I would like to have it all payable at London with the exception of 150 frs I owe Mr D. but then the N.Y. bankers will not give a bill for less than 300 frs. If mother has been

2
(darken)

Rome - May 16th '45

Successful in getting the may rents you must try to prevail upon her to send me money to buy a shawl, or cloak and some silk dresses. You will see by the calculations that I have allowed \$105 for these things which would be 560 francs. If she send this money it must be sent at the same time as mine is as I shall remain in Paris only 4 or 5 days, she will manage the bills in this manner the one upon Paris will be for 560 fcs and 150 fcs, making 710 fcs; and the one upon England will be for whatever \$95 equal in pounds Sterling. If she does not wish to send all of the \$105 she will send what ever she chooses and get a bill for the amount upon Paris minding to add the 150 fcs which I owe Mr Deonard to it. What have I been writing about? All is wrong. I was thinking about one thing that was very good and forgot about an other equally important. I have forgotten to allow money in the bill of exchange, I wished to be drawn upon Paris, for my watch. You will pay no attention to what is crossed out but commence reading here - It is not very probable that I will return to Paris before the 10 or 15 of August so that I will wait for my next monies with the exception of 300 francs. You will get a bill for this amount and send it immediately, if you have not already sent my money, that I may pay Mr Deonard. The reason that I am willing to wait for the

Rome - May 16th, '45

⁴
(in the)
balance of my money is because you will have received the May and August rents. You can then know whether you can send all the money for the things which I have named in the calculations. If you find that you can, this is what you will do: send me by the steamer of the first of August a bill of exchange for 560 francs or for what ever amount of things you wish me to buy at Paris, + (left side margin) + and add to it ~~soooo~~ 240 francs that I may buy my watch this will make the bill amount to 800 francs. After sending me 300 + 240 there will be a balance of 117 francs (\$22) due from the amount of 675 francs, this you will send by the next Bill to London (return to body of letter at +) I will receive this bill about the 15 of August the time of my arriving at Paris, I can then make my purchases and have money to go to London from the balance of 300 fcs I wish you to send immediately. Be very particular to send this by the steamer of the first or fourth of August or you will unnecessarily detain me at Paris You will inform yourself of the time of the sailing of the steamer. Get the bill drawn at two months sight and enclose it to me in a letter to the care of Mr Drouard. Instead of leaving London immediately upon

12
(upon)

Rome - May 16th, '45

arriving, I will remain there a month and then commence my tour of Great Britain. ~~By this arrangement~~ I will have enough to pay ~~for~~ my expenses to London and support me there a month out of the balance of the bill of exchange for 300 fcs. By this arrangement you will send me by the steamer of the middle of August a bill for \$122 payable two months after sight at London. Send it in a letter to me to the care of Messrs Baring Brothers & Co. This bill will be for the following: viz: \$22 for the balance of the 657 francs, \$22 for overcoat, \$18 for coat I paid for at Paris, \$25 for dinner set, \$30 for tea set and \$15 for cuttlery, glass-ware &c Refer to Calculations. If you can not send all of the \$122 you will send what you can ~~but~~ at any rate the balance of 22 sols for coat & overcoat. Capt More leave London Sept 7 & shall be there the same times and will send home the things I purchase. This will be of great advantage to me. He leaves N. Y. the 20 of July so that there will be an opportunity of sending me something. He will arrive, at London just about the same time as myself. I shall keep ~~table~~ bachelors hall so that anything in the way of pickles, preserves, cake, mince pies &c will (pg. 4) be very acceptable. Send nothing that will get mouldy. If you do this I promise to send you in return a good old English cheese ~~and~~ anything you like better. It is now after 5 I must close soon.

13
last word

Rome - May 16th, '45

I am sorry that ~~you~~ I have not had time to say something interesting. Why! how you will blow me up for it. I have been writing the last page to mother about money concerns in a letter addressed to you. I entirely forgot myself. I thought really that the letter was to mother. & I have promised you so often to give you some fine descriptions that I suppose that you must that I will not because I cannot. You are pretty right about not being able but I assure you that I am quite willing and commenced this letter with the intention of doing my best to amuse me. But how could I when I was out of patience with the pen and ink? I have used all the ink I had this is some that I borrowed which miserable as it is I am glad to get so as to have this letter in time. I had some thing to tell you that would have amused you very much but I will tell you in my next. It was about my going up the holy stairs yesterday upon my knees and wiping and kissing each step. Ask Harris about them he has most likely heard of them. & how I wish that you were here. There are thousand of things that would amuse ~~you~~ or astonish you. I have not yet given you a description of my going up Mt. Vesuvius and my ramble through Pompeii and the dark subterraneous passages of ^(interior) Appollinarum. I have been to St Peter's

14
(St Peter)

Rome - May 16, '45

Magnificent, seen the Colosseum, Column of Trajan
Pompey and all the Arches of Triumph and obelisks.
I will write again to you and to Mother Harris
Anson and Miss Devereux in a few days. My
remembrances and love to all. I hope you
are well. I am hearty. There it is 5½ I
must stop or I may be kept here a week
longer than I wish.

Attend to what I say
about money do as
not to disappoint me.

Your dear brother
Thomas Walshy

Letter addressed to : Thomas Whaley to his Mother
Mrs. Thomas Whaley, Rachel Whaley & Sister,
Care of Wm. M. Pye, Harriet
Corner of Delancy & Cannon Sts.

New York

Etats Unis D'Amerique

Par Le Paquebot

du Havre

Upper Left Corner :

Par Le Havre

20

received July 16, 1845

Rome May 16, 1845

Dear Tat,

Upon leaving Naples the 6th of this month I mailed a letter for Mother, in which I made a promise to write to you next time. The day being so miserable as to compel me to remain within doors, I will now fulfill it, believing that you will be highly gratified in receiving a letter coming so far, and especially from Rome! --If you have received my last letter which I sent by the way of Marseilles you must have learned how undecided I was whether I should proceed from Naples to Rome by land or Sea. I finally determined upon the former and am not sorry to have taken that route as it is a very interesting one. Everywhere we met ruins, grown with moss and crumbling into dust, relics of ancient Rome which not with standing the lapse of centuries Still

Speak of their once former magnificence. The road is level pretty much all the way so that I was disappointed in meeting with many beautiful points of view, but then I was gratified in beholding fields of vines, figs, olives, orange & lemon trees which were either blossoming or bending beneath their ripening fruit. These trees which with us require so much care and attention, grow here in the same manner as do our apple or pear trees and they are of the same size! I remarked one thing coming from Naples which surprised me that there were no barns very few scattering houses I don't think that I saw more than fifty! The Italian peasantry (I speak of the women) wear only a handkerchief upon their heads. It is differently folded, according to the place, and is so lightly laid on that the least breath of air would remove it were it not that it is attached to their hair by a long gilt pin which projects two or three inches on either side of the head. - Their hair behind is done up in a bob and that which is before either hangs or falls in curls upon their burnette cheeks. I noticed that this custom prevailed even with the most aged. In their dress there is no other peculiarity than that they wear tight sleeves, a Spencer and a bodice which is generally of red flannel. The men wrap themselves up in dark woolen cloaks and wear what we call a brigand hat, in fact they resemble brigands. Upon entering the Popes dominions I perceive a great change. The country is quite flat and looks like a dreary waste. The fields are uncultivated and everything seems so sad. In traversing the Marais Pontius which is 25 miles long we did not meet half a dozen persons, but then, the road is the finest that ever I saw. It is level as water the whole distance and planted on either side with

large trees, the tops of which meeting in the center form a most beautiful bower which protects the traveller from the scorching rays of the sun. Upon this large marsh, the part which has been drained, were many horses and cattle feeding and in one place a heard of fifty or sixty tame bufolos. Just as we were about to leave this marsh we were obliged to stop a minute or two to let a large heard of pigs pass. I think that there were more than 500. They were all small and quite black with very little or no hair. In fact I believe that there were no white pigs in this part of Italy. I remember to have seen a few pigs at Naples but they were black-- I came from Naples by a Vetturini which is the same as a Stage only it is driven by the same horses all the way. It is just the same as a private carriage you travel only during the day time and at night stop to rest and feed the horses. It is a slow manner of travelling but then it is pleasant when the weather is fine. I was three days coming to Rome unfortunately the weather was not pleasant all the time but then I must not complain this is the rainiest month in this part of Italy. I may not see a beautiful day during the whole time I stay here. It has rained I believe everyday since I have been here but then only in the morning; all of this day, however is miserable. -As I wish to stay here a month I found myself furnished lodgings immediately. I have a beautifully papered room carpeted and with mahogany furniture. It is situated in the Strada De Condotti, No 85 near the Piazza de Spagna, the most fashionable part of Rome. I pay but \$4 a month. Had I gone to a good hotel I must have paid fifty cents a night. It costs me very little to live here not more than it did at Paris. I have not seen much of the city yet owing

to the weather but I must not put myself out of the way on that account. It is useless to wait for pleasant weather. I must commence tomorrow, rain hail or shine. To see all of the curiosities of Rome in 3 or 4 weeks time I have got to work pretty sharp. I have seen some of the principal wonders however and Shall take pleasure in telling you about them if I have room in this letter. - How often I have wished that Mother, you, John & Henry might see all that I have and still hope to. I wish that we were rich or that I was then when I return I would have you and Mother, John & Henry too, come to Europe with me again. I would be a very good guide and protector. If Mother had the means I think that I could prevail upon her to come and let you too. There is no more fatigue or danger in travelling in Europe than there is in going from N.Y. to Boston. If we are successful in (Page 2) the lawsuit and gain as much as I think we Shall there will be enough to defray all expenses and purchase many other pleasures. I wish myself home sometimes on this account, not that I could be of any good in advancing it but just to See how things work. It will be thirteen months tomorrow Since I left home. How time flies! I can hardly believe it to be So long--I would very much like to know if our affairs with Uncle's Estate are in away of being Settled or if any Steps have been made toward Settlement? I suppose not. How dilatory Mother!. What does she mean by this dilly dallying? Does she mean to die without getting and enjoying that which is hers? She will soon be old and will want more comforts than she stands in need of now and perhaps none of us may be able to provide her with them but had she the money which is due er She would be able to purchase them . I think John and Henry Should take more interest in things when they see that Mother is not capable of managing them; they are older than I

am therefore it is more expected of them than of myself. If, when I return home there is nothing done in the matter of this law suit I must see what I can do. I believe that the way of managing is Simply: to put it in the hands of a good lawyer with some competent person to Superintend it. Why cannot mother do this instead of doing nothing but wasting time and money rendering the thing more and more complicated by delay? I can not tell when I shall return home I hope however that it will be soon I am getting tired of this life. Don't misunderstand me I like travelling very much and would willingly devote my life to it had I the money. It is the want of this which makes me feel unhappy. I think that I ought to return home & do something useful that I may gain money. But here I am in Europe and must not return before I have seen all that I purpose. In a few months time I hope to have accomplished my object. As I begin to Speak a little Italian and find that the language is not hard to learn I wish to remain in Italy till the first of July which, if do, will use up the greater part of my money so that I shall not have much left for travelling. I will therefore be obliged to shorten my route as I will ask no more of Mother than I have. Sunday afternoon, May 13. Yesterday was pretty fine all the day so that I was engaged in looking at what is curious. This is a midling pleasant day too I have been out all the morning & would be now only that I must finish this letter so as to send it at 6 oclock-I shall enclose it in one I have written for Leopold a requesting him to send it by the way of Havre. So that it will travel some thousands of miles I calculate that you will get it sometime the latter end of June. You will direct your answer to Paris where I hope to be about the Same time as it arrives the 7th of June I leave Rome for Curta Vecchia to take the Steamer

for Leghorn there I shall remain as short a time as possible and then go to Pisa to see the famous leaning tower, Lucca and Florence where I shall spend at least a week as there are many things curious to be seen there. I cannot tell exactly what course I shall take from Florence but it will most likely be toward Venice and from there to Milan and soon to per- Switzerland I cannot be decided as to what route I shall take farther than Florence as all depends upon how my money lasts. It will not do for me to go so far out of my way or remain travelling so long as not to have enough to get back to Paris. There would be no such thing as borrowing any upon the road. This is what I have spent since I left Paris, but you must keep it a secret at least tell no one but mother because I do now wish everyone to know what I spend for certain reasons I had when I left Paris eight hundred and twenty francs I have spent 330 so that I have 490 left which is about ninety five dollars by being more economical than I have been this will be enough till I return to Paris which will likely be some time during the first part of August providing my money lasts so long. Since I left Paris I have spent about sixty three dollars, I did not think that I should spend near as much as this as little as it is but then I could not for see the expense on passports and a thousand other things. During the three weeks while at Naples I spent more than twenty dollars. I shall be at Rome a month and will not spend one half as much. The reason is because I have a furnished room and shall live more economically. I would have taken a room at Naples but they are not let for a less time than a month and then again I did not expect to remain there longer than ten days. You will see by Jan- in my letter of the 16th of Jan- referring to the calculation that I wish to send after receiving the May rents,

\$95 which is 507 francs if she has not done so I wish you would remind her of it and to add the 150 francs that was short and which I borrowed from Mr. Drouard. I explained in one of my letters how there was 150 francs but will so do again least you may not find the (page 3) letter. I think that it was in the last I wrote from Paris under the date of 26 March my money received from chancery was \$263 to this Mother was to add \$125 of which I wished her to Send me for travelling on the continent \$75. This \$75 added to my money \$263 makes \$338 or 1803 francs. I have received but 1,653 francs so that there is a balance of 150 still due on this account Refer to letter of March 26, 1845. The \$95 which I now ask to be Sent is as you will see looking at the calculations to make up the balance of the \$125 which is \$50 and the remainder of the \$95, being \$45 is towards for my watch and to refund me for what I paid for dancing and Italian.-- The \$95 equal 507 francs which added to the 150 that was short makes 657 francs to be sent.

(following figures appear in the left margin of this page)

\$263
75

\$338 equal 1.803 fcs
1.605

150 fc balance due

\$50 balance of 125

25 watch
12 dancing

.95 equal 507 francs
150 balance

657 francs to be sent

I was thinking that if Mother had not Sent my money that it would be better to get two bills for this amount. One upon Paris for

300 francs So that I may pay Mr Drouard his 150 francs and the other bill upon London the amount would be in pounds Sterling . I can not tell exactly how many. I would wish both of these bills Sent as Soon as possible to Mr Drouard and for them to be made payable 2 mos after Sight. When I arrive at Paris I can give Mr D the bill for 300 fcs and receive 150 in change, the other bill I will take to London with me By having my money payable at London I shall have something, for if it was payable at Paris I must get franc. money changed into English by which I would lose 4 or 5 percent. I would like to have it all payable at London with the exception of 150 fcs I owe Mr D. but then the N.Y. bankers will not give a bill for less than 300 fcs. If mother has been Successful in getting the may rents you must try to prevail upon her to send me money to buy a shawl, or clock and some silk dresses. You will see by the calculations that I have allowed \$105 for these things which would be 560 francs. If she send this money it must be Sent at the Same time as mine is as I shall remain in Paris only 4 or 5 days-- She will manage the bills in this manner the one upon Paris will be for 560 fcs and 150 fcs, making 710 fcs; and the one upon England will be for whatever She choses and get a bill for the amount upon Paris minding to add the 150 fcs which I owe Mr Drouard to it. What have I been writing about? All is wrong. I was thinking about one thing that was very good and forgot about another equally important. I have forgotten to allow money in the bill of exchange, I wished to be drawn upon Paris, for my watch. You will pay no attention to what is crossed out but commence reading here-- It is not very probable that I will return to Paris before the 10 or 15 of August So that I will wait for my next monies

with the exception of 300 francs. You will get a bill for this amount and Send it immediately; if you have not already Sent my money, that I may pay Mr Drouard. The reason that I am willing to wait for the balance of my money is because you will have received the May and August rents. You can then know whether you can Send all the money for the things which I have named in the calculations. If you find that you can, this is what you will do: Send me by the Steamer of the first of August a bill of exchange for 560 francs or for what ever amount of things you wish me to buy at Paris, I (left side margin) and add to it 240 francs that I may buy my watch this will make the bill amount to 800 francs. After Sending me 300 & 240 there will be a balance of 117 francs (322) due from the amount of 675 francs, this you will send by the next Bill to London (return to body of my letter at 1) I will receive this bill about the 15 of August the time of my arriving at Paris, I can then make my purchaseses- and have money to go to London from the balance of 300 fcs I wish you to Send immediately. Be very particular to Send this by the Steamer of the first or fourth of August or you will unnecessarily detain me at Paris You will inform yourself of the time of the Sailing of the Steamer. Get the bill drawn at two months sight and enclose it to me in a letter to the care of Mr Drouard . Instead of leaving London immediately upon arriving, I will remain there a month and then commence my tour of Great Britain. ~~By this arrangement-~~ I will have enough to pay my expenses to London and support me there a month out of the balance of the bill of exchange for 300 fcs. By this arrangement you will send me by the Steamer of the middle of August a bill for 322 payable two months after sight at London. Send it in a letter to me to the care of Messers Barring Brothers & Co. This bill

will be for the following:viz. \$22 for the balance of the 657
francs, \$22 for overcoat, \$18 for coat I paid for at Paris,
\$25 for dinner Set, \$30 for tea set and \$15 for cuttlery, glass-
ware & Refer to Calculations. If you can not send all of the
\$122 you will send what you can but-I at any rate the balance
of 22 dols & for coat & overcoat. Capt More leave London Sept 7
I shall be there the Same times and will Send home the things
I purchase. This will be of great advantage to me. He leaves
N.Y. the 20 of July so that there will be an opportunity of
Sending me Something. He will arrive, at London just about the
Same time as myself. I shall keep batch bachelors Hall so that
anything in the way of pickles , preserves, cake, mince pies &
will (page 4) be very acceptable. Send nothing that will get
mouldy. If you do this I promise to send you in return a good
old English cheese and anything you like better. It is now after
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Say Something interesting. Why! how you will blow me up Tat. I
have been writing the last page to Mother about money concerns
in a letter addressed to you. I entirely forgot myself. I thought
really that the letter was to Mother. - I have promised you so
often to give you some fine descriptions that I suppose that you
must that I will not because I cannot. You are pretty right about
not being able but I assure you that I am quite willing and com-
menced this letter with the intention of doing my best to amuse
me. but how could I when I was out of patience with the pens and
ink? I have used all the ink I had this is some that I borrowed
which miserable as it is I am glad to get So as to have this
letter in time. I had something to tell you that would have
amused you very much but I will tell you in my next. It was about
my going up the holy Stairs yesterday upon my knees and wiping and

11

kissing each step. Ask Harris about them he had most likely heard of them. O how I wish that You were here. There are thousands of things that would amuse you- or astonish you. I have not yet given you a description of my going up Mt. Vesuvius and my rambles through Pompei and the dark subterreneous passages of explored Herculaneum. I have been to St. Peters Magnificent, Seen the Colyseum, Column of Trajan Pompy and all the Arches of Triumph and obelisques I will write again to you and to Mother Harris Anson and Miss Devereux in a few days. My remeberances and love to all. I hope you are well. I am hearty. There it is 51 I must stop or I may be kept here a week longer than I wish

Attend to what I say
about money So as not
to disappoint me.

Your dear brother,
Thomas Whaley

Letter addressed to : Thomas Whaley to his Mother

Mrs. Thomas Whaley, Rachel Whaley & Sister,

Care of Wm. M. Pye, Harriet

Corner of Delancy & Cannon Sts.

New York

Etats Unis D'Amerique

Par Le Paquebot

du Havre

Upper Left Corner :

Par Le Havre

20

received July 16, 1845

Rome May 16, 1845

Dear Tat,

Upon leaving Naples the 8th of this month I mailed a letter for Mother, in which I made a promise to write to you next time. The day being so miserable as to compel me to remain within doors, I will now fulfill it, believing that you will be highly gratified in receiving a letter coming so far, and especially from Rome! --If you have received my last letter which I sent by the way of Marseilles you must have learned how undecided I was whether I should proceed from Naples to Rome by land or Sea. I finally determined upon the former and am not sorry to have taken that route as it is a very interesting one. Everywhere we met ruins, grown with moss and crumbling into dust, relics of ancient Rome which not with standing the lapse of centuries Still

Speak of their once former magnificence. The road is level pretty much all the way So that I was disappointed in meeting with many beautiful points of view, but then I was gratified in beholding fields of vines, figs, olives, orange & lemon trees which were either blossoming or bending beneath their ripening fruit. These trees which with us require So much care and attention, grow here in the same manner as do our apple or pear trees and they are of the Same Size! I remarked one thing coming from Naples which surprised me that there were no barns very few Scattering houses I don't think that I saw more than fifty! The Italian peasantry (I speak of the women) wear only a handkerchief upon their heads. It is differently folded, according to the place, and is so lightly laid on that the least breath of air would remove it were it not that it is attached to their hair by a long gilt pin which projects two or three inches on either side of the head. - Their hair behind is done up in a bob and that which is before either hangs or falls in curls upon their burnette cheeks. I noticed that this custom prevailed even with the most aged. In their dress there is no other peculiarity than that they wear tight sleeves, a Spencer and a bodice which is generally of red flannel. The men wrap themselves up in dark woolen cloaks and wear what we call a brigand hat, in fact they resemble brigands. Upon entering the Popes dominions I perceive a great change. The country is quite flat and looks like a dreary waste. The fields are uncultivated and everything Seems so Sad. In traversing the Marais Pontius which is 25 miles long we did not meet half a dozen persons, but then, the road is the finest that ever I saw. It is level as water the whole distance and planted on either side with

large trees, the tops of which meeting in the center form a most beautiful bower which protects the traveller from the scorching rays of the sun. Upon this large marsh, the part which has been drained, were many horses and cattle feeding and in one place a heard of fifty or sixty tame bufolos. Just as we were about to leave this marsh we were obliged to stop a minute or two to let a large heard of pigs pass. I think that there were more than 500. They were all Small and quite black with very little or no hair. In fact I believe that there were no white pigs in this part of Italy. I remember to have Seen a few pigs at Naples but they were black-- I came from Naples by a Vetturini which is the same as a Stage only it is driven by the same horses all the way. It is just the same as a private carriage you travel only during the day time and at night stop to rest and feed the horses. It is a slow manner of travelling but then it is pleasant when the weather is fine. I was three days coming to Rome unfortunately the weather was not pleasant all the time but then I must not complain this is the rainiest month in this part of Italy. I may not see a beautiful day during the whole time I stay here. It has rained I believe everyday Since I have been here but then only in the morning; all of this day, however is miserable. -As I wish to stay here a month I found myself furnished lodgings immediately. I have a beautifully papered room carpeted and with mahogany furniture. It is Situated in the Strada De Condotti, No 85 near the Piasa de Spagna, the most fashionable part of Rome. I pay but \$4 a month. Had I gone to a good hotel I must have paid fifty cents a night. It costs me very little to live here not more than it did at Paris. I have not seen much of the city yet owing

to the weather but I must not put myself out of the way on that account. It is useless to wait for pleasant weather. I must commence tomorrow, rain hail or shine. To see all of the curiosities of Rome in 3 or 4 weeks time I have got to work pretty sharp. I have seen some of the principal wonders however and Shall take pleasure in telling you about them if I have room in this letter. - How often I have wished that Mother, you, John & Henry might see all that I have and still hope to. I wish that we were rich or that I was then when I return I would have you and Mother, John & Henry too, come to Europe with me again. I would be a very good guide and protector. If Mother had the means I think that I could prevail upon her to come and let you too. There is no more fatigue or danger in travelling in Europe than there is in going from N.Y. to Boston. If we are successful in (Page 2) the lawsuit and gain as much as I think we Shall there will be enough to defray all expenses and purchase many other pleasures. I wish myself home sometimes on this account, not that I could be of any good in advancing it but just to See how things work. It will be thirteen months tomorrow Since I left home. How time flies! I can hardly believe it to be So long--I would very much like to know if our affairs with Uncle's Estate are in away of being Settled or if any Steps have been made toward Settlement? I suppose not. How dilatory Mother!.What does she mean by this dilly dallying? Does she mean to die without getting and enjoying that which is hers? She will soon be old and will want more comforts than she stands in need of now and perhaps none of us may be able to provide her with them but had she the money which is due her She would be able to purchase them . I think John and Henry Should take more interest in things when they see that Mother is not capable of managing them; they are older than I

am therefore it is more expected of them than of myself. If, when I return home there is nothing done in the matter of this law suit I must see what I can do. I believe that the way of managing is Simply: to put it in the hands of a good lawyer with some competent person to Superintend it. Why cannot mother do this instead of doing nothing but wasting time and money rendering the thing more and more complicated by delay? I can not tell when I shall return home I hope however that it will be soon I am getting tired of this life. Don't misunderstand me I like travelling very much and would willingly devote my life to it had I the money. It is the want of this which makes me feel unhappy. I think that I ought to return home & do something useful that I may gain money. But here I am in Europe and must not return before I have seen all that I purpose. In a few months time I hope to have accomplished my object. As I begin to Speak a little Italian and find that the language is not hard to learn I wish to remain in Italy till the first of July which, if do, will use up the greater part of my money so that I shall not have much left for travelling. I will therefore be obliged to shorten my route as I will ask no more of Mother than I have. Sunday afternoon, May 18. Yesterday was pretty fine all the day so that I was engaged in looking at what is curious. This is a midling pleasant day too I have been out all the morning & would be now only that I must finish this letter so as to send it at 6 oclock-I shall enclose it in one I have written for Leopold requesting him to send it by the way of Havre. So that it will travel some thousands of miles I calculate that you will get it sometime the latter end of June. You will direct your answer to Paris where I hope to be about the Same time as it arrives the 7th of June I leave Rome for Curta Vecchia to take the Steamer

for Leghorn there I shall remain as Short a time as possible and then go to Pisa to See the famous leaning tower, Lucca and Florence where I shall spend at least a week as there are many things curious to be See there. I cannot tell exactly what course I shall take from Florence but it will most likely be toward Venice and from there to Milan and Soon to per- Switzerland I cannot be decided as to what route I shall take farther than Florence as all depends upon how my money lasts It will not do for me to go So far out of my way or remain travelling So long as not to have enough to get back to Paris. There would be no such thing as borrowing any upon the road. This is what I have Spent Since I left Paris, but you must keep it a Secret at least tell no one but mother because I do now wish everyone to know what I Spend for certain reasons I had when I left Paris eight hundred and twenty francs I have spent 330 So that I have 490 left which is about ninety five dollars by being more economical that I have been this will be enough till I return to Paris which will likely be some time during the first part of August providing my money lasts So long. Since I left Paris I have spent about Sixty three dollars, I did not think that I should Spend near as much as this as little as it is but then I could not for See the expense on passports and a thousand other things. During the three weeks while at Naples I spent more than twenty dollars. I shall be at Rome a month and will not spend one half as much. The reason is because I have a furnished room and shall live more economically. I would have taken a room at Naples but they are not let for a less time than a month and then again I did not expect to remain there longer than ten days-You will See by referring to the calculation in my letter of the 16th of January that i wished Mother to send after receiving the May rents,

\$95 which is 507 francs if she has not done so I wish you would remind her of it and to add the 150 francs that was short and which I borrowed from Mr. Drouard. I explained in one of my letters how there was 150 francs but will so do again least you may not find the (page 3) letter. I think that it was in the last I wrote from Paris under the date of 26 March my money received from chancery was \$263 to this Mother was to add \$125 of which I wished her to Send me for travelling on the continent \$75. This \$75 added to my money \$263 makes \$338 or 1803 francs. I have received but 1,653 francs so that there is a balance of 150 still due on this account Refer to letter of March 26, 1845. The \$95 which I now ask to be Sent is as you will see looking at the calculations to make up the balance of the \$125 which is \$50 and the remainder of the \$95, being \$45 is towards ~~for my~~ watch and to refund me for what I paid for dancing and Italian.-- The \$95 equal 507 francs which added to the 150 that was short makes 657 francs to be sent.

(following figures appear in the left margin of this page)

\$263
75

\$338 equal 1.803 fcs
1.605

— 150 fc balance due

\$50 balance of 125

25 watch
12 dancing

—
\$95 equal 507 francs
150 balance

—
657 francs to be sent

I was thinking that if Mother had not Sent my money that it would be better to get two bills for this amount. One upon Paris for

300 francs So that I may pay Mr Drouard his 150 francs and the other bill upon London the amount would be in pounds Sterling . I can not tell exactly how many. I would wish both of these bills Sent as Soon as possible to Mr Drouard and for them to be made payable 2 mos after Sight. When I arrive at Paris I can give Mr D the bill for 300 fcs and receive 150 in change, the other bill I will take to London with me By having my money payable at London I shall have Something, for if it was payable at Paris I must get french money changed into English by which I would lose 4 or 5 percent. I would like to have it all payable at London with the exception of 150 fcs I owe Mr D. but then the N.Y. bankers will not give a bill for less than 300 fcs. If mother has been Successful in getting the may rents you must try to prevail upon her to send me money to buy a shawl, or clock and some silk dresses. You will See by the calculations that that I have allowed \$105 for these things which would be 560 francs. If she send this money it must be Sent at the Same time as mine is as I shall remain in Paris only 4 or 5 days-- She will manage the bills in this manner the one upon Paris will be for 560 fcs and 150 fcs, making 710 fcs; and the one upon England will be for whatever She choses and get a bill for the amount upon Paris minding to add the 150 fcs which I owe Mr Drouard to it. What have I been writing about? All is wrong. I was thinking about one thing that was very good and forgot about another equally important. I have forgotten to allow money in the bill of exchange, I wished to be drawn upon Paris, for my watch. You will pay no attention to what is crossed out but commence reading here-- It is not very probable that I will return to Paris before the 10 or 15 of August So that I will wait for my next monies

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will be for the following:viz. \$22 for the balance of the 657
francs, \$22 for overcoat, \$18 for coat I paid for at Paris,
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Your dear brother,
Thomas Whaley