This morning I got up at 9 o'clock, went to a coiffeur's and had my hair cut and was shaved, and then
sleered for the custom house. I found the trunks all piled together in a little room, two old women officiating
as interpreters and custom house officers. My large trunk was sent at once on board the Hamburg steamer
and the other brought up for examination, an officer stuck his hands in, rummaged a minute
among the dirty linen, and then said "Bon" whereupon a porter took it off to the hotel and I went
with the commissary of hotels to the passport office and had my passport signed and stamped and
returned to me. Thence home to breakfast, such bread & butter and eggs! I have not much to say about
Havre, because I have but little time and George can tell you as much as I can. After taking a warm
bath I took another walk and nearly exhausted the interest of the town. Every thing almost appears
a century behind the age ~~and~~ women are thumping about in wooden shoes and men are driving
[illegible] a yard or two in breadth and weighing apparently at least [illegible] pounds
There is a most remarkable old church here, [illegible] of it, which outside now
ever passette my powers of description. The town is walled but the walls are mostly mere mounds of earth and are not
in good repair. There are one or two handsome squares and the appearance of the houses is extremely picturesque
5 or 6 stories high and very narrow. Many of them are of wood and very old, so that it would be hard to find two straight
lines in them. But I must refer you to George for these things. Mr & Mrs Gorrissen are both well and we leave for Hamburg
on Saturday - May 1st - This morning after breakfast I am going to engage my passage to Hamburg - something less than 25 dollars
is what I have to pay. Our fellow passengers have nearly all left us, some for Paris and some for London by way of Southampton.
Today being the king's birthday is a holiday, and cannon have been banging away till the morning - tonight there are to be fire
works and I believe an illumination. I expect to be in Berlin a week from next Saturday - we arrive at Hamburg on Monday evening
May I shall stay in Hamburg till Thursday morning, then take the steamer up the Elbe to Magdeburg - sleep that night at Mag
deburg and take the railroad or diligence the next day for Berlin. This letter is to go by the Steamer from Liverpool and
I shall write again when I get settled in Berlin but it would not be worth while to write from ~~Magdeburg~~ Hamburg.
I have written rather a rambling sort of letter, but ~~[illegible]~~ I have been pressed for time as my letter must be in Liverpool
by the fourth and I have had a good deal to attend to here - it will at least inform you of our safe arrival and health
and I will write more fully from Berlin. I hope to hear from you by the next Steamer from New York and the letter
will probably reach me ~~for~~ if you direct simply to Berlin. Ask George to get from Carson a skull which I sent him and
which belongs to Dun and is to be packed in the box of bones which I left under the bed in my room. Let me
hear of your plans for the summer and whether the House is let. Eliza I suppose is in Chicago by this time.
George must remember me to all my friends and acquaintances the various Drs included - What has
been done about my thesis? I should like to have Prof Henry see it before it is printed - it would be best perhaps to put
it into the hands of Dr Torrey altogether ~~[illegible]~~ have no doubt that he would superintend the printing. I do not
wish, if it should be printed, that any copies should be given to unscientific persons - My letter must go
to the office now so that I must end by sending love to all at home and bidding you good bye till I get
to Berlin - Your affe son W

I shall send home by the Steward of the Argo 2 or 3 books which I brought with me to read on the voyage, and a few French
books which were given me by a Spaniard on board who appeared to take a fancy to me, and which I could not
refuse and did not wish to carry with me to Germany -