1845

Dear Jerry, I believe my last letter was directed to you exclusively, therefore and in consideration of your extreme brevity you do not deserve particular mention at that time and must look upon this as a special favour. I have not yet anything very remarkable in the musical line since I have been to a musical dealer's of the name of Keary who has the largest establishment here. He is trying to exchange for American musicals especially for Mr White's & the death of Maywood is a loss I do not know that we have any duplicates new subjects. His own musicals were good & not very dear but of course I did not buy any from him. I hope to procure some good specimens at Keyberg this summer and when I go to the Exhibition by the Emperor of Russia to the King. It is about 5½ feet in height & of the top and is cut out of a single solid block. You cannot imagine anything more beautiful. There is not a blemish or a flaw in the whole vase. In front of the Museum there is also a basin of polished Granite cut also out of a solid block 22 feet in diameter & 9 or 10 deep. It is [illegible] that granite would take such a polish. The basin is really beautiful and makes one long to see a whole building of the same material. Marble does not compare with it. I have been to the different instrument makers here to look at balances, microscopes &c. I shall not get a balance till the fall as I perhaps not even then but I want you particularly to send out to me the microscope which Levy of London which is in a box or case at home. I can have adjusted to it for about $8.00 a set of achromatic lenses which will render it fully equal to any microscope in America even the most expensive French instruments. If you should have no objection and to send this whole box on account of it being so much smaller than the microscope or tube containing the lenses and which unscrews from the [illegible] of the microscope it would be much more convenient in this manner [illegible] adjusted to it here, all that I would bring the exact size of the thread of the screw into which the small object lenses are screwed. Still it would be useless better to have the whole instrument here and I would much rather wait for a good opportunity to send the whole as there is no hurry. If you send you may perhaps make some arrangement at the Custom House in New York by which it will not be necessary a second time to pay duty when it is sent back again. Should it not be sufficient to show it there and have a note taken of it? The duties on such things are very heavy we believe. I should also like very much to have a copy of Longfellow's poems - late series. Perhaps you will find some opportunity of sending us the same this year. Silliman has written out to Heidelberg that an American Professor is coming out in the fall also to study Chemistry here. I do not know his name but you can find out easily & most probably send by him. Let me know in your next about the election the day & [illegible] about the trees

Polly Bodine - about the Allens

and Parker and all friends

have you done with the [illegible]

of Von Kaumer's books at home - Keep them letters before you when you write so as to answer all my questions. Attend W. P. S. If you

& not already published I thought it had better rest quietly in the Archives of the College and I may examine the subject hereafter. I hope you will

have no delays with the Harpers in regard to your book; they are a mean & slippery set of fellows. I want you to get for me the new number

of Booth & Boyé's Cyclopaedia of Chemistry as they appear and to send them to me when you have a chance. The last which I have is the 7th

I do not see what is to prevent your sending everything at once viâ Hamburg to the Care of the Arnold Schlesinger. If you can log you have

home on a little book called Davis' Magazine of Magnetism send that also. W. De La Rue. I am very much obliged to you for your

choice in my absence from home and hope you will continue to play little to Jerry's taste. We have so much music here in all quarters that I am

getting quite musical myself and listen to long concerts with great gravity & composure (particularly when drinking beer at the same time)

one may hear a full band play for 2 or 3 hours in the open air every evening in the week for 6 pence or at most a shilling (beer exclusive)

The orchestra of the Opera house here comprises 100 performers and is selected by the most eminent composers of the day. The interior

of the Opera house is very splendid. It is probably the finest building of the kind in the world and is supported by Government at a

very great expence. The scenery decorations also magnificent. I have heard no opera as yet but the Huguenots is also used as a test to

strength there is a Schauspielhaus or Theatre proper. The entrance of this is very fine but I hope not yet been within. I have seen

Goethe's Faust performed once, and also a comedy in a minor theatre. Is there to be a new Opera house in New York or where? I am

sorry to hear of the death of Mrs. Schofield. Do you know whether Lieber is coming out here next year? When is Carson to be

married and have you seen his intended? I am amused at [illegible] Russell's engagement, likewise with the idea of our

Hays's keeping house with the small pox. I have your letter and Lake carefully stowed away for Miss Tauch and hope to see her in Leipzig

sometime in August or September. With the Frazers I visit this city and have the Alvins returned. Yesterday I took a jaunt to Potsdam

with Hutton and spent a very pleasant day there. The palace of Sans Souci where Frederick the great lived was not open to the

public in consequence of the Queen's being there but we visited every thing else in the city. The tomb of Frederick is in one of the

churches behind and beneath the pulpit but above ground. It contains the bodies of Frederick and of his father enclosed in

plain metal coffins without inscriptions or ornaments of any kind and the vault is likewise very plain. The Church like all the

Churches in Berlin is very ugly outside and still more so within. The gardens of the Sans Souci are beautifully laid out and very

000111