Dresden August 20th 1845

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Dear Mother

I write to you from this city rather to let you where I am than to give you any regular monthly mail, which I have not now time to do. I arrived in this City the day before yesterday and have visited the principal collections here though I have not yet half satisfied myself with the picture gallery. I left Berlin on Friday last (that is Wednesday) at 8 in the morning and reached Leipsic at 3 in the afternoon. The weather was very cold and wet and through I saw something of the city that evening I could hear nothing of the Sauels. The next day I found Mr Reinhard Richter (to whom Miss Bell gave me a letter) who told me that Miss Sauels was at Connewitz a village 2 or 3 miles from Leipsic, at President Seeck's country seat. The next morning I took a droschke and drove out there and found Miss Sauels already apprised of my arrival and expecting me; she was very glad to see some one from New York and we had a long chat together. Her sister who was first with Miss Bell came in after a short time and both asked all manner of questions about Miss Bell yourself and them other acquaintances here in New York. They were expecting Edwards Bell daily and believed that he was there in Hamburg. Laura's letter and the cake were welcome. I don't know which the most so. I gave them also Mrs Bell's letter, though they had heard from her several times since I left home. I spent a couple of hours very pleasantly with them and left them expecting to see them again hopefully in September or in Berlin next winter. Miss Laura Sauels promised to write to Laura or to you about your living here in Germany. The city of Leipsic was all under arms at the time of my visit in consequence of the disturbances there on the night of the 19th of August, when 8 or 10 persons were deliberately murdered by the soldiery at the command of the Commissaire who had been as it is stated insulted by the populace at his hotel. You will have heard of these things more fully by the time this reaches you. The excitement in Leipsic is still very great. Hence I left Leipsic on Monday with much satisfaction as the city contains but little which is interesting and living there is now dear. Dresden is the most beautifully situated city which I have yet seen and contains very very few more interesting and valuable collections than Berlin. The picture gallery is much the finest in Germany and one of the finest in Europe. I have been there three times already and mean to go about 10 times more! It is open every day from 9 till 1. Of course I cannot describe the pictures generally as they are known to you by engravings.

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