

15 rue Grégoire

Dear Cousin Lucy and Cousin Pierre -

The catalogue you so kindly sent arrived safely and we took much interest in it. AB loaned it around also - the Frenchmen cannot understand a thing like the "Archipolo" of Bruce Orvis - and even to the Americans it seems a pretty good sized mass. It was of interest too, to see how many of the students who have been here figured in the index as draughtsmen or architects - we sort of judged that it was an amateurish exhibition -

It seems a long time since last winter - I was very much pressed for a few weeks wanting to get "off" the mathematics, mechanics, etc., required, at the Spring examinations - and succeeded quite satisfactorily - to the amusement of ^{the} other students - Then came a project, a little piece of a building facing the street and the

parallel gazebo on the coast - and then came down with a most peculiar malady which has just been recovered from - it sounds very funny, a boil in your ear, but it inflamed the whole head like mumps & was painful in addition - Its quite well now - but "boils" is a sore subject.

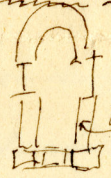
Arny is growing used to the climate and looks much better than when he arrived - he is still working in the Salony "noveaux ateliers", and goes to a drawing class at "Les Arts Decoratifs", near the Odéon every evening from seven thirty to ten - and enjoys it.

The weather is at its best just now, just budding out green on the parks and along the boulevards - and not yet too warm - It never seemed prettier than yesterday on the river, or more interesting - The new bridge has two thirds of its arches across - (its built in longitudinal sections) the Palais's make brilliant spots in the green, the white stone and red uncovered iron work of the roofs - Then all down the Quai d'Orléans side they have a sort of built out platform just allotted to the different nations, and gay with flag -

one two the biggest and brightest and fullest
of them all. Our place is about half way
between the Pont de la Concorde and the
Trocadero - A little nearer the latter, opposite,
they are building "Le Vieux Paris", - and it
don't seem as though ingenuely could
have found more crookedness - more turrets
& towers and gables - In the evening light
and haze its very beautiful from down
by the 'Place' looking westward - The Champs
de Mars is a spider web of red iron work,
as indeed is every quiet and vacant place
from the Trocadero down here - Its really
beginning to be felt that the Exhibition is
coming, but it seems hardly possible
that it will be ready for next year -

We had one real treat last month -
"Beaucoup de Bruit pour Rien" - far
monieur W. Shakespeare! at the Opera Comique -
The scenery and costumes were simply charming
I know you would have enjoyed it as
heartily - The music was rather reminiscent
in some acts, but was pretty good on the
whole - The chapel scene was one of the
best "stagings" I have seen - a fine color scheme.

Another night we saw "Le Farfandel" and Jampa -
a bright, pretty little Italian - esprit piece with
a most absurd ending - We like to go to the
Opera Comique, every piece is its "first night" as
it were, with entirely new costumes and scenery -
The foyer and halls are pretty gaudy Rococo,
and the painting by different people don't
compose into a harmonious whole, but there
is something gay and happy about it all
which certainly is attractive.

One truth I wished much you could have
shared was the Easter Vêpres at Notre Dame
when at last I got into the Choir - The
effect from there is simply fine, and  this one.
I don't think the nave will ever
seem narrow and cold again - I had the whole
place to myself, and played I was a gargoyle
until the music made me forget myself, and the
services became all absorbing - a candle
procession with the arch bishop and other dignitaries,
more than around the entire church in length -
two funerals - ~~you felt~~. You can see the
whole nave and much of the aisles, the part
under you and the continuation up the
other side the transept, only being hid - It
now seemed more grand, more impressive.

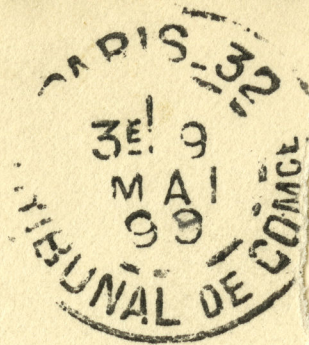
Army and I are planning already for the vacation, and weighing the question of bicycles or no. I don't know whether I could, on so short notice, ride long enough at a time to cover any great space of country - whether there is strength enough - What do you think? We cannot go before August and would like to see as much as possible of England and come back by way of Holland. Speaking of wheels, we had a sad time last week, - one of the California girls, who has had good success the last two seasons, was thrown from her wheel in Bunting and broke her leg. She had had immediate country care, and died of blood poisoning - hereafter two days of hospital - It seemed one of the "altogether too bad" cases.

We have not been to the Salon yet, but plan to go on Sunday - every one says it is not as good as usual.

We think and talk often of you - Army wants to send his love separately - Will you kindly remember us to the couple - with love always for Cousin Lucy and Cousin Fannie, Julia Morgan.

May 7th 1897.

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Mrs Anne L. Lehm

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Etats Unis.