

Archives; Wigan & Leigh
The Edward Hall Diary Collection

Diary and Travel Journal of an Anonymous Gentleman

Nov 16th 1834 - Sept 3rd 1836

EHC/22



Edward Hall, c.1932

Editor's Note

All diary transcripts have been produced with the intention of faithfully reproducing the text of the original manuscript exactly as it appears. All spellings and punctuation marks have been transcribed as they appear; where clarification was thought necessary by the transcriber, an explanation, current spellings or punctuation have been added in square brackets.

The diarist appears to live in London, since he seems to frequent every new play that opens. His diary entries are irregular, and they usually comprise of a detailed criticism of the last play he had seen. He keeps a keen eye on the fluctuations of the stock market and he occasionally refers to political matters, e.g., the row about Queen Victoria's marriage to Albert and a reading of the Irish Municipal Reform Bill.

Diary *

Watercolour by R Owen *

*written in pencil on the inside cover.

The following is pencil written on a small piece of loose paper inside the opening pages of the Diary.

Diary & Travel Journal/ ANON. (Mr -) Gentleman

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1834 Nov 16th Sunday Just returned from visiting that is Dining & Tea-ing/ with Carter Manderwell. It is within a few days of 13 years, since the same party, viz,/ father, mother, Edw. Waddyre [&], myself dined with the same host/ at the same house ; there too was little Susan : she who next year/ will be here to take my place. I think Carter himself has been less/ changed by any than any other of the part by the 13 years – Yet nature/ [?] In him: and well he may: is it not 70 the [?]/ allotted span, and has not Carter stretched to 83? I shall be/ “Stopping a her barrel”, long before my four score and

three. What/ an single hearted creature it is! Age cannot impair/
his feelings; whilst the vital fire burns at all, his heart will/ be the
warmest part about him. And then his calm prospect of death: how
edifying/ how enviable! Such a man can alone afford a just view of
the/ real nature of death : his de at has not been brought about/
[obliteration] prematurely, by intemperance, [obliteration] defective
constitution (the/ curse of vicious parents)- or overwhelming grief:
body and mind/ have done their duty, and they sink into cold
obstruction", as/ into natural slumber after labour; before we
impugn the/ mercy of the law of nature, let us examine her bounty
to/ those good children who obey her.- Met on the roadside/ two
field preachers expounding jeremy[?] The prophet; for the matter/
of instructing me they might as well have fulminate primitive/
hebrew; It is a pity we can't find some more practical & intelli/bible
arguments to induce men to be just and kind to/ each other, an
reverential towards God: Nature has ample/ stoves or the deuce is
In It. Aye – there it is - the devil/ perhaps is in it – or by some
wil[?with?] repulsive principle, that diverts/ our blood from our
fellow children, and indulgent Father.

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1834/ Nov [?]

Accompanied my mother to see “Manfred” and “Cinderella” / at
Covent Garden Theatre. Mr Denvil acted this undramatic/ character
“most vilely” and the sublimity of the writing was sadly out of/ place
upon the stage: Conceive Mr Denvil, deeped in fine/ brown, glossy,
curly hair, calling himself,/ “ Grayhaired” [sic] with anguish, like these
blasted pines” - / Sinclair & [?] Romer succeeded [?] Mrs. Wood in
Felix/ and Cinderella. Sinclair's acting was as flat as his face and/
accent. Wood with an inferior voice makes a tenfold [?] / impression
-: So true it is that manners make even the singing / man: to be sure
he has to boot, (a symmetrically with) [the bracketed words inserted
above the line] a face and form such as/ [?] love to paint and ladies

to look upon: / 24th Monday. Went with Mrs. and Betsy brought my dear Mother to the Olympic, / “Retort Courteous”: dull- / “My daughter Sir.” decent: / “Hush Money” better/ “Loan of a lover” best - and excellent./ 2 Decr. My dear Susan’s Birthday. Ceelum benefice (previous two words written in pencil)/ 3 Decr. Went to Covent Garden with my dear mother to see a new/ Comedy “horribly stuffed” with misery and suicide, and [?] / “Medium Horror” – It was damned and damnable :/ [following written between lines]:- what man of sense expected more than bloody stuff from Mrs. Gore! T.M. Laureate/ 5. Friday Went with the same companion to Drury Lane – “Red/Mask” – a dull business[?] – Like all Dramas taken from nove/ls it requires/ acquaintance with the original, and is [?], a bad Drama: a/ good duet & good concerted piece or two and some divine daubing/ by Stanfield are the sum of its “merits. “Tam OShanters” a / new farce, was, “just vary weel”. “Green grow the rushes O,” was

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Capitally sung, and the uproarious applause might have awakened/ Burns from any other slumber./

12. Othello. Vandenhoff the Moor: Denvil, Iago: the first time I saw/ these “chronicles of the time” I pronounced Vandenhoff to be the very/ prince of Country Actors, and Denvil to be an imposition that will/ be soon detected. He has had the fortune, good or bad, of coming a [?] when the Management from very poverty of talent, were/ ready to puff and foist and force him upon public taste: and they can/ unquestionably place for a time the Thespian [?] upon any brow / if they will only pay for it. He is at present their mere tool, and/ as a broken tool, will soon be Cast away.

13. A new farce Reflection : An effort at genteel Comedy in One Act &/ not a very happy one. (Mrs Planche')/

17. King Lear: Lear Vandenhoff: Edgar, Devil – Vandenhoff's Lear/
good: frequently very good: Denvil [obliteration] bad – frequently
[this word has a line drawn through it and the word 'generally'
written above it] very bad./

18. Dined with Dr Arnott- with about a dozen others. “ He is a/ man –
take him for all and all – I shall not look upon his like again”/

30. Tuesday: “School for Scandal” – Farren admirable as Sir Peter:
Ellen Tree:/ rather too vive and girlish but credible as Lady T:
Vandenhoff fair enough as Joseph: Cooper the Coarse Charles –
Webster an indifferent Moses - / after the comedy “King Arthur”- a
Christmas flare up – and a very/ blazy one indeed.

1835 New Year's Day : Dined again, but like a te'te with Arnott –
a/ great treat. Went with him at 11o'clock to one of Owen's
National- Equi/table – [obliteration]Labour – Exchange – Social
Festivals: that I/ believe is the orthodox abbreviation: our
philanthropy was much/ disappointed : the girls were in general in
squalid finery. &/ the men in dapper genteelity – most of them
appeared to be of that/

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unfortunate chap who are doomed to spend God's 24 hours in these
properties ?/ Work 15 hours – Glory 3 hours – Sleep 6 hours – but
without rigidly ?:/the long, dingy, ill lighted chill Galleries presented
an aspect of desolation/ which nothing could disguise & I left the
place with a sigh for this utter/ failure of misdirected benevolence.

3. Maddison's birthday – Numbers 24 years: “ As tall a fellow of his
lands as/ any in illyria” – and amiable – honorable [sic] – Excellent –
he may safely leave / me to write his Character – for I respect and
love him. I never saw a young/ man to whom I could confidently

predict general attachment and esteem. I/ shall return to this delightful subject./

6. 12th Night. Our first rale [sic] frost: Regents Canal full of skaiters[sic]. Walked/ up with Kate. Saw Edward on the ice who though not exactly “the/ observed of all observers”, was very respectable: Dear little George saw/ the sport for the first time, and on his return being asked where he/ had been, said - to see the people running on the dry water./

7. Frost gone again./ The following are some of Georgy's early mispronunciations./ Kr – for g: instead of quite- he insists on krite /swim---srim/music---megus/physic---phygus/gentleman--- jumplan/comfortable---comfbum/thank you---sankoo/handkerchief-- han- koof -kiff./ (following written alongside this list:) ‘& so in all Kindred accents’) Then such amusing samples of past tenses in Grammar! showing / considerable notice & [?] of analogy, and proving that / the simplicity of grammar observable amongst the Hindoos/ + other [?] nations, is the suggestion of Nature and is adequate/ to all her purposes – It is high fun, following a child in his/

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efforts to quip at & anticipate the caprices of English [?]/ George [?] daily such [?] – “I have seed Grandpapa” when/ he sees that provoke a laugh, he takes no notice, but in a few minutes/ takes an opportunity to tell us “he has sawn Grandpapa” – this/ meeting a similar fate he tells us in despair “he has seend Grand/papa” – He fairly & honestly realized Fred Vining's joke in/ “High life below stairs” – for being asked the other day whether/ he was So and So, he replied, “Yes I are”: He sings from morn/ to night.- These are his first favorites[sic] – (rather rough music) which/ he hears ground daily upon the street organs./ Double d um dairy -/ I'm on the sea (according to G. Hymen on the Sea)/ A version of Ach du lieber- / A few aspiring chords of the overture to Maraniello-/ and several of

the many songs I sing to him when on my knee/ or going to bed – his
pets are ‘the evil king’ of Monk Lewis-/ the ‘Mistletoe bough’ of
Haines Bayley: When a little merry he” “A/ “ Frog he would a wooing
go.” Hark the[&] Christchurch bells.”/ “Merry are the bells” (A tune
to which I wrote a string of Verses/ applicable to himself) “ As I was
riding to Derby”- and/ others, most of which I had from my father – “
And thus from/” hour to hour we ripe and ripe, and thus from hour
to hour we/ “ rot & rot” True, [&] true Master Jacques. George's/
animal spirits are overflowing & unconquerable except by/ bodily +
nervous irritation. I scarcely ever saw them equalled. / A few minutes
are sufficient to “redeem all sorrows he ever yet/ hath known.”

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8.Feb.y Dined with Father. Mother. Maddison./ 12 Feb. Took my
dear boy George for the first time to a theatre – Covent/ Garden –
Cinderella and the Pantomime Harlequin + [&] : Got 3 stalls in the
front/ row of the dress circle for him, Kate and myself. George
having/ previously mastered the story, entered fully into the spirit +
was / highly delighted – indeed he swallowed so much pleasure as to
enable/ him to chew the cud of excitement for a month afterwards.
He was/ less pleased with the Pantomime – it did not appear
intellectual / enough – for he was miserable unless the why +
because of every/ thing were explained to him which [obliteration]
the Genius of messrs / Reynolds and Farley made a too difficult task,
even for me. A thundering/ clap like a Clap of Thunder turned him
pale as his smock. He thought/ the folks were on the point of battle./
17. “Hazard of the Die”: by Jerrold: some clever, epigrammatic,/
pathetic, + nervous writing – but monotonous, + obscure/ plot:
turning on the adventures of a licentious but repentant French
Revolutionist/ of 1792. Successful ?./ 26. Edward Farce of the “River
God” appeared at the Olympic, and was perfectly/ successful. I am
not sure but that this style of plot + action is far safer, perhaps more
difficult than any merit of dialogue/ 2 March. Saw the Queen at

Drury Lane. – Kenilworth , and the/ Pantomime : her majesty has lately incurred popular displeasure / by supposed interference in public affairs in favour of the Tory/ party: yet when Queen [?] in the plenitude of Contemptible/ pique, caprice + passion declares [obliteration] (when her marriage / is the subject of conversation) that she will be sole mistress +/ will allow her husband to rule in England, up jumps “the/ beast with many heads” Don Million and “most tyrannically/

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claps her for't” giving her a full bray of approbation./ 9 March. Madison produced the “first heir of his invention”- “First fit of the Gout”/ at Mrs. Gilbert’s theatre in Tottenham Street. It was perfectly successful./ It is altogether a talking Farce – “the humour of it” rather higher than the/ River God's. who depends for his ludicrous effects upon incident and situation/ + Strong Contrasts. Maddison keeps more to the beaten path of life, enlivening/ It with the ludicrous as it advances. Do these successes address no/ sympathy to me? Is it not better to be satisfied with these humble / products and produce them, than to have my depth of reflection,/ and ambition in design, and affect nothing ? Is it not with/ the head as with the heart – and he will only condescend to/ great deeds and occasions, [?] 9 tenths of the usefulness./ “So study evermore is overshoot :/ “ When it doth study to have what it would,/ “ It doth forget to do the things it should”/ The other pieces of the Evening. “Birds of paradise” Jarrold. A dull flock of/ Turtle doves – old + young. “Woman” a dull thing taken from a/ novel (Thackeray) “ Family peculiarities” – [obliteration] Comme ca: tra la la./

21. Poole’s new 5 act comedy at Drury Lane “ Patricia + Provence”./ It should really be called a 5 act farce : It produces its laughter/ by verbal extravagancies, + going to the harsh extremities of character/ + manners: there is no with, no point, no keen discrimination,/ no satire, no Moral – yet there is laughter there for the laughter loving.

26. Went with my father to the French play. English Opera House. Saw Le Maitre' in his celebrated part of Robert Macuive, "Auberge des florets" / in which owing perhaps more to the part than to the actor I was/ disappointed – Saw the charming Jenny Vertpre' in two [?]/ parts. "Theobald" + Le plus heureux jour de la Vie". but saw

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Enough to be charmed. She belies proverbial truth and presents you a Silk/ purse twisted from a Sow's ear.- or with the "Cunning Cookery" of her/ nation [?] dry crumbs and husks into something relishable. / 28. [?] Mrs. Nisbett's again. 1. First fit of the gout. 2 "The Volunteer a stupid/ tale saved by a highland imitation of "The Invincibles" / 3. The Wandering jew- bad. 4. In status quo. 5. Married Rake: decent./ 6. Station house – [?]. Wunch very amusing - + Barnett a/ first rate Frenchman with a couple of first rate songs. / 9 April Olympic. Last night [?] one of the [?]. "Court beauties " – poor plot./but great accuracy in diction, manners + costumes.- (Manche'.)/ "Affair of honour" – between [?] + Keely – very amusing: (Rede)/ "Retort Courteous," improves on repetition. "River God".

26. Dined with pater at Camberwell./1May Saw for the first time on the/ stage Shakespeare's Midsummer Nights/ Dream. Agreeably surprised at the [?]/[?] of entertainment it afforded. The Harley's Bottom very broad, and but very laughable. His best character from Shakespeare, and except/ Master Slender – which is excellent. / 7. Covent Garden closed with [?] and/ Des [?]. /20. Malibranter? In the Fornambula at /Drury Lane – Divine. Templeton/ in Elvino surprisingly effective. / The fellow has stepped at a single/ stride from mediocrity + obscurity/ to popularity + [?]. I have no hesitation in saying there is/ no other English Singer Capable of/ executing this music so efficiently - / so Messrs. Graham?, Sinclair, I Wilson / look [?].

1835. / 23 May. La Gaggera Laura. 26. My dear little boy born. If his heart be equal to the to/ his head he will be a blessing to us.. Kate well. / 1 June. Haymarket opened with Much ado about nothing. [?]'s Benedict/ I need not say, but perfection. Bridal, a very pleasing Claudio – wife Taylor's Beatrice a loving thing. /2. Drury Lane. Saw for the first time C Kemble as Hamlet. Had /long looked forward to the enjoyment of a performance which/ I had determined must be perfect. I was doubly disappointed – first in/ the performance itself, secondly to find C Kemble fail in anything. / Peculiarities – Unusual bursts in the passages “give 20,40,50, 100 / [?] a piece for his picture in little” – “If you find him not there, you can seek /him in the other place yourself” “You shall see anon, and how the mur/derer gets the love of Gaggera's wife.” – Great by play after/ the exits of Ophelia – of Guildenstern and Rosencrantz – “leave me friend”, / and of Osrick – but as I thought, “something too much of this”. The Queen/ wore the picture of her husband, (No 2 as Mr Coddle has it) at/ her wrist in a bracelet : I saw other deviation from the/ usual path. Singular gesture at the words “with a bare/ bodkin” – whereby he evidently intends Hamlet to mean what/ he says: this reading is certainly the right one, but the gesture/ was rather too literal – it almost tailor like + professional. I/ disapprove too of his crawling across the stage to the King's/ feet, during the play. I am not sure but he also struck/ Claudius with the fan - my attention was impertinently diverted at that critical moment, and I cannot vouch/ for the fact – but I have the impression that it was so – and / if I am quite right in this respect, he was quite wrong in that. / Upon the whole, his faults are, a wearying, monotonous, insipid declamation in the quiet parts, and unnecessary, / inconsistent violence + ferocity in the passionate. His sole/ merit is a thorough knowledge of his text which he delivered/ throughout – “ Even as a scholar and a [?], and good one”/ 18. Saw Tagliani dance at Drury Lane.

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1835. 2 July Tagliani's benefit. Plucked up a heart – and pluck'd out my purse-/ and paid 3s for the Gallery ticket for the opera: "Puritani" – "La prova d'un/ opera seria" – with plenty of dancing by the Muse – herself – the / very poetry of motion. The music very pleasing + dramatic. Grisi/ has some very effective singing + I have never seen her to greater/ advantage – but the feature of the opera is the duet at the end of/ the 2nd Act twixt Tamburini and Lablache a more stirring peal/ of melodious thunder was never heard. We "Gods" having the/ direction of these matters, made them sing it three times, and / had an Olympian wrestle for a fourth. /5. Dined with Arnott – met Dawson – (a good natured humorous/ Irish absentee of fortune – and who though a Liberal and a/ decent political economist, sees no injury to Ireland from/ absenteeism,) Bifrett – (a literary man – [obliterated] anti – christian / if not atheistical – [?] manners) and Dr. Grigge/ of Boston U.S. the transatlantic friend of Spurzheim – the/ disciple in whose arms he died. All the information he gave of the philosophies [obliteration] conduct in life and death, all the explanation he attempted to afford of the/ philosopher's intellectual + moral system, and was spoiled/ by fulsome panegyrie – and such as the miserable, suicidal / consequences of euthansiasm even under the best impulse-/ "Much vereneration hath made me mad". – I shall never / forget his naif self eulogium "that acting according to the/ dictates of [?] [?] had quite become his hobby" / nor his account of the practical application of Springheim's lore in/ Comparative phrenology, to the obstreperous [?] (fourfooted) in/ the streets of Boston – nor Darwin's skill in drawing out/ his folly like wire, and making him [?] Newton's intellect/ beneath Spurzheim's, whilst we were all looking in different / ways – stuffing handkerchiefs in our mouths, to avoid / interrupting the philosophical conclave with a Roaring/ hard laugh /

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1835/ 6 July. Went with Sedgwick to see the ?eliques of Jeremy Bentham at/ Southwood Smith's. Saw a wax figure (Covering Bentham's skull and/ skeleton) apparell'd in his habits as he lived" seated upon his/ very chair and leaning upon the [obliteration] very stick that had supported the venerable philosopher for many years and to which he/ seems to have been particularly attached. Disappointed of seeing/ either brain or skull. A fine bust and a very fine anatomical/ preparation⁴ of different parts of his viscera were exhibited; Dr S. / attended us and was very courteous. I have met him elsewhere/ without knowing him. Met there Dr. Grigge to whom I had mentioned our intention and promised an introduction to Sedge/wick if he could continue to meet us: had another hour or two/ of excited conversation with him in the centre of the Exchange- /were we where doubtless taken for a field preacher and his clerks, / people being too wise and busy to notice us farther than/ gesture was concerned. Highly diverted on our arrival/ at the College of Physicians by Sedgewick's placing in my hand a/ letter by Capen the bookseller at New York, putting him on/ his guard against Grigge, who, he said tho' a man of kindly dispos/itions had one notorious blemish – a total disregard to the dictates/ of Concientioship – and in the colloquy of this world, a confirmed liar-/ so that it seems something with Grigge as with Hamlet "For oh, the/ Hobby Horse is forgot."/ 8. Wednesday. Attended the exhibition at Somerset House: About ten/ pictures had the honor[sic] of pleasing me Wilkie's Columbus (splendid - / full of poetry and and fine thought) E. Landseer's Drovers – Woodward's / greyhound in pursuit of a hare – 2 or 3 by the Mrs. Carpenter / and 1 or 2 by Turner – - - I am not a lover of painting – Excepting / the portrait painting of Laurence, and an occasional landscape I never/ saw a picture that did not disappoint me : If the following remarks/ of Byron had been dictated by my tongue they could not have more/ completely harmonized with my feelings: "Depend upon it of all the/ arts it is the most artificial and unnatural, and that by which the/

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“nonsense of mankind is most imposed upon, I never saw the picture or the statue that came within a league of [obliteration] Conception or expectation : but I have seen many mountains and seas and rivers and two or three women that went as far beyond it. When in Flanders I never was so disgusted in my life as with Ruben’s and his eternal wives and infernal glare of colours – as they appeared to me “ _____ Letter to Murray No274. No264. / I never yet saw p attempt to depict Shakespeare that was not/ either ridiculous(?) or profane – the little mincing, mathematically precise/ outlines of [?] are the least offensive. – Sculpture indeed is or might/ be a far nobler art. The Apollo is indeed a god. / Wednesday 22 July. Visited the Surrey Zoological Gardens: on a Gala Day. An [?]/ concourse of Visitors – Saw for the first time the ascent of a balloon: stood/ under it and held the Car: like other “gallant spirits who aspire the/ clouds,” I longed to accompany Green(the aeronaut) – but he, modestly/ asking £40 for the trip, and Clipped the wings of my ambition and I / remained earthbound. A decent menagerie – the noblest lion I/ ever saw. A large lake of pure water gave comfortable [?] / to this Dogday. Many very pretty women + maidens – and I/ thought the measure of beauty beat any [obliteration] West End Congregation / of the kind I have never seen :- Respectable and decorous withal, /and save by certain [?] did not remind their beaux that/ was “the lads love the ladies and the ladies lads too”. Fell in with a very/ good natured gentlemanly fellow; a great traveller who had seen/ everything in Europe from St Petersburg to Naples – we walked home/ together and parted on the best terms/ 2 August Sunday. Went with [?] to Richmond: coaching to Isleworth and walking through the great Duke of Northumberland’s / Park. The weather most appropriate (in my sense) to such a trip:/ being delightfully sunny and [?] : I was led by my companion/ though the narrow, straggling climbing street that

constitutes the/town, and began to think the world (as usual)
deceived and /deceiving, and when on reaching the terrace, a scene
of as exquisite/ beauty as Claude Lorraine ever feigned or copied,
burst upon me. /

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The misty towers of Windsor in the distance – the classical/ retreat
of Twickenham – the silvery, and graceful /Thames, that had already
done homage to my beloved / Pangbourne, and kissed its lovely
shores – and the beautiful/ arrangement of Tick Woods, and
reflecting every hue / that the fountain of colour could pour upon
them-/ but how describe the indescribable of nature’s Charms?/ or
the [obliteration] two noblest feelings they/ inspire – the poet’s
elevating rapture – the believers/[obliteration] grateful perception
of a God that loves him? [obliteration] / These [?] of him [two lines
of text obliterated] are/ unquestionable, and in the very text he
has/written for our learning, that we may read, mark, /learn and
inwardly digest them. – / Took a wherry and rowed beyond
Twickenham-/ touched the ground cultivated by the friend, associate
/and host of [?], Swift, Gay, and other/ “Fellows of infinite mirth and
most excelled fancy”- the / river is ruined in point of beauty + aquatic
sport by/ “Neptune’s salt work”. We have either a current that /
nothing can withstand or a congregation of weeds/ that nothing can
penetrate – at low water it is like/ wading through a pudding.
Notwithstanding this, we/ had great amusement, to which our own
clumsiness as/ boatmen mainly contributed + the rapids and
shallows of Richmond will/ not soon be forgotten. Dined with
wolflike/ appetite at the Star +/ Garter – the prospect from the/
central balcony is truly superb, and in itself/ is worth the journey:
had an excellent collation of/ various solids, agreeably diluted with
some / glorious German (I believe [?]), wine, aptly enough called/

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1835/ leibfraumilch. :- the water (whereof I Incased about two Quarts) was truly delicious, and the/ best save Pangbourne's, I ever tasted. Strolled out/ to the Bridge, Meadows, and and park after dinner-and/ returned by the 10 o'clock coach, brimful of gratification/ and [obliteration] "as merry/ as first – good company, good wine, good welcome, /can make good people"/ 5 Aug Wednesday. Spent an hour with Arnott. / 4 Sept. Friday. Spent the evening with Sarah Barclay/ at Kensington: heard a copious treatise on her filial/ wrongs: "the bond is forever cracked between/ child and father" – she would suppose such/ irreconcilable living clay could hardly resolve into /kindred kindred elements when dead.- Her father is an/ honorable [sic], and and even kind man – but irascible as Moloch, and proud as Lucifer himself – without this/ vice he would have been almost too good for Earth, with it, Earth is almost too good for him. I should hate him heartily, but that his arrogance makes me/ laugh at – I shall try to analyze his character elsewhere. / Sarah has more [?] than tenderness of disposition/ I respect more than love her- I prize her as a friend/ but could not make her my wife: yet she is an/ upright, estimable creature – a faithful friend – a/ good mother – a devoted wife. – Rather a high standard of character for these Christian? Days.! / 7 Sept Monday went with "Brother Matty" to Bartholenem Fair./ A world of fun which the refined and educated may/ enjoy more than the vulgar. I was already made acquainted/ with the rich puffs of the showmen by Charles Matthews/ of whom we may ask, if we like of Menander, /"Did he or nature copy from the other? " I laughed /

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1835/ from 8 till midnight – pretty well for this miserable/ world!/ Aug 9. English Opera House. / 1. "No plot without danger" The [?] Claudio of Meredante. Very pretty music, very cleverly/ executed/ 2. "Schoolmaster at home" Deserved his own [?] / 3. "Old Oak Tree " A

bad melodrama. / 19. English Opera House:/ 1. Dice of death – a bad melodrama. /2. No plot without danger/ 3. A rustic Melodrama containing/ some pretty Scotch music. Sung by Wilson. / 7 October “What is history?/ a blank my lord”/ Evening Queen’s Theatre ½ price 1.Spirit of the Rhine / a new edition of Edwards “River God” with/ the Rhine for its locality./ 2. Hunting a Turtle. Comme ça / 3. High life below stairs. Well done-the two / leaders well played by Green + Mitchell. / 19. Queens Theatre. 1. Simpson + Co. Green, Williams, / Mrs Glover, Mrs. Nesbitt, Wife Murray. / 2. Sarah : a wild legendary / Melodrama. Made interesting by the acting/ of Mrs Nesbitt – propriety of costume + dialect - / striking scenery – and the portraiture of Bohemian Vagrants. / 3. Station House an extremely / laughable farce – with Wreach as the hero, / + Barnet as a Frenchman who divided/the applause with him.

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1835 / 21 Octr Wrote to Gowan Senior. / 29 Novr Sunday Called on Arnott and + had a three hours’ /chat : he was very severe, and rather unphilo-/sophically so, towards the Phrenologists: for he is/ in point of fact entirely ignorant of the doctrines of/ the science, and of the facts, whereon they are grounded. / His large organs are Individuality, Eventuality, / Comparison, Constructiveness – perhaps Causality /Benevolence very large – Self esteem large -Wit moderate. (I think) / 1 December Spent the evening with Kenny/ and his family accompanied by Maddeine?. A / dull evening, but for a melodious Catch or two / by Maddeine. Kenny gave me this epitaph / by Byron on Castlereagh : which he said, Moore/ [obliteration] read to him from one of Byron’s random/ letters received whilst M + K were living together at the Chateau Bellevue near Paris. / “Posterity will ne’er survey/ a monument like this. / Here lies Lord Viscount Castlereagh xxx xxxx!”/ I was sorry to find that Kenny believes the truth of/ the worst reports that Leigh Hunt and Byron’s other / [?] have put into circulation – because from/ his extensive literary

acquaintance he must / speak the voice of the fraternity. I was still / more grieved to hear him say he knew Moore was/ of the same opinion – it is hard to look upon/ his interesting biography, but the affectionate friendship, /

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sincere esteem – and zealous championship, as/ a piece of special pleading from beginning to End. / 7 December Monday. Young Matthews' debut at the /Olympic. Edw. Maddison + 1 in the pit./ 1. Daughter / 2. Humpback'd lover / 3. Old + young man Stager. A new 2 Act piece written/ for the occasion – some scenes of great merit, /but plot bad + desultory – and piece too long. / 4. Comfortable Service. A trifle of mediocrity, / introducing Keeley + Mrs Orger/ 1836 / Jan 13 Called on Ben Williams in Tavistock for the first/ time – walked with him to the city and dined with him at night—father in company- What /do I think of him? Ahem- “ [?] in departing”/ 14. Despatched my first Stock Exchange report to/ Paris from my kind friend Scringirour's office: Called/ at night on Bain, and where I met Grey: and “took / a light gude willie waught for auld Lang syne”:/ Poor Griffiths dead in India, where he followed me:/ Mackay fagging in the West Indies for a pension :/ Baldwin, the proverbial ass of our office, a man/ of wealth and an M.P. – Grey with six children/ the produce of a love match, and with an uncer/tain appointment! “[?] world! thy slippery tunnel ! “/We are the teetotums of destiny – at every new/ turn different from each other and even from our former selves. / 15. Took Kate and my favourite Mrs.Scott to West /minster Abbey, Hall and Courts: St. James' + Green Parks/

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1836./ St James + Buckingham Palace – Braham's Theatre/ Crockfords, Burlington Arcade – Quadrant, Regent St - / 4 hours to enliven 2 Women! Bravo - / “ I have mistaken my talent all this while: /Upon my life they find, although I cannot “Myself to be a marvellous

pleasant man”! / 18 January. My dear father’s birthday God be/
thanked for preserving years to venerable and dear! / Took Kate,
George, Mr +Mrs Scott +Mary Anne to Drury Lane. 1. Seige of
Rochelle 2. Pantomime 3. Jewels / 29 January Whilst seated before
the fire at night, suddenly/ felt pain over the right eye-: in a few
minutes/ it rapidly grew to an intolerable degree – when/ suddenly
everything disappeared and I was like/ Dominic Sampson “oblivious.”
On recovering from fainting, and I found myself leaning on Mrs Scott-
+ / was transferred to a neighbouring Surgeon Accoucheur, /and to
bed where I remained seven days + nights. /My mother called on me,
and showed great kind-/ness – a circumstance I am particularly
bound to record + remember – Q. What is a mother’s heart like? /A.
A mother’s heart is like ____ a mother’s / heart ; and nothing in
nature else. / 10 February First night of “The Provost of Bruges” D.
Lane. / A tragedy of considerable merit Dramatic + poetic:/ the 3 first
acts very effective – Afterwards, the/ action grows dull + stagnant;
the heroine/grows mad, and and is necessarily as pathetic as/
Tilburina – Piece very [?] : Macready the/hero – very bad.

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1836 24 Feb. Edward having a private box at Covent Garden. Took/
George to see Guy Mannering as Quasimodo My first/ appearance at
Mr Osbaldiston’s performances./ 29 Feb. Othello at Drury Lane : and
I have had a few looks Macready bad- Vanden/hoff as Iago worse. /
1 March. Macbeth. Macready extremely bad throughout/ excepting
in the physical energy of the two last/ scenes./ 3 March. 1.Virginees
a disagreeable performance - / 2. First [?] of Chevy Chase a Chivalrie
spectacle – with some very meritorious accuracy/ in regard to habits
and Costume – but the / whole of the Comic accompaniment, saving
the/ admirable acting of Weiland was extremely dull, and / the piece
cannot, I think, hope for the popularity of the [?] / 19. First
representation of Miss Baillie’s Tragedy of/ Henriquez at Drury Lane.
Vandenhoff as the/ hero: the play [?] great poetic + considerable

dramatic interest – but the [?] of the two last/ sets mar it in the latter character:- he was throughout dignified and/ impressive : Though there was not a murmur/ of disapprobation, the applause was somewhat / languid at the end, and I doubt that the play will/ be repeated. / 26. Olympic Theatre (last night of the season) / paid myself into standing room in the Pit-

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1. Handsome Husband: mediocre. 2. One hour : some pretty acting by Virtie's. and some very striking/ dancing by Charles Mathews.
3. Forty and Fifty – Liston admirable + Wm. Orger as much so.
4. Old and Young Stagers. / Wrote to [?], touching the rupture between him and Morson. / 28March Attended the House of Commons: Debate on/ the 3rd reading of the Irish Municipal Reform Bill :/ Found Follett on his legs – and saw the sword and / buckle men come in to the Arena in the following order. / 1.Follett 2. Shiel / 3. Stuart Wortley 4. Gisborne/ 5. Peel 6. O'Loghlen. / Shiel wonderfully impertinent and eloquent, but/ extreme study was apparent, and to my sense marred / the whole: his voice is of thin wire drawn out with a rapidity that mocks pursuit. S.Wortley grandiloquent. Gisborne wretchedly commonplace:/ Peel monotonous but distinct and upon the/ whole rather impressive – but merely to form a /semblance of good intention – there was “no / matter in it”. O'Loghlen with the full rapidity/ of Sheil limited himself to matters of fact +/detail, and though he was occasionally sarcastic / + angry, he carefully abstained from poetry/ + rhetoric. I was rather too late for Follett. / I outsat the debate which ended with a majority/

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of 64 on the light side. On my way/ down to the house I stepped into May's building and had a tooth drawn by Hayes – the largest in the/ head: he assured me beforehand that the tooth was/ well placed in the jaw, and the operation would give / me no pain. I never knew

before the full meaning/ + origin of the Proverb. Solomon himself never fathered/ a truer one. After a second lift out of my/ chair, I fainted. /

April – A letter from Mr. Gillan, announcing / the failure of the Norwich scheme. / 11 April. Saw in my mother's company Miss Vandenhoff's first appearance as Juliet at Drury Lane: A fine/ but large person, with little of the warmth of life/ and without a spark of genius : her emotions were / those of a superior Automaton or Puppet: upon the whole nothing could be more inane or hope quelling. Vandenhoff / a coarse, stiff Mercutio – like the frolics of a cow. Cooper/ a better Romeo than I expected – his delivery of the line/ "Let me stand here till thou remember it," was / extremely beautiful. ——— In the afternoon called/ on Carter at Camberwell. / 14 Saw, in the same company, the debut of The Mrs. Sharpe/ as Lady Macbeth at Drury Lane : very promising. A/ tall commanding person : handsome + expressive features: powerful eye, Raven hair-graceful gesture- her/ delivery of the text, "of excellent judgement of his action"/ a proof how for taste, intellect and physical /

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1836/. advantage may carry an artist without the support/ of genius- : for of that mighty power there was none, though a great deal of something like it: like Gray's/ scholastic sketches of Parnassius[?]./ 19. Saw the same lady in Lady Constance : inferior to her/ Lady Macbeth but meritorious and better than the best/ of any actress now patent. Macready as King John was, / save for a grotesque costume, less unnatural than usual:/ a circumstance, which it gives me much pleasure to / record. His delivery of that spirited passage in the/ controversy with the Legate, / "Though you + all the rest, so grossly led, /This juggling witchcraft with [?] cherish, / Yet I, alone – do me [?] / against the Pope, and count his friends my foes"/ and his rising from his chair at the repetition of the/ word 'alone',

were of extraordinary merit. – Warde / as Hubert had on the drop of the aristocratic beast he plays/ or played in the “Provost of Bruges” - Cooper + Coarse / Falconbridge, full of monotonous storm and tempest and / as I may say whirlwind of passion throughout – like a / peal of thunder three hours long. /. 21 I [?] into the opera with Ben William’s ticket. / 1. Norma 2. Le Ropignol. 3. a scene (the first from Il Barbiere). I prefer Pasta’s performance as a / whole, though Guiletta was sometimes, and frequently / absolute perfection. I was charmed by a Mille. Absandie? / the Adele of the evening : a most melodious and powerful voice, yet discourting with wonderful ease : a certain modesty of manner / added a moral to the aerial harmony. Parrot gave us some wonderful dancing : he stands (or flies) / as much alone as Taglione. I saw for the first time

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Carlotta Grisi – [?] - pretty, very pretty girl – neat /active dancer- but much below half a dozen I could name / Taglioni Duvernay – Heberle’ – Montefrie LeConte- F. Elsler- Brugioli- /.

22 April. Spent a very pleasant evening at my father’s: / dancing + music – Met the [?] – Erskines-Lanes-Sinclair-Trotters-Two Kennys- John Parry-Hale-Liston- / Taylor-Wright- Fred Reynolds. /

23. Saturday. Opera – LaGazza Ladra – [?] – La Blache/ + Tamburini. The substitute for Rubini (who was / taken ill) limped from the stage + Laporte called for: a [?] /categorical low. House crammed. I forced to stand / all night : a circumstance that made them all sing/ very much out of tune. Parrot + C. Grisi in the / Ballet.

25. “The Stranger” at Drury Lane. Mrs Sharpe as Mrs Haller. She is certainly a very / fine and interesting woman and an actress of excellent / judgement, great refinement + considerable power. In / dignity, in anger, in subdued emotion, in quiet grace / and affability, she is, I think, far more effective than/ in direct pathos. I thought her lighter scenes better than/ her conclusion, but have no hesitation in declaring / her the best Mrs. Haller now on the stage. Macready /

was a strange stranger indeed. A guy in [?] : harsh, / ugly, unprepossessing in mind + body + without one jot / of tenderness or pathos from beginning go end. The / worst performance of the character, nay, I think it the/ worst performance of the Actor I ever saw: A bold word. / 26. Tuesday. Maddierne's new farce "[?] 's ghost" / at the Haymarket; perfectly, unanimously, acceptable? / and deservedly so : the incident, drametie?, and the / dialogue very humorous. Introduced to my cousin, John Partridge, /

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who made one of us on the occasion. Very much impressdd / in his favor as regards disposition. / May 15. Dined with dear old Carter at Camberwell. present / Father, Mother, Ned + Mad. / -16. On this day, we had the happiness of welcoming our/dear Susan on her return from India. She and her dear little/ ones looking extremely well – thank God! And my poor father/ as if he had cast off 10 years with looking in her eye. May/ their loves and comforts all increase, even as their days do grow! /- 17. A Mr Plumier and a Mr Graham as Hamlet and/ Horatio at Drury Lane: a maudlin affair: I never / had to drink deeper of the narcotic cup of Mediocrity./ Plumier (a man of fortune + a fool) pays Bunn £200/ a night for the privilege of exposing himself. / 25. Despatched letter to [?] : took some Phrenological/ books to Lane, and in the evening escorted Kate and/ Suzan to the Haymarket. 1. Husband's ghost 2. Atonement, a dull piece of seriousness by Poole, 3. Tulema: a ballet/ with some 3rd rate dancing, and first rate nudity 4. / Married life – full of excellent farce dialogue and situa-/tion: but wanting the connecting links of an integral plot. / 27. Accompanied by mother to Drury Lane to see Balfe's/ new opera, Maid of Artois. Music and Action dull/ in spite of Malebrau's genius, and "the light of other days". / 30. Took Susan

and Kate to the second performance of the same:/ (Private box) / 31.
Finished my translation of “the Marquis Brunoy”, and/ sent it to my
father. / June 7. A ballet at Combe’s (?), Father Mother Kate
Edward, Madeleine / two Erskines, two Kennys were all I knew of 70
persons. / Rooms crowded to suffocation. John Parry of course the/
Lion + Nightingale + parrot of the party. Women ugly / and clumsy.
Supper voraciously good + I voraciously/

Page 27. (1836) hungry : quizzed for my appetite by my Father who
out-ate/ me fourfold./ June 10. Took Susan and my mother to English
opera House. / Lucille: an endurable dish of melodrama 2. Man
about/ Town: [?] very ludicrous. 3. Matteo Falconi. A bit of/ blood
and thunder for Mr. Perkins, whose abdomen is swelling pro-
/digously: a wonderful exhibition of pantomime by Mr. Ian, /”beating
all as ever I come along side on”. 4. The skeleton/ lover!, need I say
Bah! / 14. Young Parry’s concert at the Hanover Sqr. Rooms. He/ and
Malibran the observed of all observers: Bochsa (Harp) / Mrs.
Anderson (Piano) Linley (Violincello) Balfe, Ivanoff / Braham
(lamentable) Miss Robinson Ditto, Miss Hawes, / a thin Italian
looking girl with a voice like Lablache, / Miss F Novello : a fine organ
indeed. Mrs Kuyoett pleasing. / Misses Bruce and Woodyat
mediocre. Parry gave us/ several ballads + sang “When a little farm
we keep” with/ Malibran. / July 4. Called with Ben Williams on Mr
Dighton, the head/ official of Morrison Cryder + Co: Ben seems to
trust him:/ I don’t : he has a Cold Cautious Civil manner, and a “d----/
disinheriting countenance,” – On my way to Broads / Buildings I
heard a scream from the house under which I was passing:
Providence surely suggested to me, ‘look / up’ - for very contrary to
my Contemplative want, I did so, / and saw that a huge ladder,
reaching to the very top/ of Winchester house, had got too far from
it’s tight angle/ with the Earth, and was falling immediately on me/
bearing to swift destruction a poor bricklayer who had/ been
working on it, + whose motion had gradually swayed it from the

perpendicular. I had but a moments time to/ jump from the
flagstones, when the ladder fell broken / upon the spot I had
vacated, and the poor man lay at/ my feet a corpse. On my
return from the city/

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1836 / I went with Edw'd to Lord's cricket ground and saw Kent +
Sussex play +/ beat England. / 11 July Cricket match at Lord's. South
of Thames men versus North: Won by the Northerns by 6 wickets./
13. Saw my Precious Baby Boy walk [obliteration] three or four/
steps, for the first time. One, two, three and a home tumble! God
bless him. His forehead promises to be superb : Give him the Health
and Virtue of his Grandfather, /Kind heaven, and his father will be
proud and grateful. / Dined at 7 with Ben Williams – having in the
morning/ examined his boy Sam, with reference to his scholastic /
pursuits + acquirements and taken an instructive syllabus / of his
employment through the week at Rugby. / 19. Tuesday. Breakfasted
+ dined with Ben Williams in Portland Place. At breakfast he made
me a proposition for the Education/ of his son. With him to the opera
in the evening. / Brigante' (a divine chaunt by Rubine') La Prova
d'un/ opera Seria: and Act 1 of Benyoursky: St. Romain +/ the [?]
make one forget Tagliani's wonders, or/ not wish for them. / 20.
Visited Mrs Cockburn at St. John's wood. What a / sweet and
intelligent creature! - /. And blessed with temper whose
unclouded way, / Can make tomorrow cheerful as today/ Is not her
virgin state a scandal to our sex, and is she not, / "the Cruell'st she
alive/ to lead such lovely virtues to the grave/and leave the world no
copy". / 25. A glorious match at Lords. 10 Gentlemen vs. 11 Players:/
Won by the former by 35 runs after 3 days Competition. /A. Mynue
the hero of the fight. / Aug 7. Took kitty to Cadogan Place to see the
Boyce Combes. / Eliza's a poor meazley infant with a poor head:
large/ [?], self esteem + Philoprogenitiveness.

Page 29. 1836.

Aug 5. Tried a game of cricket with Ned, Mad, + young Tom. /began like a gentleman and ended like a villain. Went in the/ evening to the opera, with Kate, Susan and my mother. / Two first acts of I Puritani, Le Rossignol (ballet) 2d [sic] Act If Norma/ + 1st of Bonyouski. St. Proruain [?] again. Bravissimo! / 9. Dined with Ben Williams, whose views have been changed/ by my dissuasive reply to his proposition, and who now wishes / me to take Sam to Germany + leave him in some eligible/ establishment to learn the language. / 11. Wrote to Dr. Hoffman, teaching Sam Williams? / 19. Friday. Took a walk through the fields to Hampstead. / On my return, I was presented by Kate with a letter from / the Trustees of Rickards Macintosh + Co. calling on me to / refund £50 with Costs, Interest + Charges for a dishonoured / bill of mine on Macintosh + Co of Calcutta, Bankrupts. / I [?] exactly £52 in the World. Certainly, / "Fortune at sight of me, / Dimples her face with smiles"/ 21. Called incidentally on Carter with Maddison and/ to my great grief, found our dear old friend in the / last stage of prostration and decay. / 23. Called on Carter again – found him rather worse and attended by Wilson. Called in the city ; despatched a / book to [?], (Scott O.s Combe on the Constitution of Man) / and a letter to George Gowan. / 27. Escorted Susan and her Children to St. Catherine's dock; / and saw her safe on board the Adelaide, bound to Edinburgh. / 29. Dined with Ben Williams and made a final / settlement of my journey with Sam into Germany. / 3rd September. A call from Williams, requesting / me to be ready for the Antwerp Steamer by 9am / tomorrow. Acquiescent.

Page 30 1836

Outlines of the trip to Germany. /

4 September./ B. B. W. Called for us in his carriage at/ an early hour and about 9 o Clock we found ourselves / off the [?] on board the Princess Victoria bound to /Antwerp. A dirty looking but well built steamer: / Took leave of him soon after :- poor little Sam behaving /

very well. "Some natural tears he shed, but wip'd them soon" /
Delighted with /the scenery natural + artificial of / the river, and
would have given somewhat for a / [?] guide book; notwithstanding
this, and the / bustle, and the general novelty, was on the whole/
disposed to melancholy, and my thoughts were / chiefly with my
dear little wife and children. / Wind began to wake soon after noon.
Owing to/ some tide miscalculation, waited 1½ hour off Margate-/ at
last stood out merrily to sea : Quite rough/ and 9/10ths of the
passengers were "very bad": I turned / it very late, after gazing for
hours on the brilliant sea foam rhat sometimes covered the deck like
a phosphoric sea. / 5 Sept Monday. Belgium coast on the starboard /
at ½ past 7: having left Flushing and the / alluvial Dutch islands on
the right : the / two coasts frowning at each other as [obliteration] /
Page 31.

1836. black as Leopold and Old William. Towers of Antwerp / visible
at 8: The "lazy Scheldt" appeared to me indif/ferent active, and
presented a vast expanse of water / for many leagues beyond its
junction with the sea. Landed on the quai at 12 o'clock: predominant
/ impressions: cleanliness, quaintness and motley-ness/of costume,
and mirthfullness of character. Hearing/ that the "Hotel St Antione"
was the best, we were / satisfied with the best, and went there
accordingly / accompanied by a fellow passenger, a Mr Ansley /
whom we had become partial to and somewhat / intimate with on
board the steamer, and whom / we had agreed to accompany to [?].
After / washing, razoring + shifting went to examine / the Cathedral :
I entered with feelings long/ entertained before I read a letter or
diary of/ Byron's, that so well describe them. /

Page 32. 1836

Antwerp Sep. 1836

Rubens has converted the Sceptic : I shut my eyes / and was placed
by my companions in a favorable [sic] / position to open them on

“The descent from the cross”/ I at once admitted the dignity of an art
I had / hitherto despised : the picture, apart from the / Divinity of the
subject, is most affecting. Arise / Painting! and take thy place with
the Sister – Muse / of sculpture, immediately beneath the greater /
Sister, Poetry. Another picture by the same / great hand, “The
Raising of the Crops,” had won-/derful power, without the Pathos
and Quiet of/ the [obliteration] Descent. Some small sketches and
designs / scattered over the Cathedral are worthy of / him. Whilst
some portraits by him and / VanDyke, of Burghers and Burgher – [?]
in / all the [?] [?] vigour of civic and national / costume, were like
those of the Surface family, / where ”merit was the inveterate
likeness – all / “stiff and awkward as the originals, and like / “nothing
in human nature besides “- Really /

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Antwerp Sep 1836

a Museum of Baboons. (judging by their / pictures), are as
legitimately the province of / the Antiquary as of the Naturalist.
Leaving / the Cathedral, we sauntered afterwards through / the old,
and most interesting portion of the town: which presdntdd
specimens of Flemish architecture / freshly primitive and delightful :
a thousand / recollections, three centuries and a half, old, / poured
upon my memory, and took up their / natural position upon the spot
they hallowed. / “I saw from out the wave her structures live / “As
from the stroke of the Enchanter’s wand, “A thousand years their
cloudy wings expand / “Around me, and a dying glory smiles / O’erp
the far times-----/ Walked, and looked ourselves into [?] /
To talk of Dinner, and the Morale + /Poetry of History in the same
breath!! / Monstrous as it is, we certainly did dine / very comfortably
at 4 o’clock at the Table d’hote. / Roamed forth again immediately
afterward. /

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Antwerp Sept 1836.

Went through the new – in every sense a/ “modern town”: yet the universal cleanli/ness forces respect and satisfaction which, however / science laughs at :- as was shewn in the late / seige of this elaborate fortress: We are yet / in the puerility of human nature, and / offensive + defensive adamant, [?] are/ in the Course of Ages doomed to fall + crumble / before the gentle + divine influence of Morality, / how disrespectfully Posterity will laugh at It’s forefathers! /- The theatre looked an elegant building, and / the company, which is french, is much /patronised: My companions went in and were much pleased : I retreated home, called/ for pens, ink + paper; wrote to Ben Williams, and bedded at 12. /. Tuesday 6 Septr. Rose at 8 : Spent half / the day in obtaining tickets to see the / Citadel : Some rare Incivility – a compli/mentary Censure : but both Compliment and /

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Antwerp Sep. 1836

Censure well deserved. Got at last into the Citadel, and [?] the old Concierge, who/ gave us the history of the Siege, illustrating/ the narrative by pointing at the various localities, / 15 shells per minute were poured on the denoted spot for/ Ten Days and Nights! Hell must have been/ heaven to this, and Devils, Angels, compared/ to the poor Dutch Soldiery! and all this because one man, William of [?], would not / allow 4 million of fellow-men to be happy in / their own way! Extremely narrow circuit of / the Citadel, Resistance Ridiculous, Five thousand / men, the garrison force, hardly able to turn in it: / the hospital formed under the ramparts, most/ deplorable: the Concierge said, the wretches were up to their knees in water, and that/ every surgical operation was followed by/ Death, from the inclement Atmosphere. and there was scarcely a Dutchman unscathed / A great part of the Wall was shattered/

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Antwerp: Sept. 1836

to Atoms, and no brick was left upon another / of the buildings within. General Chafree's room, / "Which served him for parlour and Kitchen and all," / Including Council chamber, was such as an / Old Bailey Convict would have protested against; / it had one merit, and under the Circumstances / a great one: it was Bomb-proof. I broke off/ a part of the pitcher which, they said, Contained/ the veteran's daily supply of Water, and was quite / willing to believe or at least swallow the / lie, in all it's grossness. The French Soldiers/ were so much affected by the Condition of the/ Dutch, that they shared their rations with them and/ did all in their tough power to blunt the/ edge of their misery, - and the meeting of/ the besieging General Gerard, and the besieged General Chapie', who had served / together in the Peninsula, was touching in/ the extreme. / Walked thence to the Muse'e, after being

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Antwerp:Sept :1836

nearly spiked by a Sentinel, for moving / off the path to survey the Ditch. Amongst the / fine pictures here, I was struck by, ———Christ in the Manger./ ———Christ dead in the arms of God. /——— Education de la Vierge. / Vandyk. Dead Christ attended by two Women. /———Christ on the Cross, attended by an Angel, /Woman, and Priest, /———Portrait of a Burgomaster in black robes. / Jourdaus. Last Supper. (Large) - / Yet "there were spots enough to dim all this brightness". / there was a "Descente des Diables" by Floris, / and a "Saint Tortured," by Marzis. and a/ dozen other things, as disgusting as Painting/ ever Committed. ————Proceeded next to/ an impressively venerable Church (St. Jaques) / the facings, and principal Sculptures were/ of black Marble, and the

effect was very/ beautiful : Amongst the pictures that / drew forth
our Commendation, were, /

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Antwerp: Sept:1836

Vandyke. Dead Christ in a Cloth/ ———Small Christ Crucified. /
Rubens. Altar piece. / Ottavious. Last Supper. / A beautiful Sculpture
in stone in bas relief :/ of "Raising the Crop"- by Veroand. -/ A
portrait by Vandyke of a monstrous? Burgo - /Master + Wife, and a
picture by Van Orlay / of the "Last judgment", seemed to me the /
very " nil ultra " of (illegible) + disgust. / I saw here an exquisite
specimen of the almost / forgotten + quite neglected art of
Sculpture/ in Wood : it formed a magnificent pulpit / with very
elaborate and extensive appurtenances. / Returned to, and dined at
the Hotel, at 4½.: / The house is cheap, clean and excellent in / all
respects : its weak point being, perhaps, / the Table d'hote. After
settling accounts / and taking a farewell stroll on the Place / St.
Antoine, we were conveyed to the rail road Station where we
engaged / No 1: Seats for Brussels. Yet I dismiss/

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Antwerp: Sept: -1836

The theme, Antwerp, let me say our short / sojourn there was
altogether delightful : the / old architecture, the cleanliness of town
+ people, / the frank civility of all classes, could not fail / to please.
Judging by my poor opportunities / of enquiry, I should infer the new
liberal / + Catholic Government was on the whole / unpopular in the
territory of Belgium : parti/cularly at Antwerp, Ghent, Bruges, Ostend
/ and other places that are now deprived of / the benefits they
formerly enjoyed through / the commercial power of Holland : A
respectable / librarian said, the Revolution had been / effected by

the host of the priests, and by the / Hungry Walloons of the S.E. Provinces, He/ was an Antwerper and, of course, had/ his prejudices: - I sympathise with any citizen of Antwerp over the fallen greatness of/

(Two obliterated lines of text.)

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Antwerp Sept: 1836

this nice undisputed Metropolis of the West, - /

(Four obliterated lines of text)

“She looks (no more)/ “A ruler of the waters and their powers/” Yet such she was : her daughters had their dowers/ “ from spoils of nations, and the exhaustless East/ “ Pour’d in her lap all gems in “Sparkling showers” -/gap/ But I left Antwerp and must leave the Theme./ at 6 p.m. we started, Ansley, ?, + I, for/ Brussels: the apparatus excellently appointed: / nothing could exceed the comfort and even elegance/ of the Carriages, and the regularity + precision/ of the arrangements at the different stations:/ the railroad is a speculation of the Government/ which has it is said, repaid the outlay in/ 18 months. We reached Brussels in 1¾ hours:/ drove to the Grande Place – found the two/ hotels that had been recommended to us, and a third/ (Hotel de Hollande, Hotel Bellevue and the Hotel del’Europe listed in margin) crammed, - At length got a room in a fourth,/ Hotel de la le’ geuse, immediately adjoining/

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Waterloo Sept 1836/

Wednesday morning 7 Sept – I ? for the ? /though I confess I was the last of the three at the/ breakfast table. Walked to the first coach station / the place, and engaged a nondescript vehicle that the /driver had the impudence to call a Caleche, to/ carry us to

Waterloo. Prix 20 Francs. Distance / about 11 English miles: Time on the road 2¾ hours / irgo, Pace, 4 miles per Hour! Had we been coasting the glorious Rhine the pace might / have been forgiven and forgotten, but on this / dull arable road, with our feelings painfully / excited by the prospective idea of Waterloo, it was / more temper trying than any adventure we / had yet met with on this perilous journey / to foreign parts! Women wonderfully / coarse and hard featured, they have forfeit all / title to the title of the softer sex. Forest/ of Soignes – a straggling but very extensive/ plantation of what appeared to me, young / ash + maple trees : without a single / stick of timber, that I could perceive: of / course every devastation is attributed to /

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“The Battle” and so doubtless it will be for / a Century when they might have reared/ oaks + elms a hundred years old. At / last appeared Waterloo – not the plain, but / the Village, “while each strained ball + sight / Seem'd bursting from our heads” / We passed a dirty collection of poverty-stricken / houses and suddenly pulling up at a /Cabaret or Gin Cottage, were told we were/ on the heights of Mont St. Jean, and / must now proceed to the field on foot. /Jumping gratefully from the Cale'che, we / saw before us the tremendous mound, crowned by the Dutch Lion + carried by the / King of Holland , and with beating hearts / (I can answer for mine at least) we / began walking towards it, after stepping / into the Cabaret and engaging a Guide, / recommended to us by our host, This / Joseph Brafsen, was a peasant boy of 17 at/

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the date of the Battle, and one who had / been forced to bury the dead, or rather tumble them into (obliterated word) lime pits, quick / and dead, horse + man together, on the next awful morning. – We soon came on a / line with the Mound, which is certainly / an appropriate and impressive memento of / a Battlefield, and after examining two or / three tombs of English Officers , were placed / on the spot on which “Wellington's Tree” / stood, that some ?less fellow (feller) has / since destroyed. From this spot we / enjoyed a fine + full view of the entire field. / On the left we saw Hage + Frischmont , with / the field in which General Ponsomby was / speared to death by the Polish Lancers, and / beyond these, the debouchment of the / Precipous? towards Wavre. On this very / spot where I stood, and on the very spot / whereon I gazed, did Wellington stand / and gaze, and with an elated heart/

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hail the Allies that were destined to perfect / his triumph. – On the right was Hoquemont, / at a distance of a mile. In front of the / spot on which we stood, (viz, the site of / Wellington Tree, on the heights of Mont St Jean / and in fhe centre of the British Line,) we / saw La Haye Sainte, (a farmhouse with / a strong surrounding quadrangular wall,) / the grave of the German Legion, within / gunshot of the advanced British Centre, / and about halfway down the declivity that slopes away from Mont St. Jean :- On this declivity, both on the right and left of / the Duke's Tree, took place the furious charges / of French Cavalry up the hill, and their / repulses by the British Infantry ; who, / it seems quite certain, won the Battle by/ exhausting the Cavalry : here too, took / place the grand advance of the Imperial / Guard : the terrific discharge of Artillery /upon them , and the conclusive, overwhelming/

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charge of our heavy cavalry. At a / distance of about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile (as it appeared to / me,) the ground again rises to an almost / equal height with Mont St, Jean : and on / this range of elevation and in a parallel / with the British, stood the grand line of the / French Army, their extreme left, as our / extreme right, being at Huguemont, and their / right, as our left, being in the direction / of Frischmont : so that the two Armies / were on opposite heights, with a wide / + deep dell between them, which the / French as the aggressors were the first / to pass. The high road to Gemappe / traverses the centre of the field of Battle ; / the Dukes tree stood on the right side + / within a few steps of it, and in the / centre of the road on the opposite height / and within $\frac{3}{4}$ mile of the Duke, Napo/leon took up his last personal position : / here he advanced with the Imperial Guard / and witnessed their repulse : here he pronounced /

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The watchword of flight “Sauve qui peut” / and here, as he turned his horse’s head towards / France he must have writhed with anguish / under consciousness that her glory was / at an end and that his star had set for ever. / Thank God, it is no longer treasonable to feel / for the sufferings of an enemy! About / 100 years beyond this position of Naploeon’s, / + on the left side of the road, stands the renowned/ but otherwise contemptible inn or Ale House, / La Belle Alliance, in the parlour of which the Duke and ? Blucher met, / ?, hurraed (sic) + supped after the victory, / and Thomas Morton, Gilbert Ansley, and / Sam. Williams now too , in their honor (sic), / a Flemish luncheon of black bread, wet / cheese and dry Brandy ! --

After this/ ?ting our forces we returned to the field, / and examined every nook and corner of/ that desperately-contested position, Hoquement ; /

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It was, previously to the Battle, a very large / farmhouse , and inhabited by a titled landowner /and its ruins attest its former comfort. Nothing / but a large barn , + farmyard , the cele/brated Chapel, (which our guide gravely / told us was preserved miraculously, the / fire having reached the feet of / the Saviour on the Cross before the altar, / by which it was directly extinguished;) / and a withering orchard surrounded / by a strong wall, pierced by tirailleurs / without and within, now remains to / testify even to Devotion – The defence of this position / was entrusted to the Coldstream Guard, / and I believe no more desperate valour / or extensive destruction than occured here / was witnessed in any part of the Field. / Leaving this interesting spot, we returned / to Mont St. Jean, and made the somewhat / arduous ascent of the great Mound, from the /summit of which we commanded/

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at a glance “the dilated pilgrimage” that we had previously/ examined “by parcels” : Quatre Bras, where they had but two days / before the battle attacked and been repulsed by the English, lay in front / and indeed highy (sic), where Napoleon had at the same “The grave of France – the deadly Waterloo ! / I gave a full hour to the abstraction and interest, natural / to the scene - + whilst my companions returned to buy / “ ?? “, and talk to the peasant girls, I was busy / at the Summit, ?ing the fields with the appropri/ate hosts

of Combatants, listening to the reawakened/ Echoes of the roar of battle, and gazing on the/ renewed horrors, that lay heaped on the ground as far as the eye could distinguish desolation./ The sun however was beginning to throw forward / the vast shadow of the Mound, reminding me/ of the dreary Forest of Seignes lying between us and/ Brussels:- and with one last long, lingering, micro-/ scopic survey, I numbered the d'ownward steps, + / in a few minutes found myself at the Auberge.

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Waterloo: Sept 1836

8 September. All day at Brussels: examining the / old and new town: + greatly preferring the old, / despite the French Boulevards and the grace, airyness, / arborescence + elevations of this Paris in petto: but / many old street - ends and corners in the other contained/ historical + architectural relics that were to me ? far / more attractive: indeed the Hotel De Ville, seen either/ in its present beauty or past interest, pleased my eye/ and stimulated my imagination more than all the / elegance of the modern city – as much more so, as/ old Edinburgh surpasses the new in similar associations. / Dined quietly at the Re'gence, and preferred a night ramble/ through the town, on an espionage of habits + manner, / to a visit fo the theatre, though the modest bills in agreable (sic) / contrast to those of London, Seemed ample security for / the merit of the entertainments. I saw enough to/ satisfy me that the working classes have more refine/ment than ours, that a “bon Belge” cannot breathe / air unmixed with tobacco, and that Venus has her/ Altars here as elsewhere – though her peripheral/ votaries by their dress and manners, “ assume a virtue/ though they have it not.” / During the day we went to the Bureau, and booked / places for tomorrow to Leige – and after a farewell

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Brussels to Liege.Sept 1836

and found the diligence to consist of Cabriolet, Coupe', / interiors and Rotunda: comprising accomada/tion for 20 souls, and as many tons of luggage, / (judging by the gigantic swallow of a basket/ destined to receive it) Our party, that is, / Gilbert Ansley, Sam, and I took the 4 places of the cabriolet, which my dim recollections of/1817, served , nevertheless to guide me to prefer/ in fine weather: Price of the whole 40 francs- /by help of a ladder, we took our seats by/ Escalado, nothing daunted by the very unac/customed and un English elevation at which we/ found ourselves:- Off went the ponderous/ heap at the stroke of 7: + tugged by three/ fat Flemish horses: the punctuality of the start/ being provided for by three or four very civil / but very serious gentlemen with drawn swords, / called Gens d'Armes : figures + functions quite / inconsistent with English notions of the liberty/ of the subject.- Our amusement began and ended with our start : the rest of the / day + journey was dull enough: we / reached Louvain at 10, where was prepareda / hasty dirty Flemish breakfast, to which my stomach refused ?, - but I got

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Brussels to Liege 9 Sept 1836

A compensating view of a glorious Cathedral/ richer, methought, than decorative sculpture/ than our Seventh Harry's Architectural Gem at / Westminster: At noon we reached Sirlemont:/ St ? at 2, and Liege at ½ past 6: / the landscape throughout dull and monotonous in the extreme:/ no diversity: no prospect: no undulation:/ but all flat arable flexibility: Corn was/ the chief occupant of the soil, which certainly/ looked wonderfully fertile.- Our dullness was / not beguiled into mirth and good nature, by/ the presence of 2 or 3 fat, oxen looking Flamands (sic)/ who as they could not get a seat inside our / Cabriolet, took up a position on the outside leather, + by their bulk and tobacco, not only shut out/ the landscape, but poisoned the very air: Re/monstrance, entreaty,

threats were vain. Postillion /+ Conductor alerted (?) the/ perquisite,
and

our Court of Appeal, the Gen d'armes (the summary + final tribunal
in the country) declared against us: We/ were, therefore, glad
when we discovered the/ hazy atmosphere and Coal Black Soil, that/
introduced us to Liege at about 7 p.m : after/ a Diligent crawl of 12
hours :- Took our luggage to the nearest hotel: "Pavillon Anglais"/

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Leige. 9 Sept 36.

hostel, a kind hearted chattering old woman: house/ tolerably cheap
and clean: provided with excellent/ hot baths, and altogether the
best in the town: we were/ already wearied and saw as much of the
city/ as could be collected in an hours stroll in the dark/ the entrance
was, I must say, most disgusting, the/ nil ultra of filth + poverty :
Wapping and her/ "lowest depths" might find here a "deeper still"-
the/ striking feature of the scene is the coal black surface:/ it is like
the worst part of Bristol, but decayed and/ poverty stricken.- We had
trouble in Confor/ ming to the political coxcombing(?) of soliciting/ a
fresh passport, from the ? Consul, minister, or/ whatever his title be,
as a prelude to the solemnity of/ entering the territory, to which this
potty Branden/ burgers dominion has been so iniquitously stretched/
out. I was in some small degree compensated for/ my fatigue +
trouble, by a midnight walk in/ the cloisters of the Bishop's Palace,
the scene of/ the insurrection of Quentin Durward there, leaning/ on
a shattered pillar whilst the central court was/ bathed in moonlight, I
peopled the surrounding/ object, with the characters of Scott's spirit
stirring,/ narrative – Quentin and his lady-love, the Balafre'/ with the
? entrenched on his forehead, the/ chivalrous privecoeur, the
ferocious William de la/ Marque,

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From Leige to Aix. 1836 10 Sept.

and his victim the heroic Bishop – the shouts and/ imprecations of the insurgent ruffians: the gluttony/ of the Great Hall “flowing with drunken spilth (sic)of wine” - / all there + other sights and sounds rose to my ear/ and eye “in habit as they lived”, and it was not till/ a fit of shivering came on from cold, not apprehension” that I/ was fully reawakened that I was a / member of anno domini 1836, that the broad cloth/ men of the 19th century can't stand night fogs like/ the steel-clad men of the 15th: that I had to grope/ my way through a town of which I didn't know a step – and , in short,- Good night to Quentin Durward and such in all I saw and know of Liege./

Sat 10 Sept. Took 3 places in the cabriolet for Aix: fortunate/ in our fourth companion – a young gentleman of Antwerp. Entered/ the Prussian territory soon after our first change of horses - / Passports required by the Belgians here, and again by the Prussians/ near Aix, where on our arrival at 5p.m. (after 7 hours/ journey) our boxes were examined by the Douaniers. / Selected the Hotel de la Tourelle: looked bad but was good./ decent dinner-decent prices- but the whole inferior to the Belgian/ accommodations. Weather which had been lowering all day/ poured forth its torrents ere we reached the hotel-and/ gave prospect of a bad day tomorrow. With the greatest/ difficulty we waded through the water to a ? mineral/ spring and a coffee house in the neighbourhood – a party / of Germans raised such a smoke as shrouded the whole/ room in tobacco twilight. Thd women still depressingly/ ugly: The pouring rain confined us to our dull, unsavoury

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Aix. 10 Sept 1836

position, and ? a impapable gulf between us and the/ Cathedral Church– “ in whose holy precincts lie/ Ashes, that make it holier ! (Byrons poetry + grammar)/ for in the Domkirche of this, his favourite capital, lies Charlemagne/ the first European monarch whose sagacious ambitions made him/ the unconscious Agent of Civilisation, and whose creative voice / cried “ let there be order”! to the political chaos raging round him. / Beyond what was supplied by this nearly dark and quite disgusting/ walk at night, and our drive in the morning when en route for/ Cologne, we saw nothing of the town, which we, unjustly (sic) perhaps,/ wrote down an architecturally poor affair. I must not/ omit recording the extreme beauty of the landscape between Liege/ and Aix : the road is a high causeway nearly the whole distance/ + the views right and left are of extraordinary beauty, very much/ resembling the valley of the Tyne near Newcastle. The German/ language, “horribly stuff'd” with propianisms has suddenly become/ universal as if political caprice determined men’s tongues, as/ well as allegiance. Complimented upon/ my conversational power – an adulatory lie, no doubt, -- Met/ at the table d' hôte at Aix a couple of our fellow passengers / by steamer from London. One of them recommended me to see/ tne Cathedral of Aix which, he said, contained a splendid Rubens- / “ the descent from the cross” – I asked him if he had seen/ a picture by the same hand on the same subject at Antwerp- / he replied he replied he had seen the picture in ? – but had no sus/picion it was a Rubens! A shrewd fellow! Yet there he was,/ big and loud with prattle about Virtie, and “all the paltry /jargon of the canvas + marble mart”- The skies were pouring forth/

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Aix to Cologne. 11 Sept. Cologne to Coblentz. 12 Sept. 1836.

their stores of rain from the moment of/ our [three obliterated lines of text] / Sunday 11 Sept: The diliquies [sic] being full we took a/ private carriage for Cologne which, including every expense cost 12/

dollars. The beauty of the landscape terminated at Aix/ that of the present road being dull + monotonous – like that/ country between Antwerp and Brussels. Dined at a ½ way/ place called Berghein's - place, house + dinner poor – 2½ francs/ or 20 Groschen a head. ? previously, ? – a fortress/ of some strength carefully maintained by the Prussian/ Gov! and after a dreary drive of 10½ hours, through/ almost incipient rain we reached Cologne, and the Hotel/ de Cologne at 8½ pm. Took tea in a room wher atmos/pHERE had 99 parts of tobacco smoke to 1 odpf atmospheric/ air. To bed room at 11 where I took 2 hours to make/ out my accounts + master Prussian coinage – finally/ turned in at 1 – Large hotel on the very verge of the/ noble river - a really majestic aspect. We have now/ passed Liege and Aix and shall pass Cologne without inspecting/ with the plan and outline of the town- it is what/ Guideries calls “travelling abed”./ Mon 12 Sept: Started ? Steamer for Coblenz at 7am. Bill/of Hotel moderate ? ? head for tea + beds. House very large – civility and cleanliness extreme : beds delightful/ with the friends of my youth, quilted counterpanes – akin to / [3 unreadable words] fell in torrents and prevented our/ seeing any bit of the town – repetition of the ? at/ Liege + Aix. The steamer lay moored under the windows/ of hotel. Sky terribly lowering throughout + violently wet/ nearly throughout the day – river below the Siebengebirge /

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Cologne to Coblenz. 12 Sept. Coblenz to Mayence 13

atrociously dull – bad as ? , or the Ganges beyond / Bengal. The Drackenfels certainly very bold + fine, and/ certain spots above + around particularly Nounenworth / pretty + striking – but I saw nothing throughout the day that/ impressed me more than the Clyde above Rothesay. We/ reached Coblenz at 9pm. Cold wet + weary – and if truth/ must be told, slightly disappointed. After a long ?/ + great risk of finding no bed at all – some great military/ gathering had filled all public houses to overflowi ng – we,/ or rather I, effected

a break in the castle of an an Old/ Music Master who for 4 dollars gave us 3 decent bed and/ and 2 decent rooms. The great Military Gathering consisted of all the troops in French ?, assembled/ in Coblenz for the purpose – hence our confusion + difficulty, 20,000 strangers had been accomodated in the tourist/ beds cost 2 dollars a night + some of our fellow passengers/ (Germans, too) ? 5! This continued ?, and / thus Coblenz was the 4th town of importance we had ?/ without seeing the Lions, in their cage ! Tues.13th Sept: Again embarked at 6½ am rain so heavy/ I could scarcely cast a look on Byron's ?, but/ sat myself gloomily in the sweltering cabin and prepared/ myself for 12 hours disgust. Friend Dobby from London had/ left us – wife, maps, charts and all – and many others of the/ same party had vanished – perhaps driven home by the train! / but their places were doubly filled + the boat crowded to excess/ ? an unremitting deluge of rain – bad or poor provisions/ as bad attendance – abominable wine. Windows closed and/ opaque with foul breath! and 12 hours before us! Ainsley/ + I looked tragic volumes of each other, - even James,/ bouyancy of spirit was beat. He moved periodically from/ cabin to deck, from deck to cabin, demi-drowned! Three/ or four gloomy exclusive Englishmen, one altogether sickening - / a fashionably invalid English woman with a tame fool for a husband

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Mayence to Francefort. 14 Sept: 1836

and a dull eyed thick lipped fellow (that I see daily in/ London) for a Cavaliere Servente to whom she spoke in close - /mouthed whispers all day – the husband either sleeping or/ staring at the ? , regardless of he's ours – 2 fellow ?/ from London to Antwerp (“old + young oilskin”) – for these, / we had the compensation of a really charming German / couple grom Bremen (doting on each other at three score!)/ two nice English girls with an apparently idiot brother - / a sweetly pretty German girl of Cologne – Reached Mayence/ at 9 at

night – and after an energetic race to the Rheinische Hof/ against 6 or 7 competitors, I secured 2 good rooms in the/ remark/ably fine, clean, + cheap hotel./ Wed. 14 Sept. Walked for a time about Mayence which/ presents a poor appearance, and at 1pm. started in a/ private one horse chaise for Frankfurt a/m – my old/ acquaintance Hockheim + Hochst – the usual boundaries/ of our excursions a' Cheval. Country appeared to me of/ unparalleled luxuriance – The merciless rain, still pouring/ in torrents, prevented an even distant view of the tower/ of Radelhein that my very breath stopped ashile to see- / at 6pm, reached the Back heiner gate where we delivered/ up our passports, drove to the Schwan', the ?, the Pariser/hof, the Weidenburch, the hotel d'Angleterre , honischer/ Kaiser, Rufischer Hof – all full! With difficulty got/ a room with 3 beds in a 3rd class Hotel, the Nafsauer Hof,/ (near the Weidenbarch) – for which we were to pay 4 florins/ a day with liberty to feed where we pleased (2 days after/ a ludicrous fracas occurred on this latter clause-) The/ annual fair was “toward” Scaffolding erected on the Zeil for equestrian + other exhibitions – Saw no old face/ but that of the Wirth of the paviser Hof, old Gunther,/ who had gone extremely fat + hideous – went to bed soon after./ Thurs. 15 Sept. After breakfast, left Sam to see lions/ with Ainsley, and via Buckenheiser Gate, commenced/

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Tödelhein 16 Sept 1836.

a long longed for walk to my beloved Tödelhein! The / the intensity of the interest was almost too much for me -/ I scarcely or never felt stronger emotion – Soon found / the old turning to the “Sandweg”- there were the old / fruit trees bending low with abundance - there, above/ all was the corner which little Edward + I parted/ from our dear father + mother, Susan + Maddy when /after placing us with Hoffman they returned to Paris in / Aug 1818 ! in a few minutes the bridge + the ‘Steon’ / came in sight + in a few more the + in a few

more the dear Old Village / stood revealed! I first called at the "Stern"- Hoffman /not being at home, I strolled into the village – Saw the/ Old Schoolhouse – looking so small! but otherwise/ unchanged - the Mill with the Hopper still at work!/ Its lost sound seemed a thing of yesterday! / the Casino – the Count's Castle ! Oh so tiny both! / other spots of ? – and actually met the old / Hauptmann Wichterick (very little altered) and/ the Miller-now old + fat ! Returned to the Steon./ Hoffman still out – Went in – made myself known/ to Madame H (xeallx ?, but little aged in look in/ full possession of her faculties) was most kindly,/ and affectionately indeed, welcomed by her, by Sophie,/ and Meline – the former a very fine and amiable/ girl – the latter my baby love. Soon after, I/ spied the Dr. making his way over the bridge - / I was soon in his arms. He and his wife received me as a son – their children as a brother – and after/ a few charming hours indeed, in which our hearts/ poured out their full contents, I returned at 9 to/ Francefort in Hoffman's carriage.

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Franceforte 16+17 Sept. Tödelhein 1836.

Friday 16 Sept./ Got wet through in a walk to the /Burial Ground – new + therefore uninteresting. Ducked / thoroughly + did not venture out again all day, except to/ dine at the Tonischer Kaiser + to bid adieu to our friend /who departed at 8pm, by xilijgxxx? To Mannheim and/ carried with him our regret and esteem./ Sat 17. Breakfasted at the Tönischer Kaiser. Called/ on Rothschild (Nathan) at 12, and took a glass of wine/ with the Baron – a mumbling old fellow with atrocious/ English and conversation that evinced anything but clear/ headedxxx?- then walked over his truly lovely estate. Wrote to / Professor Hille brand of Giezeu and posted the letter. Infinite/trouble about the ridiculous passport? necessary to ? into / the dominiums of Hope? Cafel? !! Had a visit from Karl/ Hoffman:

promised to meet him next day at xödelhxxxx?, dined on the well known beefsteak at the Schxxau? Out/ of kindness to Mxxron?- this being his favourite resort / + food. Round the town with Saxx till 9PM,/ inspected the ? – the bridge – the Cathedral. Saw/ a xone ? Toba? – literally the only one between Antwerp / + Frankfurt? , or, rather, London and Frankfurt – for/ Antwerp looked , at least, as innocent as the rest. I / ought to mention that the formidable guns at the / Corp de Gaide (1/2 pounders !) my dear father's church? / on the Zeil - + even the shop where my dear Mother/ bought me the old green pocket book, still in my / possession, are still there, and as they were !

END.