

Sailunpeth, Falkenstein am Taunus
bei Frankfurt a. M.
May 13th 85.

My dearully:

Q2/3712

Your letter reached me after many
flights across the country, with an en-
velope all covered by mis-directions.

I know I have been in your debt for
some time, but alas, my excuses are
but too good. I had an attack of what
is now proved to have been congestion
of the lungs in October, seemed to have
got over it well enough and was happy
to find myself up to all my duties
throughout the winter. But when in
obedience to my mother's wishes, I had
myself examined by a specialist in the
spring, I was found deficient and sent

here for recovery. While at Berlin I
really was too busy for any other but
business-communications, and here
I am under a very strict regime, which
almost entirely forbids ^{any} literary occu-
pations. All day long we lie out of
doors on couches or wander through the
woods, with the only interruption of
meat-trines. You can imagine the
hardship of passing one's time, but
I must own that the sanitary results
are most satisfactory. I am growing
as strong and flourishing again, as I
was at Meaux, but unfortunately not
quite so thick, and the Doctor tells me
he is highly pleased with my progress
in general and special health.

But you see I write under difficulties
and must therefore try to be as concise
as possible. Your plans fill me with
wonder and admiration, and of course
you have my very best wishes and are
most welcome to my name. Only
I am afraid I shall never have the
pleasure of sending you German boards
spare from the feeling of - almost
animosity that most Germans ab-
presents ^{feelings} towards England, there
is a deep-seated prejudice against
English education, and moreover the
terms would seem enormous to German
parents. I am sure however you will
succeed well enough without foreign
help. Let me tell you shortly that my

Lycium - business has proved pretty success-
ful this winter. We have even had some
voluntary exámenes in pedagogics, literature,
history and ethnology, and a little festivity
to wind up the winter courses. I suppose
you know us close at Easter, and I went
away immediately afterwards. I shall
probably have to stay here till August
and am gradually preparing the new
plan of studies, engaging professors etc.
But the real work in this line will
only begin after my return to Berlin
at the beginning of September.

In March we had Miss Barchan (from
Götting) at the Lycium, giving us a lecture
on "Die literarische Entwicklung in
England." The crown-princes honoured it by her

on some old newspaper
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presupposed but told me afterwards the
I was disappointed by Miss Barchard's
making no considerable mention of
her name nor of the higher local
examinations. Of course that was a
rather amusing on Miss Barchard's
part and altogether she displeased me
much by her bold and arrogant
manner. The effect on the public was
for those to say: "Oh you see, femininity
press are not compatible with this
kind of education" and that has
he reads against it in Germany.
Miss Barchard's want of manners
shown itself in a very ludicrous way
when I had to present her to the
princess. The latter interpreted it
mistakenly enough by saying to me:

Paris thing, I suppose she was very much
flattered and I was mischievous
enough to report that view of it to
Miss Barchard, who certainly does
not suffer from diffidence. The delivery
— in German — was rather awkward
too, so lame and prosy and ~~unconnected~~ in-
connected, while we are on the whole
accustomed to great fluency and
oratorical elegance in Germany. So
you see, it was not on the whole a
brilliant specimen of academic
womanhood, and I felt rather sorry
for the experiment.

I was very much pleased this winter
to hear of your trip to Madras and
your enjoyment there. I am always

glad when I find your most vigorous
and meritorious life broken by some
episode of human profaneness. I hope
that your school, after a brilliant
but short career, will be broken up by
the successive frailties of the three
graves who are to be at the head of it,
and that you will end by spending your
energies on your own families.
These are however what we call *Trübsal*
Stümpfe in German and need not
shock you unnecessarily.
My mother and sisters are still at
Berlin, but going shortly to repair
to the isle of Rügen, where they mean
to spend about 6 weeks. Afterwards
they will disperse in different directions

I was very much pleased this winter to hear of your trip to Madras and your enjoyment there.

and stay somewhere in the country till
 September. If I may leave here at
 the beginning of August I shall probably
 join my mother at Paramaribo near
 Dudden Janichum to Berlin together
 with her. My sisters are badly out
 of health I am sorry to say, both of
 them. My mother has weathered this
 winter at Berlin better than any of us
 she must be shame! I hope we will
 all meet in better condition in the
 autumn. Now good-bye, dear Billy
 I must hasten to dinner - please
 give my love and kind messages to all
 your people, inclusive of Aunt Fanny
 of whose grief I was sorry to hear. Poor
 young man! Should you see the Petrus