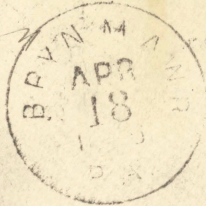


Rec'd Apr. 19/1876  
Qued a n



Miss Garrett  
77 West Monument St  
Baltimore  
Md.

50  
1794  
257  
BATAVO

FRANKRICH  
18  
APRIL  
1844  
FRANKFURT

①

Saturday April 17.

BRYN MAWR

Dearest Mary,

I do not know whether you discovered my theft, but on my way down stairs I stopped to look for Perkins's books (who by the way has published a new one "Ghiberti et son Ecole" this time in French); and found not them but two others. La petite Fadelle and the first volume of Tolstoi's La Guerre et la Paix. The desire to renew an old acquaintance and to make a new one was too strong to be resisted. I will return them at Easter. After I reached home I had only time

②

time to count the money in the envelope and sink on the back parlor sofa helpless in the clutches of a fresh paroxysm of headache when Miss Andrews was announced before I could excuse myself and as she had given up church I had to see her. She stayed one hour and a half and I agreed to every thing she said without knowing what it was. I trust I have sanctioned no suicidal school policy. After she went I lay there until 10 P.M. without venturing to move and mother put so much cologne on my head that my hair has not yet recovered, so you see all the trouble I gave you was at least not wholly without cause. I do not believe your ordinary headaches can be quite like my extraordinary ones or it would be impossible for you to rise above them. On Monday I tried to go to the school but was only able to get to the 12 o'clock train & my demon and I did not part company until Thursday afternoon, when I had such an accumulation on my hands that I could not get a moment in which to break my resolution and tell you what seems to me the best form to give to your donation to the English library. It is so near the close of the year that I think that I can get the majority of the books more cheaply, apart from finding many others that no dealer will take the trouble to get for us, in London

③

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(4)

Mr. Beran Braithwaite knows all the best antiquaries. Then it seems to me nicer to speak of it as a donation of books. I have told Uncle James about the anonymous donation, and he agrees with me about it. It will then be kept wholly out of the hands of the book committee which are only a cipher but even a cipher requires a little red tape to efface it. So you must prepare yourself to share the laurels, whatever laurels there may be, in the English department for its success will certainly come five years sooner because of the books; with its deficiencies you will have nothing to do except in so far as the pleasure of your society draws its professor away from her studies. The insistence

## BRYN MAWR

glory of the Spring was guilty to day - it cried to me through the throats of the birds, redbreasts and blue birds and wrens, that throng our grounds, through every bud of bit of grass - every thing seemed rioting in the sun shine, so I asked Bessy McCall to ride with me and our horses rode through mountain clefts (good imitations Bessy McCall called them) by stream and farmyard past silvery hills covered with swelling tree boughs, Corot after Corot composing itself by stream after stream fringed by faint willows &

(7)

blending into many hullets of ploughed ground with its sweet earth smell, past at least one Van Marcke cow scene with its dewy gleamy shimmer of light & shadow on the adorable alternations of tender ~~browns~~ browns and creams of backs of cows to Valley Forge, 24 miles there and back. A ride worthy to lead us to Roncevaux or Aliscans (how well I remember the Sunday Mamie & I spent among its immense trees and sarcophagi but without the associations of Vivien & Guillaume d'Orange that would now ~~romant~~ give medieval ~~its~~ coloring to post Augustan classicism) not <sup>merely</sup> to somewhat meagre memories of Washington's privations. I was thinking this evening that I had never had the pleasure of doing or seeing one wholly charming thing with you under entirely favorable circumstances - like this ride for instance or Wagner's Valkyrie - perhaps, yes quite certainly, the Moses of Michael Angelo, & the glacier in the Engadine, whose revelation of transparent colors was lovelier than any other wintery chromatic scale I had ever seen, may perhaps count as a partial exception in spite



7

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⑧ of its fatal termination, whereas  
with every other friend I have  
it is so different. We may wait until  
it may be no longer so desirable  
as it seems, and after all perhaps  
even now it seems & nicer that it  
wd. be, contrary to my experience  
as that wd. be — by which little  
cynic bravado you may trace  
my <sup>seven</sup> five hour companion. I enclose  
Bessie's letter please read and re-  
turn. As I had told you about the  
difference our difference of opinion  
had made I thll I wd. like you to  
see for your self how very desolate  
Bessie is (I do not believe she wd.  
mind my showing it to you if she  
knew the circumstances) & how imp.  
it is to let any thing really matter.  
How I wish she were strong enough  
to go abroad this summer to

## BRYN MAWR

break up that lethargy of discouragement. It is too bad to offer any consolation and I think Bessie feels as she wd have to be less nice not to feel. I do not think that I ever, even in the numerous letters that I have been showering upon her, ~~so~~ asked the brutal question whether she was "good". Imagine holiness in an American hotel taking long walks with a Mr Cramp & sitting in Mrs McCarty's sitting room. Goodness is a solitary virtue an hermit an anchorite until it is full statured. Do you know your friend Stillman's victorious explanation of the Fates - Earth lying in the lap of

(10)

the sea & Theseus as Olympus.  
I intend to read his book to prepare  
for the few hours of rightlessness  
I intend <sup>hope</sup> to experience en route  
for the books of the British Museum.  
I hope to hear classes all Wednesday  
morning. The teachers have showered  
letters on me like the Egyptian  
locusts. I shall answer the last today.  
Our school does not grow like  
the flowers of the field without  
assistance - does it?

Yours lovingly

Minnie C. Th

Will you accept the first fruits  
of my garden - of their symbolic  
realities you already possess a fair  
share - from my "garden gasli"  
as Richard Rolle of Hampole wd. express it.