



Lyons. James  
July 7. 1882

My dear Anna,

I received quite a  
bundle of letters here, including those  
of two weeks. I cannot answer  
them all, & besides have no particular  
news to communicate, however,  
as 'my plan' seems always to  
be of the greatest importance  
I shall begin with that. I think  
of going from here to have a look  
at the Pyrenees, & if I do so  
may probably return to Lyons again  
afterward. The trip may occupy  
20 or 25-days according to the  
number of stages I make. As  
I don't know anything about the

Country I must just work my way on from one point to the next.

The Country I have been in is quite off the general English tourist beat, & I have scarcely seen any English speaking people since leaving Paris.

Most of the Tourists are away in Switzerland & under the impression that it is or should be hot elsewhere, but the heat has not arrived yet to any great extent. I had a note

from Mr Gibb in which he very vaguely suggested Russia. We had

talked about it in Montreal, but I have no idea of going there. He is

travelling or to travel with a Prof Budd,

& though his object is a very useful one I don't see that I have any calls in that direction, & as I speak neither

in a career, first when people say he will do great things, second, he might, & third he might have.

I had an up hill fight, & fought it out inch by inch till I found myself at the bottom. I never found anything worth doing that could be done without putting your whole life into it, but when failure comes under these conditions it is final.

I would very much rather be happy than otherwise, but you will

remember a text which says what does it matter to a man if he gains the whole world & loses his own soul. Now I hope you won't mind my having written like this to you, & would rather you did not discuss the matter at all when you write. It is but, however, that you