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Bremen, July 19<sup>th</sup> 1885.

Dear Anna,

The last letter which I sent you was from Berlin. Since writing it I have been to Leipzig and on Friday evening reached Bremen. I now feel that I have reached the turning point and that from this I shall be gradually getting nearer to you. Indeed I have some hope that I may be able to sail from Liverpool on the 13<sup>th</sup> of August, in which case I may go by the Allan line. I wrote from Berlin to make inquiry with regard to the steamers of the Dominion line which are to sail from Liverpool on the 13<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> of August & expect to get a reply when I reach Switzerland. According to the information previously received the steamers of both those dates are poor ones, but I am told that one of the better steamers which



was cleared to the British government has returned from the East & that there is a possibility of her taking the place of one of the poorer ships advertised to sail for Quebec.

My main object in going to Leipzig was to see Prof. Zirkel one of the most celebrated <sup>German</sup> mineralogists and petrologists, and I was fortunate in seeing a good deal of him. Without knowing anything about the hotels I went to the very one where he daily goes for his meals. He showed me the collections of minerals and rocks and made himself generally agreeable, although it was rather a busy time with him, as the examinations in the former university are going on now. Only fancy what a session! - from the 13<sup>th</sup> of September to the first of August. But though the sessions are long the Professors are so numerous and their work so subdivided that they do



not seem to have a very hard time of it. Zirkel is a man of about 45 years of age, thoroughly firm in appearance & reminding me slightly of Nordström of Stockholm who you will remember visited us some years ago. As for Ljupic, it is not a very attractive place, though like most of the other firmament towns it is making rapid progress.

The university has over three thousand students and a magnificent art gallery is now being built, but the town is in the main a business place.

The streets are narrow - with of course some exceptions - and usually pervaded with an odour of decomposing sausages which is not pleasant, ~~and~~ at any rate to strangers. One of the two evenings that I spent in Ljupic in Ljupic I went to a concert at the so-called Crystal Palace - which is really a large beer garden, the Crystal Palace being little more than a name. The garden was pretty and brilliantly illuminated with electric



lights, and the <sup>4.</sup> people all sat  
round tables drinking beer, beer  
beer - men women & children  
all poured it down and  
appeared to think much more  
of the beer than of the music.  
And yet no one was drunk -  
in fact I have only seen one  
drunken man since I came to  
Germany while I saw dozens in  
England.

Dresden where I now am is a  
fine place and I am at a very  
comfortable hotel. Yesterday I spent  
part of the morning at the "frühere  
Schatzkammer" in the royal palace  
where there is a wonderful  
collection of works of art, pre-  
cious stones &c &c. The crown  
jewels of the Kings of Saxony are  
exhibited there and one very beautiful  
There are also quantities of vases  
~~and~~ goblets &c made of rock  
crystal, chalcedony and other  
stones, some fine bronzes, ivory  
carvings & hosts of other things  
of which I shall tell you on my  
return. I also went yesterday to  
the geological museum. It is supposed  
to be closed on Saturday, but I asked  
for Dr. Jinitz, the director and he



showed me everything there was to be seen. There is a good palaeontological collection and a fair mineral collection <sup>the latter</sup> - by no means equal to those which I saw at Berlin & Bonn.

In the afternoon I went over to Frising and there got a nice long letter from you as well as one from Eric & one from Edith. I was indeed delighted to get them although they only gave me news up to the 26<sup>th</sup> of June. They are the first letters which have reached me since I came to the Continent. There was also one from Rankin announcing his return to England, but also saying that he expected to leave again almost immediately for Australia this time. I shall therefore miss seeing him altogether.

This is a lovely town, but just now is in a state of wild excitement as a grand gymnastic tournament is going on and it is said that 20000 people have come to participate in it, either as spectators or performers. The streets are crowded to overflowing and such a



good-natured crowd I never saw. The hub-bub 4-day is something frightful although it is Sunday. There was a procession which took more than two hours to pass any one point and what with playing of bands, shouting, singing & in my ears are fairly ringing. The noise was kept up all last night and I have no doubt that it will be the same 4-night.

From Berlin I sent a little book to Clara, for her birthday, and hope it will reach her. I have some capital books for the children, and hope they will not give me any difficulty with them at the French border, for I see that the guide-book says that "Books & newspapers occasionally give rise to suspicion and may in certain cases be confiscated."

It is late & I have to be up betime in the morning, so must not write more. To-morrow I go to Freiburg, the day after to Heidelberg and I expect to reach Geneva in 9 or ten days. With love for yourself and all the dear little ones Ever your fond husband  
Bernard.