

P.S. the purpose to  
have been here till and  
This winter I may  
visit Mrs Byers.  
I shall go to Hartford  
probably to August 1st  
I shall then to Asbury  
In.

St. Augustine Fla:  
January 21<sup>st</sup> 1893.  
Acc. 976

While at dinner  
you two letters - am per your father  
I mine dated the 8<sup>th</sup> Jan. You mention  
that in about two weeks you hope to be  
has fully occupied, but you do not tell  
us whether you have to accompany  
the Architects to Paris, & am principal  
reason why I hasten to answer  
your letter is lest you may be returning  
to this Country, without meeting for  
the great decision, I might be inclined  
to pay us a visit before you settle.

down again in Canada. I must  
 hardly say how pleased I am that  
 you have a break, if not a rest, by  
 your visit to Sir Richard Webster.

Dr. Cruikshank tells me that she was the favoured  
 recipient of heaty Curries off from Canada.  
 I fear however much I not advise Sir  
 R's systematic ways I will feel in our  
 hours holiday here I to attend to  
 the rules laid down. Electricity is  
 useless but I should much like to have  
 to have if he has the good sense  
 to have his house equally & comfortably  
 heated. I wish very much a man  
 with the knowledge & influence there  
 he has will turn his attention to the  
 abatement of the smoke nuisance in

England wh: according to Prop-----  
 (I Cosmas name the man at the moment)  
 is quite practicable, by partially caking  
 the Coal, but to make this a general  
 thing wh: require a law prohibiting the  
 sale of raw Coal. It is little to the credit  
 of English people that they so doggedly  
 adhere to a system of heating quite insufficient  
 for Comfort & to the misery of three prom  
 or make when heat can be remedied.  
 Americans, whatever may be said of  
 their Politicians, Commerce & my ad-  
 miration by the Clergy they adopt  
 modern improvements to Augment  
 their <sup>individual</sup> moral Comfort. Advice given friend  
 Sir R. to make a tour in the U.S. in the month  
 of Decr & Jan & he will return a wiser  
 man & will not longer remain content

site wretchedly ill heated buildings,  
besides picking up a few more ideas  
to add to his well-archived hoard.

But now for ourselves, because it  
is already late & the last chance of  
catching the "Majestic" will be by a mail  
wh: leaves in the morn at 7. We left  
Sawermah last Monday (16th) partly because  
we had exhausted the interest of the  
place, & chiefly because it continued  
so cold. We came by Jacksonville -  
where we spent a night & had all  
the following morn to make a general tour  
of the City. Its business streets looked full  
of life & its residential parts airy & many  
of the houses very pretty. but I fancy it wd  
be uninteresting to us in these days  
for a week. This place is quite a contrast

to any other American City I have seen hearing the impreso, as it does, of its Spanish origin & occupation. Originally it has been a small walled City with narrow streets, with here & there a suggestion of Moorish Architecture. All that remains of the wall is an old gateway near to the Port of San Marco wh: is still kept in good repair. Beyond the limits of the old City a City of modern hotels & broad streets, as various suburbs, have grown up & as many as 10,000 guests visit these hotels during the short season of 2½ months. This hotel, in wh: we are, opened only on the 15<sup>th</sup> & Mile Close at the end of March. I will include this advertisement wh: will give you some idea of the beauty of the situation. but

the "Palace de Leers" is the best not  
only of this place but of America - as  
it is the finest & not the largest on  
the Continent. I went to its formal  
opening on Wed: It is of immense  
size, of Mexican architecture, placed  
in grounds filled with three or four  
varieties of palms - by Cacti - perissomans,  
aloes, yuccas & dozens of other tropical  
trees & shrubs unknown to us. The interior  
fittings & furnishings are beautiful -  
the coloring, both in the stained glass  
windows & decorations, soft & harmonious  
every pillar, indeed every thing an art  
study. I have never seen any palace  
so luxuriously beautiful - as to prices  
I am told that you may obtain the pri-  
vilege of staying slowly in the attic

make the way at \$10 per day. We  
 find it warmer here than it was  
 at Savannah & decidedly more tropical  
 in the Character of the vegetation. Orange  
 trees are abundant & are at present  
 covered with white fruit. Still  
 there was frost last night which is most  
 unusual & there has <sup>been</sup> more or less of ex-  
 ceptionally cold weather during the  
 month of Jan.

Your partner is fully launched upon  
 the writing out of his Autobiography.  
 He has decided to remodel the plan he  
 formerly had adopted & is pleasantly  
 busy in the work. but at this moment  
 he is blaming me for writing too  
 long & I have so much to tell you  
 there it is difficult to stop. He

asks me to thank you for the  
~~letter~~ just received with melody  
 of receipts wh: are all right.  
 We are so glad to hear that Rankine  
 seems desirous to propose returning  
 to Montreal. I think if he has voluntarily  
~~to~~ finally decided that it will relieve  
 him of an uncertainty there is hard  
 to bear, & I earnestly hope that once  
 started he will become thoroughly  
 interested in his practice in wh  
 if he does there is little fear of  
 his succeeding. With love to  
 him, if more you, & much love  
 & all good wishes for you & the  
 best results of your labours I am  
 your affectionate Mother.