

SHC: 6832/6/6/5

Emily Jane Glyn's Diary of a holiday in Normandy and Paris in 1845



Paris, the Place de la Concorde

July 3rd, Thursday

At 10 o'clock we all started in an omnibus for the station and left Brighton by the Shoreham train at 25 minutes past ten. At a quarter to 11 we got out at Kingston and walked to the steamer, which was close. The Steamer was the *Menai*, Capt. Goodburn, and was rather a small one, there were a good many passengers; we left Shoreham at 12½ and reached Brighton Pier in about half an hour. Luggage without end was brought on board there, we were very glad that we had gone to Shoreham for we much enjoyed our Railway trip and also our steamer to Brighton. We left the pier at 1½, we had a very bright day with not much wind, it rose however about 3 o'clock but soon sank again; we went along the coast as far as Beachy Head, this was the last English land we saw. We steered S.S.E. nearly the whole way, we saw the English coast for four or five hours. About six we came in sight of the French coast, it much resembled that of England, there being high cliffs. We entered a kind of bay having land on both sides of us. About 9 o'clock we entered the harbour of Dieppe; you see the town to the right as you enter. The entrance of the harbour is very narrow, it is formed by the embouchure of the little river Arques. We wound about for some time and then got into a large basin of water surrounded by houses on three sides. We stopped on the right side exactly opposite the Customs House, it was dark when we arrived and the lights of the shops and houses looked very pretty reflected in the water.

Everyone from the steamer went straight to the *Douane*, the door of which was guarded by two *gens d'armes*; the room into which we went was not very large, in one part there sat two or three men at a desk, one had on a cocked hat and looked very fierce. Immediately before them there was a railing and about a yard beyond another, between these two railings. Papa [*Josiah Birch*,

a merchant from Manchester who lived and worked in St. Petersburg] was called and all of us who were down in his passport, the passport was most carefully examined as to the number of persons and who they were. When that was finished we walked a few paces towards their right and were met by another man who opened two doors, one on each side, turning the ladies into one and the gentlemen into the other. The room into which we went was very small and might have done very well for the Black Hole. Two French women were in it, when we got in they shut up the doors and I thought they were going to search our persons, but they did not. They first seized hold of Mama's basket, put in their hands and pulled out her work box which they insisted upon opening; they soon finished with her and the rest of our party and let them out and began searching other people's things. I thought they had forgotten me; I had charge of Charlie's dressing case. I said to one of them 'Voulez vous chercher cette boîte'. I opened it, she looked at the top and shut it immediately, saying 'Tres bien'. I now thought I might be released and made for the door when the other woman stopped me and asked if I had been 'visitée'. Hearing that I had she let me out; I found our party waiting for me. Mama now could not be found but we soon discovered her in the crowd. Being all assembled we walked up to the Hotel Royal, we went along the Quai and then turned up a street towards the right which took us up to the Hotel. We got very nice rooms and found everything very comfortable. The Hotel faces the sea. As soon as our rooms were settled Uncle Robert and Charlie set off for the Douane to get through our carpet bags. They asked Charlie to declare that he had nothing contrabande in his box and said something about 'pour declarer', he only heard 'clarer' and thought they were asking him if he had any claret in his box; he answered 'non' but soon found out his mistake. When he and uncle came back to the Hotel, we had tea, it was nearly twelve when we finished.

4th, Friday

At 7 o'clock Charlie set off with the Commissionaire to the Douane to get the rest of the luggage through and Uncle Richard and I went to the old Castle. Coming out in the front of the Hotel, we turned to the left and walked along by the sea till we came to the Baths, they are said not to be good. Just above them there is a covered walk where people walk in wet weather; opposite to this we turned up to the left and went through some very old and picturesque streets, they were filled with market women in their pretty dresses. They have very nice figures, their dresses are very short, they generally wear a bright coloured handkerchief over their shoulders and a very nice clean high crowned cap. The streets are paved but have no foot pavements, and gutters down the middle of the streets. The castle is situated on the cliffs to the west of the town, which it commands. We had a very nice view of the whole of Dieppe from it, we were struck with the difference between French and English towns. There are no ugly backs of houses in France, both sides are alike; the houses are all very pretty, with high sloping roofs. The country around was pretty, the cliffs are of a much browner colour than those of England. The Castle is now a barrack. We returned to the Hotel at 8 and found Charlie there, none of our things had been stopped.

Mr. Black, the Consular Agent at Brighton had sent over to order a private diligence

[stagecoach] for us as we were such a large party, it arrived ready for us to start at 9 o'clock. A diligence consists of three parts, the front called the coupée holds three, the middle, called the interieur, six, and the rotoude, or back part, six also; there are a few seats at the top called the banquette. Our diligence had no rotoude. We were much amused at the clumsy horses and dashing drivers; most of the horses had bells which together with the pavé, which we were continually going over, made no little noise. We changed horses four times, the country over which we passed was chiefly uninteresting, being over high table land. When we entered the valleys however it was very beautiful, the villages are very prettily situated. We passed through Canonville, Totes and Cambres, after the latter place we descended to the vale of the Cailly in which is situated the village of Maromme, which was really beautiful. All the people in this neighbourhood are occupied with the cotton manufacture, this being the great district for the manufacture in France.

It was about 2 o'clock when we reached Rouen, we went to the Hotel de Rouen on the Quai du Havre and got very good rooms; the town is low, being almost surrounded by hills. In the afternoon we went sight seeing, we walked along the Quai towards the left as far as the Rue du Grand Port, this street led us up to the Cathedral. Immediately before it is the Flower Market which appeared well furnished. The Cathedral is very ancient, we admired the exterior very much; on either side of the doorway there is a tower, the northern is the most ancient, the other is called the Tour du Beurre. There is a very ugly iron tower in the middle. The interior is handsome; Richard Coeur de Lion's heart was buried here. When we had seen that we went to the Church of St. Ouen, it is larger and more elegant, but less ancient than the Cathedral and is considered one of the noblest and most perfect Gothic edifices in the world. We returned to the Flower Market and then went to the Rue du Grosse Horloge; over the street is an immense old clock. This street is the most picturesque in Rouen; almost all the houses are very old with projecting upper windows. We went past the place where Joan of Arc was imprisoned, it is called the Place de la Pucelle, opposite is a statue of her. After this we went home and dined at the Table d'Hôte, our dinner was 3 francs a head. We amused ourselves in the evening by looking out of the windows. Before us was the Quai with several vessels, then came the Seine and beyond the Faubourge *[sic]* St. Sever to the left there were two bridges, first a suspension bridge and higher up a stone one; beyond were rows of trees, chiefly poplar. The view was bounded by some pretty hills, on the top of one was a very pretty church. The hills disappeared behind St. Sever but rose again on the right. The river on that side was very pretty, being divided by an island covered with poplars.

5th Saturday

We amused ourselves in the morning by standing out on the balcony and looking at what was passing below. The French carts are very long and narrow with two wheels and drawn by from one to six horses in tandem. First passed a cart full of stone, then a little square one driven by two women full of

milk pails, which shook about as if they would all shake out, then a cart full of bales of cotton, then a country woman driving a donkey laden with vegetables, then a gens d'arme jogging along upon his horse. There was something to look at in all that passed. All the men in this part of Normandy wear a kind of blue smock frock. This is a cider and not a wine drinking province, all the road from Dieppe to Rouen is edged with apple trees. Our boxes were taken again to some office to be examined and at 11½ we went to the station, it is in the Faubourge St. Sever. All the first and second class passengers are divided as soon as they have got their tickets; all the regulations are very strict, we (the ladies) got a very nice carriage, the gentlemen went in the 2nd class. The scenery of Normandy quite equalled any expectation, it was rendered still more beautiful by the clearness of the atmosphere, so different to England. The railroad runs along the banks of the Seine, chiefly on the left and crosses it several times. On either side of the river there is a chain of hills, sometimes approaching and sometimes retiring, they were well wooded. At their feet there were the prettiest towns and villages, situated among trees, all so picturesque.

We passed through some tunnels, about 4 o'clock we reached Paris; before we arrived we saw a fort to our right called Mont Valerien; soon after we saw the Triumphal Arch. When we arrived our luggage was again examined, when that was over we all got into an omnibus and drove to the Hotel de Hollande, Rue de la Pais [*sic*], there after some trouble we got very nice rooms. When we had settled we set off and went down the street to the right into the Boulevard [*sic*] des Italiens to the Maison d'or where we dined. After dinner we walked down the Rue de la Pais, the Place Vendôme in the middle of which there is a column made of cannon taken by Napoleon and covered to the top with bas reliefs representing Napoleon's victories, the rue Castilione [*sic*] which brought us down opposite the Tuileries. We entered them, there are some fine trees, but the orange trees are dreadful, they are in wooden boxes cut quite round without one blossom upon them. The Tuileries Palais is at the East of the garden, it is a long, narrow building, built across the end of the garden. We returned by the same way as we went.

6th Sunday

We knew nothing about the hour when the churches began, nor could the people in the Hotel tell us; we determined to go to Mr. Lovett. We started in two fiacres [*small hackney carriages*] and got there after the service had begun. The Chapel in the Rue Chaillot out of the Champs Elysées, it is a very small place and you descend to it. We had a very nice sermon from Mr. Lovett on 2 Tim. 2.19 [*'Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, the Lord knoweth them that are his. And, let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity'*]. After service some of the party went home. We sat in the Champs Elysées till afternoon service at 3 o'clock. We hardly heard any of the sermon, the gentleman who preached had such a low voice. We dined at the Maison d'or, after dinner we walked to the Palais Royal. It is built round the four sides of a square, it was inhabited by the present King [*Louis Philippe*] when Duke of Orleans. The two lower stories are now let out as shops and cafés, in the middle is a garden with a fountain in the centre. We went to one of the Cafés and had ices which cost

in Paris 75 centimes each. I did not at all like the way in which this Sunday was spent and longed for our quiet Sabbath at Brighton.

7th Monday

We went this afternoon to the Louvre, it is behind the Tuileries, the Place du Carrousel being between them. We entered the southern side of the Louvre, the passports were looked at and all the umbrellas kept below, for which we were obliged to pay 2 sous each. We only had time to look at one picture gallery, it contained many paintings by the best masters; first were those of the French school, then followed Dutch, German, Spanish and Italian. Some of Canaletto's views of Venice we admired very much; many of the subjects are not agreeable, particularly amongst the French paintings, no end to people wounded and dying. Everything almost in Paris is closed at 4 o'clock, we were obliged to leave the Louvre at that hour.

In the morning I went with the gentlemen to see the Bourse, it is in the direction of the Palais Royal and is a very handsome building, surrounded by Corinthian pillars, the ceiling inside is covered with monochrome paintings which are so much like bas-reliefs that people are often deceived; they are chiefly allegorical, France receiving the tribute of the four quarters of the globe, the City of Paris delivering the keys to the God of Commerce and inviting Commercial Justice to enter the walls, the Union of Commerce and the Arts giving birth to the prosperity of the State and Paris receiving from the nymph of the Seine and the Genius of the [.....] the productions of abundance. There were also representations of the four quarters of the globe and of all the commercial cities of Europe. In the evening we dined at the Café de l'Europe in the Place Royal.

8th Tuesday

We went today first to the church of the Madeleine, it is an imitation of the Parthenon, and is surrounded by beautiful Corinthian columns. The door of the church is in bronze covered with bas-reliefs representing the commandments; the second is omitted and the last divided. The interior of the church is very beautiful, on either side are statues of saints and chapels; over the high altar is the Madeleine in marble ascending on a cloud supported by angels. Over the altar the ceiling is covered with an immense painting representing the whole history of the church, Napoleon is one of the most prominent figures. While we were there the priest came in and performed Mass in the Chapel of the Virgin, on the left as you enter. We were all shocked at such mummary; I had never seen the Mass before. From the steps of the church there is a very nice view over the Place de la Concorde, in which there are two pretty fountains and immediately opposite is the Chambre des Deputies, a handsome building, surrounded by Corinthian pillars, it is on the southern side of the Seine. We passed close by it on our way to the Hotel des Invalides, crossing by the Pont de la Concorde.

The Hôtel des Invalides is for old pensioners there is not much to see in it. We saw the chapel in which there is an image of the Virgin with the light thrown from above, which looked very well. All round the top of the Chapel

are hung banners taken from enemies since 1815. We saw also some rooms containing portraits of Napoleon's generals. Napoleon himself is buried in an inner chapel immediately under the dome, the chapel is not shown. From the Hôtel des Invalides we (the ladies) set off shopping. We went first to a linen drapers in the Rue du Bac, Faubourg St. Germain, Au Petit St. Thomas; we found it a very nice shop. From thence we went to a dress makers in the Faubourg St. Honoré and walked home. We dined and spent the evening in the Palais Royal.

9th Wednesday

Today we went first to the Pantheon, it was formerly the church of St. Genevieve. Over the cornice is now written 'Aux grands hommes à la patrie reconnaissante'. It is a beautiful building, the portico is supported by Corinthian columns, in the middle is a large dome, the highest in Paris. The building is nearly in the form of a Greek cross. On the walls are inscribed the names of those who were killed in the revolution of July [*the 1830 revolution resulting in the enthronement of Louis-Philippe*]. In the dome is a fine painting by Gros, representing St. Genevieve etc. and the monarchs whose reigns have formed epochs in the history of the country. We went downstairs and passed through a series of vaults, in some of the passages there is a very loud echo; here are buried in opposite vaults Voltaire and Rousseau, also many other people whose names I do not remember. From the Pantheon we went to the Gobelin manufactory, it is situated in the outskirts of Paris towards the S.E. We saw the whole process and afterwards the Salle d'exposition; the Gobelins were very beautiful, we could hardly tell them from paintings. There were several of the King and others of the royal family, in one place carpets were being made for the King, the pieces take from two to six years to complete.

We went next to the Jardin des Plantes, it is a kind of Zoological Garden. We were too late to see the large animals, we saw quantities of deer and of large birds. Many medicinal plants are cultivated here; there are green houses, hot houses, galleries, an amphitheatre with laboratories, but we did not see them. On our way home we passed the Cathedral of Notre Dame and the Hotel Dieu, both situated on an island. Soon after we passed on our left the Mint and the Institute of France, we crossed the Seine by the Pont Neuf, in the midst of the bridge is a statue of Henri 4. We went to the Palais Royal where we dined.

10th Thursday

We first went today to the Musée d'Artillerie, we saw several galleries filled with armour, some very handsome, taken from the Turks and Algerians, also the armour worn by Francis 1st. The dagger with which Rabilliac assassinated Henry 4th is there covered by black crepe, but I did not see it. From the Musée we went to the church of St. Sulpice, it is a very handsome church, the pulpit is curious, being supported only by the steps up to it on each side. The plan of the building is cruciform; at the entrance of the nave are two very large shells, given to Francis 1st by the Republic of Venice. On the pavement of the transept is traced a meridian line, the rays of the sun passing through an aperture in a metal plate in the southern window of the transept form an arch

on the pavement 10½ inches in diameter, which moves across the line and at noon is bisected by it.

From thence we went to the Palais de Luxembourg, it is now called the Chambre des Pairs. We went through a gateway into a large courtyard and entering on the left walked through a gallery of pictures, they were very fine paintings, but almost all the subjects were deaths or murders or some subject of that trend. One however was very beautiful, I liked it better than any other painting I had yet seen, it was moonlight on the sea. From the picture gallery we went through some of the rooms which were built and inhabited by Marie de Medici, the panellings and paintings are very pretty; at the Revolution they were taken down and concealed in the Louvre and were put up again at the Restoration [*presumably that of Louis XVIII in 1815 after Napoleon's defeat and exile*]. From these rooms we crossed the Court and ascended by a wide staircase to several suites of rooms, amongst them the old Chambre des Pairs. We afterwards saw the new one which is much handsomer. In one of the rooms was a throne used by Napoleon when Emperor. We did not see the Library; the Chambre is shewn whenever the House is not sitting. From thence we walked to the Garden, where there were some pretty flowers, but everything in the French style. At the end of a very long avenue opposite the Palais we saw the Observatory; at 5 o'clock we went to the Palais Royal and dined there.

11th Friday

We went at 12 o'clock to the station of the Rouen, Versailles and St. Germain railway, in the Rue St. Lazare; the three railroads run together for a short distance then branch off. We went by the Versailles railway as far as the St. Cloud station, the country through which we passed was very pretty, quantities of vines; I was much disappointed in them, they are grown like hops but the poles are not nearly so high. We saw the Mont Valerien first to our left, after to our right, there is a very nice view of Paris from the railroad. From the station we walked to the village of St. Cloud, and from thence through the Park to the Sèvres Manufactory, the park is very pretty, being quite à l'Anglais. We saw at the Manufactory several rooms full of china but we were rather disappointed with it. We walked back to the station and returned to Paris by the 4½ train. We had a very good view of Paris from St. Cloud and though it is five miles distant from the clearness of the atmosphere we could distinguish the principal buildings distinctly.

12th Saturday

We were so tired with what we had done yesterday that we did not do anything particular today. In the morning we went to the Petit St. Thomas to shop and after we walked to the Louvre where we met Papa and Charlie. We walked down the picture gallery we had seen before and looked at the pictures we had not before observed. From the gallery we returned to the hall and turned off to the left, this took us into a long gallery filled with china and other things of that kind, there was one beautiful vase amongst them. After that we turned into another gallery containing the Standish collection. In one room were all the ports of France by Vernet; we had hardly time to look at them, it being just 4 o'clock.

13th Sunday

We went today to the Ambassador's Chapel near the Madeleine, the building is better than the Marboeuf Chapel. Bishop Suscombe preached twice, we liked his sermons pretty well.

14th Monday

We started at 9 o'clock for the Railway Station and went by the train to Versailles. We walked from the Station up to the Palace, which is a very large building, but irregular in form, having been built by different kings. On the two front ends of it is written 'A toutes les gloires de la France'. It was yet too early to see it so we walked round to the opposite side facing the Park, on this side the palace consists of one long line of building, with terraces before it. From thence we turned a little towards the right and walked down the park, the park is quite à la Française, the trees are all planted so that whichever way you look you see a row of them; they are also all cut quite even except just at the top where they are allowed to grow naturally. All through the park are statues and fountains, some of them very pretty. At the end of the park are the Grand and Petit Trianon, we had only time to see the former, it is all built on the ground floor, it consists of a long gallery in front with two wings, the rooms inside are not very large but very comfortable; it is a favourite residence of the royal family, who had only left a few days before we went. We saw all their private rooms. We returned the same way through the park to the Chateau which was now open.

We entered to the right as you face the palace. We first went through galleries filled with pictures of all the kings of France from Clovis and also pictures of the battles and other events of their several reigns. I cannot exactly remember the order in which we saw the rooms, there so many; one room was filled with portraits of great men, others with Napoleon's battles, one room being devoted to each year, others with the late war in Algiers, and also in Holland, others with events of the Revolution of July and the ascension to the throne of Louis Philippe. These were a few of the rooms we saw. We also saw quantities of sculpture, one of Joan of Arc done by the Princesse Marie was very beautiful. We did not see much of the Chapel for we passed it expecting to return the same way which we did not do. We were four hours going through the palace, it was closed at 4 o'clock at which time we went down to the Hôtel de France and dined at the Restaurant. Today was the anniversary of the death of the Duke of Orleans [*Ferdinand Philippe, Duke of Orleans, the eldest son of King Louis Philippe, killed in a carriage accident in 1842 aged 31*], he was buried at Dreux; the royal family always go there every year on this day. Whilst we were at dinner we were told that they were all expected every moment at Versailles, where they would change horses and go on to Neuilly. They arrived about six o'clock and drove into the court yard of the stables; when they came out we ran down to see them. The King and Queen were in the first carriage, the king sat quite back, we could not see him, the Queen however looked out and bowed. We were not near enough to distinguish her features. There were about six other carriages, we were quite amused with all the shabby turnouts, the horses fastened on with ropes, sometimes there were six of them. They went very fast so that we did not see

them long. After dinner we returned to the Park, saw the Orangery and then looked at one of the best fountains there, Apollo coming out of the sea seated on his chariot and driving four horses. After this we walked back to the station and returned to Paris.

15th Tuesday

Today we drove all round the Boulevard [*sic*] and passed the Portes St. Denis and St. Martin, at the end of the Boulevard is a column of cast iron erected by Louis Philippe to commemorate the revolution of 1830; it is called the Column de Juillet and is situated in the place where the Bastille formerly stood, it is called the Place de la Bastille. All round the column are the names of those who were killed in the revolution; at the top of the column is a gilt figure of the Genius of Liberty with a torch in one hand and a broken chain in the other. We ascended the column and had from it a very good view of Paris. From the Column we walked to the cemetery of Père Lachaise, it is just outside the Barrier d'Annay. I was rather disappointed in it, having heard so much of its beauty; some parts however are pretty, there is a small chapel from which there is a very good view of Paris. We saw the tombs of [La] Fontaine and Moliere also that of La Place and of General Foy and that of Abelard's Heloise who died in the 12th century, the tomb is a pretty little chapel. We got a fiacre at the gate and drove home.

16th Wednesday

We did not go to see anything today, Mama and I went out shopping.

17th Thursday

We started today in two Fiacres, went down to Rue Rivoli, which runs along the northern side of the Tuileries Gardens, through the Place de la Concorde in which the two fountains were playing very beautifully. We could hardly believe that it had been the scene of such horrors as happened here during the Revolution, for it was here that Louis 16 and Marie Antoinette were guillotined [*sic*] with hundreds of other people; through the Avenue des Champs Elysées to the Arc de Triomphe. At the Arch is the Barrier de l'Etoile, the Arch is very large and handsome, it was begun by Napoleon and finished by the present King. There are some very good bas-reliefs outside, inside are written the names of the battles the French have been engaged in. We went to the top and had from thence a very beautiful view on one side over Paris and the other towards Neuilly. From the Arch we walked out on the Neuilly Road as far as the Porte Maillot in the Bois de Boulogne [*sic*].

Opposite to this gate the Duke of Orleans was thrown from his carriage and was immediately carried to a grocer's shop a little way up the road to the right, where he died, the shop and surrounding chapel dedicated to St. Ferdinand, the patron saint of the Duke. We went up to the chapel and were admitted on showing our passports; the chapel is small, all the seats are covered with black and the altar etc. are hung with black also. To the right there is a statue of the Duke of Orleans lying down and kneeling at his head an angel beautifully sculptured by the Princesse Marie. Behind the altar in a small room is a picture of the death of the Duke, very beautifully done and very large; the Duke is lying on a mattress on the tiled floor, at his feet the King is

kneeling on one knee, his figure is very well done, those who have seen him say it is very like, there is such a beautiful look of resignation on his countenance. On the right of the Duke the Queen is kneeling, her face is covered with a handkerchief; next to her is Mme. Adelaide the King's sister, she has a bonnet on, only her profile is seen, she is very like her brother. Behind her is the Duchess of Nemours and behind the Queen the Princess Clementine. At the head of the Duke whose eyes are closed are two priests giving him extreme unction, next to them were two or three other gentlemen and last of all the Duke d'Aumale and the Duc de Montpensier. On the other side of the Duke were two physicians, then a little table on which were laid his coat and hat, next to the table were Marshals Soult and Gerard, M. Guigot and another person. We were very much pleased with the picture. Immediately opposite the Chapel are several rooms to which the royal family frequently come, all the curtains are grey trimmed with black as also are the walls. In one room is a clock the hand of which points to 10 minutes to 12, the hour at which the Duke fell, and in another one pointing to 10 minutes past 4, the hour at which he died. We walked back to the Arch, about half a mile and took a Fiacre home.

18th Friday

We went today through the Place de Carrousel, along Quais to Notre Dame on our way we passed the Palais de Justice, apparently a very old building, to our right; Notre Dame as well as the Palais is situated on an island. The exterior of Notre Dame is very fine, so also is the interior, it is so lofty. There are some curious old bas-reliefs in it. Mass was performed whilst we were there. From the Cathedral we went to the church of Bal de Grace, it is in the form of a Latin Cross with a dome in the centre, it is a model of St. Peter's at Rome, very pretty but small. Philippe de Champagne's best picture, the Ascension, is here. From this church we walked to the Luxembourg Gardens, which are close, went through them and came home in a fiacre.

19th Saturday

Did not do anything in particular, but shopped.

20th Sunday

Went twice to Mr. Lovett's chapel; had a very nice sermon in the morning from him and from another gentleman in the evening.

21st Monday

At 2 o'clock we went to the station and set off in the Versailles Railway for St. Cloud, we got there in half an hour and walked through the Park to the Chateau. We were told at the gate that the Princes were there but that they would leave in 10 minutes; a short time after a carriage passed out containing the Duchess of Orleans, the two little princes her sons and another gentleman. I was very glad to see the Duchess for I felt much interested in her, she being a Protestant. The Chateau is well worth seeing, the rooms are very prettily furnished, there are some very good paintings and Gobelins. From the window there is a beautiful view of Paris. From the Chateau we walked to Sèvres and on to the Station of the Rue Gauche Railway, it is a good way and we arrived just in time to see the train pass, so we had to wait

another hour. There are one or two beautiful views from this Railway, but it is chiefly through cuttings, the Terminus is just outside the Barrier de Maine. We came home in fiacres, our most direct way was over the Pont de la Concorde but we could not pass it as preparations were making for the three fête days which begin on the 27th, they are kept to commemorate the Revolution of July; the first two days are days of mourning and the last of rejoicing.

22nd Tuesday

We only shopped today.

23rd Wednesday

We went today first to the church of St. Roch in the Rue St. Honoré, it is very large and there are a good many pictures, some of them very good. The pulpit is curious, being supported by bronze statues of the four evangelists and in the middle between them is an angel with a trumpet blowing the gospel. Behind the high altar there is a good deal of rock work, on the left is a very good fresco of Christ being nailed on the Cross. In the next division is a very large crucifix and before it some rocks with Roman soldiers on them. On the right is the Sepulchre and our Saviour's body being carried into it by Nicodemus and Joseph of Arimathea, this part is called Calvaire. From the Church we went to the Palais Royal and then home. We dined at the Table d'Hôte at the Bedford Hotel.

24th Thursday

We went to the Railway Station at 1 o'clock and took our seats in the train for St. Germain, the country was very beautiful. St. Germain is about 5 miles west of Paris. We passed through Colombes, Nanterre, Rueil, where Josephine was buried and Chaton; the last part of the way is through the forest of St. Germain. The Terminus is on the side of the river opposite to the town; we were quite delighted with the look of the town from here. Immediately at our feet was the river and opposite the town built up the side of a hill; the hills continued on either side and the river wound prettily at their feet. On a hill to the left is an aquaduct [*sic*] which conveys water from the Seine to Versailles, it looked very pretty with the sun upon it. We crossed the river by a bridge and walked up to the top of the hill to the Café called the Café du Pavillon de Henri 4, it was built by Henri 4 and Louis 14 was born in it, the garden is very pretty, At the top of the hill is a wood in which we walked for several hours and also a very nice terrace overlooking the river. At 5 o'clock we returned to the Café where we dined. We afterwards walked on the terrace and then down to the Station. We returned by the 7 o'clock train; there was a very beautiful view from the top of the Hill, we could see Montmartre quite plainly also the top of the Arc de Triomphe. To the left of Montmartre the large white church of St. Denis was very clearly seen.

25th Saturday

This morning we ascended the Colonne d'Austerlitz in the Place Vendôme. There is no opening in it so we were obliged to carry lanterns; the staircase is much narrower than that of the Colonne de Juillet, the view from the top was very beautiful over the western part of Paris. In the afternoon we went to the

Church of St. Etienne du Mont, it is well worth seeing, there are several good pictures in it and some carving on the pulpit. In the Chapel of the Virgin behind the High Altar there are some good paintings, relating to her life. There is much more about St. Geneviève than about St. Etienne in this church, her tomb is in one of the Chapels in the Southern aisle and there are no end to pictures about her and quantities of tapers were burning on her tomb. We were rather amused at all the different things that were being offered to her. There were some curious old stained glass windows in this church.

27th Sunday

We went this morning to Mr. Lovett's Chapel, he did not preach. It was given out that there would be service in the Chapel next Sunday for the last time, we do not know why the Chapel is going to be given up. We walked home. This was the first day of the fête, many more amusements were going on in the Champs Elysées than usual. In the afternoon we went to the Ambassador's Chapel and heard a very nice sermon from the Bishop. After dinner we went to see the Statue of the Duke of Orleans which has today been put up in the Quadrangle of the Louvre. We went through the Tuilleries, across the Place du Carravell (Carrousel?), and under the western side of the Louvre, we thought the statue very bad, both horse and man are out of proportion and very stiff.

28th Monday

We got up early this morning and packed away everything and settled all the accounts, and at 10 o'clock my Aunts and Uncle Robert set off by Diligence for Brussels. We started from the Hotel soon after 11 o'clock and left Paris by the 12 o'clock train, the day was showery so that we had not such good views of the country as we had before. Poissy and Mantes are the largest towns on the way, Louviers and Pont de l'Arche are very pretty places. We reached Rouen soon after 4 o'clock and went to the 'hotel de Rouen in a fiacre, Charlie looked after the luggage. He was told that if he would pay a franc and three quarters to a condûite to come to the Hotel with the luggage it need not be examined, this he very willingly did as they said they must have all the boxes opened. We got very nice rooms at the Hotel; after dinner we walked all along the Quai till we came to a kind of green where were all kinds of preparations for the evening's illuminations. It rained very hard in the evening. About 10 o'clock the steamer that we are to go in tomorrow arrived from Havre.

29th Tuesday

We were sorry to see a wet morning but hoped it would clear up. At 11½ we sent our luggage on board the steamer and soon after went ourselves; the steamer was exactly opposite the Hotel, there were a good many passengers on board. We started at 12½. The banks of the river are very beautiful, generally there was a range of pretty wooded hills on one side and a flat but fertile country on the other. Sometimes there were hills on both sides, most of them wooded to the waters edge. There were many islands in the river, some of the scenery of this river has been compared with that of the Rhine. From Rouen we went southward as far as La Bouille where the river turns towards

the north as far as the town of Duclair. Duclair looked very pretty as we were going away from it. Here the river again runs southward for some distance then turns to the north. Soon after this turn we passed the ruined abbey of Juninges, it is distinctly seen from the river, a great part of the building still remains, it is very pretty.

Soon after we passed on the left Guerbaville, where most of the vessels used upon the Seine are built; close by it on the same side is the town of St. Maillerie, here is a chateau and a park which looks very well from the river though quite à la Française. A short distance further on the right is the town of Caudebec, one of the largest on this part of the river. Near it is the village of Barre-y-ba, so called from the Bar coming up here sometimes. At Caudebec the river again runs southward as far as Vieux Port and Trouville, this part of it is very pretty. It again turns northward to Quilleboeuf, from Caudebec to Quilleboeuf it is full of sandbanks. Quilleboeuf is a small village, chiefly inhabited by pilots and fishermen; it is built on a point which projects out so near to the opposite shore as to leave a very narrow passage for the large volume of water that daily passes through it, this is the cause of the Bar. In this river opposite to Quilleboeuf at some distance inland is the town of Lillebonne, we could see its church and castle.

After Quilleboeuf the river spreads out into an immense expanse of water and continues so to the sea, it is however full of sandbanks. We passed close by Quilleboeuf and then went straight across the river and coasted the northern shore for some distance, passing close under the castle of Tankerville. After this we went out into the middle of the river and continued there till we turned northward to Havre. Before doing so we saw Honfleur on the left, but it was so far away that we could only just distinguish it. We saw on the right the church of Harfleur. The wind, which had been high all day, now increased very much and made the vessel roll as if it had been on the Channel. Just as we turned to enter the harbour there were some heavy lurches and a loud crash which was supposed to have something to do with the bottom of the vessel, but no one knew for certain; this together with the rolling so much alarmed the passengers that they were screaming and making all kinds of noises. I was very much amused at the Stewardess, a countrywoman, who in the midst of the confusion was calling out at the very top of her voice 'N'ayez pas peur, n'ayez pas peur, il n'y a point de danger'. It sounded so ludicrous that I could not help laughing. I am sure only those who had no 'peur' heard her.

The harbour of Havre is considered a very good one and a native of the place, Casimir Delavigne, says it is next to Constantinople for beauty. Unfortunately it was so dark when we arrived that we saw nothing of it, it was between eight and nine when the steamer berthed, the name of it was La Seine. The gentlemen immediately set off for the office to have their passports visé, some man belonging to the Brighton Packet came on board and shewed us the way to it; the town was illuminated, this being the last day of the fête. Close to the steamer there was an anchor in [gas?] which was very pretty. A gens d'arme came on board and examined every one's passport as they entered the steamer, there were very few passengers, many who had come from Rouen

today intended to cross this evening but the Southampton Packet had left an hour before we arrived, and many who were going to Brighton were afraid to venture in such stormy weather. The Steamer started soon after 9 o'clock, the gentlemen returned just before. As soon as they arrived we went downstairs to get into our berths. Liddy amused me much by asking the Stewardess how many people it would take to sink the Steamer. There were only three other ladies besides ourselves.

30th Wednesday

This morning appeared to me the longest time during the whole passage. I slept pretty well through the night, but being accustomed to be up early I could not sleep much after 5 o'clock. We had a very stormy night, the vessel tossed about a good deal; the Stewardess said they did not often go when it was rougher. I went on deck a little before 8 o'clock, we were close to Shoreham and soon after entered the harbour. As soon as we berthed a woman came and asked all the ladies round if they had anything contraband on their persons. From the Packet we went to the Custom House, our luggage was soon examined; the search is not very strict, the only things they seem to look for are cigars and brandy. I suppose they thought we did not look as if we had brought any, the only thing we paid duty for was the clock. All the luggage was examined in time to allow the passengers to go on by the quarter before 9 train. From the Terminus we came home in two Flies [*one-horse hackney carriages*] and were very glad to find ourselves in our own house, which looked so clean and white after the houses we had lately been accustomed to.

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Paris is situated in lat: 48° 50' 14' north and long: 2° 50' 15' east from Greenwich, it lies in the midst of the vast plain through which the Seine winds. This plain produces the lighter species of grain, vegetables, fruit trees and vines in perfection. The prevailing winds are S.W. and N.E., the climate is however variable and the winters sometimes severe; snow does not lie long and fogs are not frequent, the climate is generally healthy

According to the Charter of 1830 the government of France is composed of three powers: 1) the King, governing by his Ministers and in whose name all justice is administered. 2) The Chamber of Peers, whose number exclusive of the four princes of the blood [who sit there by right of birth] at present under 300 is unlimited. It is no longer hereditary and the members, nominated by the King, can enter the Chamber at 25 and vote at 30 years of age. 3) The Chamber of Deputies, the number of whom is 459, chosen by the electoral college of each department for 5 years. To be eligible as a deputy a person must be a native of France, 30 years of age and must pay 500 francs annually in direct taxes. The President is named by the Chamber. The two Chambers must be convoked once a year at least and at the same time they can be prorogued and the Chamber of Deputies dissolved at the pleasure of the King. In case of dissolution a new Chamber must be elected and convoked within three months.