

Florence. April 2. 1866.

My dear uncle Joe

Some days ago I found out Mr C. Otteys address and called on him. I found him in bed; for two years or more he has been so paralyzed as to be scarcely able to move. He was glad to hear of uncle Jeffry and desired me to say that he was now quietly waiting for death which he supposed was not very far distant. He is living in the Palazzo Pepi, Via Pepi. He also said that in these latter days he has not been well off and has only enough to live on by careful management. A brother of his lives in Florence also. Yours of March 21st reached me some day last week (via Tower Terrace). Maxwell I see often in the Reading Rooms. He is always friendly and amusing. Mrs M. I saw at church yesterday; she had hurt her foot somehow but was getting better.

Ogilvys name I remember seeing on the board at H. d'Angleterre at home, but as I had never heard

his name before, could not know who it was. You must let me know anything you hear of Dawson Green when he arrives; he is a bad correspondent and I am not likely to hear from him directly. I have heard nothing lately from Dresden.

A Mr Cox is in this house, widow I believe of a General (?) Cox who was at Corfu not very long ago.

Also a Captain Penny (with his wife) of Bombay R.E.; he knows Hew and Harry P. He seems a nice fellow and his wife is an unusually nice person. I like the life and change of faces in this house very much and the evening society in the Salon is generally very pleasant. Now we sit down about 30 to dinner.

My last idea is to leave this about the 16th of this month, and allow three weeks or a month from that date for getting home to England, or temporarily

to Dublin, as the case may be.

I have got (per Dr Duffy) an introduction to Jones, Brassey's agent at Leghorn and shall try if any work or useful information is to be had from him. Perhaps I may get some introduction from French. All these I shall try; to day I also wrote to Fogarty to know if he wanted me in his office or knew of any likely quarter to apply for work, either here or at home. I wish I knew about Fordes Russian and German lines, if they are likely to come to anything this season. Taylor at Marseilles I hope to visit, but he writes that they are swamped with young men from the Ecole Polytechnique and other schools whose time has been profitlessly spent copying drawings; so you see affairs are much the same in France as at home. I believe London to ^{be} the most

likely place to look for work. I should
like very well to remain in Italy, a
country which I believe to have more
of an active future before it than most
European countries. I have received
£25. from Tower Terrace so am amply
supplied as to funds.

Your affectionate nephew

Francis E. Prendergast

P.S. I have got nothing in the way of useful
information out of French (I think he has
smoked his brains into a hazy state.)
He mentions for uncle Jeffys information
that Dr Warding once of Florence, is now
living with his family at Lynington, Hants.

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Please forward