

Milan, Hotel de Ville.
September 5.th

My dear Papa 1859

I left Lugano at 3.30. yesterday and arrived here last night at 9.30. The trip on the Lake of Lugano was most lovely, but the rest of the journey was very tiresome; Como was full of French soldiers and a few Sardinians, and the Italian and French tricolor was hanging out everywhere.

This morning I got a ~~val~~ commissaire and in the course of 3 hours or so did all the principal sights. The inside of the cathedral struck me greatly, the immense number of columns, their height

and size, is extraordinary, and
is the finest kind of the thing
that I have yet seen.

The French are regularly in
possession here, and the
Troups are very remarkable.
The Cafes are all filled with
officers and soldiers and you
hear quite as much French as
Italian; the tricolors are
waving everywhere and every
third or fourth civilian has
a gun in his hands.

I have been lounging about
this afternoon and find Milan
just ~~not~~ what I expected,
a fine, handsome, well built

city. Tomorrow I leave again
at 5.45 a.m. for Como.
Ponte. Sept 9th

I left Milan accordingly the
next morning & proceeded
to Como; here I found
the Englishman with whom
I had been travelling before,
and as he was going up the
lake ^{we} went together; I was
quite dissatisfied with Como,
it seems to me to be the
least beautiful of the three.
From Colico to Chiavenna
we took the Post.

Next morning we took a
carriage on to Campo
Dolino, and from that
walked over the Splügen
pass to Splügen.

Here I asked for letters
but was told twice over that
there were none, which seems
to me rather extraordinary.
Next morning we walked
by the Via Mala, which
is a most extraordinary
reft ^{made} in the rocks by the Rhine,
to Thun, one of the nicest
Swiss towns that I have
yet seen. There we dined
and Tuffnel, the Englishman
went on to Coire, while
I proceeded by the Schyn
pass, which is magnificent,
to Leuz; there I slept;
~~and~~ the bill in the mor-
-ning for supper bed and
breakfast

breakfast was 2 f. 85 cts!!
and everything was as good,
clean and nice as could be
desired. I left Lenz this
morning at 7 a.m. and ~~by~~
reached this place at 5.30
this evening. I have ~~but~~
~~or~~ walked a good deal with
peasants both yesterday and to-
day. (I crossed the Albula to-
day with one) and have been
much amused at their guesses
as to what I am. Yesterday
a peasant supposed me to
be a Swiss Handwerker on
my Wanderschaft!, and asked
me what was my trade,
and to day my companion
asked me ~~for~~ what part of

Switzerland I belonged to,
and in this place here this
evening a man asked me
was I not from North
Germany? so see I am
becoming a regular Cos-
mopolite. I very much
wonder if an Englishman
ever stopped in this hotel (?)
before, and I am rather
curious to know what the
bill will be in the morning.
I am sure I don't know
how I shall make my
way from Martinsbruck to
Innsbruck as I have neither
map nor guide book, but
I take it for granted that

I shall make ^{my} way some-
-how or another.

Feltan Sept 10th

My bill last night was
3 f 20 cts, and my dinner
to day was 1 f. 30 cts, so you
see I am now travelling at
the rate of about 5 francs
a day !! I am greatly pleased
with what I have seen of the
Engadine. This morning
the colours on the ~~hill~~
mountains and snow was
most lovely, and also this
evening. The houses here are
very peculiar; they are, generally
speaking well built of stone
and nicely painted and white-
-washed. The doors are large

wooden portals opening into
a large half-hall, half-
room sort of place, where
every thing connected with
the household is carried on.

This ~~X~~ is the smallest and
worst inn I have yet been
at - inn is too good a
name for it, but I am easily
contented, and as long ~~as long~~
as I can get a tolerable bed,
bread, cheese and wine, I want
nothing more. By the way
meat seems scarce up here.
ink and coffee ditto.

Tomorrow I hope to get to
Kauders, from which it is
only two or three days to
Innsbruck.

Francis E. Prendergast.