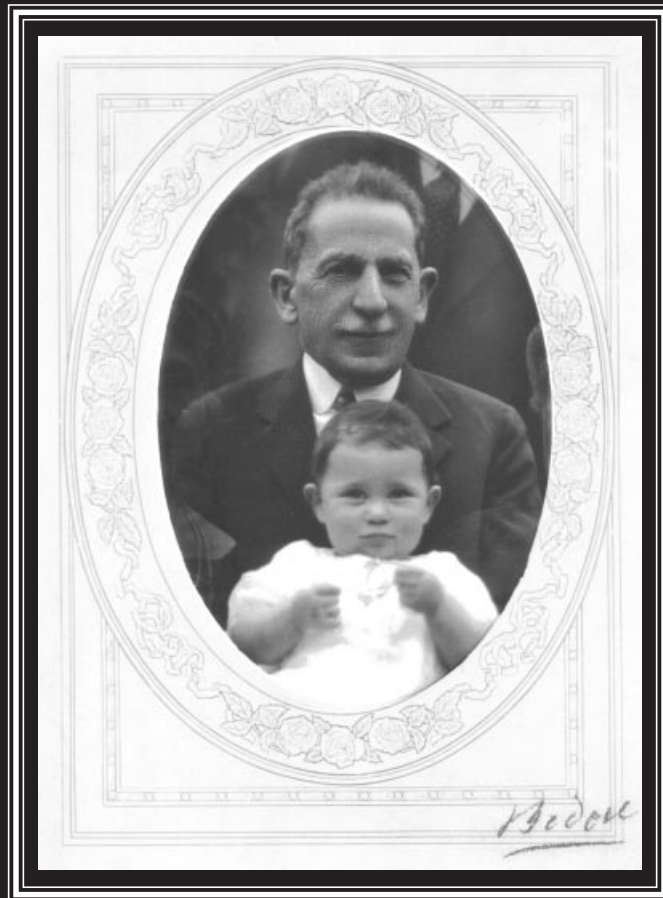


My Dear Ones...



Letters of
Felix J. Dreyfous
1889—1945

For
RUTH DREYFOUS
on her 94th Birthday

Aunt, Great-Aunt, Great-Great-Aunt:

*From her Angels
who love her.*

Boston, Massachusetts

1995

EDITOR'S NOTE

Felix and Julia's children in order of birth were:

George Abel
(Felix) Julius
Caroline Helen

&

Ruth Julia (also known as Billie)

Edited by

F. LEE EISEMAN

Designed by

KEVIN D.P. M'DERMOTT

*Set in Monotype Centaur and
Bitstream Huxley Vertical*

New Orleans July 22/89

Dear Mr. Dreyfous,

Instead of these few lines being a pleasure to write it is with regret I have to inform you that Mama does not approve of our intended sojourn to the Pass. The first and principal objection is the intense heat, secondly we may leave for the North within a fortnight and our worthy assistance may be required in our absence.

Hoping the pleasure of spending a couple of days across the Lake will some day be indulged in; we will not lose patience but live in hopes of spending a jolly time there in the near future.

I did not say anything to Mrs. Goldsmith about the trip with the wish to hear that your hopes were not blighted Sunday.

*With best regards
I remain yours truly—
Julia Seeman
327 St. Charles Ave*

*Cincinnati
Sept. 13—1895*

My dear Felix,

We are at last settled after a dirty trip, the scenery was not very interesting until we reached a hilly country. While on the train I did not feel tired but when we came up here I needed rest badly as George nursed a great deal on the car he would not touch his pap once from N.O. here as I was always there & he preferred his nurse.

The pleasure of seeing all of the folks is a great pleasure to me but it does not seem complete my dear without you. I feel that I was not doing the right thing to go without you. I make George call Papa often so he does not forget you.

Papa and Mamma were at the station anxiously awaiting as we were 40' late. They found George very fine and each wanted to carry him so Mama took him for a little time then Papa carried him all the way from depot to Avondale. Who would have thought Papa would do such a thing Papa and Mama were at Hotel Alms and changed to this place as it was very warm there This is a large house and situated more country like which they thought better for our dear baby. The weather has been very warm here but changed during the night and this a.m. is 70 degrees.

N.O. Sept. 24/97—9:15 p.m.

My Dear Wifey,

I did not receive any letter from you today. It is a balm to my soul to get some bulletin about my absent ones—but I know how to resign myself to the inevitable!—It is my most fervent hope that you have recovered from your recent pains & that my peerless boys are well.— —By the way, I received a letter on yesterday from Robert in which he announced his safe arrival in Baltimore. He said that Mae had written about our boys and had praised them. This made me feel proud indeed. Geo. will join the firm of Dreyfous & Dreyfous attorneys-at-law now recognized as authorities throughout the land.

What can I say about the calamity which has befallen our City? I certainly was grieved at the increased mortality of today. It is true that in each case death was caused by some organic troubles which made the fever more virulent but the fact remains that the record is there! With all that I am firmly convinced that my estimate of a few days ago will be realized. What is extremely shocking is the conduct of certain elements of our population resisting by force of arms the establishment of a hospital for the treatment of yellow fever patients. Already last week when we attempted to establish a camp for suspects in the old Marine Hospital we were threatened with violence. I was in favor of standing for our rights and I stated it. But our Mayor while admitting that the demands of the demagogues were unreasonable yielded to them. The consequence was that the City was put to the expense and myself to the job of constructing barracks and erecting tents in the Oakland Park fully 6 miles away from the centre of the City. The timidity of the Mayor has borne fruits. The self same demagogues (ward bosses identified with the present state government and who were connected with the past City administration) when the selection was made for a Yellow Fever Hospital to protect the inmates of the Charity Hospital from the contagious, resumed these denunciations. This time the Mayor saw that another surrender meant an abandonment of our prerogatives and liberties to the gang and he declined to submit.—The result was that the building selected was set on fire.—This lawlessness can do no good particularly at this time when our troubles are coming in thick and fast. Really there are times when I feel as though it were folly to offer to reform the elements that constitute our population.—I nevertheless derived some comfort in the hope that the day will come when patriotism and the love of truth will triumph. I must live in that thought for I can not earn a livelihood away from N.O. as I am fitted for no other business than my own, to feel otherwise would be an abandonment of the satisfaction of being a man and a citizen! —

I continue to be busy and beginning from next Sunday I will, unless disappointed by unforeseen events, strive to clear my desk in order that I might take that long promised vacation of two weeks.— Jules writes that he will positively be here on Sunday. I did not think that he should come here at this time but he refused to listen to my advice.—His business is very dull but it is not as bad as might have been expected.

The City continues to present a lively appearance. Very few people are now leaving. I don't think that over 100 certificates were issued by N.B. of Health to-day. For a City of 30,000 souls

matters are by no means as bad as represented.—I saw Alice to-night and listened to her conversation with Amalie. But for the fact that I am rather too homesick for you and my boys I would have actually smiled at the banalities they discussed.—XXX called for his money and I gave him a check on L.S. & Co. for it to be charged to your father's account.—I went out biking this evening. The weather is getting warm again. I have reached the end of the paper. Au revoir!—Kisses for my boys and a few to Wifey.

Love to all —
(signature)

FELIX J. DREYFOUS**LAW AND NOTARIAL OFFICE****LIVERPOOL and LONDON and GLOBE BUILDING**

Cor. Carondelet and Common Streets

NEW ORLEANS

Office Hours: 9 to 11 M. 2 to 5 P. M.

New Orleans, Sept 29/98

My Dearest Wifey:

I received this forenoon your letter of the 27th. You have spoilt me to such an extent that I did feel chagrined all day yesterday and up to late today that I had not heard from you in such a length of time (48 hours).—However, I must not be exacting particularly as I cannot expect you to find the time every day to write a letter—you may even be too indisposed to collect your thoughts. Yet do try in that case to drop me a postal stating how you and the children are—this would afford me so much relief!—

We are having another rainy spell. The streets this morning are flooded to such an extent that I did not leave our house until 10 o'clock. I took advantage of this to put all the ornaments in their proper places. My mother had on yesterday given the lower part of the house a good cleaning, the varnish was perfectly dry and everything in condition for occupancy. You have no idea how beautiful our home is now—It lacks its principal ornaments—the housewife and our boys—but by idealizing them our admiration is maintained—Jules saw the home last night for the first time and he was well pleased with it—Alice also paid it a visit and she remarked to my mother how fine she found it—When you come back end of next month, you will I know confirm the general verdict. I settled the last bill today. The total cost of the work the architect's commission included (with bench) is \$1554. While this is a pretty large sum to put out, it is not too much for the pleasure our house will from henceforth procure us.—I have not hung the pictures and will not do so until I get the rubber guards—nor have I seen about the Japanese lantern for the "den." Suppose you ask some of your folks to look around for it? I know that for shopping qualities the Goodharts can't be excelled. While I am as awkward as your father in this respect.—I believe in everybody and generally get fooled—Eh boss!—I enclose price list for carpets. Let your aforesaid relatives make a comparison between what they know and the prices stated. You need not be bashful about the parlor rug. It ought to be in keeping with the decorations—but of course it does not mean going into the hundreds—Can you tell me what has become of the wash rags and if the brush in your mother's bathroom is mine. I left it behind because I was not sure about its ownership. The situation too has not altered. From what I can see there is nothing alarming. I am told that Berlin street is a nest of illness. Almost every child in the row of the new houses on Berlin St. and on Napoleon Ave. (where Mrs. Eisman lived) surrounding the house in which Miss Rice died—is now down with the fever. This fever may continue to spread unless checked by cooler and dryer weather. There is no sickness in our neighborhood of any kind—The poor people are generally free of infection,—I received a letter from your father today. Tell him that all he suggests for the improvement of his City had long ago enlisted my attention and he must have seen from the paper I sent him last week it certainly

was being looked after by me. Without wishing to brag, I have done more so far toward ameliorating the health of the City than any one I ever heard of in N.O. and if assisted will in time put this City on par with other cities—though I am no philanthropist!—

I am still busy and making enough to keep you yet in clover—Tell Boojs I am so glad to hear that he shows people that a good lawyer he will be. He ought to teach his brother to talk as he does. Tell him also that his Papa is sleeping in his white bed and finds it nice. Then the pink walls and ceiling look so fine! Does my baby get his XXX every morning? Kiss my dear ones for me and when you get tired doing that, fancy yourself in the tender embrace your affectionate husband, Felix.

Love to all—When you write my mother, compliment her on fixing house so quick.

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LAW AND NOTARIAL OFFICE
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Nov. 4/14

My Dear George—

You will be called upon to undergo a medical examination by the physician of the New England Life Ins. Co. of Boston as a preliminary to the issuance of a policy of life insurance upon your life for which I made application on yesterday. The amount of the policy will be \$5000.; it will be made payable to your mother with the right reserved to you to change the beneficiary at your will. The premiums will have to be paid for twenty years at the expiration of which period you shall have several options of cash payments or of cash and a continuance of the insurance as paid up.—I shall send you the figures later. I intend to pay the premiums until such time as you will be able, out of your earnings, to meet the obligation—I am sure that you will one day admit the wisdom of my present course in insuring your life.

There are certainly some good reasons on the part of Jews to favor the restoration of the Kingdom of Judea but it has not as yet been satisfactorily explained to me why people following a certain faith should want temporal power. There are German, Russian, French, American, Spanish and other jews; they admit allegiance to the country of their birth and by reason of the duty they owe to that country they often are called to fight under their several standards. Suppose they should unite for the purpose of maintaining a Country of their own how long do you suppose they would live in unity? Their language, habits and thoughts will be different and consequently the causes of clash and discord will be ever constant. Suppose in spite of these racial distinctions Zion should be established will the nation grant the same Civil rights to all the people as the Jews claim from the country in which they now inhabit? Suppose the right of suffrage and of worship is granted to all indifferently how could the Zionist prevent a preponderance, in course of time, of Christians and of Mohammetans which would bring about the overthrow of the Jewish factions? In other words suppose by a combination of the foreign element (the non-Jewish) the government should be taken out of the hands of the Jews—What benefit would the Zionists have accomplished?—I could continue thus for some time—but for the present + for lack of space this is enough. Devotedly Father.

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November 21/14

My Dear George,

Complying with your request I am sending you enclosed check for one hundred dollars which I trust will be sufficient to meet your needs for some time to come. I have been kept busy to the extent that I could not go to the bank for the exchange until late after the closing hour + this accounts for the date you will notice it bears.

You should not consider life insurance in the light of an investment. It is taken and issued as a protection against an uncertain event—and is in its very nature an abatory contract. If death could be gauged positively—that is to say an event the happening of which can be definitely fixed,—it would be either wise or unwise to take out life insurance, but this would give rise to no contract of insurance, because either the necessity for it would not exist or the cost would be prohibitive, depending on the circumstances. In other words the present contract of insurance is a gamble—If the insured dies earlier than the expectancy under the tables of experience there is a loss to the insurer and a gain to the insured but if the date of death is postponed beyond the maturity of the contract then the profit or loss is reversed.—As a general proposition your contract providing both protection and a redress for the future, is not a bad one either for you or the insurance company.

Matters are going on well enough + no one has any cause to complain in our immediate neighborhood—

Mamma has called for me to go home, so good-bye for the present

Affectionately your
Father

FELIX J. DREYFOUS
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Dec. 29, 14

My Dear Son,

I have had in mind your recent letter, I did not intend to make any reproach for the manner in which you spent your money, by reviewing the unfortunate conditions which exist in New Orleans; my purpose was to impress upon you the fact that one should be cautious in spending money and in incurring obligations, in these times. Your suggestion about charging a higher rate of interest to the debtors who are not prompt in meeting their obligations than to those who are exact might be good in theory, but will hardly work out in practice. I cannot make the distinction at the time of making any investment because I look first and foremost to the margin of security offered, and if it appears good and sufficient, the loan is made. It is only at maturity that the dilatoriness of the debtor is ascertained. With the ascertainment comes also the discovery of the cause which at the time of the making of the investment could hardly have been foreseen. Our experience this year is that the principal reason for failure to make prompt payments and liquidations is the war which has brought about not only a depreciation in values but also an increase in taxation. You will know that money is always difficult to obtain when it is most needed and values for that reason harder to realize upon. No securities be they real estate, mortgages, bonds or stocks are saleable when there is no demand and when the unfortunate condition of the owner is such that he must realize, not only he suffers a loss but his creditor also. One of these days when you shall have acquired real experience in active business, you will find out that there is quite a difference between the theories expounded in books and the results of practice. Dr. Aldrich or President Wilson may be high authorities in economics but I am very doubtful that either could earn as much as a living if they engaged in business. What I do hope is that when your time comes to assume some responsibilities in life you will view matters according to business standards and apply these standards to the existing conditions. A constructive policy is always more desirable and fruitful of results when properly administered, than the grandest plans of Utopia. Believe me, as one will exclaim, destruction does not create wealth and prosperity, even if a reaction by mere accident springs up afterwards. The cataclysm in San Francisco brought about, after much misery, a reaction, but that very reaction will result in the undoing of that City. The greatest men of all ages were the Opportunists because they were guided by reason, and not the radicals of the order of Bryan or even Roosevelt—if you will!—

When you need any money get it from grandpa + report to me the amounts. I shall refund the aggregate when I make my semi-annual settlement in January. We are all get-

ting along splendidly. The girls have attended many parties, but your brother is rather *poky*. He will not make friends nor go out + strange to say his timidity is increasing instead of passing away with age.—Give my love to Grandpa, grandma, your aunts + uncles, not forgetting the relations in a lesser degree + receive a tender embrace from

Your father
(signature)

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Jan. 16/15

My Dear George,

The place where this letter is written is shown in the printed address hence it was not necessary to write it out, but, according to my notion of propriety, I believe that letters and other documents bearing a date should indicate where they were executed.

I found this noon at home, where I went for lunch, your letter asking for money and although my bank account has been running rather low of late, I hasten to forward to you enclosed a New York check for \$300. which I hope will meet your wants for some time to come.—

I note what you said with reference to the studies you are now pursuing. You will find the lectures on torts, Contracts and Evidence of much benefit because on these three subjects there is very little difference between Common Law and the Civil Law as construed in Louisiana. There is, however, a very radical difference in the law of property, but even, with that difference, the knowledge you will acquire will be helpful. There has been a tendency in the United States to make laws more uniform throughout the States + for that reason the Louisiana Legislature has adopted statutes on negotiable Instruments on Warehousing and Storage, + latterly on Corporations + Workingman's Indemnity which follow closely like statutes in force in other States. The articles of our Civil Code under the head of Conventual Obligations were compiled by Livingston + were drawn more from the Common Law than from the Code Napoleon + if you attempt the comparison between the doctrines of Contracts as expounded by your lecturer and the articles of our Code you will find remarkable similarities.—Try and keep well—

Devotedly your father
(signature)

All the family, thank you, are in good health and spirits.

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Feb 20/15

My Dear George,

Enclosed you will find a New York Cheque for \$100. which ought to be sufficient to meet your personal expenses for a while. I noted what you said about your recent examinations. You will realize as you advance that law is not as easy a study as the average layman believes it to be and that to achieve any degree of success in the legal profession one must not only be studious but also painstaking. I have always found that the theory of the law is easier to acquire than the practice because the one can be gotten from books but the other can only be accomplished by incessant research, close application and intelligent discernment. In other words one must be industrious and patient. I find a very strong tendency among the students of the day to depend upon the research work of others probably because the digests and text books are comprehensive and replete with citations, but to my mind the student who makes the researches himself, who goes to the pains of annotating his books and who gathers information which he reduces himself to writing in a comprehensive manner, will gain recognition quicker than the other class.

I am having the usual amount of work and responsibility piled on me and hence have little time for frolic.—

John Pokorny died this morning of pneumonia—You might send a card of condolence to the family.

I leave to the balance of the family the pleasure of relating the news.—Keep well + occasionally have a pleasant thought for

Your Father D

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May 6/15

My Dear Son,

I hasten to forward a cheque for \$150 to replenish your bank account. Twenty five dollars of that amount is for your birth day and the balance to meet your wants. Some weeks ago I received a letter from Isaac in which he requested my views upon your right to employ the money I give you, for charity. I did not answer because time failed me and it is now too late to go into any discussion of the matter. In a letter which I wrote you several months ago I expressed the opinion that your duty was to spend the funds which I furnished you for the purposes of your education and proper maintenance and that as my agent in this very connection you were charged to administer the funds judiciously and properly. I meant that you should spend no more than was strictly necessary for the end in view without at the same time depriving yourself of the pleasures befitting your age and in your stations in life. I cannot agree to any proposition that you should lavish your funds on others and dispense charity, however meritorious the cause may be. I feel that I am doing in that respect all that could be expected and that, at any rate, I am better qualified to disburse my own funds in a way that suits me than you. You need not go into details with Isaac because I know beforehand that my views will not agree with him particularly as he will not be in a position to understand the difference in our circumstances and conditions. You may simply mention that I agree fully with you in the stand you have taken.....

Of course you do not expect me to agree that you should bear arms for France against the Teutons. You are an American and owe no allegiance to any other nation however just their cause may be. If any sacrifice should be made, it ought to be made by those who, from a sense of duty or obligations, are called to yield something to their benefactor of their fatherland—If ever our Country should be involved in war with another Country—be it even France—and it became necessary to defend it or to sustain its rights, you should not hesitate then to bear arms in its behalf, but this is as far as you could go—

I cannot advise you to put any of your funds in real estate at this time. I have been compelled in the past ten or twelve months to acquire over \$150,000 worth of property scattered all over the City and I feel that this is enough for both you and me. If there should be any advance in values the profit will be quite sufficient for the entire family + if a loss results, well it'll be bad enough for me + I'll have to bear it. But, I could better afford the loss than you. There should be a limit even for the very best

things—and that limit in the particular instance has been reached.

Mamma and I will leave this evening for New Iberia to attend the Lawyers' Convention. We hope to have a good time—I am still extremely busy and between my office and the Title Guarantee Co. all of my time is well occupied—even to the wee hours of night + early morn.

Affectionately
Your Father
(signature)

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May 10/15

My Dear George,

I want to extend to you my most sincere Congratulations upon your twenty first anniversary. You have reached the turning point in your existence, by being relieved of the disabilities of infancy to the possession of all the rights, faculties and advantages of a major. This means, as you understand, that you are responsible to me but yourself for your proper conduct and the degree of success or failure must depend upon the manner in which you choose to act. I have no doubt of any Kind that your behavior will prove the good moral training you have received and your own natural instincts and I feel that you will always have sufficient energy and judgement to trim your sail properly. I can only hope and pray that the Almighty will preserve your health—the rest will come out all right.

With tenderest greetings and good wishes always believe me

Your devoted father
(signature)

New Orleans
Oct 4/15

Dear George,

Just received your first letter dated Sept. 27, which was delayed on account of the storm, it has hit so hard, Papa will have a great many repairs to make + it has harmed property terribly, it will make a big difference in his fortune as it is so harmful in the mortgage business. The City is a sight, roofs fell in + almost every house has been damaged. So far our own residence has not been damaged much but it rained in in our room + the dressing room the ceiling looks damp yet + we hope the plastering will not fall. The railing blew off the porch. I am sorry to hear the boys made such a mess in your room it does not pay to buy fine things, I think a rug for fifteen dollars that one could use for the summer or better still that you could sell when you leave would do better. You must never think of playing poker as there is not telling where that would end—

Wasn't it possible for you to get any of those books second hand, the children have always found it satisfactory to get books that have been used. Perhaps you need them for reference afterwards + the boys keep them. I do wish you could find some one to room with as Papa is so worried about expenses. You take the room with the washstand as it takes you such an age to wash.

Dr Heller said you + Isaac were both looking for less expensive rooms as these are considered very high priced. Get over the notion that the largest room brings the best result, you must have judgement + try to get something for less money. I cannot allow Papa to be annoyed he is very much troubled. + it is your duty to do the best you can. Hope you do well in your work. By all means take public speaking It makes no difference how much learning you have if you cannot express yourself it does absolutely no good. Ask at the store where you bought the rug if they will take it back + sell you a cheaper one, we have all we need at home; you can tell Mrs Rosenbaum and see what she can do, it will do no harm to ask. I hope you do not lay it while your room is so upset. Caroline seems well pleased with her College. Ruth commenced school today, I hope she will study more this year.

Just heard from Grandpa, they are alright + are anxious to hear about the storm. Things are being cleared quickly + I hope will be in order soon. It is difficult to get workmen, our roof has not been fixed yet. our phone cannot be used yet it is hard to do without it has been out of order since Wednesday. All join me in sending love + kisses devotedly Mama

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Oct. 19/15

My Dear Son [Julius],

It gives me much pleasure that you should write home as frequently as you do, this proves that you feel a deep interest in us and that you want us to have you in our mind's eye just as though you were still among us. I hope that this sentiment will remain undiminished during our life time. You also do well to express yourself freely upon all matters which concern yourself and ourselves, as this demonstrates better still the mutuality of interests between us.

I observe that you intend to devote most of your time to architecture. Of course the work is fascinating but may I try to impress upon you the fact which I have often sought to explain, that it is not sufficient that you can plan well and do a finished work in drafting and designing, but it is essential that you should write and spell equally as well. You will find that you will be called to describe elaborately your plans not only from their artistic standpoint but for their execution and practical purpose and should the plans be adopted you will be required to draft specifications not always according to standard forms as you believe at present but in harmony and in keeping with the plans and in sufficient detail to compel a correct execution of the work contemplated by the plans. This will necessitate a thorough knowledge of the language, meaning a clear, eloquent and correct use of words and a grammatical construction of phrases. From this, it follows that your spelling must also be correct according to accepted standards. To design well means genius and application and this may be a matter of natural gift and patience, but to speak and write correctly require study and perseverance. To study means plodding and it is here that you are deficient. You will not stick out against difficult labor, you have no patience to revise your work, to consult the dictionary and to read up the authorities and sources of information. Your recent letters are strong evidences of your carelessness. They show clearly that you did not read them over before you sent them and that you rather guessed at the spelling of words than confirm their correctness by consulting the dictionary.

It now strikes me that this letter will reach you on your birthday and it will not do to preach any more. You know my dear boy that I am willing to make every sacrifice to insure your welfare and you should therefore feel that all I say is for your good.—I do hope and pray that the Almighty will bless you with good health and inspire you with the thoughts and energy to make of you a man noticed among men, worthy of yourself, useful to society and a source of lasting joy to your mother and

Your devoted
Father

FELIX J. DREYFOUS
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Oct. 29/15

My Dear George,

You will find enclosed a receipt to be signed by you in connection with the insurance policy of the New England Co. on your life. You are required to choose between the two options given you and I desire that you exercise your own judgement in the matter. It is of no great consequence to me whether your premium of insurance is \$17.75 more or that much less; + if you think (as I do) that you might forgo this deduction from the premium and accept instead an addition of \$53. to the amount of the insurance, with participating benefits, you have my permission to do so.

I want to tell you that the motion to dismiss our appeal in the Supreme Court in the Loewenberg matter was denied on practically the grounds set out in our brief. The court held with us that it would work irreparable injury if the decree of the lower court requiring our clients to give bond to secure the fulfillment of the provisions of Mrs. Loewenberg ahead of the trial on the merits were enforced.—I shall keep you posted when the case comes up in the lower court and will mail our brief at the hearing in the Supreme Court. I feel very confident in the ultimate issue of the case.

The work in repairing the storm damage is going on fairly well—much better than in the beginning. I expect to get through within the next two weeks. I have supervised the work myself + for that reason have cut down very much the original estimate of the damage. Of course I had to go through a good deal of aggravation not only with the workmen but also with the tenants who did not seem to understand that the circumstances were such that we were absolutely unable to act promptly in order to protect them from the elements. In many cases the dealers + the workmen took advantage of the conditions to gouge the property holders + I was not spared any more than the others. However, all's well that ends well + I am now content.

Matters at home are getting along their usual routine, business is almost at a standstill and the weather, though not seasonable, is very helpful in the rehabilitation of the City. Mamma and I take in most of the good shows but the trouble is that I have to go over the abstracts of my Company when we return from our diversions + this means very late hours for bed and insufficient rest.

I trust that you are making good headway in your studies so that your entrance into active life will not be unduly delayed. In the meantime be careful of your health. With love from Mamma and the girls, be assured of the devotion of your father—

(signature)

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Nov. 17/15

My Dear George,

It was my purpose to answer your letter of the first inst. immediately on its receipt but my time has been taken up to an extent that I only found an opening to day. I am sure that my long silence has not affected you in any way, particularly as your mother and sisters have kept you constantly in touch with all home matters. The copy of the brief in the Loewenberg matter which I sent you was written by Alfred. I rarely appear in the Supreme Court because of my office work which holds me down very much at my desk. The irreparable injury to which Alfred refers is that injury which would have resulted from the denial of the right of appeal from the judgement condemning the heirs of Mrs. Loewenberg to give bond not only to insure the payment of the amount claimed by Mrs. Marks under the trust agreement, but also the execution of the legacy to the latter, the argument is that the penalty which would have resulted from the failure to give the required bond, in taking away the executorship from Mrs. Feingold and the possession of the property left by the deceased from the heirs, would work irreparable injury. The Supreme Court sustained that position. Of course the question of estoppel might have been an issue in the event our clients had submitted to the order of the inferior court. As soon as the opinion of the Supreme Court is published I shall send you a copy of it.

Of course the principles of Equity cover a very wide scope and are quite useful in the practice of the law in Louisiana. While we are governed by the Civil Code, the Code itself (articles 2 and 1965 + the Code of Practice art. 35) provides that “In all civil matters where there is no express law, the judge is bound to *proceed and decide* according to equity. To decide equitably an appeal is to be made to natural law and reason” (i.e. equity, in the application of the rules of reason) “or received usages, where positive law is silent.” It is for that very reason that the principles of equity have been recognized in our jurisprudence and are so often referred to in our reports.—We do have specific performance as you will find under the head of “Obligations to do, or not to do.” Articles 1926 *et seq.* of our Civil Code. You will find an interesting case in which I was interested because I provoked it as president of the Levee Board, reported in the 44 La. Annual page 44 where the question of specific performance is discussed.

I note in your last letter a feeling of depression over the difficulties you are encountering in your study of the law. The average layman does not know it but it is a fact that law is the most difficult of all professions because its practice not only combines in its scope the Statutory and Common law, the interpretation of laws, the comity of states, the relations of man as constrained and controlled by Statute, etc., but also a practical knowledge of all the other professions (medical, physical engineering with its ramifications, and the like). You should not be discouraged if the breadth of the study in which you are engaged, reaches further than you

anticipated, nor need you worry over the fact that you will not be in a position to realize actual results until you shall have passed the age when the average man shall have already established himself. It is a fact that not ten per cent. of the lawyers here have a lucrative practice + that not half that number are prominent. But all this need not cause you any worry so long as my means permit you to get along without restraint as to cost and so long as I do not complain. I want you to be diligent and conscientious + will never ask any more from you.

If you find this letter rather confused you must ascribe it to the fact that I have suffered fifty interruptions since I started it. I regret that at this hour I am compelled to bring it to an earlier close than I expected, but I have said enough to impress you with my thoughts upon the subject—With much love + assurances of my devotion, always believe me truly your

Father

FELIX J. DREYFOUS**LAW AND NOTARIAL OFFICE****LIVERPOOL and LONDON and GLOBE BUILDING****Cor. Carondelet and Common Streets****NEW ORLEANS****Office Hours: 9 to 11 A. M. 2 to 5 P. M.**

Dec. 16/15

My Dear Julius,

Enclosed you will find a check for one hundred dollars to cover your expenses to Cincinnati and to meet your wants. Money does not grow on bushes but I will manage to scrape some up from time to time to help you along. In due time I shall expect you to return the compliment

You are quite right;—it is extremely ungentlemanly for a person, be he even your own father, to neglect answering letters written to him, but you must admit that it is not altogether respectful for a son to address a letter to his father, written in a most slovenly manner, and full of mistakes which he could detect if he gave himself the least pain of reading it over before forwarding it. I often feel as though I should get very angry with you for butchering the king's English and often I am inclined to suffer the deepest humiliation that my son should display, at his age, such ignorance of elementary spelling. However, I do succeed in suppressing my emotions by the thought that you have some good instincts in your make-up and that in the end you will find a way to get over your shortcomings. I know that you are proud of yourself and proud of your parents and this is sufficient to convince every body that my impression regarding your future conduct will be fully realized.—Now, my son, go on with your work contentedly and conscientiously and with the earnest purpose of achieving success and possible fame, to the end that you, yourself, will be satisfied with the result of your labor. Be assured that no one will be happier in that event than your

Affectionate Father
(signature)

Love from all

FELIX J. DREYFOUS
LAW AND NOTARIAL OFFICE
LIVERPOOL AND LONDON AND GLOBE BUILDING
COR. CARONDELET AND COMMON STREETS
NEW ORLEANS
OFFICE HOURS 9 TO 11 A.M. 2 TO 5 P.M.

Feb 2/16

My Dear George,

You will find enclosed a N.Y. cheque for \$350. which is intended to meet the accompanying bill of Harvard and leave a balance for your own account.

I have read your frequent letters with interest and am well pleased with the progress you indicate. The only reason for my failure to write as frequently is the great press of business which occupies my time day and night. There was a reduction in the volume of work at the office during the past year but on the other hand the labor on abstracts coming from my Company has grown more intense and the complications have correspondingly increased. However, hard work does not affect my health nor subdue my energy, quite the contrary.

Your very last letter, I must confess, has caused me much concern and sorrow.—I was, at first, tempted to give you a lecture on the subject but on second thought I have deemed best to submit the matter to your mother and allow her the honor of discussing it with you. I only desire to say that climatic conditions should be the most remote consideration in connection with a man's field of endeavor for his future establishment and success in life. In other words if it be your ultimate purpose to succeed to me (as it is mine that you should) you must make up your mind to overlook climate for the sake of maintaining the lucrative practice which I built up after years of toil, perseverance and hardships. This range of temperature never troubled me because I felt a deeper interest in following up my business than in watching the thermometer. It is quite possible if you felt a like interest in pursuing a purpose to a successful end, neither the discomfort of wet shirts nor the chill of our winter atmosphere would produce the least effect upon you. If, however, you allow yourself to be drawn into the contemplation of heat or cold and its resulting effects, you will not only make yourself extremely unhappy but hamper your welfare. Another thought.—you should not expect to absent yourself every summer, after you shall have started in your active career, until your earnings shall warrant the expense. I do not like to set myself up as an example because you might be tempted to charge me with egotism (not a novel proposition to you) but I have always considered that my absence from the City however brief has invariable occasioned a loss of business and if in the past ten years I have permitted myself to make the sacrifice, it is because I felt that I had earned the right to make it and that my children would not begrudge me the reduction of my income due to my vacation.

The folks are getting along very well.—Uncle Emile left last week + I have since heard from him—with an application for financial assistance. While in N.O. he never

discussed his financial matters nor did I encourage him to do so. He lacks the equipment of a business man + his years of experience have not benefitted him in the least.—Mamma will very likely, go on a trip to Cin. next week to see for herself how her parents are.

With the hope of your continued improvement, I am as always

Your devoted father
(signature)

At Home
N.O. Feb. 13/16

My Dear Julius,

I read with interest your last letter but I must confess that you again displeased me very much because it bore every evidence that you had not read it over before you mailed it. Do, my boy, learn the lesson of neatness and of carefulness. You have no idea what a bad impression it makes upon the reader when he perceives that the writer had taken no pains whatever to present his effort in a proper shape. It is a true adage that anything worth doing is worth doing right. Whether you are working for yourself or for some one else, make every exertion to do or to show the best that you can. In other words be conscientious! . . . I am through scolding.

Your ideas about the additions to the Delgado Museum are in accord with mine, but both Mr. Boyle and Sam. Weis were of the opinion that any wings which would extend beyond the sides of the present building would cost a great deal more money than we have any idea of getting at the present time. These wings would have to follow the lines of the existing building and be built of the same material, while an extension set in the rear could be built of brick for a good deal less.—However, nothing should prevent you to submit some designs and sketches—provided you can afford the time. Your work might exhibit some ideas which would be of value to us.—and assist us in adopting a definite plan for the future. The competition for the plans will be submitted only to the class of architecture of Tulane, + a prize of \$25 will be given for the best plan, of course we have no idea of adopting the plan except as a suggestion for the working plans which will be prepared by an architect of our own selection in accordance with the roles of the Chapter of American Architects.

The house is rather quiet since Mamma left, but the girls are behaving very nicely and we are getting along splendidly. I have taken them out quite often and perhaps they will later on try to “Bring up Father.”—You should go on with your studies unremittingly having always in mind, as I told you before, that your success in life will greatly depend upon the results of your present endeavors.—Keep well + always depend upon the firm devotion of your father

(signature)

N.O. July 11/16

My Dear Billie,

I am sure you can't remember when I wrote to you last and perhaps you don't care. To be sure that your serious old daddy don't know how to any more and his dry old style which he deals out in his office couldn't amuse a little big girl like you and that's why daddy does not write.

It does not follow, my dear baby, that I do not find pleasure in reading your letters and to feel very happy, indeed when I see that you are enjoying yourself so very much and are getting so much of life also. The out-door sports in a most delightful climate will help to build you up and improve your health and the absence of your mother and mother will teach you to become more self-dependent. In years to come you will view your present experiences as one of the best you have had and you will realize the benefits it procured you. To be sure we miss you but we don't mind it because you are away for your own good and what benefits you also benefits us. We will find lots of compensation when you come back to us, big, fat, with rosy cheeks and strong limbs, to say nothing of an improved disposition—less likely to feel displeased at things which do not come up exactly to your expectations. I am sure also that you will learn by your surroundings and by the experiences of others that you have much to rejoice over and to be thankful for. We do not complain of the weather as the heat has not been intense. The boys also seem to be very well pleased to be at home. Julius likes his work at Favrot & Livaudias and George is steadily becoming acquainted with the work at the office realizing that the business, if his health is maintained, will one day be his.

Write often my Billie and don't mind it if I don't write as often to you, you can always depend that no one will ever care more for you than your own

Father

N.O. Aug. 7/16

My Dear Billie,

You are quite right; it is a positive shame that your daddy should be so indifferent as to have written but one letter to his daughter in the space of a month. Daddy will offer no other excuse than his want of time and opportunity. You see I work all day long with no chance for recreation except the half hour it takes to go home and eat my lunch; and in the evening I have to go over a pile of abstracts which Mr. Bouslog has been sending me regularly after office hours. This is the first time he has overlooked me. And I must also tell you that unless one writes letters often one either loses the habit or gets into a mood that makes this sort of work very difficult. When I am at Charlevoix I'll get in trim once more and I shall write great big books with so many big words and learned discussions that you will ask me to "end it short." What's your choice?

I told you in my last letter that I cannot be otherwise than serious surrounded as I am by so much of the world's problems that affect the happiness or sorrows of mankind or involve the fortunes and fate of clients. It has become almost a second nature with me to have ever present to my mind the review of these problems and their solution. Maybe when I remain silent at the dinner table and instead of smiling at the innocent remarks of my daughters, I say things which they think are unkind, it does not mean that I am unsympathetic. It is simply that I cannot help myself. Now if I don't write a lot of stuff that will interest you or amuse you, it is not because I don't try to interest or to amuse you,—it is because I cannot.

Now when the boys are able to take the big load off my shoulders and free me from the excessive cases I am burdened with, I'll soon wake up and you and Caroline and I will romp about and go the limit for sport—so that you'll not know me, but will find me the jolliest fellow you ever met—But just wait. —

I am very glad, indeed, that you are having such a good time at camp and that you are developing into a first rate athlete. Keep it up, my baby, and when the time comes for me to change about, you'll be a first class teacher and trainer.—Mamma and the boys will tell you the news, to make up for this uninteresting letter.—A good kiss and a long one from your own

Daddy

Send to Caroline—will write to her very soon.—

FELIX J. DREYFOUS**LAW AND NOTARIAL OFFICE****LIVERPOOL and LONDON and GLOBE BUILDING****Cor. Carondelet and Common Streets****NEW ORLEANS****Office Hours: 9 to 11 A. M. 2 to 5 P. M.**

Oct 30/16

My Dear George,

I read your last letter with interest. If it be your purpose to develop our law practice, your idea of adding to the knowledge imparted at Harvard, practical experience from quarters of the highest character, is an excellent one. But if you are satisfied with my practice, as it is made more profitable by the mortgage investments department + the notarial adjunct, it would be a loss of time to go to Washington. At any rate I have written to Judge White a letter, a copy of which I enclose, in which I apply in your behalf for the position to which you aspire. You would be extremely lucky if I get a favorable reply for I conceive Judge White must be besieged by such applications and he will, very naturally, give a preference to his political friends or to persons who have a better right to his favors than I have. However I wish you luck and pray for success.

I am enclosing a bill filed at U.S. District Court which, I am sure, you will read with interest. My company bonded the title to the property involved in the action. Our attorneys have demurred on the ground of want of jurisdiction. This brief is also enclosed. The demur came up for hearing on Saturday and was dismissed, the Court holding that it was vested with proper jurisdiction under a section (I am told S.20) to try the issues involved. The decision did not surprise me as it is exactly in line with his conduct in other cases.

Business is not very brisk at the office owing to the depression in real estate due to low rentals, high taxes and rat proofing requirements. I am still busy with my shanties and have the entire force of men at work. I manage matters fairly well + so far, this branch of activity has not interfered in any way with the office work.—Everybody is well + apparently happy + under the circumstances, I have no complaint to make,—quite the contrary—With much love + fond embraces Your father

(signature)

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LIVERPOOL and LONDON and GLOBE BUILDING
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NEW ORLEANS
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Nov. 6/16

My Dear George,

You will find enclosed Judge White's answer. The letter is remarkable as it displays the kindest feelings towards me in the assurance given that the writer will exert himself in the future to find something for you, and in the explanation given of the reasons why a position could not be found for you at once. I shall answer the Judge at once thanking him for the letter and calling his attention to the fact that you will only graduate in the late Spring.—I am proud enough of the letter to request you to retain it as a memento from a great man.

When I went home to-day for lunch I found your letter in answer to mine. I want to assure you that I am not in the least shocked at the self-assurance you exhibit; this may indicate that you possess the determination to accomplish a purpose. However, I cannot refrain from warning you not to lay too great a dependence upon your ability to carry out all your plans. There is no man alive who in the course of his experience, did not realize that there should be a limit to one's ambition or expectations and who, therefore, will ripen and acquire greater conservatism in his views and actions. While I do not wish to give any jolt to the high ideals which you have built up, I want you to be slightly more moderate and conservative in your ambitions. Do not attempt too much else you overstep yourself. You need not necessarily confine yourself to the work which I have carved out for myself but don't expect to reach too far beyond me, because the scope will be beyond the limit of any human endurance.

Mamma has this day traded our old XXX for a 1917 model Stearns 7 passenger car. The terms of the exchange are very satisfactory, except that I shall have to dig into my pocket for more funds.

I shall remit to you \$100. by the 15th inst. if this sum is sufficient—Love from all + particularly from

Your father (signature)

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Nov. 16/16

My Dear George,

You will find enclosed a N.Y. cheque for one hundred dollars which will meet your present wants. I am also enclosing a copy of the answer I sent Judge White.

You are mistaken in believing that my modesty causes me to overlook the influence I possess by reason of my experience and conduct. My attitude in all matters is prompted by a fair review of circumstances and of the purposes sought to be attained. Any person who imagines that he should get what he wants because he is entitled to it will come to grief, sooner or later. In life one rarely finds a ready response from others to one's appeals or requests, however meritorious, if the granting thereof entails labor or sacrifice; nor will the world appreciate your worth unless you either force it upon the world or there be an object gained or an interest suborned in its recognition. I have by force of circumstances and sad experiences learnt to be conservative and careful—This does not prevent me from being outspoken but it protects me from disappointment.—You seem to think that you might become by far the best lawyer in N.O.—Even if you were to accomplish this remarkable feat your own self respect would forbid you to claim the distinction and the people will be loathe to admit it.—I believe that if you contented yourself to being as good a practitioner as the best you would reap greater benefits and protect yourself, at the same time, against mortification. We are all well and contented, thank Heaven. Keep well

Devotedly your father (signature)

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LIVERPOOL AND LONDON AND GLOBE BUILDING
COR. CARONDELET AND COMMON STREETS
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Dec. 28/16

My Dear Boys,

You will find enclosed a N.Y. cheque for \$200. which you will divide between yourselves in the manner you may deem best “according to the exigency of the case” as we say in some of our acts.—We are now winding up the year’s business + that keeps me at my wits’ end. The Herdman matters are progressing favorably. I have a letter from the Department of State in which I am informed that the representatives of the American government have been instructed to trace up the heirs, according to my request. I am convinced that with the co operation of our government I shall succeed in accomplishing the purpose I have set up to carry out, namely, the thwarting of our home politicians in their effort to despoil the estate.

We have had most wretched weather here since Christmas so that you have lost nothing in not coming home for the holidays.—The girls are having a good time; Caroline followed a crowd to-day on some stunt about town and Ruth will give a dance at home to-night. Mamma and I pursue, however, the even tenor of our way, meaning that we continue to spend our evenings in the usual manner, neither the one nor the other seeking extraordinary diversions—

Give my love to Grandma + the rest and accept again my good wishes for the coming year

Affectionately your father
F.J.D.

Isaac Heller came to the office to-day. He is not overenthusiastic about law

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Jan. 27/17

My Dear George,

Your recent letter caused me much pleasure. I found your arguments good and your thoughts well sustained. This proves that, with some effort you could make all your letters extremely interesting and cause us to wish for more.—The two lawsuits you refer to have not yet been reached in the Superior Court in one instance and in the U.S. District Court in the other, hence no pleadings or briefs have been prepared other than those you have read. Whenever the documents have been completed I shall be glad to send you copies. There is no likelihood, however, of the Lowenberg case coming up until next term (1917–18) and you will have ample time to study up the authorities when you finish your Course.

I have had other very troublesome law suits the details of which are too lengthy to review in a letter. I recognize that one involved in such large operations as I am or having to represent such extensive and diversified interests must, of necessity, be drawn from time to time into litigation and if in the past I escaped some years from being thus imbroiled it was from sheer luck and not thro' the force of circumstances. You must have ere this realized the the tendency of the age is to inflict all sorts of trouble upon men of wealth or on corporations, good and bad. There is too much legislation on the part of the Legislative Bodies and entirely too loose and varied jurisprudence on the part of the Courts, to render the possession of property secure. In addition the lawyers, despite the efforts of the conventions and conferences, have been permitted too frequently to foment litigation either in order to force compromises to escape the worries and delays incident to law suits or in the hope that thro' some technicalities the purpose of the law and of equity might be defeated and the miscast party cast or mulcted. With all this one must become used to circumstances and become proof against mental worries.

I still have a good deal of work to look after. Ike's estate is no bed of roses by any means. Just at present a wave of social reform has set in and I must remain under cover to prevent my connection with the unsavory tenancy becoming public. In the meantime my efforts have been to improve all conditions within the limits of the law and my personal abilities. It is my hope that in many respects my efforts will bear fruit. Mamma does not like my being mixed up with these matters, but I am sure that she will soon realize that acting from a sense of duty, as I do, there is not danger of my being criticized unfairly or unjustly. With much love

Your devoted father
 F.J.D.

I shall send you an additional cheque next week

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Feb. 3/17

My Dear George,

I came near forgetting the promise I made to send you money this week. It was late this Saturday afternoon when the thought came back to me + then, rather than be charged with breach of promise, I had the clerk of the Canal Bank to post the enclosed cheque after the books of the bank had been closed for the day.

While I am very much distressed over the prospects of war between this nation and Germany, I feel that there was no other alternative left to our president than to act as he did to-day, unless we were willing to have the world to charge us with craven retreat from the principles which we assumed controlled the conduct and standing of the Country. It is absolutely inconceivable that Germany has so forgotten itself as to threaten the administration of international law and those principles of humanity which distinguish a civilized nation from barbarians. The only theory for the abominable position of the Kaiser is that he is either crazy or that he is desperate seeing that Germany has no possible escape from annihilation. The attitude of this monster proves the necessity for the suppression of the Militarism which furthered his actions in the past and which would constantly stand as a menace to the peace of the world for the future.

However, you should not be carried away by enthusiasm and I request you to do nothing in connection with the impending peril without consulting your mother or me. Let us pray that we will be spared the horrors of war and that just retribution will be meted to the Germanic people without recourse to arms.

We are pleased to learn that you are making good progress in your studies and we continue to trust that you will receive your degree this term with honor and distinction.

It has been rather cold here for the past two days; our plants seem to have been singed as by fire—even our beautiful rubber tree in the front garden being injured beyond recovery. There is now a better prospect of the return shortly of a balmy temperature.

All the folks thank Heaven, are well—

Devotedly, your father
(signature)

The girls are going through their exams. I believe that Caroline will come out O.K., but I'm afraid that Billie will not fare as well—She is not as studious as she might be.

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Feb. 7/17

My Dear George,

Mamma has just shown me your last letter in which you express the intention of joining the Ambulance Corps in Europe. While I believe that the patriotic thoughts which animate you are quite commendable I believe that the occasion has not yet arisen to require you to make such a sacrifice as would result from your abandoning your law course at this time. You should await further developments before taking any steps in the direction you have indicated. In the first place there is no certainty of this country being involved in war and on the other hand, were war declared it would require fully a year before the U.S. could send a well disciplined and properly equipped army to the front. An ambulance corps organized for assistance in the movements of our troops, should not be sent forward to any other belligerent power; it should remain attached to home troops. Until, therefore, the U.S. sends its transports with reinforcements to the allies your ambulance corps should remain on this side. In the meantime I desire that you continue your course and that you remain until graduation, else you will lose every chance of getting the much coveted degree from Harvard,—a degree which will aid very materially in your future success.

Be reasonable and just to yourself and particularly should you defer to the judgement of those whose interests are closely linked to your own, as your mother and your own father

(signature)

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Feb. 28/17

My Dear Julius,

The whole family gathered this morning in solemn conclave to impress upon me the fact that you had only forty five cents left in your pocket and that it was awful to contemplate the result of a big fellow like yourself with plenty of hollow spaces to fill up being unable to procure the means of satisfying his cravings in a strange City and among strange people. I can recall not very long ago you were threatened with the *shivers* because you lacked clothes. I had then to come to your rescue and I am doing the same thing now. Hereafter when you are about to run out of funds you should not wait until you are strapped to present your appeal to the family and arouse the wildest concern about you but you should come out boldly and tell the little old man down the country that he should poney up. To be sure he'll come across just as fast as his legs will permit him reaching the bank for a check and the mail carrier will take the stuff from him.

I haven't much to write about. It's always the same thing,—work and worry, fuss and long face, an occasional quarrel over the war situation and a sustained effort to sleep and eat so as to keep body and soul together. You'll have to depend upon your Mother and the girls for news.—

The Delgado will have a general exhibit soon and you may now submit the subjects which you might want to show—giving full particulars of the works, the name of the artists and the class to which they belong.

Will send love as ever

Your aff. father (signature)

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March 24/17

My Dear George,

You will find enclosed a N.Y. checque for \$100. to replenish your exhausted exchequer. I trust that it will do for some time.

While I am always busy and have to hustle to keep abreast of the work, I cannot brag of the results. The war, the high taxes + the impositions from a thousand and one quarters continue to have a depressing [effect] upon real estate and the consequence is that although I have considerable funds to invest I can find no desirable loans for clients,—this you will readily see, must cut quite an item in my income. I collected the mortgage in which I had invested the Schwartz legacy to you + the other children and have applied for \$5000. worth of the new French loan, \$1000. for your mother's acc. + \$1000. for each of the children. In the light of the present conditions and the situation abroad I am sure the investment will be safe and profitable. We are somewhat annoyed here by the incessant demands for relief arising from this miserable war. Let us hope that the Kaiser will soon realize the defeat of his forces and yield to the inevitable. His desperation has caused him to commit excesses which no history can record greater reprimand of atrocity and it is well that he should receive the full penalty of his misdeeds. I do hope that our entry into the conflict will not bring about much sacrifice of life and treasure. This is a country which seeks advancement by peaceful means and which cherishes the rights of man and encourages the development of art and science (which, after all, is but the purpose of humanity) and it is sad, indeed, that in furtherance of its rights it should seek vindication in bloodshed. It's appalling!

I am glad that you are pursuing your studies diligently + am hopeful that there will be no obstacle to your getting your degree at the end of the term. With much love

Your father
(signature)

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April 9/17

My Dear George,

Mamma has shown me your recent letter in which you announce your intention of joining the Aviation Corps. While I feel that it is your bounden duty to give your services to our Country in this hour of peril and for the enforcement of the rights of Man and the promotion of the laws of humanity, I consider your selection unwise. I would suggest that you read the article by Marshall which appeared in the Times—Picayune of yesterday, in that connection. Mr. Marshall had an interview with a high dignitary of the British government on the subject of the formation of the British army. That official stated that a very serious mistake had been made in the sending to the front in the beginning of the War of the flower of Great Britain, in manhood and education. The result was a terrific loss which had the most serious consequences. He opined that the brains of the nation should have been employed in those tasks where learning, intelligence and genius are essential—in the offices where the plans of campaign are developed, in the shops where the engines of war are made, in the field where prompt action, quick decision and tactful manners are all important in obtaining best results,—results which often determine the entire issue. There is no demand for talent, learning or genius in aerial combats. All that is required is bravery and a special knowledge, gained by experience in the handling of the instruments. A good chauffeur who requires no collegiate education nor even brains, can operate the plane and a good gunner, practiced in the art of firing solely, can man the guns. You have had the benefit of a most liberal education and I believe that you possess more than ordinary intelligence, you have become learned in your chosen profession, and for those reasons you should employ your talents and your intelligence in those branches of warfare which demand these requirements. You would by following my suggestion, accomplish more for your Country than by offering yourself for a martyr in a task for which you are not fitted and which properly belongs to a different class of individual.

Of course I am very much worked up about the war. I foresee the tremendous sacrifices in blood and treasure which our Country will have to make. Every one of us will be affected—some in the payment of high tributes to the government for the support of the costs of the army operations, others in the deprivation of support or comfort of a dear one. But in view of the most barbarous, inhuman and desperate conduct of the Prussians, there could be no other alternative—A different attitude would have been craven and seriously dangerous to the welfare of our Nation. Let us hope that the Allies will soon

bring the Imperial government to its just deserts and permanent peace assured to the whole world.

Caroline returned last evening from a week's end trip to Covington; she is very enthusiastic over the good time she had.

It has turned quite cold here, but the weather is otherwise all we could desire.— Hoping that your health will be preserved and that we shall continue to have good reports from you believe me as always

Your devoted father
(signature)

FELIX J. DREYFOUS
LAW AND NOTARIAL OFFICE
LIVERPOOL and LONDON and GLOBE BUILDING
Cor. Carondelet and Common Streets
NEW ORLEANS
Office Hours: 9 to 11 A. M. 2 to 5 P. M.

May 16/17

My Dear Julius,

No one wants you to be accused of being a craven and above all things I should not wish to see you fail in your duty to your country and to humanity, but I agree with your mother that the position of Chauffeur in an ambulance corps would not exactly comport with the dignity of an alumnus of a College of Architecture. You should seek a position in the government service wherein the knowledge you have acquired would be of some benefit to it. Any ignorant fellow, without education or technical training could drive an ambulance—and perhaps he should be the fellow to do it, but it would be ridiculous to have you seated at the steering wheel when you should be in the shops, in the field with an engineering corps or in an office, planning and executing engines of war and other implements needed in the campaign or working out problems for the defeat of the enemy or the thwarting of his new armaments, contrivances or schemes. Under the circumstances I do not feel warranted in yielding my consent to your enlisting in the capacity you state.

We are all getting along very nicely except that the reports which come daily of the atrocities committed by the Germans fill us with horror and of the defection of the Russians at this critical moment causes me great fear of the continuation of the war for an indefinite time. It is sad to contemplate that at this advanced era of civilization it is necessary to resort to wholesale murder and destruction to settle differences.

With much love Your devoted father

(signature)

FELIX J. DREYFOUS**LAW AND NOTARIAL OFFICE****LIVERPOOL and LONDON and GLOBE BUILDING****Cor. Carondelet and Common Streets****NEW ORLEANS****Office Hours: 9 to 11 A. M. 2 to 5 P. M.**

Aug. 24/18

My Dear Billie,

I have pulled out somewhere one hundred dollars which I am sending you to enable his daddy's baby to get home again. Mamma thinks that the nursery will do and I am in hope that she is not far wrong, but if you should fall short don't pawn your camera or your trophies but simply walk into some bank and ask that it should get in touch with me for the funds. It'll be ok.

You were too full of exuberance from the camp sports to state that you had received a letter from me; it is possible, however, that enthusiasm had nothing to do in the case and that letter got into the hands of some German spy who will make use of it one day to hang me. . . just as some at the Kaiser's great army, with the assistance of the German sympathizers, capture N.O.—What do you think of the prospect? Julius is getting ready to start for camp and as soon as he does you will have the right to carry two stars. Don't you think you should feel proud of having two brothers who can stand for the principles that control this great and mighty nation, and assist in enforcing the rights of mankind? We must hope that nothing will befall them and that they will return soon to us safe and sound, yet proud of this accomplishment!

It's hard work at this office to get along with the reduced force, but I manage very well and so far my health has not been affected. True I do feel sometimes tired and played-out, but I overcome the feeling over night and get up in the morning strong and vigorous ready to start fresh upon another long and trying struggle.—But let not this worry you; just make the best you can of your present opportunities and be thankful that your lot is a happy one. Keep well, my dear baby, and always count on the devotion of your only

Daddy

All well and send love.

NEW YORK OFFICE
243 FIFTH AVENUE

PHILADELPHIA OFFICE
1611 CHESTNUT STREET

Bedford Springs Hotel

H. E. BEMIS, MANAGER
M. C. SWEENEY, ASST. MANAGER
Bedford Springs, Penna.

ROYAL POINCIANA
PALM BEACH
FLORIDA
H. E. BEMIS, MANAGER

Aug. 26/19

My Dear Billie,

You must consider your dad a bad man because has not written to you once since you left home. There are two reasons for that, first, I actually could find not time for my private correspondence and particularly after my work had been set back by my week's illness and the other reason is that I was actually angry with you over your constant outbursts of impatience, of dissatisfaction and ill humor. I was very mad that a little girl like you to whom I have sought to give the very best—in education, in comfort and in ease, should so frequently display impatience at others, displeasure at not always being shown these attentions which rather befit person of mature age than yours and anger over purely imaginary grievances. I am sure that you have had ample time to review your conduct of the past year and that you will mend your ways when we meet again.—

We left home as you know on Sunday morning and reached Cincinnati yesterday (Monday). We were lucky enough to come across Mr. Krolin who sat at the lunch table with us and who afterwards treated us to a moving picture at the Strand. We parted with him at four, went to a couple of shops, drank soda at Mullane's and left at 5.—The trip to this place was pleasant but devoid of incident. So far I am pleased with the hotel and its location but it yet remains to be seen whether or not our further stay will confirm our early impression. We were informed that the hotel will close in Sept. 15, and for that reason you will have to change your program to meet us at some other point or go direct home without us.

I cannot tell you whether Caroline will care for this place or not. There is a fine tennis court and a splendid golf course connected with the hotel and possibly she may come across some genial company which will assist her in indulging in these two attractions.

Let us hear from you soon.

All well.

Devotedly your dad.
F.J.D.

At home, Sunday May 2 of 21

My Dear Billie,

I will begin by advising you to take advantage of your present opportunities by remaining abroad until Fall. In the first place, there is no telling that you will, in the future be in a position as you are now of being thoroughly acquainted with Europe and of learning its attractions, artistic literary and historical to say nothing of enjoying climate and idealistic environments; and on the other hand, you are not needed here. Personally I would be better pleased if you were absent when the coming event, with all that pertains to it, will materialize. Your mother and all the older members of the family have had the experience which might render their presence useful but this will hardly apply to you. To them the circumstance is natural but to you it is most likely to have a harmful effect, especially as you are disposed towards sensitivity and impressionability. You may rest assured that we will keep you thoroughly informed at all times and under every condition. Your vivid pictures of Innsbruck and Munich brought back to my mind most pleasant memories of my visit to these two fascinating cities and made me almost envious of your new experiences there's no telling but that I'll engage you one day to serve again as our guide through the same countries and to pilot us to the spots newly discovered by you.

I must renew my injunction, however, against your making too many purchases abroad. The cost of transportation and the excessive duties imposed by the U.S. make the articles far more expensive than they can be bought for here; even if the home production may be lacking of chic or novelty, the advantage will be more visionary than real.

The people down here have become more hopeful of returning prosperity since the passage of the Food Relief Bill by Congress which not only insures protection against such disasters as we suffered last year but will put into circulation considerable money which will be spent in doing the work in the Mississippi Valley—Congress has reduced the income taxes and that must also add some measure of relief. Our new governor has been assuming very radical attitudes regarding the public matters and municipal enterprises. At present he is placing obstacles to the legislation looking to the development of our lake front and at the same time he has laid down some conditions for the bringing of natural gas to N.O., which are impossible of execution or impracticable in results.

I am very busy at the office and have more hard problems to solve than I have ever had to meet. They do not cause me worry but keep me thinking as also George!—All news not covered by this letter will be furnished by your other correspondents. Love and many kisses.

Regards to all.
Dad

FELIX J. DREYFOUS
GEORGE ABEL DREYFOUS
FRANK B. TWOMEY
LAW AND NOTARIAL OFFICES
1818 CANAL BANK BUILDING
NEW ORLEANS

Aug. 18/21

My Dear Billie,

If you want to preserve peace at home don't write mother that I forgot the enclosed letter in my pocket all day yesterday and that in consequence, you have been delayed 24 hours in getting news from home. As a reward for the delay and also as a bribe for not getting me in trouble, I am sending you \$1050 in good Confederate Securities which are worth the price of paper unless one wishes to be influenced by sentiment particularly if there exists in him some lingering devotion to the "lost cause." There's, however, some little history connected with this money. It got into my possession, together with plenty more of its kind, as executor of Miss Borde and she, in turn, obtained it as heir of her mother who was the daughter of David Urquhart an ancestor of the famous *Fifi* whose name appeared rather frequently in the past few months in the newspapers in connection with the divorce suit of the banker Stillman.—You need not have the valuables I enclose kept in the safe at night nor attempt to buy a seal skin coat with them.— — — — —

I rode up as usual this morning to the house. It shows some little headway and if nothing untoward happens we might occupy the second floor during the early part of October, using the service stairs. The first floor, according to present indications, will hardly be finished earlier than in December. There continues to be the same lack of coordination among the contractors and the same disposition to slight the work whenever they imagine that the defects will not be detected. I promise you that I shall never again be inclined to go into the building business as I do care to preserve my health and save my hair from turning gray.—Your letters come at regular intervals and continue to be interesting. I commend you indeed for being considerate and conscientious. These qualities strike me closely to the heart and fortifies me in the belief that my baby has been molded along what I deem proper lines. Many kisses, your fond dad.

F.J.D.



TELEGRAMS.
"LUXURY. EDINBURGH"

*Caledonian Station Hotel,
Princes Street,
Edinburgh.*

July 15, 1923

Dear Ones,

Another wonderful day + another deep feeling of regret that we are leaving bonny Scotland in two days. It is such a wonderful country and every day I love it more + more. The Highlands were beautiful and most interesting but I find Edinburgh even more exciting. The city is beautifully laid out with wide avenues and numerous squares and parks. There are any number of statues, the most famous of all is Sir Walter Scotts. It is about two hundred feet tall + is Gothic in style, similar to many of the churches. It is in the Commons which go from one end of the principal St. to the other. On the other side of the Street are the stores which are most attractive. Of course we've been shopping for the wool things are irresistible.

Today we took an all day bus ride to Melrose Abbey. It was a gorgeous ride all through the Valley of the Tweed. The hills on both sides were thickly wooded in places and in others they were covered with wildflowers or grass. Sheep were in abundance everywhere. The Abbey is a most interesting and beautiful ruin. Most of it is Gothic but a portion is Romanesque. A small section still has a roof but most of it is down. Our friend Cromwell did a good day's work when he arrived at Melrose.

We went also to Dryburgh Abbey which is also a ruin. Scott picked the only portion which has a roof to be buried in. It is by far the most romantic spot for a grave that I've seen. The ruin also is beautiful but only a very small part is left. From there we went to Abbotsford the home of Scott. It is a beautiful home—much like a castle and surrounded by a real English garden. Oh, how I wish I could remember more of my Sophomore English the only thing that I do remember are dates! We stopped at the adorable village, Peebles, for tea and home + dinner at eight. It was a truly a wonderful day and I have such a good idea of Scotland. The people here are most attractive and their dialect adorable. I've seen many soldiers in the real Scotch uniforms with the little skirts and tartans. The children too dress in this fashion. Most the young chaps, George + Julius's age wear knicker suits during the day for work. They do know how to dress!

Yesterday was fine also (by the way I wear my heavy coat most everyday though London has temperature of 130° in the sun) and we saw many of the sights. Went out to the palace Holywood where the king and queen now are in residence. It was the palace of Mary, Queen of Scots, and is most interesting. We went also to the National Gallery. They have a fine collection of Raeburns. I firmly believe that before many years pass by he will be in the class of Frans Hals + Gainsborough. The building like numerous ones here is classic and very beautiful. There are several very steep rock mounds in the city and on the tops are ruins of old castles so the city does resemble Athens.

We also took a bus to the Firth of Forth. There is a tremendously high bridge crossing there, the highest in the world. When we asked the bus starter if it were worth while seeing he said "It beats your Brooklin Bridge to pieces"—I said nothing. It is not as beautiful but it is a wonderful engineering feat. The ride out there was interesting for we passed many large estates + many literary land-

(incomplete)



GRAND HOTEL
HEIDELBERGER HOF
HEIDELBERG

Aug. 20/26

My Dear Children,

I did not write from Frankfort having been informed that some one else of our party would do so.—I hate to take your time with a repetition of what had been already told you, but I shall take a chance.—Our last night at Wiesbaden was spent at the Kursaal where we ate dinner and afterwards listened to excellent music by the Symphony orchestra. We did not enter the gambling room but roamed around the building which is much on the same order as those at Dinard or at Lucerne, with the addition of a magnificent theatre, and reading rooms, conference rooms +c. I regretted that our sojourn at this delightful resort had to be shortened, of necessity. We left early next morning for Frankfort, reaching that City in time to refresh ourselves, to wander about the old quarters, with a visit of the old City Hall, and to eat lunch in a quaint inn facing the square, much in renown, the “Schwartzte Stern.” Thereafter we returned to the Rath Haus where we ascended to the famous Assembly room in which the Electors of Germany met to elect their King. Typical of the Country, for fear of removing the polish of the parqueted floor, the visitors are required to put on felt slippers and to slide along from the one of the rooms which served originally as the meeting place and which is decorated with the pictures set in panels of the rulers of Germany starting from the 10th Century to the XIX; to the other arranged into a rostrum in which the Electors sat and deliberated. The ceilings and walls are richly decorated also, but there as well as the seats, the benches of the officers +c. are rather modern.—However the entire building is very unique and is an extremely interesting example of the period of its construction, the 14th century. . . . Later in the day we rode to the Palmergarten which is one of the principal attractions of Frankfort. It is an extensive park with avenues of trees, shrubbery, gravelled walks running through or along flower beds with stately lawns, also bordered with flowers artistically arranged and maintained in splendid condition. We sat on the terrace of the Casino (which contains the palm garden protected by glass and assembly rooms) and while consuming our refreshments, listened to the orchestra which was playing in the booth in the open air.—This feature is, as you know, one which obtains in most of the continental Cities with its accompaniment of beer and wine. We afterwards, after eating our dinner, went to see a *Revue* at one of the theatres. The performance was on the order of the Casino de Paris, but more crude and rather devoid of purpose except to dish out German jokes with no pep and to display various and sundry women in *negligée*. One did need to understand the language to recognize obscenity in words and actions, and the knowledge of the tongue added nothing to its savor.

The following morning (yesterday the 19th) we met Mr. + Mrs. Joseph who had arrived the night previous and with them visited the Goethe house. It is pretended that it is still furnished

as it was at the time of the poet's life and that the many objects exhibited are not only authentic but are intimately connected with his history. Be this be true or not there remains the illusion which lends charm and gives pleasure and entertainment to the beholder. At any rate the keeping alive of the memories of great men who in their days aided in the uplift of man, can only be beneficial and hence I felt the deepest interest in what was shown to us. We spent the balance of the morning in the old quarter (which is the best attraction of Frankfort) and even visited the Jewish museum only interesting to the extent of acquainting one with the emblems and objects connected with orthodox worship. Thereafter we ate lunch in the Rats Keller of the City Hall (a large vaulted room in the basement arranged in perfect harmony with the conception). The girls ate Frankfurters and Sauer crout and I something else with which my stomach is more sympathetic. We returned to the hotel by way of the quay of the Main—viewing the old bridge *en passant* and later rode to Konigsberg to see Frau Meyer. The ride in an open automobile was enjoyable indeed and the scenery of the Country traversed, reaching to the foothills, was fascinating. Frau Meyer was delighted to see us and did not know how to express her appreciation of our visit, except by excusing herself repeatedly that she could not offer us more than the tea we drank. It was a constant hand shaking with each one of us whenever we said anything pleasant or tendered her a gift. The frau speaks German, English and French equally well and displayed an excellent mind.

We met on our return to the hotel the Josephs and went with them to a beer-house for dinner. We parted at ten. This morning we entrained for this place, arriving at 11. We sought quarters at this hotel and for 38 marks we were given two be rooms with a modern bath on the first floor. Our (Julia + mine) room is established at the corner of the building with an immense porch alongside for our sole use and is stupendous in size (30x40) with 32 pieces of furniture to add to its comfort. Our beds are set in one of the corners, hidden partly by screens as in an alcove, in the corner is a raised platform reached by a low wooden partition evidently arranged for conferences and the balance of the space is taken up by tables, desks, lounges, sewing tables etc etc. Heavy portieres in red plush with lace curtains behind them (5 in number) complete the arrangement. The girl's room is equally as well furnished but smaller. We later went up to the Heidelberg Schloss—first ascending by funicular to the hotel from which a wonderful view of the Valley below is disclosed and then walking to the ruins of the Castle. We were guided (by a stupid fellow who spoke nothing but German) through the castle, but for want of space I will go into no details. Subsequently we went to the University and saw some of its features. Without in any way detracting from the standing of this Seat of learning, it will bear no comparison to the Universities at home or in England in point of structures +c—Afterwards we rode to the meeting place across the Oder where the boys amuse themselves by fighting duels and disfiguring themselves to qualify as members of fraternities. we passed in front of the famous ruin which is shown in the “Student prince”—But enough for to-day.

Kisses to all—Devotedly (signature)

Regards to all enquiring friends + relatives



HOTEL WÜRTEMBERGER HOF NÜRNBERG

NEUBAU 1913

WELTBEKANNTES HAUS

TELEFON 9780 MIT 9784 UND 9786

F. V. HEIM
INHABER

DEN 27 August 1926

My Dear Children,

It was with a sense of regret that we left Baden-Baden. But for the fact that we have such a long itinerary ahead we would have remained there much longer. Not only it possesses a climate on the order of Charlevoix in August but the place itself is most beautiful and most attractive and presents the means of refined entertainment superior to any thermal resort I have ever visited.—The trip to Nurnberg was rather long (7 1/2 hours) but we had the advantage of meeting a young man native of this place who amused and entertained us by his attempts to speak English and by our labor to make him understand our German. It was also amusing to see him dodge the controllers and conductors when they checked our tickets as we were riding in the II class and he held (as most Germans do in these parts) III class tickets. The scenery along the route was also quite attractive. we kept going up-grade in a hilly country and went thro' several tunnels which contrary to those on the Q.+C. are well ventilated and cause no discomfort whatever. We passed thro' Stuttgart and might have stopped there for the night but for the reason that we knew of no special reason why we should. It was after nine when we reached N. and after refreshing ourselves at this hotel we ate supper at an outside restaurant recommended by our travelling companion and then went on a tour of exploration that led us thro' mistake into the suburbs instead of the heart of the City. One should not venture out at night in a strange City unless one is perfectly acquainted with the place—This is a lesson which will serve us in the future. Our further experience in Germany confirms my original impression that the natives have now no grudge against Americans which is best evidenced by the U.S. flag floating over this hotel and the other principal hotels. The prices seem to be high in proportion to the pre-war rates, but still they are much lower than those prevailing in the States. We pay for two double rooms with a connecting modern bath room of good proportions, at this hotel, well appointed and tastefully furnished \$10. per day as against smaller rooms with scant furnishings at the Roosevelt costing double. Eating is also much cheaper by comparison with equal conditions at home, that is, according to location, luxuries or simplicity of meals. Much has been said about the attitude of the people and that they cringe towards the foreigners because they need them although in their heart they hate them. My observation is that this is untrue judging from the pleasant way all those we have approached whether in the West or in the South, treated us.

Their answers are civil and courteous. There is some contention about poverty. It may be that by reason of the repudiation of its debt and currency Germany has impoverished the *rentier* class, but the masses do not seem to have been affected and the merchant, the financial and the industrial elements are fast getting upon their feet and may even now be deemed prosperous. There is one undeniable proof of this prosperity by the manner in which the people spend their money—crowding the restaurants, the places of amusement and the rail-road trains. One thing has affected me very much in the past hour, it is a general manifestation upon the public streets of the people on the eve of the army reunion day fixed for the coming Sunday. The outpouring is immense, though not noisy, but everywhere the imperialistic flags and colors are in evidence along store fronts or born by the people. A military procession passed our hotel with folded standards—but does not this conceal a desire for “den Tag”?—I hope not for the sake of the peace of the world and humanity!

Yesterday we spent the day in inspecting the City. The old part which is entirely enclosed by high walls and guarded by massive watch towers standing high above the City with a deep moat (now drained) running along the outside of the walls is extremely interesting with its ancient buildings, well preserved, and appropriately designated in their association with the history of the periods in which they were constructed. The church and public buildings, the monuments, the bridges spanning the river which traverses the city, though erected from the 9th century on, are very characteristic and the manifest intention of preserving their traditions, makes them outstanding figures, full of interest to the visitor and educational to the inhabitants. There is not a vacant space in the entire area and not a shack to mar the effect—nor, may I add, in the narrowest streets and alleys occupied by the poorer classes, is there indicated that crass or depraved indigency which we find at home in the slums. There are no slums, in fact, here. We were much assisted by making the tour of the best parts of the City in a rubberneck car, later in the afternoon. We had an intelligent guide or conductor who spoke English very well and who took special pains in explaining things to us. He visited the old castle and the fortifications with us, translating the explanations given by the keeper and afterwards he gave his individual views on the subjects discussed. At night we revisited the best parts traversed—taking in the show windows of the stores in the shopping districts. This morning we went to the State Museum which is established in an old monastery to which extensive additions have been made. While the art exhibits, outside of the collection of old German masters, are not remarkable, yet the historic and ethnological displays are the best I have ever seen. The specimens of sculpture, wood carving, glassware, porcelain, fabrics, costumes, armory, reproductions of dwellings, the illustration of the customs of the people of the periods represented +c. are very extensive (far more than in the Metropolitan of N.Y.) but they are very intelligently and artistically exhibited in proper surroundings, such, of course, as could not be realized in the real world.—This afternoon we rode to the Zoological garden which lies in the outskirts of the modern City, built outside of the walls. The manner in which the grounds are kept and the exhibits which are almost as large as in the Bronx, certainly demonstrate, if anything, that this Country is far from being poor. Nuremberg has a smaller population than N.O. and yet maintains this expensive institution and many others, when we cannot do with our boasted prosperity. The Stadt park (*City park*) lies immediately

opposite and is most beautiful in landscape and the other features which distinguish well appointed parks generally.— — I forgot to mention that on the eve of our departure from Baden-Baden we took a funicular to the top of one of its neighboring mountains and were treated to a wonderful view of the *Schwartz wald* and the adjacent country, confirming much of my previous impression.—Most of the acquaintances we met at this resort saw us before we left and manifested some regret to see us go.—We leave to-morrow morning by automobile to Rottenberg and will proceed from thence to Munich where we hope to find the first letters from home. We are indeed anxious to know what has happened since we left—Hope all are well.

Devotedly, F.J.D.



REGINA - PALAST - HOTEL,

MÜNCHEN, MAXIMILIANSPLATZ 5

TELEGRAMMADRESSE: REGINAPALAST

Monday Aug 30/26

My Dear Ones,

After a most delightful Motor trip from Nürnberg to Rothenberg a beautiful old town that has remained undisturbed for all time, we are now in this most beautiful City of all we have seen. We came in at 2 o'clock + then walked about the places around here. At night we went to the Hoch Brau for supper we eat in the Festival Hall + it was filled with people drinking immense scooners of beer like the others we each took one + had baked goose pretzels &c. I have never seen so many people together eating before all were very orderly + having a good time. Now must tell you how happy we are to receive letters as they are our first ones since leaving home. Yesterday received one from George + you Stella today from Vera + Mae so by now we know you + Carol are in Charlevoix. We would certainly love to see you all especially Mae C + Carol playing together, do hope you will all have a good time and keep well.

Hope Leta is feeling all right and you are all enjoying Paris to the greatest extent.

Today we notice in the N.Y. Herald that there is an epidemic of yellow fever in Spain so we will change our minds about going there we will have to think over other plans.

We will remain here a week or more as there is so much to see + do.

We took a ride in the Sightseeing machine this morning + were thrilled with this place.

Felix is waiting for me to go out, the girls left no immediately after lunch as they do not care to loose a moment. I will send you this letter Stella + please send to Charlevoix at once.

Felix + the girls join me

With love + kisses

devotedly

Julia—

We also see in N.Y. Herald that there was a storm in N.C. hope there was not much damage.



REGINA - PALAST - HOTEL

MÜNCHEN, MAXIMILIANSPLATZ 5

TELEGRAMMADRESSE: REGINAPALAST

Aug, 31/26

My Dear Children,

Cable reports in the Paris N.Y. Herald from N.O. are of the most discomfoting nature. It would seem that the storm of the 29th August caused much havoc and loss of lives in our State. Our planters had been sufficiently tried in the past years without this sudden calamity coming upon them at harvest time. I do hope and trust that the reports are exaggerated and the affliction overdrawn. I shall await further intelligence with the keenest interest & your own reports upon the effects at home and in the surrounding country would be welcome especially if they are more encouraging.

Munich continues to afford us much entertainment. Yesterday we drove thro' the principal parts in a sight-seeing car, this being, I have found, the best means of getting our bearings and of knowing the best places to visit. My first impression is that this City in its general details, its monuments, public buildings, museums, universities, technical institutions, in its broad avenues, drives and parks compares most favorably with Paris and in many particulars excels it—It is a difficult matter to determine which museums should be visited within the time we have allotted for our stay or what performances, lyrical or dramatic, we should attend. The girls will see the Magic Flute to-night if they can get seats which will not cost too much, we will all hear “Der Ring der Nibelungen” to-morrow night + the girls have also engaged seats for Friday night for “Parsival.” Your mother will have enough of Wagnerian or Classic music with one performance while the girls who have a better technical knowledge of music and abundant patience can go as often as they wish. The first night of our arrival (Sunday) we went to the largest beer-house in the world the “Hofbräuhaus” to see how the masses comport themselves with abundant beer and good eats served at reasonable prices. We sat at one of the tables shown in the enclosed card and drank our own quota of beer (one *stein* being all each of us could imbibe safely) and we ate a real German soup followed by boiled goose and desert. We certainly enjoyed the surroundings and the meal (liquid and substantial) and were amused by the serious manner in which the folks these parts accept their festivities. The salon is divided into four parts. In an open courtyard the people drink their beer out of immense jugs which are filled from a counter on the inside of the building at a very low price. No other accomodations are supplied except beer barrels on which to set their glasses; on the ground floor and the floor above the guests sit at long tables and the drinks are brought to them; there the prices are a little higher, while where we sat (on the third floor (2d here) the rates are again advanced because of the more luxurious surroundings—

Naturally the better elements go there. At the time we visited the establishment there must have been between 2+3 thousand consumers. The sight was good for once + we were glad we went. Mrs. Friend, Ida, Fanny Cahn and Louise Hesinger came to Munich last night and after dinner we rejoined them at their hotel. They were enthusiastic over the engagement (and the girls pratted about it by the yard) and their trips in France + Germany.—To-day they and our party rode out to the Castle erected by the mad king Louis alongside the lake in which he ended his days. The trip was first by train consuming an hour and a quarter; we disembarked to be taken by a dummy engine drawing miniature cars to the lake and there we got into a steamboat which crossed this beautiful lake with the bluest of waters + encompassed by the high peaks of the Tyrolian alps forming a back ground of wondrous beauty, to the landing place leading thro' thick woods to the Castle grounds. You know that the Castle and its parks are reproductions on a smaller scale of Versailles and were so designed to satisfy the whim of a crazy ruler. The interior of the building, however, though also patterned after the original palace of Louis XIV is more grandiose in its adornments furnishings + decorations. The reception room, the bedrooms, the drawing room, the throne room and especially the large and small hall of mirrors (the larger one being 60x300) possess such wealth of gold incrustations, silver chasing, wood and marble carvings, porcelain and crystal ornaments, brocades of gold and silver, inlaid floors, frescoes, high-reliefs, marble dadoes, crystal chandeliers of immense proportions and in fine such material and artistic wealth, worked out by artists of note to the greatest perfection, as to beggar description. At any rate I admit my inability to undertake the task—Suffice to say that even the Paris Opera House bears no XXX to this place. Where the money came to pay for this extreme extravagance—

I almost forgot to mention that yesterday afternoon we also drove thro' the English Park + saw many features which will be of benefit to our park—More soon

Love to all as usual—affectionately
(signature)



REGINA - PALAST - HOTEL

MÜNCHEN, MAXIMILIANSPLATZ 5

TELEGRAMMADRESSE: REGINAPALAST

Monday Sept. 2/26

My Dear Children,

Day-before-yesterday (Tuesday) the girls as mentioned in my last letter went to see the “Magic Flute” which they subsequently reported was finely staged and performed and Mamma and I went to a *Movie*. The representation was “Siegfried” and this tallied well with the opera “Gotterdammerung” which we were to see the following evening. This German film was excellent in detail to the extent of illustrating the legend, but it lacked the elaborations and finish of the American film. It is rare for the German to depart from the utilitarian principles which seem to control their actions and when they do they go to the other extreme as in the case of the mad King Ludwig’s castle where the friezes, the decorations and the furnishings are the most extravagant in the world and made so, to a greater extent, by the wasteful use of gold and marble. Yet it was the crazy man’s purpose to excel Versailles rather, an indication of instinct and custom. Yesterday we went to the Museum of Art and here stands eminently the German spirit in establishing a standard and living up to it. The exhibits of painting are of the very highest order without excessive attempts at elaboration or display. Each work is the best of the Master obtainable for the Collection, without any one case of mediocrity. Then the several arrangements, the settings, the light, the grouping and the colors are superior even to the Louvre. I cannot go into detail of the exhibits for this is beyond my ken; what I may say is that the German productions from Dürer on, the Dutch from Rembrandt and the Flemish from Rubens, the Venetian from Titian + Veronese, the Spanish from Velasquez and Murillo are marvels. I had had a surfeit for instance, of Rubens because of the innumerable specimens found in all famous galleries,—the buxom women, the scarlet draperies and the exaggerated borders of cupids floating in the air harassed me, but in this Munich gallery much of this is eliminated and the most sober and impressive examples are hung, so that my former judgement has been reversed. We met Mrs. Friend and her party at the Museum and they raved with us in the magnificence of the display. Ruth and Caroline are going back to absorb more of the exhibit. I would have been content to do likewise but I am afraid of overtaxing my declining brains.—Last night we all went to the Prince Regent Theatre to see the Wagnerian opera I mentioned above. It was the third of the Ring der Nibelungen series produced for this operatic festival of Munich. The theatre lies in the suburb of the City, it is, I understand, a reproduction of the Beiruth Theatre, the better to carry out the Wagnerian spirit, for instance the auditorium consists of one floor holding seats set in tiers running straight from wall to wall + rising on a slow gradient to the extreme rear with no

pillar or other support obstructing the view and without proscenium boxes concealing any part of the stage, thus making every seat face the stage straight out. The seats are reached from the sides either direct from the hallway in the front or by stairs as they approach the rear. This enables the theatre to be cleared rapidly, more especially as this arrangement is the same on both sides right + left being distinctly indicated. There were but two intermissions in the opera which started at 4 (ending at 9:30) and during those periods the spectators walked to the immense dining room or mess hall set on the one side of the building, where they ate and drank at the long counters ranged on one side or at tables distributed all over; in addition, there is a large garden attached where during favorable weather the meals are served in the open. I dislike to express my views on the performance and the opera because my musical education having been neglected, I am quite sure of falling in error, nor would I bring upon myself the ridicule of others by being of a different mind from them + those whose knowledge of music might also be inferior to mine. For five long hours I strained every nerve and appealed to all my senses in a vain attempt to follow the melodies, to catch the rhythm or the motifs and to form a connection between the drama and the music. The orchestration was remarkable, I will admit, in its force and harmony, each instrument seemed attuned to the formation of a harmonious whole with boldness and originality of conception, but not a single aria was captivating or made a lasting impression. The *recitativos* were interminable and when delivered too frequently in complete darkness without the singers even being visible, I was actually bored, the parts which were dramatic in reality were few and when a scenic effect was produced it was short-lived. If I were younger and had the leisure and the proper intuition I would follow a course on Wagnerism, but I am afraid my ear having been bred to the Italian and French schools I would make a poor pupil. For all that I am glad that I saw the grandiose performance such as I doubt exceeding of having the opportunity of seeing again, but I have had for the present a sufficiency and will not return to the final performance of Siegfried. We met at the opera Edgar Cahn and Mr. + Mrs. Shields the friends of Dr. Scherck whom we met last summer at Charlevoix and a Mr. + Mrs. Behrens of N.O.—All of them had come especially for the musical season. The theatre was packed to capacity in a large proportion by foreigners. There may have been many enthusiasts or *connoisseurs* among them,—yet there was no manifestation of their delight for the applause was very rare and extremely faint.—This A.M. Mamma + I strolled along the commercial districts and made a few purchases of necessities—We are still awaiting a letter from Julia and a second from George. Home news are rather XXX. Keep well

Love to every one as usual + without exception Kiss XXX affectionately F.J.D.

I unintentionally write too small and am fearful of giving my readers too much trouble in making out my meaning. I have endeavored to correct myself + minimize the trouble by XXX my letters—Excuse hence the frequent erratas you will observe



REGINA - PALAST - HOTEL

MÜNCHEN, MAXIMILIANSPLATZ 5

TELEGRAMMADRESSE: REGINAPALAST

*Monday Sept 3/26**My Dear Ones,*

We expected to receive many letters here but have only had a few, so please write at least twice a week as it affords us so much relief to hear from all.

We cabled when we reached here + informed you we would be here until Sept 6th so thought if there was any thing particular to communicate we would hear from you.

Do hope the storm did not do much damage or XXX N.O. How are you George and Julius getting on with the housekeeping?

We received Mama letter announcing Vera's + Carol's arrival at Charlevoix and are now anxious to hear all about your amusements with babies. Perhaps if you hear of a good house we could keep house there next summer, I may feel that way after a rest but am not sure about it; I told Caroline + Ruth they could do the housekeeping—make inquiries anyway.

It has been most enjoyable here as it is such a beautiful City + so much of interest. We spent two very pleasant days with Ida + Kitty Friend, Fannie + Louise they left for Vienna. All looked very well.

We attended the Wagner Opera of "Gott'es Dammerung" it was very fine + the Opera house is a magnificent building not gaudy as most of the Opera Houses. The Museum here is a gem. Today we went to the Deutches Museum it is most interesting, you would have reveled in the Chemistry display George. Papa will tell you about all in detail so I will not do so. We left after breakfast and spent most of the day there, Papa did not want to leave as he was so interested but will return tomorrow. It has been warm here but we are not a bit uncomfortable or kept from going about. We noticed a report of some Yellow fever in Spain so will not go there until we get further particulars if we do not go there will plan some other trip.

We have not made our stay here too long as we have been busy all the time

*With love + kisses to all from all devotedly Mother +
Julia—*

FELIX J. DREYFOUS
GEORGE ABEL DREYFOUS
FRANK B. TWOMEY
LAW AND NOTARIAL OFFICES
1818 CANAL BANK BUILDING
NEW ORLEANS

March 9/28

My Dear “Bad” Girl,

You know that 17 Audubon Place misses you,—and the feeling is accentuated by our envy of the good times you are having and the things you are seeing without our being there to share in your pleasures. I am almost “stiff” mad because you just as much as told me to stand up and deliver so that you could go further than you contemplated originally. I didn’t stay mad long, however, and now I am very happy that I could contribute to such an entertainment as you have had and propose to find until you get back into harness and the solitude of the cell of Audubon Place. It did seem a goodly sum, the \$900 you wrote I should deposit to your acc. so as to make good the check you had drawn against it & as I know that you expected me to stand the music (some say gaff) I took it in and left you out meaning that dad footed the bill himself. What I want you to do is to feel that you are getting value received and that forever after you will remember the circumstance with pleasurable thoughts which should assist in overcoming any feeling of depression that might crawl upon you when things don’t go your way or somebody has hurt your feelings (as you may believe—even when this belief is purely imaginary). We are getting along pleasantly also and that touch of grippe which caused Mamma to put me to bed one day last week is already forgotten and I have resumed my bossing around the office and my listening in the radio at home to the discomfort of others. We give dinners at home occasionally and I do my best then to look pleasant and if pinochle or bridge or poker follows and if I show that I am a grump in not seeing the fine points of the games, it does not penetrate very deeply and I continue to sin as in the past. You know from personal observation (and I believe that I heard you say so quite frequently) that those are people who never learn and that it is a waste of time to teach them better. Isn’t that so?

For all that and more I shall never cease to be your affectionate,

Dad

FELIX J. DREYFOUS
GEORGE ABEL DREYFOUS
FRANK B. TWOMEY
LAW AND NOTARIAL OFFICES
1818 CANAL BANK BUILDING
NEW ORLEANS

April 11/28

My Dear Billie:

Your letters continue to come in regularly and always find a hearty welcome. It is pleasing to observe that you absorb all the sights you witness and enjoy them. It is not always the case with tourists who conceive the notion that the territory they cover is more important than the benefits they may derive from a careful study and appreciation of the places they visit. This is the main reason why I do not begrudge the money you are spending though the total is mounting up to an important figure; all that I will expect from you is that you will bear in mind the fact that you are indebted to me for the pleasure and happiness you are now experiencing. On the other hand, I have no purpose to allude to the matter under any circumstance so that you may not charge me with attempting to hold you under restraint by reason of your obligation. The only manifestation of your gratitude, however, that I will require is that you will remain cheerful and contented and cast away any somber thoughts that may come over you on account of an accidental disappointment or a temporary setback—I am endorsing New York checks for \$500 which will provide you with the means of traveling in comfort and when this sum is exhausted, I shall let you have more. Your cable sent from Florence indicated that you had abandoned the proposed trip to London. Let me assure you that though the entire family group agrees that the trip would be unwise, no one to my hearing said ought that would indicate the least desire of contradicting you simply for the pleasure of contradiction.

Since Mamma has left, I have been leading a pretty gay life, I am out almost every night and have played cards (Poker—bridge) a number of times and contrary to your opinion, I have been more successful in bridge than in poker—meaning that I have done well with the one and have failed with the other. To night, Alper is giving a dinner at the Jung to his mother on her diamond jubilee (75 years) and all her brothers, sisters, her children, their husbands and other near relatives will be present but after the meal, the more remote relations will come to participate in general festivities such as games, dances, etc. I suppose I'll leave to play cards and drop some more money to the luckier ones. Mamma, as you know, went to Cin. both to see the new apartment to which her mother has moved and to be at her bedside during her illness. I have received letters daily from mother which have noted steady improvement in her mother's condition which presages an early recovery and which also means the early return of mother at N.O.—It has turned quite cold here and we had to go back to woolens and the firing of furnaces but this will not last long. Caroline eats lunch with us every day. She looks well, feels well and is cheerful. I don't think you need to hasten your return on her account to my mind your presence

would be more embarrassing than beneficial You should thank Miss Frowchow, for her kind letter in which she assured us of your good health and improved appearance. It was considerate on her part to do so and we are grateful therefore. Continue to write frequently and above all be careful of yourself and of your health.

Many tender embraces,
Dad

FELIX J. DREYFOUS
GEORGE ABEL DREYFOUS
FRANK B. TWOMEY
LAW AND NOTARIAL OFFICES
1818 CANAL BANK BUILDING
NEW ORLEANS

July 7/28

My Dear Billie,

Being a seasoned traveler, I feel quite convinced that at the present moment you are unaffected by the motion of the waves or the vibration of the ship but on the contrary you are enthralled by the restfulness on the deck or entertained by your fellow passengers who will find in you a good spirit.

Naturally, we shall all be very happy to have again with us our daughter after such a long absence and we foresee the greatest happiness in her return.

If the weather in N.Y. is pleasant again, you should take advantage of it and delay your return as much as you can to escape our July heat. The events which are now keeping Mamma and me at home will not come to being for a while yet so that there is no urgency in your coming back for a week or so. Always take advantage of your opportunities because fate might not always favor us.

Last night we had Vera, Julius and the Scherks, Caroline, Leon and Mr. Weiss to supper and afterward we played bridge till a very late hour. The in-laws are all leaving on their vacation the end of the week and this affair was intended as a leave-taking.

Keep well my dear Billie and never fail to trust in the lasting affection of your Dad.

F.J.D.



*Hotel Radio
Vichy*

August 2/29

My Dear Children,

It continues to be rather hot here although this high temperature does not deter the large crowds that fill the 450 hotels to capacity in search possibly of a cure-all. The doctor whom I consulted found, I failed to mention in my last letter, that there was some weakness in my right liver—which apparently is wrong. For this reason I am compelled to cut down on my diet and strange to say instead of this stimulating my appetite, it seems to have destroyed it altogether. I even have to swallow before meals some toxic, to take sitz baths *a l'eau courante* (running water) and to eschew all waters except Vittel and those of a certain Spring—I wonder if the learned gentleman believes me threatened with senile obesity? According to accounts neither Felix III nor Betty Jane is presently threatened with such dire fate!—Tomorrow when the doctor comes to ascertain if we are on the road to recovery I shall advise him that I would seek in a more genial climate for a revival of my youth and vigor and that he will have to forego the issuance of the expected certificate. I have engaged our sleepers to St. Moritz for Wednesday and expect to meet Mae there. Our future plans are still unknown. We have had the good fortune of talking to Felix Loeb yesterday and the day before and to all appearances he found pleasure in reviewing the past events and the trend of the money market. Mr. Loeb had to be operated for a carbuncle last winter which came to within an ace to send him across the Styx. We also played bridge with a Mr. and Mrs. Cubick (of N.Y.)—Mrs. C. being a Schlessinger—and very fortunately we ended the game without any argument—in fact such mistakes as I might have made must have been trivial because nobody cussed me out. Ruth has been playing tennis with some French girls at a country club some distance up the River Ariega. She says that she played better than the others and this must have enhanced her pleasure if she found any. Last night she danced at the Hotel du Parc et Majestic. This evening she and the rest of us as well as some of the acquaintances we have made will go to a gala affair at the Carlton. You may be assured in advance that I shall not attempt the fantastic toe myself nor will I engage any one to try it with mother.—I have not done much exploring in the town and vicinity because of the heat and my knowledge of Vichy will be limited to the immediate vicinity which includes the parks, the shops and the Casino.

Today in addition to George's letter we received letters from Vera and Caroline—the last being dated the 7th. It is a pity George had to forego the visit to Zemurray's country house because he would have enjoyed it. I hope the invitation will be renewed. When I was in Cin. I witnessed an orthodox wedding ceremony. The canopy under which the bridal party stood had festoons of electric lights interlaced with strings of flowers. The men kept their hats on, the rabbi chanted in Hebrew made many gesticulations and after he had handed the sacramental (?)

wine to the groom, the latter took a sip, invited the bride to follow suit and then he smashed the glass under his heel. I suppose that Dr. Cohen went through the same ceremonial and that the uninitiated relished the whole the same as I did in Cin.—

The strike of the Car-men at home from all accounts is a disgraceful affair. You may say what you will of this Country I am sure that the excesses witnessed on the streets of N.O. would not have been tolerated for the time it has been going on there. I note that Leon took part in the attempt to adjust matters and to restore peace between the two factions. The appeal always made on such occasions where labor is concerned to mob violence render vain such efforts. What is required is determination to maintain the law and to punish severely the malefactor. What a pity I repeat that when N.O. is striving to forge her way to the forefront such untoward incidents occur. The remedy is to root out the politicians so that reason alone will prevail in the solution of the problems presented. I note that our grandchildren have *rendez-vous* at the park daily. As soon as Jon puts on his jumpers Betty will race with him rather than with the motherly Lilie (as she calls Carol) I want to be there when this happens.

Vera wants to know if we were thrilled in wonderful Paris. My judgement is that Atlantic City or Charlevoix would have stimulated us more in pleasure seeking when after three days of cold bleak weather at sea we had to shed off all the clothes we decently could to find comfort. I am looking forward to the time when I shall find greater reward for braving the danger of the sea to come to this land.—

Kisses as usual for the babies and as many for you. Regards to all the folks.

Affectionately,
F.J.D.

TELEPHONE 396
GRANDHOTEL
STMORITZBORE

GRANDHOTEL
STMORITZ
ENGADINE

August 2/29

My Dear Children,

The numerous letters which reached us from home after a dearth of news of two weeks afforded us great relief. Every (sentimental) idealistic and material interest which I possess is contained there and it is not surprising that I am disturbed when I am cut off from all contact with it. It is raining at this moment and I am deprived of my long walk into the country. For the past five days I have had this walk with the rabbi emeritus of Temple Emmanuel, Dr. Lieberman and opportunity was given to both to air their convictions and their thoughts on matters religious and temporal. I was somewhat surprised to hear from the Doctor's lips that he did not believe that the five books of Moses were written by him, but must have been compiled during the period in which he lived. This fact that the Civil Code is known as Code Napoleon does not establish the fact any more that it was the work of Napoleon. And thus he deduced that the Genesis was not inspired but is a myth in which it is sought to explain the origin of man, the same as the creation of the earth, the seas, the skies, and which took by a process of evolution more than six days but periods running into the millions of years preceding them to shape. He even explained that in his judgment the attempted sacrifice of Isaac by Abraham was not by Divine Command but a means adopted by Abraham to bring about the abolition of human offerings. It is remarkable how far this imagination will go to clear knotted questions or to explain matters that are not only impossible but illogical. I did not attempt to dispute the views of the learned doctor nor would I have offended him by suggesting that the destruction of the basis of our religion meant also the denial of the dogmas so essential to its existence. However the doctor stated that my queries opened a new subject to him and that he intended in the future to write a series of articles on it. You need not be alarmed at the possibility of this discussion being hurtful to my professions of faith—leading as it must to the removal of those barriers that sustain and support one's moral conduct and rectitude of purpose in one's contact with others. I see the folly of attempting to unravel the mysteries which envelop the subject matter—because it is not given to the human mind to penetrate them. One should be content to submit to the code of laws as adopted by the will of man, believing that it is the result of the wisdom and experience of ages and best calculated to guide our steps. In other words the man who obeys the law is more likely to be a good citizen than the one who is directed blindly by the religious precepts or the teachings of the faith In the Church or Temple.— —I was far more edified and interested In my conversation with Mr. Talmadge, who 27 years ago when as Mr. Thalheimer, he was an assistant editor of the Item. Mr. Thalheimer now Mr. Talmadge by adoption was very helpful to me at the time when I was actively engaged in concert with others in the development

of the plans of Civic improvements which finally realized the regeneration of our City—such as the execution of the system of modern drainage, sewerage, water supply and paving. Mr. T. met with great success in journalism in Toledo, Cleveland, Baltimore and elsewhere and is now retired with a fortune behind him. To an old fellow it is always pleasant to recall the past especially as in this instance, it is so Intimately connected with his Life's work.

I continue to enjoy this place for its climate, its natural attractions, its restfulness and its opportunities for enjoyment. If the hotel management gives us tomorrow satisfactory rooms in exchange for those which we must vacate tomorrow because of their prior engagement, we shall remain here ten days. I am happy to learn that you are all having a pleasant time at home and that the carmen's strike has so far not caused you any material loss. I also hope that the next letters will tell us that Leon has finally landed the Alexandria job not only because it means profitable employment for its firm but because it will be helpful to our municipal Boys' home.—I am also glad to see how our babies are progressing—Let us hear from all of you often—Many many kisses as usual.

Devotedly,
F.J.D.

I almost forget to mention that Mamma is doing exceedingly well as a distance walker except that when she climbs steep grades she pants abruptly.



HOTEL BRISTOL
SALZBURG



Aug. 15/29

My Dear Children,

We received yesterday letters from Vera, Julius, and Aunt Amalie dated July 24–26th, all of which went far in promoting our happiness. We rejoice to learn that our babies are making steps forward—by holding themselves up and walking unsupported. Caroline ought to take down Betty Jane's jabber so that she might hereafter have her baby translate her meaning. Tell the little girls (Carol and Betty Jane) that Grandma and Ruth have been picking up things at every stopping place for them but so far poor Jon has been neglected because the wants of boys are few and the objects that might be suitable to them are too bulky to be carried in suitcases as we have sent our trunks to Paris for storage until our arrival there. You may whisper in Jon's ears however that his grandpapa will see that he is not neglected.

The last evening we spent at Innsbruck after a whole day of trotting in the rain and slush we listened to a sextet of Tyrolian musicians with accompaniment of the xither (which you know is the native musical instrument). The singing of the artists was most excellent and the music, consisting of folks' melodies quaint and enticing. We had besides at the hotel a Tyrolian peasant dance which in a degree was a mixture of Italian and Spanish steps.—The jump from Innsbruck to this place, if Caroline will remember, is full of interest,—none ever tires of the scenery as it unfolds itself through the car windows.—Both Innsbruck and Salzburg have changed very little since our last visit to these places but both are always attractive to the traveller who takes the pains of seeking out the best or most original features they possess. Salzburg specially is very unique in location, style of architecture and tradition. Aunt Mae had picked out for us the best rooms at this hotel—and the most expensive. Ours is a lower room overlooking the beautiful park with its magnificent gardens, original statuary and landscape and we have the added advantage of hearing from our windows the orchestral music discoursed the entire evening at the Casino lying opposite to us. The first evening Ruth took us (for it was she who lost no time on our arrival at 3 o'clock to purchase the tickets) to the Mozart serenade given in an open space within the Court yard of some official building. There was complete darkness during the performance except the flickering lights from the candles placed on the music stands of the performers and the twinkling stars of the firmament far above. The effect was wierd but as an iconoclast that I happen to be, I found the instrumentation rather weak and below the standard of the symphony bands we hear at home. Yesterday we had Caroline in our mind when we went on an excursion to Berchtesgaden. The day was most propitious—it was bright sunshining and neither too hot nor too cool and the atmosphere was clear. Her, that is Ruth and the old man, after alighting from the train put mother in the trolley car for Konigsee and followed her on foot. The

walk through the forest was the one which Caroline was so anxious to undertake and we were well rewarded for our pains. The entire distance of almost three miles is full of incidents and affords an ever changing panorama. I did some puffing and perspiration at times streamed along my cheeks—but this didn't matter. We ultimately found mother sitting at a restaurant awaiting us. It took us some time to eat a seaside pic-nic lunch neither very good nor very bad and this done we went to the lake side. The crowd that the favorable weather had drawn was so great that we did not find it safe nor would it have been comfortable to go on the motor boats that take the excursions around the lakes but Ruth and I (mother as usual preferring to view things from a shady seat) walked along the trail that borders on the lakes (for the stream in question is more of a wide river which meanders between the mountain chains on either side) as we ascended to quite a height we could behold below and far out in the distance this calm, restful and panoramic body of water widening and narrowing in turn reflecting the green slopes of the mountains and above us the snow clad peaks. I regret that Caroline was robbed of the pleasure which we were afforded this time. Ma, Ruth and I took the trolley back to Berchtesgaden and then rode the usual way to Salzburg.—At night (7 o'clock) we went to see Don Juan at the Fest Hall which lies on the other side of the river and at the bottom of the rocky prominence which juts out of Salzburg. The building (or rather the series of buildings for it possesses the theatre proper and a foyer of equal size in which the refreshments substantial and liquid, are served during intermissions) is on the order of the art-nouveau. It is rectangular in shape and its ceiling is perfectly flat or horizontal without beams or support except the side walls. Contrary to the usual belief there is no dome to improve the acoustics which were perfect as it is. I am not familiar with the music of the opera nor am I accustomed to the constant change of scenery which the plot requires and am therefore unable to give a fair account of whatever impression the whole produced on me. The acting and the voices were good and I may sum up the representation by saying that it pleased me—but Ruth and mother, apparently, still more—Ruth has this morning already gone by her lonesome to a concert. This evening we are to see performed "Jedermann" at the same theatre and there's question of our buying tickets to subsequent performances.—Many kisses to our babies and affectionate greetings from,

F.J.D.

Hotel Bellevue Dresden,

Telegramm-Adresse : Bellevue Dresden

Telephon 25281

Aug. 25/29

My Dear Children:

Somebody connected with this hotel must have suspected that I had a long purse or the fact that I am an American may have proven an Open Sesame, for on our arrival at this hotel we were taken to corner rooms on the first (2nd) floor, one of which has a porch for its own use, overlooking the Elbe, lying at its feet, and the suburbs across the river for miles and miles, and the two other windows give an excellent view of the Lann River as it winds its way to the distant mountains and also of the principal churches and public edifices including the Opera House, just across the street from our hotel. The rooms are as large as ours at home while the bathroom is monumental with every accessory for comfort.—I was quoted a price of 60 M. (\$15) a day for all this luxury and for this fact I may now consider myself the principal citizen of Dresden. However all other things meals, drinks etc., are very high and we find a way of retrenching by going to outside establishments for the liquid and substantial demands and obtain most satisfactory results. Yesterday for instance we went for lunch at the Rathskellar which is as in the instance of all large German cities, in the basement of the City Hall and is under Municipal control. This Rathskellar is even finer than those of Frankfort and Munich to which we went some years ago, and the cooking is the very best, the surroundings are attractive and the prices moderate...

Our last day in Prague was spent mostly in shopping that is in finding out whether or not the prices we had paid for certain articles to be sent by parcel post or to be stuck into corners of our suitcases were the lowest or how they compared with those quoted in other cities. The balance of the day was devoted to sight-seeing which included a visit to the old Jewish Synagogue so much spoken of. Personally it did not impress me very much probably because I am not acquainted with its traditions or because as house of worship it is not elevating—nor suggestive even of the greatness and majesty of the Divine One. The building is diminutive in size, the auditorium is barely 30 by 30 with vaulted ceilings of the Gothic order; in the centre is a dais in which the rabbi and the cantor go through the rituals as prescribed by the custom and ordinances of the early ages and on the four sides are set individual stands or pulpits worn by age along which the worshippers read and chant their prayers. I have always wondered whether or not the pomp in the case of the Catholics and the peculiar performances in a given way unchanged for centuries, followed by loud readings chanting in responses in unison could find favor with the Almighty, and lead Him to inspire the votaries to acts of benevolence and righteousness in the sense of moral conduct and civic duties duly performed.

We enjoyed our stay in Prague very much indeed and would not hesitate to return to it some other time when we would undoubtedly find new charms and renewed entertainment.—Our trip to Dresden, outside the *ausgangen* (disembarking) on the border for the verification of our passports by the Austrian and German officials and for a change of car, was, if anything, very satisfactory. I was surprised at the richness of the soil of Czechoslovakia and the thrift of its population, Speaking to a native (evidently a professional man) in our compartment, in bad German on our part and worse French on his part, we ascertained that the establishment of the Republic following the overthrow of the Austrian yoke, has stimulated the industrial, financial and commercial development of the nation and this is much manifested by the air of contentment of the people the condition of their buildings, public and private, the cleanliness of the thoroughfares and the activity displayed everywhere. Yet the tearing down of old structures to be replaced by modern constructions and the removal of grime on the monuments, might cause a pang to those who love the ancient lore and worship their ancestors (as with the Mogols). Personally I admire progress because it lends comfort to man and stimulates him to greater benefits to humanity and further development of science which also means the prolonging of life, the abolishment of poverty and the eradication of fatal diseases. . . . What I say about Czechoslovakia applies to Saxony (Dresden being its Capital). There seems to be a complete turn over in the latter city we see much scaffolding up on all sides and on public buildings (churches, museums, palaces) being restored and rendered more attractive and more useful, even the former homes of the rulers have been converted into museums, academies and thrown open to the people. Here also there is every indication of prosperity and general contentment. Wilson was right in seeking to make the “world safe for democracy.” Here I am reminded of the magnificent heroic statue to Wilson standing in a park at Prague opposite the Esplanade on which that motto is inscribed.—The war was an abomination but ultimately it will benefit the world just as the French Revolution did.—Yesterday I followed the women folks on a shopping expedition with the result that by the time they had been *partly* satisfied my purse was dangerously depleted and I had to draw upon my A.E. checks. In the afternoon, Ruth and I attended service at the Lutheran church and we heard a fine organ recital and exultant choral singing. At night we attended a performance of the “Egyptian Helena,” by Richard Strauss given at the Opera House I spoke of before. I could not understand the German libretto and hence I don’t know what the plot was about except that Menelaus kept on threatening Helen with a dagger and a sorceress followed both with all sorts of direful consequences. However the acting was “wondershön” the stage settings most gorgeous and the orchestration *tremendously* superb. Strauss, as you know, belongs to the Wagnerian School which looks more to orchestral effects than to melody. The brass instruments thunder out deep notes that mingle well perhaps with the gentler sounds of the string instruments but distract the attention of the listener. The Opera House is undoubtedly the finest I ever saw with the sole exception of the Paris Opera; it has also been recently renovated and made still more attractive (to me) by its newness. This morning Ruth and

I (with mother trailing along) went to mass at the neighboring church and again were treated to fine music. Later we went to the park and enjoyed exceedingly its serene beauties and admired its condition—incidentally we ate lunch there. Returning to the hotel we were surprised to find Ruth and Caroline's friends there and I am finishing this letter while they are being entertained by the rest.

Kisses as usual
F.J.D.

Hotel Bellevue Dresden,

Telegramm-Adresse : Bellevue Dresden

Telephon 25281

Tuesday
Aug. 27/29

My Dear Children, —

Although I wrote two days ago, I find that I have enough to say to cover my allotted space. The Josephs left this forenoon but we expect to meet them again before we sail. We again found them congenial and very much attached to us. Day-before-yesterday we accompanied them to the Zwingerhof, an art gallery (at one time the residence of the rulers of Saxony) located opposite this hotel as shown by the pictures I am enclosing. This gallery contains paintings of the Italian and Dutch & Flemish masters such as Tintoretto, Raphael, Botticelli, Rembrandt, and others of the same standard in large numbers in fact Rembrandt is better represented than in the Louvre and Raphael has I believe his best production—the Sistine Virgin. I do not possess that divine spark which enables one to fully understand the sublime in art, but I do not recall a single picture I ever saw anywhere which impressed me more for its conception, its beauty of type and character, its coloring and its perspective. No wonder that such production will exalt the masses into a fervor of religious devotion and make converts of those who are on the border line of piety. It did stir my emotional chords to the highest pitch. In the evening we joined the Josephs in entertaining one of their relations who practices medicine in Dresden. He lived in the U.S. for 15 years and speaks our language fluently. He was accompanied by his wife and mature daughter and they proved very interesting—to the extent that it was almost the zero hour before they left.—Yesterday morning we went by train to Meissen where the famous Dresden porcelain (called here china) is made. We were conducted through the factory by a guide who spoke English and who knew thoroughly the process of the manufacture, its history and its production. I had on many occasions visited potteries, including the Sevrés, but this one is far larger than any of them and its creations much more numerous and in many instances equal to and our guide asserted superior in texture, technic and artistic conception to Sevrés. Undoubtedly the Germans are thorough in anything they attempt or specialize in and I found here a most orderly, systematic and intelligent method to bring out the most complete and most artistic results. There are some 800 men employed in the ateliers or departments and to prevent the possibility of the employees being distracted or disturbed in their work they are segregated into small groups and those artists who do the finishing work in molding (for the figures be they flowers or animate things have to be made by hand in small parts, cast in sections) or painting, coloring or painting in free hand are confined in separate rooms. It is wonderful how much ground the whole covers and in the exhibition rooms where samples of their production are collected and even in the salesrooms there are shown thousands of examples, ranging from the highest in finish, the largest in proportion such as whole panels mantle pieces and heroic statues to the

most minute in detail and size. If the prices asked for the articles sold and on sale, be a test of merit or quality, they are beyond the reach of the average man to acquire or to understand. I, for one, was surprised to notice prices ranging from 1500 to 10000 marks for a dinner set. To me a set costing at home \$200 or \$300 would look just as attractive. Shame for me to make such an admission but what is the use concealing my limitations! After several hours spent in the factory, we rode up to the Albrecht Castle and church on an elevation in the outskirts of the town. There was much to be seen of an interesting character which I do not believe, however, would warrant my going into detail in describing—One important factor in our visit is the excellent meal we ate on a terrace overlooking the country.— —

Later on, after we returned to Dresden, another shopping expedition was undertaken by the women folks and Mrs. Joseph and I returned to the hotel to read and to rest—having stopped on the way to replenish my exchequer and to buy our tickets to Berlin, the folks having decided to leave tomorrow feeling that they had seen enough of Dresden to satisfy their desires.

The folks and I went last night to see *Der Freichutz* at the opera.—The performance was excellent. The artists with one exception being good and the stage settings magnificent. I am familiar to some extent with the music of the opera and once more I was recalled to the memories of the past when my sister Alice sang on the day of Atonement and on other occasions the prayer in the second act which stirred the entire audience not only in the purity and sweetness of her exquisite voice but also in the sublimity and tenderness of the score. I could see that sparkle in my father's eyes when he heard his daughter's voice from aloft. We went also to the other side of the Elbe as far as the *Weisse Hirsh* (the white deer) an extensive park comprising woodlands, natural water—courses and other natural scenery, ascending to great heights in the mountains which surround the City. We were delighted and edified by what we saw. This morning we took a boat ride up the river as far as Lubitz—some five miles beyond—and enjoyed the view of the magnificent homes perched on hilltops that line the river bank—returning to the City by train through an attractive section.—Mae had lunch at the Rathskeller, where I am attempting to finish this letter with the handicap of mother's and Ruth's return cutting into my chain of thoughts—with the results appearing on its face. My next letter will be from Berlin. I am trying to have this letter transmitted by Air Mail from N.Y. to N.O. to see if anytime can be gained thereby.—Let me know.

Kisses to the babies and love to the rest.

Devotedly,
F.J.D.

I omitted to narrate our visit to the museum of jewels and other treasures collected by the King's and Electors of Saxony this will come some other time.



AMBASSADOR
HOTEL
Boulevard Haussmann
PARIS

Adr. Tel. AMBASSHOTEL-PARIS

Sept. 9/29

My Dear Children—

So this is Paris! Paris to which I came this afternoon direct without stop from Brussels in $3\frac{1}{2}$ hours on one of the most, if not the most comfortable train I ever travelled on. We were in a 1st class Pulman which, for finish and luxurious ease, is superior to our Pulman and in addition our meal (lunch) was brought and served at our seat just as though we were in our usual dining car with the only difference and it was a noteworthy one that the menu came in courses lasting over two hours—all for 25 franc. We travelled over the most thrifty and richest part of France which since the war has been practically rebuilt with added factories and industries, and apart from a couple of churches still showing their breached walls, the ravages of the war have been completely obliterated.— — —

Our stay in Brussels, thanks to the Bloch family, particularly, was far more pleasant than my last letter would have indicated. At first coming from a country whose inhabitants are now polished and refined and where we were treated with uniform courtesy to one whose every day citizen is brusque and egotistical. I was at first very much upset and disappointed. But when the Bloch's came and showered such attention on us so that we felt as though we were officials representing a great nation on an important mission to a foreign land, I felt more at ease and overlooked the rest. The day of our arrival was spent as told in my last letter, with nothing of special interest except the early visit of the Bloch's. The next day Mamma and Ruth went on a tour of inspection of the shops while I sought to renew my acquaintance with the places of note, trotting a good bit despite the heat. In the evening the Blochs came to get us for dinner at a restaurant to be followed by the witnessing of a representation of *Thais* at the Royal Opera House.—The meal, the company and the performance were all that could be desired. Our hosts seem to feel as though they owe me an obligation which they are attempting to discharge. They are amicable, entertaining and full of spirit. *Thais* was given by an excellent company and to the opera was added a ballet *divertissement* which reminded us very much of the ballets we saw at our Opera House in its hey-days. The theatre is on the order of the Opera Comique of Paris, alike in size and decorations and also very much similar in the pompousness and number of its employees with an incessant demand on your purse for this that or some other thing. But the opera is so beautiful, its plot of such tense interest and the music so penetrating and inspiring (you will remember the meditation in the intermezzo) that the most indifferent could not help himself from being carried away by it. Saturday night we ate dinner at the Blochs. Mr. B. called for us at the hotel and conducted us at first to one of the country homes of the old reprobate Leopold II lying up in the hills in the outskirts of Brussels. This home with its extensive park and gardens, being generally occupied by the

reigning king in preference to the magnificent palace in the city, but he has long since removed the elevated passage way which his predecessor used, to meet his mistress for whom he had built a chateau across the public highway and he has also turned over to the people of Belgium the most attractive chinese dwelling exquisitely finished in wooden carvings and encaustic decorations which the old man had built in close proximity for some of his *fredaines* for which he was noted. I not only saw these but a Japanese typical home of the high classes and a reproduction of the famous pergola of Peking which Leopold caused to be removed bodily from the Paris world exposition where the Japanese government had erected them for its exhibits. Mr. Bloch afterwards took us to his home close by where he spread before us a meal even superior to that which your mother will give on the occasions when she wants to show off to some distinguished company. Besides we had the *apèritifs*, white wine, red wine, ports, sherry, champagne of ancient vintages selected from his cellar, followed later by all sorts of cordials served with the coffee. I had no idea that Mr. Bloch could own such a fine 3 story home on a prominent street which he built for his residence.—It was very late when he took us back to our hotel in his brother-in-law's auto. The next morning (yesterday), Mr. Claiborne called for us at the hotel with his wife in their auto and they drove us far into the country through a beautiful park and along avenues of horse chestnuts built also by Leopold to reach another superb chateau which is now also open to the public and which contains exhibits from the Congo states.—History explains how this monarch obtained the fabulous sums which he spent for his entertainment and to suit his fancies— in the atrocious exploitation of the same Congo States.—Mrs. Claiborne is as you know one of the daughters of Charles Fenno. She has all the charms of her father, of mind and demeanor; though married but 5 years she has three splendid healthy looking children which she pleased to show us. She also took us to her apartment in an aristocratic street which is a perfect gem. In a word she and her husband gave us a royal treat. In the evening, we treated her and Mr. Bloch to dinner at a good restaurant. Before that we were called on by his two brothers and the wife of one of them, who drove all the way from Lille specially to meet me.—Time and space forbid my going into details on our interview.—It was satisfactory all around.—This morning Mrs. Bloch came to see us off at the station— — Paris is rather hot but we still can move. I have just had a phone from Aunt Mae and we are to meet for dinner later.—Kisses and love as usual.

F.J.D.

Found George's letter at the Guaranty Trust with instructions to Ruth.

Walking through the Arcades of Palais Royal this afternoon, I felt as though I had been asleep nine years for I saw in the show windows the same displays set up in the same manner with the same people in the shops as I observed the first time I ventured in this now the most famous shopping place in Paris. I wonder if I went into another trance and woke up 100 years hence I'd find the same conditions there. Going past the street running alongside the Bibliotheque National I found absolutely no changes and no disturbance in the track arrangements. What conservatism?



AMBASSADOR
HOTEL
Boulevard Haussmann
PARIS

Adr. Tel. AMBASSHOTEL-PARIS

Sept. 12/29

My Dear Children:

We are not moving as fast as we should like with all the opportunities before us afforded by the premiere City of the World. The blame is with the weather which still persists in its torrid humidity and takes away the energy from the most energetic of us. I treated Mae and her party to *Homard Thermidor* and *Crepes Suzette* at Emile's with a short sitting in front of the Cafe de la Paix and the following evening she got another expected treat at the Pomme de Pens, but either due to the climate or some trouble in the kitchen, the meal did not come up to expectations and caused some disappointment which even a *glacè* at La Paix did not dissipate. Aunt Mae left yesterday. I spent most of the afternoon in our room at the hotel but a good supper with soup *a l'onion*, stewed pigeon, a big artichoke and a *coupe de fruits au champagne* at the Brasserie made up for the day's shortcomings. Even Caroline would have been satisfied but Ruth kicked because it was all too filling.—I have been more active today. I closed new reservations on the Leviathan giving my individual check in payment as George will notice when he closes my bank a/c at the end of the month, then went to see Felix Loeb with whom I had a long chat the subject of which mainly was "who is really the rich man of N.O.?"—afterwards I stopped at the Guaranty Trust where I was lucky enough to find my old friend Breton. He looks rather fat and mostly forty and he did not conceal his pleasure on meeting me nor I at the opportunity of reviving old memories. I learnt from him of the death of Pool of which I was ignorant and he learnt of the discomfiture of the Mortgage and Securities Co. of which *he* was ignorant. He at one time was active in the affairs of the Co. and intimated his belief of the responsibility being at the doors of individuals he named. I could not agree with him and ascribed the failure to the accumulation of frozen assets and the slump in the value of country real estate. I shall see him again next week. He impressed me very much as belonging to that class of people who never knows when he has a good thing. He is anxious to retire and to give up the immense prestige, seldom possessed by people of being an officer of the largest financial institution in the U.S. with all the emollients connected therewith. I had the temerity of suggesting that he would be making an irreparable mistake if he did.—After lunch at Sam's where I ate the cakes with maple syrup and Mamma and Ruth club sandwiches a la Americaine, I went to the Comedie Francaise where I witnessed a splendid representation of Racine's "Bèrènice"—a tragedy in 5 acts and of Moliere's

“Le mariage forcè” in one act. It was refreshing to me and a positive treat to listen to clear-cut rhyme—sparkling and resonant in its purest French spoken as only such thorough actors as are found in this subsidized theatre, can. I listened with rapt attention to the tragedy for three hours and permitted myself to be moved by the sequel to the unfortunate love of Titus the Roman Emperor for the Queen of Palestine. The comedy of Moliere’s was very funny considering its age, but I was ready to forget the obsolete plot on account of the splendid way it was interpreted. It is my purpose to return to this theatre as often as the woman folks dismiss me to go on shopping expeditions and considering what I shall get by way of compensation, I promise not to ask any questions either in regard to the money spent or the results accomplished.—I read today a copy of the T.P. sent me by Mr. Kome the first I have seen since my embarkation at N.Y.—by a strange coincidence it contained the notice of Mr. Weiss’ death. I have written to the Roosevelt for reservations for the 10th Oct. with instructions to book a berth for mother in the N.Y. Central to Cin. for the 12th and two on the Crescent Ltd. for the 13th for Ruth and myself. This will land us at home on the 15th—write fast if this arrangement does not suit you. With much love and the usual amount of kisses for our dear babies.

Devotedly,
F.J.D.

Has Joe mailed the custom receipts requested?



AMBASSADOR
HOTEL
Boulevard Haussmann
PARIS

Adr. Tel. AMBASSHOTEL-PARIS

Sept. 9/29

My dear ones,

We are delighted to hear you are all well and that the weather has been pleasant, no doubt you are leaving the hot weather now prevailing all over the country. It is very warm here also but when in the stores it is not uncomfortable. I am glad to hear you are all together often. I thought you had been entertaining at home a good deal George but I see by going out as much as you do it balances up on the average; just see you all have a pleasant summer I am satisfied. Last night we heard that the Chicago paper gave an account of a flood in N.O. I hope this was an exaggeration and that there was no damage from heavy rains. We also heard that the strike was settled; let us hope that there will be no further trouble. Received letters from Caroline, George and Julius since here. It is great getting these direct from home. I feel very much concerned about Joe Cohen, it certainly is strange that no one has heard from them and at the AmEx here they have not had any forwarding address since Aug 18th. I hope the delay is caused by their failure to advise about their mail—at the AmEx they said they would notify us if they heard from him, Papa will go there again tomorrow. After going about considerably today Ruth went to see the Denery family but I was too tired to go any further. I am now awaiting her return. Aunt Mae, Sallie, Mrs. Much and Stella Rauh left yesterday. Ruth and I went to the Station to see them off. I am not going to get clothes here as all say the duty is high so no use bothering

Is the girl Sam Alcus engaged to a daughter of Dr. Fleiss and are they related to Uncle Lee? Here's hoping we will soon have cooler weather as it is so much nicer going about when cool. With love and kisses to each of you and love to all the family.

*Devotedly,
Mother*

We are very comfortable at this hotel, everything is easy to reach from the location.

MATSON LINE
HAWAII + SOUTH SEAS
AUSTRALIA

Sept. 1/30

My Dear Ones,

This is our second day out. The first night, by reason of the roughness of the Sea after the Golden Gate had been passed brought on a good deal of distress among the passengers unaccustomed to travel and a number of them were absent at the call for meals on the next day. Since, the waves have come down to a mere ruffle and everybody is once more happy. With our usual good luck our group retained its composure. This boat is quite steady for its size and speed and is very well appointed to afford every comfort and means of diversion; the upper deck particularly is devoted to the last purpose—with an excellent library and a sufficient festal hall. The management furnishes daily programs of entertainment of every sort including movies, horse racing, dancing, target shooting, and musical concerts. Yesterday we were treated to “Anna Christie” with Garbo and while this play is splendidly put up and well acted, there is too much O’Neill in it to suit my particular taste. My morals are no whit better than the average man but I have never found enjoyment in the morbid or the sordid, we see so much of both in real life that I cannot conceive how the exhibitions of that character can either amuse or satisfy any craving. I would rather laugh than weep, be exalted than depressed or led to admiration than to disgust.—

In my last letter I forgot to mention how San Francisco pleased me so much more than Los Angeles. In the first place its climate is better and on the other hand there exists there greater refinement and polish among the people—the average man you meet on the streets is far more polite and impresses one more of a gradual evolution in conduct, education and moral advancement and uplift. There is less of the *parvenu* element, because there are more native-born citizens who constitute generally the best element of any community. Los Angeles sprung into prominence by the discovery of oil within its corporate limits, bringing about a great influx of people desirous to invest and become wealthy thro’ a mere accident. This also accounts for the insane speculation in land, the opening up of great developments regardless of territory or means of earning a livelihood for the settlers, the shortage of money, meaning the excessive rates of interest—and finally the present depression—the bursting of the bubble. The stores in S.F. carry the largest variety of merchandise of any part of the U.S.—and also the best of their kind. I was amused to notice that the establishment which contains the rarest articles *de vertu* and the most extensive antiques is run by Gump. I am wondering if it is Uncle Ben who is still awaiting the Grand Mogul diamond before he marries Widow Zander who is the proprietor. Surely Uncle Ben, if it be he, displays greater taste and knowledge of values in the selection of his merchandise than in the selection of a wife.—As a favor we were shown his collection of Jade which is larger and more valuable than that in the Metropolitan Museum, but it took all sorts of precautionary methods before a trusted employée unlocked the doors and exhibited the treasures.— — — In

the afternoon we were shown another talkie. It is as good as one of its class as I ever saw “Desire,” but it was too spectacular and too sad in its conclusion to suit me for the reasons I have already explained.—At night there was dancing in the open space of the deck, at the stern, which is specially adapted for that purpose.

Sept. 2.— I forgot to mention yesterday that on embarking we were handed your telegram and that of Mrs. Feingold + Rose wishing us Godspeed. We appreciated the attention very much. So far those wishes have been fully realized and if we conclude our expedition to the Orient as satisfactorily as we started we shall deem it and ourselves the most fortunate of any previous undertakings. I believe that I have already mentioned that Mrs. H Alcus and her sister Mrs. Hutchkins are on the boat. Mrs. Alcus is a poor traveller and her sister has, for that reason, chosen us for her companions *de voyage*. There is also on the boat Mr. + Mrs. Jacobs (the latter was a Miss XXX of Cin. and a widow) who got married the day before our departure and who despite their age (he is 45 + she 37)—and their previous experience have been discreetly hiding their blushes in decent seclusion.—The passengers are generally of the better class—this boat being a sort of transport for rich tourists, carrying only first class cabins + thus establishing a most congenial set. Ruth has made numerous acquaintances and she has become especially friendly with a resident of Honolulu who may prove himself valuable when we land.—We had secured rooms at the Moana Hotel but the representation of their hotel on our ship, explaining that the hotel being closed for the season. had substituted rooms in the Royal Hawaiian which I am told, is the finest of its kind in the world! That’s lucky!

Sept 3—Yesterday the Captain’s dinner and the fête champetre under an illuminated and flag-bedecked canopy over the extreme rear of the upper or entertainment deck closed the round of festivities arranged by the ship owners for the “delectation” of their guests. We land to-day at 2 and the first of the oriental laps will be inaugurated. In all my flights of imagination (and I have indulged in many a phantasy and dream during the romantic periods of my life) I had never conceived the possibility of visiting the strange lands on the opposite side of the globe. This “strange interlude” ought to bring to us new thoughts and open our eyes to strange and fantastic sights. It is my hope that all we have foreseen will be fully realized and that one day a like opportunity will be afforded to each of you with the augmented advantages which our own experience will have opened up for you.

Fond embraces and remembrances to all not overlooking our (your) babies

Devotedly
(signature)

Be pleased to know that the ocean air has rid me completely of my throat troubles—

MATSON LINE
HAWAII + SOUTH SEAS
AUSTRALIA

Sept. 2, 1930

Dear Ones,

The Pacific seems very much like the Atlantic tho at times the blueness of it is so deep that one would think one were in the mediteranean. We have had a lovely crossing—the boat is beautiful—three promenade decks and a sun deck thrown in. The whole boat is “first class so that means freedom of the boat from tip to toe. They have something going on all the time—“duck” shooting—a clay duck is shot off + the hunter fires at it—one man made 47 hits out of 50 yesterday. There’s “horse racing” moving pictures, concerts + dancing daily. The crowd is quiet but nice. Evelyn + her husband are scarce but we see them at meal time. He’s very nice looking

We were glad to get your letter + telegram + to learn that the house looks fine and that Julius had a beneficial vacation.

We had a lovely time in San Francisco—its a delightful place—we saw a few of the exposition buildings all falling to pieces—remember them?

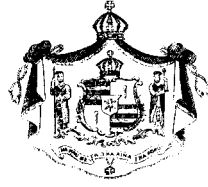
The first day out was very rough but we were not affected by it—most people kept to their cabins. When I wrote the list of sailings I didn’t send the Dollar Line there is about a sailing a week. We made our reservation for Pullman drawing rooms from Victoria to New Orleans so you all need not worry about it. We shall be here Oct 23 if our schedule holds good. Please see about football tickets for me beginning Oct 25.

12:15. Just sat down again watched the shooting for an hour—more fun and then up to the races. I won one race so came out even for the day.

The sun is shining beautifully There are loads of children on board—Hawaiians coming back all ages from one to sixteen—they have a grand time—there is a sand pile, a swing trapeze and all sorts of room for them. I continue in Honolulu.

ROYAL HAWAIIAN HOTEL
MOANA HOTEL
SEASIDE HOTEL

CABLE ADDRESS
ROYALHOTEL



ROYAL HAWAIIAN HOTEL
HONOLULU, HAWAII

Sept. 4/30

My Dear Ones,

Here we are in the Garden of Eden or some place which we conceive to be indicative of paradise saving and excepting (in legal parlance) a rather hot sun in the day time and mosquitoes at night. The air is balmy with a maximum temperature of 84° but nature, aided by a semi-tropical climate shows itself at its best. I have never beheld such gorgeous flowers as are found in the garden surrounding this hotel; hibiscus of every conceivable color from a creamy yellow to a deep carmine with a profusion of other blossoms blending in wonderful harmony; then there are crotons of every variety and shape and color growing to the height of eight and ten feet, which put ours to shame;—then the Australian tree fern protected by the shade of the coconut palm and everywhere and anywhere flowers, shrubs, palms, banyan trees with their limbs running down into the ground shaping a miniature forest under the parental stem and here setting in the wide arcades enjoying the ocean in front with its turbulent waves breaking in a seething mass upon the shore, I bask in peaceful indolence, forgetting for the while the struggles of our existence—Coming to earth I can admire the magnificence of this the most luxurious, the most complete and, I believe, the most beautiful hotel I have ever seen. It is all space with flowers and plants strewn all around, servants and geisha girls standing by waiting to serve you just as though you in common with all the guests, were a ruler on a visit in a strange universe. Yesterday when we entered the harbor we were immediately surrounded by pleasure boats that circled our ship and native bathers that gamboled in the water to attract our attention; at the landing it seems as tho' the entire population had turned out to greet us; there was a band of music playing native tunes and occasionally you could hear the sweetest notes springing from female voices joining in the refrain. Then as we disembarked, those who awaited us sprang forward and threw around the necks of the travelers garlands of flowers, *leis* as they call them,—many of the passengers, receiving loads of them in proportion to the number of their friends that greeted them, in every case having the leis thrown around their necks before receiving the greeting—The scene was unforgettable and most inspiring. This morning we rode in the tram, accompanied by a Mrs. Kearney + her son (who practices law in Sneed's office) and who also were in the XXX, to the Pineapple cannery. We were furnished a guide gratis by the managers, after being treated to delicious pineapple juice, and we were taken thro' the entire establishment. I never knew that there were so

many pineapples in the world as they were fed to the machines to be stripped, cleaned, canned, sealed, labelled and made ready for shipment to all parts of the world I understand that the capacity of the factory is 2 or 3 million cans a day and I was told that the owners have over 20000 acres of that fruit in cultivation. To-morrow when we motor into the interior of the island we will have a better opportunity of judging of the intensitiveness of that Cultivation.

Last night there was a ball given in the hotel. This was another sight that made us feel as in fairyland. The ball room was festooned with palm branches of enormous size and descending from the ceiling were clusters of flowers that fell to an even height with the chinese lanterns that stood between, throwing a subdued light so that viewed from the end of the room where we stood the sight was entrancing. Between the dances the dancers either sat at tables placed along the sides to an open porch facing the ocean or retreated to the embankment running along the water's edge. When I got too tired looking on I left to enjoy a last view of the ocean full of silver sheen reflected by the clear moon above. But enough of this romance! The meals at the hotel are in keeping with its other appointments, we have been sampling the native food, the papaia or tree mellon; the bread-fruit which has the taste of sweet potato, the pineapple which is so sweet and soft, being free of fibres, the strange fish caught in the ocean; the alligator pears served with grated cocoa-nut and numberless other dishes all of which we found delicious. Ruth and Mamma are enjoying themselves to the fullest and I believe that Mamma is too overcome to write and is "taking it easy."

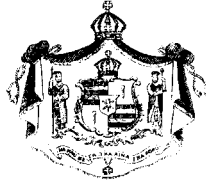
We are still meeting people and have no fear of circulating freely among them, unmindful or unreminded of the class distinctions which we find in the East.

I hope that you are all enjoying good health and that you do not miss us as much as I miss the young ones—when I am brought back, in mind, to them

Love + Kisses
(signature)

ROYAL HAWAIIAN HOTEL
MOANA HOTEL
SEASIDE HOTEL

CABLE ADDRESS
ROYALHOTEL



ROYAL HAWAIIAN HOTEL
HONOLULU, HAWAII

Sept. 6/30

My Dear Ones,

We cannot stop looking and admiring this wonderful Island, Papa is in his glory seeing all the huge plants and flowers. Yesterday we had a very interesting ride thro the sugar plantations + pineapple groves; as far as the eye could reach one saw these growing and everything looks so healthy. The taste of the ripe pineapple is so different that when we get the canned, the food is all so good that I fear taking on some pounds. When we went thro the Pineapple Cannery they led us to a tap where the pineapple juice keeps flowing like water; it comes out very cold so you can imagine how good it tastes.

It is very nice having Mrs Kearney + her son Bob here he knows you George, they were with us on the tour yesterday. One of the sights we saw yesterday was the coral + odd fish we saw these thro the glass bottom boats.

Last night on the lawn in front of the hotel there was a most interesting. . . entertainment of Hawaiian dancing and singing accompanied by Guitars in the background is the Ocean with the full moon shining on the water this sight is the most beautiful you can imagine. The dancing is refined as the Company are of the better class of people. We also saw dancing the night before but is was not quite as good as last night.

Mrs. Henry Alcus + her sister-in-law left yesterday, they also enjoyed their stay here were sorry to leave. I suppose when this reaches you that Vera + the children will be home hope they have a good trip back and feel benefitted by the change. We are anxious to hear how all goes on with all of you, hope you are feeling well Mama.

It is quite warm here during the middle of the day but always a good breeze so we find a shady place + get very comfortable. While riding it is pleasant after reading this letter send to Cin. as it is difficult to write so often, I usually write direct to Cin but I hope this will be O.K. for all, as we are always busy taking in the different sights. Wish you could all enjoy all our travels with us. Felix + Ruth join me with love + kisses to each of you—devotedly

*Mother or
Julia—*

CANADIAN PACIFIC

S. S. EMPRESS OF JAPAN

Friday Sept 12/30

My Dear Ones,

There is posted in the main hall a notice that to-morrow will be Sunday the 14th It is one of the strangest period of my curious life that I will have to skip a whole day as though it never had any being. As a matter of fact since we left home the days which succeeded had 25 hours or thereabouts and even if the loss of a day has been evened up it never appeared that way to us as this addition to the day's duration always occurred during our sleep. If our good friends on S. Rampart Street had been on this boat they would have protested against the discrimination by which they lost their Sabbath in favor of the goodly number of sisters and priests who are travelling with us, who will enjoy all the advantages of a full Sunday celebration—This is rather a rough deal, but what about the elimination of the 13th (a day favored by George but generally looked upon with apprehension by others?)—If I kept a diary I would cross out this date and blame fate for it. But now speaking of these nuns and priests favored by the circumstance I have been wondering how it is that these individuals who have taken the oath of abstinence and poverty can find the money to buy the fine clothes they wear and to travel first class on de luxe steamers, never failing to appear at the meal hours with bouillon served as extra in the forenoon and an elaborate English 5 o'clock tea, with all that goes with it, thrown in? Where is the abstinence with so much indulgence and the poverty amidst such luxury?—Do you think that I should have asked for an explanation?

We were made happy on the day we left Honolulu when we were handed the letter written by George, Julius + Caroline which they had directed in the care of this steamer. It mattered not that George told me of the disappointment in the Consistory not taking the Marion property which I will have to add to my flock of lame ducks, not the announcement by Julius that not only no important business had been brought to his office, but that Flonacker, one of their good clients + friend, was about to sell his house and to move away from the City—with all that I was happy to know that all were enjoying good health—the temporary set backs will soon be forgotten by the opening up of more prosperous days.

The Steamer on which we are travelling is the last word in naval architecture. It is most beautiful in its finish and has in addition every improvement made to date in those things which go to the comfort and entertainment of its passengers. In these respects it is superior to any boat I have ever been on.—Strange to say the entire crew with the exception of the officers is made up of Chinamen. We have learned the art of pantomime

to make ourselves understood. The waiters all wear night gowns and the stewards loose blouses. The items on the menus are numbered so that when we give our orders we show the corresponding figure of the dish wanted with some graceful motion of hand and head, and the waiter has the thing before you before you can say “Jack Robinson!” We have made the acquaintance so far of few people. I am not a good mixer because of the consciousness of deficiencies which may only exist in the imagination, though if the truth be told do exist in reality. But Ruth to-day played deck-tennis with a group of young people, mamma had yesterday a game of shuffle-board with some old girls and to-night I may have a game of bridge (or an attempt at it).

By the way, the Honolulu papers of Tuesday night and of Wednesday morning announced the victory of Long over Ransdell for the U.S. senatorship and the City Item the bitter antagonist of Long had conceded his election. I don't know what to say about it except that I was surprised—but feel better encouraged now, as a result, that W.D.+S. will be given both the Charity Hospital and the State-House job.

Sunday—14th. Here I am pondering over the eradication of one day—Yesterday was Friday and the same sun that shone on that day is shining on this day having made in the meantime but one revolution (or more accurately the earth having travelled around it but once). The Catholics have held their religious services in one part of the boat and the Episcopalians in another, both rejoicing in the fact that they suffered no loss of the day consecrated to worship. Last night mamma and I had a game of bridge with two English women. They were typical of the refinement and deep learning of Great Britain. We had a very pleasant time together and this morning we resumed our discussion with one of these ladies on the bridge, and gained much useful information from them.—Ruth played with a couple and another lady to whom she was introduced for the purpose of completing the foursome. I don't know how she fared as I have not yet seen her. We discovered on our sailing that Ruth's room on the steamer was occupied by a lady who had gotten on board at Vancouver and although her presence in that room could not be explained inasmuch as she had reserved another room, she refused to yield the premises.—The officers of the ship found the situation very embarrassing, indeed. Ruth stood for her rights but after the matter had been discussed and many ouvertures made and declined, we agreed to accept other cabins on the same deck having the advantage of a connecting shower and toilet.—I am glad of the exchange as I have learnt the benefits of the needle sprays and enjoy them.

Monday—15th. We had a moving picture last night as sole diversion. It was too late to play cards after the show and after treating ourselves to drinks (and it felt so good to be once more free to indulge our cravings) we went to bed. The picture shown “The Great Divide” is rather old and the film worn out but it was quite interesting. So far the ocean presents a wide expanse of moving waves of the darkest blue matching the sky of a lighter blue unbroken save by white clouds that travel sluggishly along. The ship gives no indication of motion except along the prow where the great effort in ploughing thro' the placid waters sends white sprays far above and causing a disturbance along the sides of the boat

trailing far past the stern indicating one may perceive the path followed in our progress towards the west. we are past the point where East + West meet and we are wondering if by boring through the globe we could find you and our dear ones, longing as we do, for some intelligence of the state of each other.—We know that the Shamrock has been defeated thro' the skill of the American craftsmen or the skipper,—but we are still unadvised as to the result of the election at home.—there is rather a mixed crowd on the ship of Americans, Englishmen and Orientals, professors, tourists and men of affairs and there is very scant prospects of any intimate associations. When we land in three days much of the experiences we acquired will fade away and leave no trace of their occurrence but we do hope that your letters will convey to us cheering news of your happiness and contentment.—So mote it be!

Tuesday—16th... We are still pursuing the “even tenor of our way.” It is still the vast expanse of the ocean and of the blue skies above us; the walks on the promenade deck; the occasional discussion with a fellow traveller; the tempting meals laid before us or the attempt to read with the eyelids obstinately bobbing up and down and thus we hope our journey across the deep will continue until we land.

All those who have been already in Japan, from whom we made inquiries, assure us that we will be enchanted with our excursion as planned; but we have been warned that the natives are intensely patriotic and thoroughly impressed with the culture, progress and advantages of the land; this makes them very sensitive to a degree that they would resent being called Japs which they consider to be opprobrious just as the expression of nigger would be offensive to the negro. We have accepted this warning and will act according. We are getting along surprisingly well with the Chinese employees,—they are painstaking, intelligent and eager to please. I have never seen such patience equalled anywhere—but we should be mindful of their feelings—How could we be otherwise!—

Wednesday, 17th... Yesterday was another uneventful day, that is the routine of the day before and of the day which preceded it was repeated, except that I played cards for the first time with Mr. + Mrs. Alexander and won 80 cents from them. It has developed that Mrs. Alexander may be a cousin of Aunt Beulah and this confirms the saying “This world is, indeed, small!” Another feature is the fact that we had to retard our watches 83 minutes and that so much was added to our existence to be later on taken off..... One cannot say that because of the present inactivity which marks our existence we are care-free. It would do no good to surmise what is happening at home yet every now and then the state of enforced suspense does weigh on my mind, I read of the terrific storm in San Domingo and am wondering what may have happened to uncle Emile—was he one of the victims or did he survive? Then again there were so many matters in a rather incoate condition at the office, that it occurs to me frequently a desire to ascertain the solutions. I know that you have the ability and the intelligence to cope with the situation but I cannot free my mind from my own sense of responsibility and my duty to share in your struggles and worries..... We will reach Yokohama early to-morrow morning and I shall mail this letter this afternoon in the hope that it will catch a fast steamer going East. We

do not expect any letters from you for a week or two, hoping always that they will bring cheering news of all and of the situation at home.—we are all enjoying our trip, are feeling well and are rejoicing that the ocean has behaved splendidly. We pray that this will continue until we meet again in about one month. With this hope I conclude this long message offering to each of you my best wishes and tender embraces

Affectionately
F.J.D.

Don't forget to save the *newspapers* for me.

My dear Ones,

We are gliding along swiftly and will be thrilled tomorrow morning to really be in Japan. A very pleasant English woman who lives in Kobe has invited us to take tea with her in her real Japanese home, she will also give us addresses for shopping. We have become quite friendly as we played bridge several times and spend some time together. Last night a man entertained us singing some interesting selections. We have not found out who he is, his songs were on the order of McCormick.

Wishing all of you a Happy New Year, extend our good wishes to all the family + friends. We will send a cable when we land, hope all keep well. Love + kisses to each of you

devotedly
Mother.

CABLE ADDRESS:
"MIYAKO" KYOTO.

TEL. NOS. 336, 337 & 338 (KAMI)

THE MIYAKO HOTEL, KYOTO.

Kyoto, Sept 20 1930

My Dear Ones,

We reached Yokohama on schedule time, that is on day before yesterday after one of the most delightful voyage on the Ocean we ever had, as already intimated in my last letter written on the Steamer. The only disturbing factor was the rain we struck when we landed and which continued until we returned to the ship on the same evening on the last lap to Kobe.—However Cook furnished us with an excellent guide who took us, as soon as we had had some final understanding with the Canadian Pacific Co for our return trip and with Cook regarding our itinerary in Japan,—in an automobile through the City and its vicinity for three hours. The City proper has been but partly rebuilt since the earthquake and accompanying tidal wave destroyed the major portion of it and decimated the population. The vestiges of what the City was before this cataclysm give a fair impression of the fate that befell it—We were taken beyond,—to Kamakura which lies at the foot hills, to see the famous Buddha statue which is the largest and most important in Japan. As you know it stands over 30 feet in height and is built entirely of bronze plates joined together with consummate skill just as though they were welded together. I am enclosing the envelope which enclosed some postal cards we bought on the spot + which has a fair picture of the monument.—We returned through rice fields and many small towns and saw sufficiently of the life led by the natives, of the manner in which they dress and carry on their general evolutions, their customs and the homes in which they dwell to prepare us for what we have seen since. We visited several points of interest under the serious handicap of the falling rains We reached Kobe yesterday in the forenoon spending an uneventful night on the ship.—We were met at the dock by a representative of Cook's who escorted us immediately to the hotel Oriental where we made ourselves at once comfortable. The rooms furnished us, commanding a good view of the harbor close by and of the range of mountains that encircle the City on its three sides. We had no set program for the day and after some effort we were directed to a Japanese restaurant hidden in some remote district and which could not have been easily found had we not had the assistance of our taxi-driver. On entering the place we were greeted by the porter who set all three of us on the foot steps and then proceeded to remove our shoes replacing them with felt slippers. Presently a number of Geisha girls came along looking very much like the "Three Little Maids from School" who after much giggling and chattering led us through rooms and hallways with highly polished floors and decorated with all sorts of Japanese ornaments and religious subjects, to another room of about 8 by 10 with a sort of tabernacle on one side with hanging symbols, statues of the native gods and trinkets of various kinds and on the other side were hanging pieces of tapestry representing allegorical figures of soldiers of

ancient times. In the centre of the room stood a red laquered circular table with an opening in the centre in which our kneeling waitress set a brazier filled with charcoal embers. The table stood only about six inches high and we were required to sit with our legs crossed, on cushions laid on the floor. Ruth and I had no difficulty in assuming the required position but when it came to Mamma she could not for the life of her bend or cross her legs and set herself down on the Cushion. The girls laughed and we joined in—but all her efforts were unavailing. She finally got down on the floor with her feet stretched out, unable to get close enough to the table to eat from it. The waitress not wishing to prolong the very embarrassing situation went out and returned with a wicker chair similar to the one George was given when a child with the runners omitted. It would take too much time and space to relate how our waitress brought in a raw dessicated chicken, fresh eggs, sundry and various green vegetables, including onions, leeks, parsley, parsnips, sliced mushrooms three inches long and a 16th of an inch thick and proceeded to cook this mixture in a pan set on the brazier. It all looked fine and novel, but we could not conceive how the suger, the salt, the butter and a black liquid added to the mixture would agree with our palate. After a while slices of the half-cooked chicken, then some vegetables + then the mushrooms were transferred with chop sticks into large cups in which a raw egg had been beaten and we were told to fish the stuff out with the chop sticks which were the only eating utensils furnished us.—Result a failure. The girl then went out and brought a dish of cooked rice which she served into another cup beckoning to us that we could eat the stuff cooked in our presence with the rice.—Ruth thought it was fine; mamma said very little and I said less. However we were hungry and managed to get the food into our Stomach—But I promised myself that no more would I attempt at any cooking except such as I am used to. If Caroline had been present she would have been “thrilled to death,” I am sure, but I am not looking for thrills + would sooner settle down to earth.—After the sumptuous (?) meal our Geisha showed us thro’ the building which I must confess was extremely attractive—perhaps beautiful, and from the sliding windows she showed us the surrounding grounds attached to the establishment which comprised a miniature garden, some elegant shrines, and a number of bronze subjects, structures +c. which likewise made a most enticing whole. Returning to town we strolled through the streets and then took a taxi which brought us to the foot of the mountains where we took a funicular which pulled us to the summit of one of the peaks from which we gained a gorgeous view of the City below, of the ocean beyond and the shipping in the harbor, The panorama reminded us very much of the scenery at Bergen we viewed from a like elevation. We returned once more to our hotel this time by auto-bus and tram without difficulty. After eating a well prepared dinner we again went to the shopping street which was illuminated with arches of electric light and mixed with the population that filled the street. . . We enjoyed ourselves in our own fashion without attracting too much attention from the people. We spent a pleasant night in large rooms furnished *a la* European style and early the next morning our guide called for us to accompany us to Osaka. We reached this large manufacturing City with some million and a half population by train in less than an hour, and after we had deposited our luggage at an hotel our guide took us in an auto and for several hours he showed us the main attractions of the City which comprised its canals that penetrate through several portions of the City to facilitate

transportation of merchandise for local or foreign commerce; an old fortress occupying a large area, surrounded by a granite wall of great thickness and a moat on the outside and having within its enclosure old and modern buildings now used as a barracks for the troops stationed there; of the shrines for the worship of the gods, of which there are many, each being dedicated to a special divinity, there are besides within the area, a large pagoda built some 1000 years ago which you have frequently seen illustrated, a pond holding turtles which are the subject of much veneration and worship and a circular pool in which messages written on pieces of bark are immersed by the individuals, addressed to some deceased member of the family,—after the message had previously been dampened from a jet of holy water projected from the mouth of a bronze turtle. To-day is All Souls day among the Buddhist and we were fortunate enough to find a large number of votaries who came in anticipation of the holiday because of some expected obstacle to their attending to-day, Later we visited the theatre and shopping districts which are extensive and afterwards entrained for this City which we reached at five.—I'll tell you more about it in my next.

With my usual tender of offerings to you, the living ones, believe me

Affectionately yours
(signature)

I *long* for my babies.

Frank Dech
米利堅波止場
神戶赤帽組
小林與次郎
電話三宮三九四三



THE NARA HOTEL

NARA, JAPAN

Tel. Nos. 153, 166, 262, NARA.
Cable Address "HOTEL" NARA.

Sept. 24/30

My Dear Ones,

We have just returned at Kyoto from Nara where we went by train to visit the Todaiji Temple which contains the largest Buddha in Japan, taking in by Rickshaw the Deer Park where some 800 deer roam at large unmolested and which, in consequence are so tame as to beg rice cakes from the visitors and bow their heads when treated.

We were very pleasantly surprised yesterday when the cable came informing us that the Legislature had passed the bill authorizing the building of the new State house, we had had no intimation whatever of the convening of the Legislature, the only information regarding matters at home came in a telegram from N.O. to the Honolulu papers stating that Ransdell had been defeated by Long. My assumption now is that this victory gave Long the control of the Legislature and that he availed himself of it to call the extra session to carry out his road program and incidentally the putting up of the Capitol. I hope that the result will be the employment of W.D.+S. as the architects which will give them fame and put them at the same time on easy street. We shall await further reports, if available before we set sail for the U.S. trusting that they will confirm my surmises.

Ruth has written to you, I suppose, an account of our doings in Kyoto so that I need not review them again. The hotel which we occupy rests partly upon the Slope of a mountain and from our balcony which is for the sole use of our rooms we can command a complete and magnificent view of the City which lies below us and of a considerable portion of the surrounding country. This panorama alone is worth the voyage to Japan—to be added to many many attractions we have enjoyed during the past week. Now, what do I think of the people? This brings to my mind the most contradictory aspects. As a general proposition the mass of the people are not as enlightened as I had believed they were. They still live in one story buildings covered with tiles in Cities and towns and with thatch in the Country; they wear robes, men and women, and go about in wooden sandals made of one flat block set upon two narrow stilts about one to four inches high, the foot being held by straps running around the big toe, and attached to the sides of the block. In villages and in the poor quarters the front room of these humble houses is occupied as a store for the sale of comestibles of different sorts or of articles of common use and the rear room, which is generally elevated above the street level as a sort of platform, is used for sleeping quarters, the only furniture within it being strips of padded

matting upon which the entire family lie at night all resting their heads upon wooden blocks slightly hollowed in the middle to fit the neck. These quarters are kept scrupulously clean, no one being allowed to enter them without removing the shoes or sandals on the outside and I will add here that there are many stores which the customers cannot step in without putting on either felt or matting slippers—This will likewise apply to the sanctuaries and many of the public buildings. The women are very devoted to their children; they carry everywhere the little ones, up to the age of three years, strapped to their backs regardless of the size and weight of the child + without the least concern. This has the tendency of making the children shy and timid so that they seldom smile nor pay the least attention to those who seek to pet them. I have been figuring to myself how Vera would look with the big boy fastened on to her back! There is compulsory education thro'out Japan, but I don't think, from my own observation, that the majority of the children go beyond the primary grades. Of course among the wealthy classes, conditions are entirely different. Although many of the men still cling to their robes tied at the waist with a black sash and the women have Kimonos on with silk sashes and butterfly bows at the back, the European garb has been adopted from the derby hat to the leather, laced, shoes. The middle classes dress their older children in European clothes and they as well as the wealthy class seek to give their young ones the most advanced education comparable to the Americans'. As far as religion is concerned I find absolute toleration and very frequently indifference in such matters. There exists no fanaticism nor religious fervor. The shrines are not as generally attended as the Churches at home, but this does not mean that there is no worship. Buddha and the other divinities (and they are very numerous) are worshipped and to them prayers are addressed, but I am explained that the bowing to the gods (there is no prostration) is a mere recognition of some High Power which governs the world, through an emblem which represents or indicates the agency that stands for might or the sublimity of creation, Thus trees, flowers, plants, the sun, the moon, some animals, which are marvels of power, beauty, production, giving us life, sustenance, relief and comfort—all of which are outward manifestations of the Divine power, are worshipped either thro' some god or in kind, to me there exists very little difference in the fundamentals between their faith and the faith of the Catholic Church. Their idols are more grotesque and primitive, the Churches are not as numerous or as stately, nor is the ritual as elaborate—but analysing the emblems indicated by the statues, the paintings, the trinity, the saints, +c. they are identical though less refined. In the early middle ages the form of worship was no better in the Christian Church than in the Buddhist + other similar faiths—with again the difference that the Buddhist and kindred believers were never guilty of the atrocities, the abominations and the persecutions the Christian Church resorted to to propagate or maintain their religion. Hence I would rather dwell among this people with all their backwardness than among the Christians whose tenets lean to absolutiveness.—Yesterday it rained all day and instead of going out sight seeing we visited the shops; the consequence of which will, at Mother's command, remain a mystery till we get home. All I need to say is that it was a hard job and I stood by as a tame animal held in leash.—Our trip to Nara consumed most of the day and to-morrow we expect to wind up the views of this City.—It has been a very pleasant surprise to find the food here and the Cooking equal to the best at home and the accomodations at hotels not a bit inferior,

though not always so luxurious—We have not as yet been take advantage of nor can we Complain of the least act of discrimination nor incivility on the part of any one—it matters not where we happened to be, Cook furnished us excellent guides and were always at hand through a representative to carry out every obligation they assumed. This is a pleasant surprise.—By-the-way you ought to have seen mother on rickshaws! It was an unforgettable sight! These human ponies that constantly without showing any sign of fatigue, up the highest grades down to the lowest levels for hours at the time. Even I, who always objected to riding in the rolling chairs at Atlantic City, have no compunction being pulled by Coolies.

Love as usual
(signature)

Remember me to all enquiring friends + relatives

THE
TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS **FUJIYA HOTEL** H. S. K. YAMAGUCHI
"FUJIYA" NATURAL HOT SPRINGS MANAGING DIRECTOR
MIYANOSHITA,
JAPAN.
MIYANOSHITA FOR FUJI — NIKKO FOR TEMPLES

Sept. 28/30

My Dear Ones,

It would be rather a difficult task to review all we saw during the last days of our stay at Kyoto or to state my further impressions regarding the people, the country and the moral and physical conditions which came to my observation. The whole was and still is a novel experience which will stand out prominently as against the experiences I had heretofore gained in my travels.

Everything is so different and out of the ordinary. I can sum up my conclusions in three words "I am charmed."

In Kyoto we visited the Imperial palaces by special permission of the authorities. As you know the capitol of the empire has been removed to Tokyo and these palaces are only used or visited by the Emperor on ceremonial occasions. They are nevertheless kept in splendid condition and remain as attractive to visitors as ever if you overlook the barren and deserted appearance of the surroundings. We were shown the exterior of the buildings all of which are one story and are inter-connected by covered ways or corridors + are in design and construction pure Japanese. The architects of our family could better understand the carvings, the architectural effects, the intricacies of the construction and the grouping of the buildings than I did—Why, therefore, say more on the subject?—The interior of the buildings is divided into apartments of dimensions suited to the purposes for which they were used; they have all highly polished floors, they are inclosed by paper panels, generally gilt and richly decorated with Chinese or Japanese paintings by famous artists, generally of allegorical subjects. Most of the panels slide in channels and are so arranged as to give access from any desired point of the rooms or to increase their size. There is no furniture, ornaments or fixtures to be seen, except one low table in the Emperor's formal dining room around which the host and guests set themselves on the floor to partake of the state banquet, and the thrones of the Emperor + Emperess which stand on an elevated platform, surmounted by a canopy or dais from which hang magnificent pendants of brass superbly wrought.—It would thus appear that the rulers as well as their most humble subjects lie to sleep on mats spread upon the floor. The clothes are kept in cabinets arranged very much like the modern clothes-chests and although those who can afford it collect all sorts of objects of art and, I will add, the inhabitants generally have a keen appreciation of the beautiful in art and craft, these collections are put away and are only brought out on special occasions. Even the

most ornate shrines, however beautiful, artistic or valuable they may be, are closed in cabinets which are opened only on festal days.

I am afraid that aunt Blanche would be very unhappy if she lived in this Country and had to hide her fine collections of *articles de vertu* she owns. Even the grounds which surround the palaces have no fountains or statues of any sort, but instead have trees which, being venerated with deep fervor, are kept in fine condition to the extent that the leaves twice a year are cleaned, the weak branches supported with bamboo props to prevent their breaking and the trunks wrapped in cloth if they are diseased or give signs of decay, and are bordered by wide avenues of selected gravel. We also were given the rare privilege of entering a geisha school and being shown how the girls are trained for their profession. The classes are divided into sections in which the several branches are taught, such as motion, harmony, posture, and instrumentation. What was most striking was the tenseness of the pupils in following the instruction and even when the slides were pushed or drawn to permit us to look in, neither the teacher who was crouching on the floor with a table in front of her on which she beat time + held a musical instrument (generally a sort of square banjo with a long handle on which the four or five strings were drawn) or the pupils paid the least attention to our intrusion. There was a class also of girls ranging in age between 8 + 10 to whom arithmetic was being taught upon an instrument with small disks which they moved up and down the wire upon which they were strung. These children, however, sat at desks in modern style and were less passive than their older school master.

We left Kyoto yesterday morning early and travelled until five through a very picturesque and intensely cultivated country, by a very modern train made up of Pullman Coaches (more commodious than ours—each compartment having a concealed washstand with drinking water and a generous number of clean towels) and of an observation car provided with a library of choice Japanese and English books, stationery, +c.—There was also attached a diner in which we ate an excellent lunch of four courses, costing only 60 cents a head. We got off at a station (XXX) where an automobile was awaiting us and were driven for two hours up the mountains along winding roads running at times through dense forests, to this resort. You may have an idea that I am inclined to be over-enthusiastic about this trip or that I am given to exaggeration, when I mention that we found here one of the best located and most beautiful hotels I have ever been to. It is Japanese in architecture but is European in its operation. The place is immaculately clean, the rooms are large and tastily furnished and provided with every modern convenience and the food is excellent. Joined to that are the grounds which surround it with walks that lead to the side of the mountains, with fishing pools stocked with fish, water cascades, swimming pool (120×40) tennis courts, rustic shelters, recesses, +c. +c.—all most fascinating. The panorama of the country with the stately mountains that spread round about, the winding road, lakes +c.—would compare very favorably with the scenery in the Swiss Alps,—the climate also is perfect.

This morning we were driven through the mountains to a point where the Mount Fuji could be seen. This mountain is unique in its shape and is best known to the world for the prominence of its location, but is rarely visible on account of the ever-enveloping clouds. But we were very fortunate, after patiently waiting for almost an hour, in getting an excellent view of it, not as distinctly as shown on the card sent to Carol but sufficiently to perceive its complete

outlines. We shall remain here for three days, then go to Nikko and to Tokyo where we will stay until the day we sail.—I shall have occasion to write but one more letter to you, and you will then have to await a further account of our doings when we get home.

We are still without news from home, except a cable announcing the passage of some bill authorizing the erection of the Capitol. We do trust and hope that all further intelligence from the same quarters will be quite as favorable.

With tender embraces and love as usual
Devotedly
(signature)

I noticed in the papers that at the recent convention of the Episcopal Church, birth restraint was advocated in certain cases. It might be well for the missionaries to spread the same doctrine in these parts, for there are so many babies to be seen everywhere on the by-ways and houses, that the problem of finding room for them to live in the future will become very acute—unless some let-up is insisted on



Hotel DU VIEUX DOELEN
& Restaurant

Telegram-adres: DOELENHOTEL-Haag
Telefoon 117406-5 lijnen



's-Gravenhage, den (Saturday) July 30, 1932
6. Tournooiveld.

My Dear Children,

At last fair weather has come and we can venture out at will. The climate now is very much like that of Charlevoix, the temperature running about 70 degrees which is quite right. Last night mother and I went to see a German musical comedy entitled "Forster Christl." It was fairly played, has some good musical numbers and no plot of interest but judging from the laughters around us there were comical sayings which I sometimes understood but just as often failed to see the point. I cannot say that the acting was better than mediocre the orchestra led by a wildly gesticulating leader good enough but the stage settings very cheap clap-trap.

This morning we walked to the Peace Palace stopping on our way to visit the Royal palaces. At both places we were led by guide compensated, I judge, out of the entrance fees collected from visitors. I am not certain that any of you are acquainted with either place and I will mention briefly that both palaces possess features which are out of the ordinary and which are extremely attractive. For instance the Royal Palace contains large reception halls, banquet rooms, conference chambers and the usual place for festivities usual in those regal homes you know about—with the accustomed mural decorations, rich hangings, crystal and bronze candelabras, good, fair and indifferent paintings and statuary, rare objects of art donated by other reigning officials, deep, finely woven carpets etc., etc. but best of all was the room built and furnished by the people of Java and Sumatra on the occasion of the queen's ascent to the throne. The carvings of wood and ivory in the walls and ceilings and the products of the silversmith and craftsman represent much labor, skill and genius. I consider this one of the best of its kind I have ever seen. With regard to the Peace Palace you will find a better description of it in the encyclopedia than I could attempt to give. While there I registered for the Congress paying a tax of about 6 francs for the privilege. The program which I obtained is very interesting and promises to be instructive and the debates may result in realizing great benefits to the judicature of the world. But what worries me now is that it is not stated whether or not the wives of delegates will attend the numerous social functions, banquets etc. offered by the nation, this city and others. If I cannot take mother to them I'll have to forego all attendance to them. Prof. Colvin is now at the Hague and he will probably inform me when I see him on the subject.

I am still from this distant point taking my thoughts homewards and all of you come to me as though I had you about. But I cannot refrain from saying that I would better have my babies closer.

Devotedly,
F.J.D.

The ink used is so fluid that I have disfigured many of my letters by dropping some of it rather conspicuously.

July 30

Received your letter Caroline hope the weather is more comfortable, Ruth forwarded your letter. I am making good use of the purse Jon gave me. Vera & Julius

My Dear Children,

I do not know if this will work out so well writing on this side of the paper but will try. Our time is passing very pleasantly here. I think we did a wise thing to move here from Schenigen as it is more comfortable and easy to reach more places. Last night at the opera was very enjoyable. I could understand most of the German jokes and had some good laughs. We had plenty to do today and enjoyed all the sight seeing, the only trouble was at 12:30 we had a time finding a place for lunch and I could hardly walk any further, at last we found a fine restaurant opposite the Peace Palace; after lunch I felt better so enjoyed the visit to the P.P. Mr. Colvin phoned to Papa this afternoon he is a delegate from N.O. he will meet him tonight. The meetings commence Tuesday and we plan to leave here Monday Aug 8th; unless we change our plans we will go direct from here to Munich where we hope to find Ruth, Clara May and Miss Frochter in the best of health and happy. Hope all goes on well with all of you. This desk is a beauty perhaps we can get one like it to go in the house.

Love and kisses to each of you from Mother



Hotel Bayerischer Hof
München

DAS SEHENSWERTE NEUZEITLICHE HOTEL
BESITZER UND LEITER: GEBR. VOLKHARDT
TELEGRAMM-ADRESSE:
BAYERHOF, MÜNCHEN

MÜNCHEN den Aug. 9/32

My Dear Children,

Mamma came to this hotel last night after travelling all day through Holland and Germany from north to south—some fourteen hours. Strange as it may seem to you the trip was neither fatiguing nor accompanied with any significant discomfort. We occupied a non-smoker compartment, at no time with more than two more occupants; there was no smoke, dust, soot or heat to worry us; the sanitary arrangements were as good as on a Pullman and we were served at lunch a splendid meal which was more than sufficient to dispense us from eating dinner save the tea which mother required me to drink at five (it's English you know and since she met so many prominent personages from that country she has been completely anglicized). Our route followed the Rhine from Holland to Frankfort (accepting the Main to be a part of that stream of which it is a confluent). We had a splendid opportunity of seeing a good deal of the principal cities lying along the Rhine, not omitting Cologne, Koblenz and Mayence and we viewed as much of the historical locations and of the vine clad hills with their ruins of ancient castles built on their crest and the interesting towns embosomed at their feet, as we did when we excursed on the boat some years ago. What we regretted most was that unlike Holland where daylight lasts until 10, when we reached the borders of Bavaria at 7:30, it was too dark to see any more of the country. Ruth had reserved a splendid room in this good hotel with an immense bathroom and dressing room combined with double marble washstands, a tub in which you can stretch without bending a limb, a nickel-plated towel heater which comes in handy to dry your soiled linens. Ruth and her companions were at a Wagnerian performance when we came but they turned up a little after ten and after we had exchanged the natural greetings and had poured out an avalanche of questions and answers, we picked ourselves up and walked to a famous cafe nearby where we drank the good *Münchener brau* and ate schwartz bread and kase. It has been a very long time since that delight had been afforded me. I found Ruth looking very well as in fact is the case with Miss F. and Clara May, who additionally praised Ruth to the skies as being the best guide and up-to-the-point entertainer that could be found.—We got up rather late this morning and then walked out with the girls to the Rathskeller where we ate lunch which was completed by drinking coffee and eating fine pastry at a noted confectionery a short distance off. Before that Mamma and I called on Mrs. Rau, her sister-in-law and son who are motoring thro France and Germany, something which we could do in the future provided the advancing years do not add greater weight to the yoke which already bears down somewhat on us.—I have

been at the hotel most of the afternoon to rest from the rather strenuous times I have experienced in the past fortnight. I don't know what the program is for tonight but I judge there'll be some trotting around and some eating and drinking which are the order of the day when you are hiking the world. I found Munich still very attractive, the monuments have their charm still and the climate is ever so delightful I propose to resume my acquaintance with the museums more particularly the Deutscher Musei which on account of the shortness of the time accorded when I first visited it, I did not examine with the care and attention it deserves.—So far I have not seen any demonstration which the strained political situation may bring out, nor has any one mentioned to me anything about the restlessness which I had been made to understand does exist among the people. I do not fear any uprising in Munich though the success of Hitler has caused much disappointment and stirred bitter resentment among the masses, nor is there any outward evidence of the financial strain under which they are laboring. At any rate there's too much respect for the Americans and the dollars (so much needed here) to apprehend their being involved in any conflict. You may be assured that upon the least outbreak of hostilities we'll pack and go to more genial places.—I have not told the whole tale about the work accomplished at the Hague and the result it may have in rendering closer the relations among nations. I repeat that this Congress will achieve more in maintaining peace and avoiding wars than any movement in the past has been able to accomplish.—I was happy to notice the upward trend of stocks and bonds at home. It might be held that the suddenness of the advance and the feverish driving to higher and higher figures without any apparent reason other than the belief in Europe that our securities will afford greater yields and hold out greater prospects than the continent will be able to realize for years to come is dangerous. May I assure George that contrary to his predictions the return of the flow of gold to the U.S. will be more constant than one could have anticipated. What we need at home is more self-confidence and self-reliance in its worth and more specially more courage and fortitude among its people.—My trust will ever abide with it.

Devotedly,
F.J.D.

Don't forget my babies!

HOTEL ÖSTERREICHISCHER HOF

BESITZER : FRANZ IRRESBERGER'S ERBEN

TELEGRAMM-ADRESSE : AUSTRIA HOTEL

TELEPHON 27 und 28

SALZBURG, ^{der} 25th Aug./32

My Dear Children:

If I could organize my thoughts in a manner that would bring forth some reaction from the classic music I have been listening to since our arrival at this semi-medieval city, I would be in a position to tell you all about it; but I do fear that the task is beyond my ken and rather than confuse you I'll deal in generalities only.—Oberon was followed by the Rosen Cavalier led by R. Strauss himself. I am led to believe that he is the most famous composer of the age but why I say so it is because it does look that way to me not that I could point out the features that mark genius originality or knowledge of technique which would support my conclusions. However when he interpreted his own symphonies, he did rouse some enthusiasm in me that meant nothing more than a thrill or a sudden impulse which faded away after the echoes of the concerted harmonies had passed out as a mere shadow. It's a pity that in music I live only in the past, that is I can reproduce the tunes which I heard in my youth, but for the life of me I cannot repeat the least refrain I only heard since I accumulated enough years to be called an old man. In quick succession came Orpheus and Euridice and finally last night Fidelio. Both operas were magnificently staged and sung by noted artists. Fidelio especially under the leadership of Strauss was a gem. I had heard the intermezzo during my favorable years and therefore followed its execution with more profound interest than the rest of the play in the same manner as for instance when the overture of Oberon was repeated last week. Today I heard Mozart's Mass in C minor rendered in one of the old churches (St. Peter's). Even if I had to sit in a cramped position on account of the shape of the pew which has a sharp projection that hits one in the middle of the back (intended I am told to keep the votaries awake during the religious services) I found much delight or even ecstasy during the hour and a half it took to execute this marvel of harmony and musical composition. The entourages with its rich Baroque ornamentations, the ancient tapestries and paintings along the walls the finely sculptured statues extending over the altars and in niches the high beamed ceilings of the room, the choir perched above the doorway, the finely attuned organ, the voices of the singers brought from other musical centres because of their fame, all contributed to make the occasion one to be long remembered. I hate the trappings of churches on account of the purpose for which they are used.—the impression or religious fervor which they create upon the ignorant and untutored and the emotions which they stir, yet they harmonize with the conception of the composer who himself received his impression from a feeling of exultation probably roused thro' the same agencies.—I am to hear another concert tonight and tomorrow night will bring our musical experiences to a close.

It is our present purpose to leave Saturday (day after tomorrow) for Bad Gastein where, if the

weather is favorable and my crowd are satisfied with the form of entertainment they will find there, we may remain one week,—after that we might motor thro' Switzerland as far as Zermath. But all this still remains problematic. Miss Frotscher will leave us tomorrow on her return voyage. I am sure we will miss her greatly for she has been extremely pleasant company, always cheerful and contented. Clara May will be lost when she has her no longer to tutor her in German. I will try, however, to replace Miss F. in essaying French on her, provided, of course, she finds in me as patient a teacher (which I can hear all of your exclaim I am not). I see a good deal of the two Lowenberg women. You know I have a sort of *penchant* for widows and am fond of being with them. Only Mamma often thinks that I act foolishly and am not always guarded in my words and conduct, yet aren't my ungainly appearance and my gray locks (and mustache too) sufficient protection against indiscretion? Irma Weiner, her husband and their son turned up at our hotel this afternoon and are occupying rooms adjoining the girls! Irma looks as pretty and as gentle as ever and I am very glad, indeed, that we will have her with us until we leave. She, also, seemed happy to meet us again.

I went to Hellbrun yesterday with Miss F. and Clara May. I had been to that royal park which you know lies several miles out of Salzburg, the time Caroline travelled with us to these parts and was able to show them the most attractive portions. Caroline will remember the natural rock theatre up on the hill and the steep steps she went down on to see how the place looked at the bottom.—Clara May did the same thing but she regretted that we had no Kodak to snap her as she entered the tomb like grotto in the centre of the stage as a reminder of the tomb in front of which Orpheus proved his sorrows in moving tones over the loss of Euridice. Only there was no Orpheus about nor thank gracious, is she the heroine of mythology.

I am sorry for N.O. that she has lost such a valuable and public spirited citizen as was Mr. Bretton. I also mourn the passing of one of the best friends I ever had. —

Kisses to each of you not overlooking my four babies who still cling to my memory.

Affectionately,
F.J.D.

Lido Palace Hotel

RIVA SUL GARDA

A. Ferrario - Direttore

Sept. 3/32

My Dear Ones,

Julia wants me to enclose the photo of St. Francis of Padua for Miss Foster. You may know that after we had gone thru the Dolomites we drove to Venice where we spent two nights and a most delightful day. Of course we made an excursion thru the canals in the gondola landing at several spots to view the marvels of art to be found principally in the churches and in the museum and as is done usually we did a good deal of window shopping, went to Lido in the boat and finally ate at Florian's in St. Marco place a splendid dinner. The room which we occupied at the Grand Hotel faced the Grand Canal and from our bed we could see the boatmen pushing their gondolas in their singular way and the Santa Maria de le Saluta church across. We left Venice in a gondola and crossed the Adriatic in the ferry meeting our auto at St. Julian where we had left it. We drove first to Padua where as indicated above we stopped to see the Botticelli monument and particularly to visit the shrine which is presumed to contain the remains of St. Francis. A chapel stands over this tomb and during our visit some high church dignitary was singing a mass followed by the administering of the communion or holy sacrament to a goodly number of kneeling women. The church itself is filled with monuments famed for their extraordinary artistic value which would be of very little interest if described rather than seen. I made Julia walk in the back of the shrine. I have just spoken of and showed her where people in their appeal to the saint for favors which I am told are likely to be granted because of his influence above, place their right hand flat against the tomb and pray with the deepest fervor for grace. To those who accept the faith as preached there may be much comfort found in such appeals and it might be improper to disturb the thought by seeking to understand why the Almighty would need other agencies to influence Him in harkening to prayers and supplications. If it were not thus there would be less priests, monks and nuns and less churches and the question is would the world be benefitted thereby?—From Padua we rode to Vincinza another old city where we tarried awhile to visit other notable spots and from thence to Verona where we first ate lunch under an arbor of the Hotel Roma, enjoying an excellent meal besides talking in French and English to the proprietor who was loud in his praises of Mussolini who he said saved Italy and who is fostering its greater development. It is remarkable what loyalty is shown by the natives towards a man who has stripped them of all authority and who holds them under a strict military rule. They do not even complain of the taxes which are burdensome because of the good returns they get in exchange for them. I was able to realize this fact from the restoration of all historical and traditional structures, the building of the best roads I have ever seen and the giving of employment to those who are dependent upon their labor for their subsistence. When you

traverse the Dolomites you soon notice with what consummate skill he has eliminated the danger spots without destroying the scenery—leveling the highways and widening and straightening them as far as possible. There still remains the thrill of ascents to the greatest heights and finding outlets on the opposite side by the same means. Although we travelled thru teeming rains we experienced no sense of danger as the outer edges of all roads skirting precipices are protected by stone guards painted in white and black lines to improve visibility. From the end of the Dolomites we went thru another wonderful pass up another range of mountains leading to Venice. . . At Verona we were conducted to other points of importance which I will not take your or my time to describe because you will find better accounts in any encyclopedia you may consult than I could possibly give. We had to visit what is believed to be Juliet's tomb but which is a mere open sarcophagus resembling not in the least the burial place pictured in Gounod's opera where despairing Romeo killed himself in the belief that his beloved had died.—Imagination is a wonderful aid to romance and here once more an appeal to it was fruitful of results! From Verona we drove along the lake Garda for a distance of about 40 miles on a typical Mussolini highway along which all obstructions of mountains sloping down to the water edge are encompassed by tunnels dug thru them. We came to this hotel at nightfall and found first class accommodations with corner rooms commanding a full view of the lake at its turning point.—We will leave at 12 for Lake Como.—We thank Edgar for the clipping from the N.Y. Times giving an account of the life of an old native of N.O. recognized for his liberality and extravagance. I knew well the son of the individual—Mandeville Marigny and thro' him and others became acquainted with the vagaries of the father but there is in the article passages which are fantastic and untrue though interesting.—When you and Edgar have read this letter you may send it on to George to spare me from repeating in my letters to him some of the features of this lengthy message.

Devotedly and affectionately,
F.J.D.

Love to all—not forgetting Grandma

For'd to Geo. Dreyfous
N.O., LA



GRAND HOTEL DE RUSSIE
ROME
(S.A.T.A.)

ROMA GRAND HOTEL DE RUSSIE
GENOVA GRAND HOTEL MIRAMARE
BOLOGNA GRAND HOTEL MAJESTIC (BAGLIONI)
NAPOLI GRAND HOTEL

Sept. 25/32

My Dear Children,

It was a great treat to find in Rome two letters from each George and Caroline (one containing an addenda from Leon), one from Vera and another from Julius written as usual on a train. There were letters also from Mr. Alcus (which we appreciated very much) and from Aunts Mae and Stella. It is peculiar that Ramsay should have changed his mind about committing suicide as a means of shaking off his obligations or thrusting them upon someone else. It is a paradox that it takes courage to accomplish an act prompted by cowardice. But Ramsay lacked courage though anxious to do a cowardly act....I trust that Aunt Beulah has resisted successfully her recent heart attack. If so, please express to her our happiness at her recovery.

It was partly mistaken in one of the letters written at Florence in saying that art ceased to flourish there after the Middle ages (meaning after the 16–17th centuries). Mamma and I performed a feat in climbing several hundred steps up to the top floor of the Pitti Museum to see the display of Modern Arts. We were astonished to see the extent and quality of the exhibition and their originality. I am not sufficiently versed in art to discuss in detail the merits of a painting or a piece of sculpture, nor is my memory sufficiently retentive to recall the features that attracted my attention most or roused my admiration, but a large number of the paintings as well as other objects of art were charming and, may I say, magnificent.—I am now convinced that the present period will show remarkable advance in the field of art as it has in science but along entirely different lines from the past ages. Personally (and you may say it is an obsession with me) I am quite tired of all the so-called religious subjects. The Madonnas, the adorations, the crucifixions, the bambinos of the saints, the sad expressions on their countenances, the descents from the Cross, the resurrections, the sin of Adam and Eve +c. +c. all expressed in different forms and countenances according to the notions of the master-artist, may be sublime in conception and execution but they are so numerous and varied that I am fed up on them. For that reason I like better the efforts of the modern artist in the study of nature as it is and not in the abstract, the treatment of colors and the finding of novel combinations that rouse your attention to inquisitiveness and finally the general departure from what was termed the classic rules.—It is the same in science which has

practically discarded all the notions of the past especially in surgery and medicine, and by this reversal of fundamentals have made life happier, increased our comforts, relieved our pains and prolonged our existence.

Our trip from Florence to Rome was not as uncomfortable as that from Bologna to Florence. The train was less crowded and the weather was more pleasant. Italian trains are not noted for cleanliness nor comfort whether you travel first, second or third class and although much improvement has been made in their operation, there still remains much to be done to bring them to a level with the English, the German or the Swiss trains. We reached our destination at 11 p.m. and were furnished with excellent quarters at this hotel. The night man without increase in the rates of other rooms gave us a suite consisting of a bedroom, boudoir opening on two sides, being at a corner of the building, an entrance hall and a large bathroom, all beautifully furnished. I make use specially of a large lounge in the boudoir which has not less than six fully upholstered cushions, but a reading lamp alongside of it, and the elegant desk on which I'm writing this inelegant letter. Our breakfast is served in it and if we are inclined to primp up we can dress in it with the two large mirrors standing on consols to aid us. Our bedroom is likewise luxurious. The cost is 90 lire or \$4.00 per day. Can you beat it? The girls are quite comfortably fixed also but not as lavishly. We eat dinner at the hotel in the garden under the shadow of palms and spreading cedars and in the soft light of individual lamps. The meals are good though not equal to those served in Montreux.

Yesterday we went first to the Vatican and took in the sculpture and of course the Sistine Chapel and the galleries connected with it including the library. These I understand are the main features of the museum and so far as I am concerned, for the reasons stated in this letter, they are quite sufficient. After lunch in the neighborhood at a restaurant not exactly on a par with Cino, we walked over in St. Peter where we remained a couple of hours. This cathedral is of such vast proportions, so well distributed and finished so elaborately that I could not be vexed as I have been so frequently by the dismal, worn out and overloaded churches I have visited. There is always that luxury and extravagance which riles me when I consider the means employed to get the funds necessary to erect and equip and maintain them added to the number of drones who are employed in them constantly. The wealth disclosed at St. Peter is tremendous. Naturally one is impressed and awe-struck by such display. We were further surprised when one of the attaches of the church invited us to follow him through the Sacristy which not only comprised the treasure room but a number of chapels where unostentatious marriage ceremonies are performed and other minor (?) occasions are celebrated and we noticed also there master-pieces in art equal to any to be found in noted museums.

Today we engaged an auto which took us far into the country to visit the Hadrian's Villa which, as you know, is perched on some commanding heights. We noticed as we passed the gates of Rome considerable building going on generally of large apartment houses needed to accommodate the ever increasing population. These are sold by the apartment as in N.Y. and I am informed that there is no difficulty in disposing of

them...We had a very intelligent guide to take us through the ruins of the mass of buildings, covering several acres which constituted the summer home of the Emperor Hadrian. From these ruins were gathered a large number of statues, which I cannot name for want of space now in the Vatican and in Florence. From there we were driven to the Villa d'Este a most delightful spot with which I believe each one of you is familiar. I was charmed with its garden, its fountains and its wonderful landscaping. Returning we got off at the Borghese Park where Grape Day was being celebrated. The occasion is marked by a parade of trucks decorated with grapes coming from all parts of the surrounding country. There must have been a hundred of them, all different and many adorned in Carnival fashion with exquisite skill I'll let Ruth and Mamma tell you more about them. To-morrow we shall see more of Rome by auto, and maybe if I am in humor, I'll describe what I saw.

Love and many kisses as usual.

F.J.D.

FELIX J. DREYFOUS
GEORGE ABEL DREYFOUS
FRANK B. TWOMEY
LAW AND NOTARIAL OFFICES
1818 CANAL BANK BUILDING
NEW ORLEANS

Dec. 1/36

My Dear Billie,

Perhaps it is about time that I prove to you that I am still alive and that there yet remains some degree of attachment to my daughters, wherefore I am writing this letter.

It interests me greatly to learn how well you apportion the time between study and diversion, but I am rather apprehensive that upon your return to your native hearth you shall have been so accustomed to being and going about (some call it gallivanting) that you will become impatient and irked by being forced into inactivity or being deprived of all the entertainments of every type you have found in the great City. It would seem to you as though you were being thrust into a lonely spot where pleasure is unknown and where no greater attraction is afforded than such only as nature provides. It may be that to some contemplation is all sufficient, but this character of existence would not fit one so full of buoyancy and spirit as you are and you may add that it would not be anymore pleasant to me if I were to be removed from my present activities and relegated to the rank of pensioners or of retired superannuated beings. May I suggest that such thoughts ought not to enter your mind and you should learn to be content with the life of ease and comfort which alone I can afford you? I am sure that with some effort you will soon become accustomed to it and be happy thereat.

You should express to our relatives in N.Y. (not overlooking Uncle Phillip and Aunt Hattie and Sophie) and our numerous friends and acquaintances our deep appreciation of the attentions they have shown you and of the interest they have taken in your well-being.

Your paper on the social conditions and spirit of & trend of the times is very well written and I found much delight to observe the splendid manner in which you express yourself in these subjects which are so difficult to treat understandingly. You prove in that paper that you can absorb the thoughts and teaching of others and deduce from them such wisdom and instruction as could be demanded from others no less gifted than you. I do not mean to flatter you but I am very proud to see how much you have been benefitted by the instruction you received at Columbia and the researches you were required to make in connection with your studies. In my humble way, I shall be glad to listen to your discussion of these matters with others who are better versed than I in philosophy and you will, I am sure, not be too critical if I fail to join knowingly or understandingly in such discussion.

We enjoyed very much the short visit of Uncle Lee and Aunt Stella. They also seemed to be impressed with being with us. They never showed so much contentment and happiness on their

prior visits.

This letter contains no news because I believe you are being well informed on them by the other members of the family.

When next you meet Dorothy, you will tell her on my part that I have not overlooked her challenge to meet her at a cocktail party at the Ambassador or Waldorf–Astoria. I'll prove it to her when I visit N.Y. which I hope is not too far off.

Many, many fond embraces

F.J.D.

FELIX J. DREYFOUS
GEORGE ABEL DREYFOUS
FRANK B. TWOMEY
LAW AND NOTARIAL OFFICES
1818 CANAL BANK BUILDING
NEW ORLEANS

Jan. 6/37

My Dear Billie,

I noticed on opening the envelope addressed to you which your mother gave me at lunchtime to mail, that she enclosed nothing but XXX. It is quite possible that in her haste, she left her letter out, but there's no telling. Hence I'm repairing the omission by scribbling this short message.

We all listened to the splendid address of our president which came over the radio this p.m. It was on a par if not superior to the speeches I have heard before from him and it demanded in wise thoughts, extraordinary comments upon some of the experiences of the past four years and timely recommendations. I am sure that you were made happy on hearing his condemnation of child labor and the encouragement it gave for the suppression of the evil. It is probable that constitutionalists as in the case of the fundamentalists, will find fault in the suggestion that principles which might have been proper and appropriate at one time are no longer advisable or safe with changed conditions and the evolutions which the period and a progressing civilization must bring about. He made the demands of this age so manifest that only those who wish to resist by all means in their power by specious reasoning will find fault with or dissent from. I may not be altogether clear on the subjects under discussion by reason of the limitations which my advanced age and lack of information will occasion. But I am decidedly on Roosevelt's side and in accord with him in all he said today.

I attended the Russian Ballet last night on Leon's ticket—Leon having been called hurriedly to Baton Rouge by Gov. Long to discuss the plans for the enlarged stadium. The governor is to leave tonight for Washington where he proposes to submit his application for the adoption of the project by the Federal authorities. I wish him every success being so strongly imbued myself with its importance both to the City and to the City Park. I must confess that I was not very greatly enthused by the performance. It was rather a dull pantomime and not the kind of dancing to which I am inured. There was also a lack of balance between the gyrations of the performers and the music which they meant to interpret. In other words, I'd incline to the Argentina's style of harmonious motions and to the motions of the rhythm according with the strains of the ballet of Faust or of the Trovatore or of St. Sæens', rather than to the discordant notes which accompanied the grotesque gyrations of last night.

We have noticed in the news reports that there is a serious prevalence of bronchial troubles in N.Y. to the extent that trained nurses have become almost unavailable. If this be true, you should

“pack your grip” and come back home We do not want to see you get sick in a strange city and in a hotel room—Keep us informed on your state of health.

Betty & Leta had some fever yesterday but they have both entirely recovered thanks to Caroline’s timely ministrations.—Your report upon your first visit to aunts Hattie and Sophie gave us much pleasure—likewise are we glad to learn that the Camellias you took with you stood the voyage so well. Regards to all. Many tender embraces from

Dad

This letter is sent by ordinary post on account of the existing weather conditions which rendered air travel impossible.

FELIX J. DREYFOUS
GEORGE ABEL DREYFOUS
FRANK B. TWOMEY
LAW AND NOTARIAL OFFICES
1818 CANAL BANK BUILDING
NEW ORLEANS

March 6/37—12:15 p.m. (Sat.)

My Dear Billy,

I have been reading your letters with great interest. They indicate better than anything else would that the life of activity and bustle you are leading is what you want and what suits best your temperament. Of course you should do all things with moderation and in the end you will find yourself truly benefited thereby. Besides there would be the advantage of not being irked in case your opportunities of doing and seeing being lessened by force of circumstances. Again, something might snap if you overtax your mind and your physical strength. Another suggestion, if you wish to have body and soul function properly, be more regular in your daily occupations and in your meals. This business of rushing from one task to another, of running from one end of the City to the other to meet friends or to keep appointments, or of hastening to meet your college schedules so as not to be tardy, or of eating at all sorts of establishments or at private homes without regard to the kind, quantity, or quality of the food, might bring about disturbances hurtful to you health and well-being. Your last experience at home, when you insisted upon going to a lecture fixed at a couple of hours before train-time without taking into consideration the length of the talk and the possibility of an accident happening which would throw your plans out of balance, should be a lesson that will benefit you in the future. You know that I don't agree with George's theory that the other fellow will be dilatory, that the trains do not always leave on time, that it is a loss of time to be ahead of appointments or schedules etc. all as a sort of means to an end (more properly "an end [as in your case] to a means") with your blood rushing to your head to make the connection— — — Lem's car was pulled out of the mud on the occasion to which we refer, long after the train you took for N.Y. had left the station. But let's not talk any more about the matter—it'll do no good. . . . I received on yesterday a pleasant and affectionate letter from uncle Phil apologizing for not sending his message of congratulations in time for my anniversary. I will write an acknowledgement very soon. In the meantime you may express to him my appreciation. . . . You may repeat also to Aunt Sophie my thanks for her good wishes. I trust that she will soon be up and about. As regards all your friends in N.Y. who have taken such a lively interest in you—I entertain for them the deepest sense of gratitude and friendship I'm always ready to accept as a personal obligation all the Kindnesses and marks of attention showered upon you and the rest of my kin. . . . The poinsettias and the azelias are still in full bloom and my garden which I consider a part of myself is still affording me the

greatest amount of delight and, at the same time, a means of giving homage to the marvels of nature.....The babies (meaning all 5 of them, irrespective of their age) are also inspirations and in my own bland way they afford me much joy and fill me with pride at their progress thro' life...I have had an X ray treatment consisting of 10 exposures to the rays recommended by the doctor for future relief.—I suffered no inconvenience and am hopeful that the expected good results will be realized.—I am closing a sort of unconnected dissertation with the assurance that all is well down here and that you still retain a big spot in my heart—

Dad

Regards to all the folks + enquiring friends.

Mother has just 'phoned that she found your fur piece and the gloves—she will call for me in a few moments so that I may get home in time to hear a portion of “La Traviata” broadcasted from the Metropolitan.——

George sends you the enclosed photos thinking that they would interest you.

UNDATED; April, 1937?

I did not see Fred Beutel when I asked they said that perhaps he went to N.C. I did not please anybody as I wanted to return in time to rest before going to the Concert We also went over the bridge on our return. Mrs. XXX admires the Capitol very much + has been there often, she says she cannot help admiring even if Huey had it done—

Daddy, George + Julius came home for lunch + I told Daddy I would ride down town if he rests awhile so he did that and I will leave to close—Love + kisses from All especially

*Your devoted
Mother*

My dear Billie,

Mother left this blank paper to make sure that I would write to you. I want to compliment you on your letters which are always interesting, full of informative details and exhibit a sense of appreciation of the things which come under your observation. There is also manifested your desire to enlarge your store of information and a further desire to attain a complete knowledge of the subjects you are studying. I do hope and trust that your health will permit you to continue this course of conduct—with the same energy and determination and with the same degree of efficiency and enthusiasm. It would be vain for me to wish that I would regain my youth so that I could place myself in your hands to guide me through a similar course and manner of living. “Si jeunesse savait, si Veillesse provait?—(If youth knew and if old age could?) I have a young lady client who is about to make a trip to Italy. I have suggested an itinerary which would fit her circumstances and extent of education. I mentioned among other things the hotel we stopped at in Florence as being a proper place to board. I don't remember its name and correct location. Could you give me the information?—If mother overlooked to mention it—we deposited in bank \$200. about fifteen days ago (March 27th). With tender embraces, Affectionately Dad

Love to Aunt Sophie + the best regards to my friends and acquaintances.

The Inn

"Charlevoix-the-Beautiful"

Michigan

W. E. Flynn, Managing Director

Sept. 1/38

My Dear Billie,

We have, at length, decided to leave Charlevoix this coming Saturday (3d) and to motor to Saratoga, stopping en route at London (Ontario), Hamilton, Niagara Falls and Rochester. I am anxious to meet Dr. MacLane + his wife once again, but I am not quite sure that Lee and Stella will consent to go that way;—at present they are inclined to take another route which may bring them to Toronto and Montreal. They also prefer to stop at the Essex in N.Y. instead of the Barbazon—Plaza. Your choice. As we propose to meet you at the dock when you land, you will then know our decision in the matter.

We received this forenoon your letter postmarked "Portrush (N.I.) the 21st Aug. which came by the *Normandie* consuming only 12 days from posting date. A quick trip, indeed. This letter will go forward on the 7th via *Queen Mary* and will reach destination well before your sailing.

We received letters from Julius, Vera and Carol which contained glowing accounts of their voyage. They will reach N.Y. to-day and expect to be home next Tuesday, unless the unusually hot weather prevailing there (96°) causes them to change their mind. No one, I am sure, would, under the circumstances, find fault with them in delaying their return.

Your vivid report upon your excursion thro' Ireland was very interesting. While on the surface, the Free State is enjoying its freedom from English yoke, I have a strong apprehension that the Southern Irish who are natural born politicians (and corrupt ones at that as judged by their conduct in this Country) will soon be quarelling among themselves to obtain the ascendancy in government control. This is evidenced by their recent election of a protestant for president in an essentially Catholic country, as a temporary means of escaping the fate of our large Cities. There is a reason for the Northern section of Ireland where the protestants predominate preferring to remain under British dominion. You noticed that there is greater prosperity there and less discontent among the masses. The reason is apparent as I have intimated above. We all hope that you will continue, with your party, to have a good time, that your crossing will be pleasant, and that you will return to us satisfied to live a quiet life amidst your placid family group.—By the way, the party in whose behalf George did intercede (the one that was compelled to leave N.O. by the police by rather arbitrary methods), has proven to be a Communist agitator seeking, with the aid of the CIO, to bring trouble in the Country and a strong influence is being exerted to deport him to his native land, Australia. You will hear

more about this when you are back.—A farewell dinner has been given to the resigned professors who we must concede, were inflicted greater punishment than their tactless conduct merited. With many Kisses to you and fond greetings to your fellow travellers.

Your only Dad
E.J.D.

The Inn

"Charlevoix-the-Beautiful"

Michigan

W. E. Flynn, Managing Director

Aug. 24/39

Dear George,

We have both Ruth's and your letter of the 22nd and with the announcement that Ruth will join us at Atlantic City after Labor Day we have this day made reservations for the 31st leaving at 9:10 p.m. to arrive at Detroit the next morning and leaving that night to reach Phila. also early in the morning on the following day. This will give us an entire day at Detroit thus enabling us to meet Mrs. Kahn and the Leorin boys, if at home, and in that manner spending the time between trains in a most pleasant way.

We have had a most agreeable sojourn here and as mentioned several times before our (your mother and mine) healths received excellent results. Not only did either suffer no pain of any sort but we have gained weight and above all obtained mental and physical rest which we needed most. Mother found most congenial company in her Cin. home folks and many more she had met on our previous visits to Charlevoix. Leo and Edna showed us marked attentions and were very nice in taking us out frequently in their auto. We made together several trips to Potosky, but, strange to say, in none of our excursions did we make any purchases of any consequence. In my daily noon bridge games, I did not make myself the subject of serious criticism. In fact I did acquit myself pretty well—judging from results.

The hotel is thinning out rapidly and if it were not for an expected crowd to attend the Kiwanis convention, I am afraid we would be rather solitary by the time Labor day came...

Your reasoning regarding the Loriapri succession was quite in line with my thoughts originally but I did not consider it would be proper to contradict the opinion you expressed to Mrs. Rice and contented myself to stand by you particularly as I reasoned out that no opposition was likely to be made by the residuary heirs to the plan as suggested.—I failed to get from you any information in respect to the letter I wrote to the attorneys of the Travelers Ins. Co. There is some intimation that the amount of the life insurance had been deposited in court in an interpleading proceeding but I do not know whether or not steps had been taken to recover a portion at least, of it for the benefit of our clients, nor do I know whether or not you received a certified copy of Mrs. Altman's alleged will with proof also that the deceased left no other testament.

I will not omit the fact that I have written to the Hadden Hall and the Shelburne making inquiries as to reservations and terms. Our present plan is to await Ruth's arrival

and with her spend two weeks at Atlantic City and then go to N.Y. to remain until we entrain for home (say about the 25th of Sept.)

I would like you to take from a corner of the pad on my desk a clipping of a newspaper giving the address of Mr. Kress whom I hope to meet in N.Y. for the benefit of our Museum and to forward it to me at your leisure.

Kisses as usual.

Devotedly,
F.J.D.

Do not forget to tell Julius, Caroline and Ruth that I have written.

**Book-Cadillac Hotel**

DETROIT, MICHIGAN

Sept. 1/39

My Dear Ones,

We left Charlevoix last night much to the sorrow of our friends we left behind. I have never spent a month as quickly as I did at that resort. While the time hung heavily on my hands at night, the weather conditions with the few exceptions of two or three days of rain followed by a chilly atmosphere, remained ideal in consequence of which, I repeat, mother's health improved remarkably and I added a few pounds to my weight. By contrast it is exceedingly hot here and we are glad that we shall depart in the hope of finding relief at Atlantic City. Perhaps the clouds of war which seem to hang so heavily over Europe have to some degree affected my morale and brought on depressing thoughts upon results which will retard civilization for many decades. The whole conduct abroad of the beasts that rule many of the nations is incomprehensible to me. Viewing as I do, past history which demonstrates clearly that no war has though successful to one side carried with it happiness or prosperity to the victor or the victims. Let us hope that this country will keep out of the mess save to give moral or even financial aid to the forces opposing Hitler and his gang, if needs be.

On our arrival in Detroit after a poor night spent on a shaky train, we came to this hotel and were given a beautiful room for the day. Later Mrs. Kahn (Isidore's inlaw), after we had phoned to her of our coming, sent her car to take us to her magnificent country home where she entertained us royally and showed us around her gardens, her farm and the lake and woods which surround her estate. We were given a Company lunch and later she took us in her own car thru the suburbs of Detroit showing us on the way, the many institutions of learning the residential parks and the stately public buildings in which they abound, dropping us finally at this hotel.

In my last letter I told you that we have retained rooms at the Shelburne. I am not convinced that she will be pleased with the hotel nor that living on that European plan will be satisfactory. Maybe we will make no change before Ruth arrives, leaving the choice to her, but I have a passing thought that we go to our old abiding place, the Hadden Hall.—You will be advised in time of our final decision.

In the hopes of finding news from home at Atlantic City—of a pleasant character, and with much love to all believe me as always, with accompanying kisses.

Affectionately, F.J.D.



The Shelburne
Atlantic City

Sept. 4/39

Dear Ones,

The crowd which generally flocked here on this Labor Day does not appear to me up to tradition. While the boardwalk is much in motion and the turf is full of bathers, I do not detect anything different from what I saw on my previous visits to this resort. The management of this hotel claims a good attendance but this I surmise is a talking-point or pretext for an increase in room rates. This inference is confirmed by the fact that when I engaged the room we occupy the clerk stated that the price he quoted was that charged for like accommodations after Labor Day. Be that what it may, we are pleased with our quarters and contemplate making no change. We also are satisfied with being on the European plan as this gives us the opportunity of eating at different places and of varying meals to suit our tastes or inclination. May be also we eat with more moderation because we do not find ourselves constrained to gorge ourselves at the regular abundant meals served at the hotels where the American plan obtains. You all need to have no fear that in my efforts to save or to cut down expenses, I might starve myself unduly and thus lose the additional weight put on at Charlevoix. This is not and will not be the case, be assured.

Moise Levy (the doctor's father) and his wife are stopping at this hotel and have been extremely attentive and pleasant. He has given me every day his copy of the T.P., mine to which I subscribed having so far failed to reach me.

We called last night at the Ambassador and saw the Mayor, his wife, their daughter, her husband and their son. We also spent some time in Herman Levy's company. All of them looked well and were happy to meet us. Julia M. was enthusiastic in praising George and Julius for the improvements to the apartment she rents from them. No wonder when you consider how much they cost them. The Mayor took us to the place where he generally eats his afternoon meals. We found the cooking and the fare excellent.

We received this morning Ruth's letter of the second and were made extremely happy to learn that she was recovering from her last ailment to the extent that she expected to leave shortly to meet us here. Certainly we will be overjoyed to have her with us. It is our belief that this place will do her much good with its pleasant climate and the surf bathing it affords. We hope that the absence of congenial company as she likes to have it will not affect her happiness. Rest and

moderation will more than compensate for the lack of such company.

Personally, I would not mind remaining here two weeks and then go to N.Y. for one week only which would be ample to visit the fair, the shows and our acquaintances. The longer stay would, I fear, be too fatiguing to me and cause me to lose all the gain I have obtained during my vacation.

Mamma and I were glad also to learn that the Weiss children enjoyed their stay at 17 Audubon Place. I regret that I was not there to share in their pleasure. George writes that they are such expert swimmers and that they amuse those who see them disport themselves in the water.— Tell John that we are still awaiting the letter he had promised to write us. We likewise expect to hear from Carol.

In one word, we are happy to hear from the absent ones frequently.

Give our compliments to the rival grandparents and to the rest of the folks.

Affectionately,
F.J.D.



The Shelburne
Atlantic City

Sept. 9/39

My Dear Ones,

We were very much relieved when we received this morning Ruth's letter in which she states that [she] was feeling more comfortable and that she hoped to rejoin us here some time next week. In evidence of that fact she mentions having received Company, of having made an engagement to play bridge and of finding no time to read books. It is almost needless to express my feelings when I learn that any one of those to whom I am attached is suffering from any ailment however insignificant. It may be, and Ruth makes no exception. Under the circumstances I am willing to remain at this resort so long as I am assured that Ruth will come to meet us and will even consent to follow her to N.Y. for a short stay altho' I am loathe to visiting that City for the reasons given in my last letter. Ruth's own happiness is an ever inspiring thought to me which knows no exception.

We came as close yesterday to that place in which sinners broil for all eternity, as we ever wish to be; not even the parade of the so-called national beauties, on the Board-walk made us overlook the discomfort nature imposed upon us. To a resident of N.O. the procession looked tame and the exhibitions ridiculous, but the crowds stood in the sun hot enough to set water a'boiling for hours apparently enjoying the view—It would not have been of good taste on our part to say anything disparaging of the effort which had been extensively advertised but that didn't affect our disdain in our inner self.—To-day the temperature is more endurable and in our room at the present time I find much Comfort—not to the degree Ruth states, she felt in my (?) room at home. There is to be found here all the company your mother enjoys having about her when she travels. Pity 'tis that my hearing has become so bad (as a result of long declining years) that all I can do when sitting in a group is to smile like a fool and keep silent lest I say something inappropriate to the subjects under discussion. Isn't that an unfortunate, not to say, sad, fate?

The censored news that reach us from the seat of war do not afford us any cheer but, on the contrary, we are kept in a state of uncertainty as to what we should so eagerly want to know, is there any hope that in the near future the ambition of the madman of Germany, will be annihilated? Any other comment we might indulge in would be absurd (Ruth's favorite expression)!

George has not in his letters said anything about Mr. Bloch's condition. I am eager to know how he is getting along at the Touro, if, perchance, he is still there.—In the Russ matter has he been consulted about opening the succession? His reports upon our office work are rather meagre. Has he enough to do to keep our force occupied?—How is Leon's defense progressing?

Does Wilkinson feel sanguine of having the unfortunate indictment dismissed? Would my presence at home help at this time?—Please answer.

Instruct my gardener to prepare the bed for sowing by the end of this month the early sweet peas.—He should fertilise the ground better than last year.—Tell Julius that I would cheerfully write to him a separate letter, if that would better please him.

A thousand Kisses to all.

(signature)



The Shelburne
Atlantic City

My dear ones,

There is no use urging Father to remain away from home as he craves to return in order to find out if he can be some assistance. If you are not entirely free of the hives Ruth it will be far better to remain at home until you recover. In case you are anxious to come here, I will remain and wait for you if a question of a few days, that is if you can come by the end of this week.

*Love and kisses to all,
Mother*



The Shelburne
Atlantic City

Sunday, Sept. 10/39

Dear Ones,

Thinking over the matter of Ruth joining us here, it is my opinion that if she wants to go to N.Y. as soon as she finds it safe to travel, she could meet mother at A.C. and then take her to N.Y. there to remain as long as would suit their convenience. Or, if mother prefers to return to N.O., Ruth could continue her sojourn in N.Y. indefinitely and be free to act as she pleases. But so far as I am concerned, I am tired of this life of inaction and am craving for some work to occupy my mind and my body. If no valid reason is given me to prolong my vacation beyond this week, I shall depart for home either alone or with mother by this coming Saturday. This letter which will go by airmail will reach you on Monday and you may answer it by wire or also by air mail. I would regret very much if my determination disturb your plans, but my impulse is beyond my control—I must go home.

Love and kisses to all,
F.J.D.

We are awaiting letter from home as the mail comes in at one it is now 11 a.m.

ORLEANS INVESTMENT CO., INC.

1818 CANAL BANK BUILDING

NEW ORLEANS

IRVING ALCUS, SEC'TY.

March 26/45—1:30 P.M.

My Dear Ruth,

Your letter of day before yesterday has just been handed to me. I am happy that you enjoyed your trip to Cin. and that you received such a hearty welcome everywhere (why not?). I was doubly happy to learn of your good health and spirits. It is comforting on my part to tell you that in respect to my own health, overlooking the ravages of age, I have no serious cause to complain. The time has also passed off agreeably and generally quite satisfactorily. The most attractive and in fact the most entertaining of all was the Met. matinee. In a few words I spent the most entrancing three hours listening to the opera. Carmen which besides being a gem in its kind both dramatically and lyrically was excellently performed. My acquaintance with the music which, as you know is typical and interprets in the most effective manner and harmonious style, the country of its origin, was very helpful to my enjoyment of the whole. The balance of the program was, in some degree, equally as inspiring. You were, if you listened to the performance I am sure, just as much impressed by the talk of La Farge on the theme of the Genesis, "Am I my brother's Keeper?" in connection with the appeal for a lasting peace. The interest which you have always shown in the improvement and wellbeing of your fellowman is the beacon-light which has always prompted my course in this world, as a guide in my public career, hence when the speaker dwelled so eloquently upon the responsibilities which one should assume as a brother's keeper, I was greatly moved by his talk—the same as you must have been!

Bea + Freyhan came for dinner and remained to serve the supper. Bea left early in the evening to see her sister Pauline. I believe that the greed manifested by some one in applying to the Court for the search of Odenheimer's will on the very day of his funeral, was certainly not very complimentary or respectful to the memory of the deceased. But that simply manifests the trend of things these days. — — — We shall entertain the Scherks at dinner to-night. This was arranged for without my knowledge or concurrence, tho' I had no objection.—I am enclosing a clipping in which Mr. Adam's suicide is mentioned. Should you write to Bea offering your sympathy, you may join me in it.

In spite of the bad weather yesterday we had company. Personally I am flattered by the attentions showed me but for the present I enjoy Solitude best.—

You may if you choose send this letter to Carol in lieu of my having to write at a time when my epistolary style is so much at fault.

Love to all the folks and a tender kiss to you my daughter.

(signature)

APPENDIX: FELIX J. DREYFOUS' INTRODUCTION TO HIS LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF 1901

This document is preserved to serve as introduction + to be read in conjunction with the formal will of this date.—It is not to be made public nor probated—as the dispositions it contains are revoked. New Orleans November 7th 1916 (signature)

This is my last will and testament:

The birth of another child has once more rendered null and void all my previous wills and testaments. For more certainty, however, I now formally revoke them.

I owned at the time of my marriage with my good wife Julia property real and formally valued approximately at twenty five thousand dollars as fully detailed in the inventory made at the time and which will be found in the box in the Whitney National Bank vault. The rest of my property was acquired during the community with my said wife.

(the foregoing paragraph has been stricken out, marked "revoked," and signed)

1. I give and bequeath to my mother Caroline Dreyfous the right of use and habitation during the time of her natural life of the apartments which she now occupies in my home corner of Jackson Avenue and Camp street. It is my wish that she be given proper attention and care and that all her wants shall be abundantly supplied so that she will have no cause of complaint or be made to suffer any inconvenience. If, for some unforeseen cause, not attributable to her own fault (which I trust will never happen) my mother should leave or abandon her said apartments, I then will and bequeath to her a life annuity of six hundred dollars payable at the rate of fifty dollars on the first day of each month.
2. I give and bequeath to my wife Julia Seeman Dreyfous the usufruct during her widowhood, of all the property of every description which I shall leave on the day of my death and request that at no time she should be required to give bond for the security thereof. I feel that my children shall always display towards their kind mother true devotion and that they will follow her advice and observe her behests, being ever mindful of their duties and obligations towards her.

Subject to the foregoing bequests, I institute my children George Abel, Felix Julius, Caroline Helen and Ruth Julia, my universal legatees.

3. I nominate and appoint my wife, my father-in-law George Seeman and my brother Jules S. Dreyfous my joint-testamentary executors. The bulk of my estate is invested in mortgage notes all of which are in my judgement good and safe. With prudence and patience my executors will recover the full amount represented by said notes. I instruct my executors to

invest all sums recovered from them in U.S. or City of New Orleans bonds or in such other first class securities as will yield a steady and safe income for my wife and my children. There is no reason why the capital should be impaired. My executors shall also have full authority to sell all or any portion of my real estate (except my homestead) on such terms as they will deem best and invest the proceeds as above-directed.

I declare that I owe no further sums than are shown in my last inventory book and in my docket. I have administered all the estates confided to my care with fidelity and with the only view of furthering the interests of those I represented.

I fervently hope and pray that my boys will grow to love their native land and will exert themselves (as I have always tried to do) to promote its best interests and the happiness of its people.

Written, dated and signed with my own hand, at New Orleans La., this twenty-second day of March nineteen hundred and one.

(signature)