

Victoria Strafe 29. D.

Dear Juey is much better. (at Onkel Heeckel's)
fairly on the way to get well I trust. Berlin.
Sunday Afternoon July 20th /69.

My dearest Fan & Louie

It is just a week since we
reached Berlin but the time is so unsettled
here & I have so little strength for its different
necessities that I will tell you first all I can
about our dear Juey in case I cannot manage
to write a real letter before post time tomorrow
evening. I think my last lines to you abt her were
from Bonn on the 8th, our letter to you having
been posted to you on the 7th for fear of accident.
The news of dear Juey kept getting ^{daily} worse & worse
or rather more & more doubtful character so that
we left Bonn on Monday Evening the 12th rather against
dear Mutter's wish as she did not see exactly of what
use I'd be regarding Julia & feared the journey at all
for me. But you can understand my feeling
that I was the only one within reach who really
belongs to the poor fellow & that in a very serious
illness when even life & death are perhaps hanging in
the balance one cannot bear to leave anyone
you love & have a right to help in the case of those
you know personally. worthy of, as to skills, un-
derstanding of the sick one, care of it at all however
good & kindly intentioned one may know them
to be. Wilhelm felt this also & that the risks

of Berlin wd be hardly worse for me than
the terrible daily anxiety while waiting
on at Bonn dreading what further news
each post or telegram might bring.
We heard too that Dr Körte expected a crisis
(in the nervous fever) as last Wednesday or Thursday
& I wished to be on ^{the} spot beforehand & to have
got over the journey sufficiently to be able to
do what little might fall in to one's power for
her, which ever way the illness turned: for one
could not hide from one's self that there
was then great danger & it ^{almost} seemed but
little hope. We travelled ^{all} through the Monday
night, leaving Cologne at 7.15 P.M. & reaching Berlin
Tuesday morning about 1/4 to 8. The distance is
about 300 English miles. The constant shaking
(though German railway carriages are better &
easier in movement than English ones) with
scarcely any stoppages & the broken rest & ~~strange~~
unaccustomed food so thoroughly knocked me
up that I'd barely got to the nearest hotel
& by then nearly all day with constant sickness
& diarrhoea. Wilhelm & Edith were jolly however
& took care of each other & he went of course to
the Forstners, saw Dr at his every visit & chat.
Things had then for poor Jule a very gloomy
look, tho' not quite hopeless. Next morning
Dr Körte came to see me at the Hotel aff.

his morning visit to Julia with somewhat
better news. A great change in weather had
come during the night ^{from great heat to} cool refreshing rain &
you know what that always does for us fellows.
It had given her some hours sleep & Dr Körte
begged me not yet to see her for fear of the
least excitement disturbing the slight im-
provement we ^{at} hoped had begun. Of course
I joyfully obeyed but wished naturally to see her
whom he promised shd come to me that after-
noon to save me the May stairs as he saw
how shaky I shd be. We were then still ^{at} the
hotel but ready to leave it for the Hackels
who had kindly asked us to come ~~to them~~.
You know their pictures in our book.
This was Wednesday the 14th. ^{They have rooms on a ground floor so no stairs, thank}
On Thursday (15th) there were still better news of Jule
but Dr Körte still feared her seeing any one (all this
time she was generally wandering in ^{at} mind poor
thing ~~for the~~ fever). We dined (for part 2, or Mittags-
essen) at Tante Bertha's who has 2 of Carl Kaelch's
children with her a 3rd being here with their grand-
mother Tante Lotte. Heinrich Lotte (one of the two
politicians whom I had previously seen at Bonn)
& his wife a sister of Theodor's name, dined there
also, together with Ernst Reimer. You can think
how I wished myself ^{to be} anywhere else that day, kind
as they all were, with my mind so full of our little
darling, & so very sad too for poor Jule.
Friday 16th I was at the Forstners with Wilhelm
by 10 a.m., ready to await Dr Körte, visit there, & see
whether he wd let me see the dear fellow.

He said she was so much better (having slept much more the previous night) that I mt see her for a few moments. She looked better, or rather less bad, than I had feared to see her, but still so much altered (in expression of face thro' the fever & suffering) that I mt have passed her in the ward of a hospital without recognizing her. She knew me however & seemed pleased to see me but as if her poor head still felt too dreadfully weak after the fever to be able to grasp one idea without pain. I only stayed a few minutes then, but by Mr D's wish remained at the Forsters for another hour or so in order to see her once again. ~~in order~~ ^{so} that she shd not disbelieve that she had really seen me & take ^{the remembrance} ~~me~~ for one of her feverish fancies. Poor dear fellow, you can fancy how sad it was to see her thus & yet how joyful to find her in some ways better than I had dared hope.

But now I must take the little Kitten for her afternoon or rather evening, proud to goodbye for the present to dear Brothers.

21st Wednesday. - Sat^d the 17th I saw her again in the morning & Dr Koite also. He found her continuing to improve & said that this day the fever had quite left her (but was not the case then) & that her pulse had gone down to pretty near its right number but that he expected it to keep a trifle higher than usual for two or 3 weeks longer, I suppose till her strength was somewhat back again. Of course the fever had left her very weak poor thing. She had got back her own expression this day. I asked Dr Koite a good deal about her & he said that when she had quite recovered the effects of the fever, and with care but be in ^{the case} a few weeks time, she would then have got back to the

Hoist when she was when she first consulted
 him, but then already one of her lungs
 was somewhat affected & repeated only more
 strongly what he had at first told to herself
 that she must take great care for some
 time (I think he implied a long one) &
 live only for her health; & that as to the
 idea of the hospital (her studying nursing)
 it was not for one moment to be thought
 of. It is a great comfort to hear, as his opin-
 ion, that the mischief in her lungs wh had
 apparently increased so much during her ill-
 ness had only done so temporarily. She has for
 most of the time I think had constant wet
 cloths ^{all} over her chest covered of course with flannel
 & et al so as to be constantly drawing out
 (the leaving) the inflammation.

He wished me now to see her only once a day &
 that the morning was the best time for her if I'd manage
 it there, ^{wished her} to see no one but dine the nurse & myself
 at present. He said how very careful we must
 stick be in every way regarding her, so as to prevent
 any relapse we met so easily be brought over.

That afternoon I forgot what we did but I think
 only called on the Goldschmids (mother & et al of that
 young Goldschmidt at the Cape, of St A College celebrity)
 Wilhelm was glad to hear he is still at that school
 school or college & seems to be doing well there
 he is to appear for holidays & a sister's wedding a few
 days hence. I got my quinine made up at
 an apotheker's en route there.

I remember
that was the previous day ride.
This ^{last} afternoon we called on Frau Gercken
& saw also the daughter who was with the
mother-in-law in England, & whom
I say like you. He did not remind me at
all of you dear son, but curiously much of
Mrs Woke. They were both kind, & seemed pleased
to see us. You know it is the curious German
custom that we must call everywhere first.
Poor Frau Gercken seemed terribly upset at
Jug's illness. ~~A paper~~

Sunday 18th So Jug again after breakfast, Wilhelm
taking Edith for a walk meanwhile. Of course
cannot take ^{her} the Forstners with me. Yesterday
I left her with Santa Bertha while I went there,
she being so kind & given me leave always to do
so & it answers on the whole very well for Edith
as Carl Haackel's two girls of 8 & 12 are both there
& very kind to the little thing. This afternoon a Professor
Radiger (I think) ~~at~~ Hanswirth's glauk ich / came
to take Wilhelm for a walk. ~~He~~ Hermann Lethe
(Stadt richter) & his wife dined here, also the 3 little
Haackels. Santa Bertha somewhat poorly with bad
cold so didn't come. This evening we spent
at Frau's Goldschmidt's she having sent her
two daughters the previous day to return our
call & invite us. We went quite late
after Edith was in bed. It was not unpleasant,
if ^{being} curious to see the different animals,
& ^{who} ~~the people~~ ^{themselves} were very kindly intentioned &
civil, but it made me so dreadfully tired
afterwards that I think we shall decline

my share of all such invitations in future.
I only went in 3 high blk silk (the dyed one
wt Mrs Hamilton called made up) found it
quite sufficient dress.

I had found dear Jug pretty well this morning.
There seems to be a slight real improvement
each day. But she was looking weaker & her
breath so labored, with rattling noise on chest,
& her cough ^{seemed} more: & that strange dark look too
^{somewhere} on each side of mouth as one sees in those
who are suffering from their chest.

Monday 19th I was too full ^{on waking} this morning to be
able for anything. Wilhelm dropped the Katie. Took
her out to breakfast, bringing me mine in bed.
after w^h I managed to get dressed & put up wash
clothes, after w^h ^{went} to dear Jug, getting Edith in
charge at Santa Bertha's, en route.

I did not chance to meet Dr Korte this day as he too
was late. He began on Sunday to only come once
a day (having been twice regularly during all the
heavy pt of illness) & he has a very comfortable
look. You do not know how very careful he
seems to be, giving him such minute directions
abt Jug's food & etc. Jug was allowed to have
abt Jug's sitting today, w^h had arrived during her illness,
also some tiny parcels I had sent her by me.

In afternoon Wilhelm took me (Edith too of
course) to call on the Perts (I don't know how to
spell them) He is Librarian of the Royal Library ^{where Wilhelm goes more} &
has quarters attached to it. His wife is an English
woman, Lady Deyell's sister. They were ^{very} ~~very~~ ^{thelby} civil & pleasant. Two nice

children, girls, speaking English of course
who took Edith off to see their birds et al, it
was a great treat to her. We had driven there.
As we had called on the Hennrichs & the
wrote but found them out. That afternoon
two just at coffee time, a Professor Dietrich
or some such name, evidently an old friend
of Wilhelm's, called. He was very pleasant &
friendly, talked in such an amusing way
of many of the other Professors, criticizing
them et al. He looks about Wilhelm's
age. The Royal Library is a good way from
here which is in the new part of Berlin, in
what used to be nearly the outskirts, & quite
outside the town itself. Now the wall is
taken away & all is in one. As we had
got so far & near the pretty part of Berlin
where nearly all the finest buildings are we took
advantage of it by a lovely evening stroll with
for a wonder at leisure & so gently prowled
about to see the outside of the buildings, fine
statues et al. We are scattered & placed all at
in a large square with arm of river running
thru' it et al. It is really a pleasure to be
there. Thanks to the cleaner town & compari-
ative absence of smoke Berlin is really
in many places quite a pleasure to
see & remember, there is so much better
better taste abt all the buildings et al than one

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is used to in England, even very many
of the private houses being so artistically
decorated with bas reliefs, frescoes, statues
et cetera & (temporarily only I suppose) also with
masses of flowers climbing plants et
cetera as well as ^{with} very.

We got some afternoon (or twilight) lunch ^{at the}
Kings Schloss & then drove home very much the better
for the nice peaceful time in open air.

Tuesday 20th was yesterday. I was again late in my
morning visit to Julia having first to talk with
Pante Bertha when I took Edith there about a con-
templated removal of ours from this place, the Haackes
to the quarters of Onkel Julius which he has kindly
offered to us thro' Mutter, in case our stay in Berlin
should be prolonged & we saw it better to leave
the Haackes for fear of the continued presence of
guests being a grieve to poor old Onkel Haackel who
is 88 & of course in some ways feeble now. She
read Mutter's letter - promised to come over in
the evening & talk all things over with Pante Lotte
who she tho' wd be really frank with her abt it
tho' she wd find some little difficulty in being
so with us. Pante Bertha seems to be the Aunt
Chon of this family only an active one now since
her recovered health. I mean everyone seems to say
every thing to her straight out with out fear of
misconstruction or mischief making. She is so very
different from those painful pictures wd are all
we have of her & wd had given me an involun-
tary fear of or prejudice against her in spite
of all Wilhelm & others

had said in her favor. All the children too seem
so to cling to & love her & she seems so remarkably
understanding of them when one thinks of her age
& that she has had none of her own to help her
to it.

I found dear Juey looking very weak again yester-
day tho she had slept well & begins to eat more,
indeed proposes to be getting quite a hungry dog again.
Fran Gervien had called here on the previous day
Monday wanting me to find some time to come
to tea or coffee as she wanted (she told Sante Lotte)
to see something more of me & I shall have to go
there or send. It was kind of her calling so soon
poor thing, indeed I did not think she paid
visits, being seemingly in general such an invalid.
Yesterday afternoon I wrote what I did of this letter
as dear brother knows. My brawl with Edith in
fortunately extended itself into too long a one
in my only partial knowledge of the Berlin
street. & so I was a very good dog again this
morning & dare not write very much this afternoon.
It has been settled between the Aunties & I think
that we leave this for Onkel Julius's Rega to
answer. It will have the great advantage for
me of being very much nearer to Juey & also much
closer to Sante Bertha, so that tho' the Selhe,
themselves do not return till end of month
credo, we shall not be long there. I can see
too that it does seem better for the old peo-
ple here, kindness itself tho' they have
been to us in all ~~the~~ ways in their

power, & very glad too I believe to have been
able to have us with them. It is just a
week today since we took up our abode here.
Sante Lotte is 70. but very active for her years.
She has been truly kind to me. I am very even
wanting to put Edith to bed for me last night
because she saw I was looking very tired.

Fortunately our week or ten days at Bonn had
so far reacquainted what little German I had picked
up from Goldschmidt et al & also had added
new words daily to my stock that by the time
I came here I was was able to understand
Sante Lotte (who speaks only German) very comfor-
tably well & also to make myself understood in
a general way. It is wonderful how quickly
one picks up a language when surrounded
by almost nothing else. Of course any speaking
is full of faults but as long as they are not so
bad as to prevent people from comprehending
my meaning I do not ^{really} care for that. The great
comfort to be is being able to understand so
fully most of what is going on around me
so that I am no longer tempted to fall asleep
(if badly tired at all) at dinner & supper from
very boredom as was the case seven years ago.

I often pity poor Edith when we are long abiding
on these same grounds, tho she too is beginning
to pick up the language quicker than one would
have expected. Of course the little Carl Haack
very here is in that way also a great advantage
to her. The one of 12 who learns English at school
& tho' ^{known} very little of it they can compare single words
et al.

Dr Korte had already been at the Forstners yesterday so I did not see him of course but he seemed to be quite satisfied with dear Jugs progress & promised meat on the morrow, today.

Today 21st I have of course been there again (getting ^{very} a few fresh sweet smelling flowers ^{en route} to take to dear Jugs.) I found the dear fellows pretty well. but cough more & have had less good a night, both Dr Korte who came while I was there seemed quite contented with her. There was a rather sudden change of weather again last night & it may have affected her or the leaving off her wet chest applications in stead of which she has today a new woven waistcoat. Her cough is looser she says. The poor fellow seems so glad to have me at Berlin, even to see only once daily, that it is ample repayment for any difficulties of being here. He said something today abt "how nice it was to have even one fellow that one could see" meaning evidently one belonging to her, or one of us 3.

Korte allows her to sit up a little in her room to morrow, & to be moved into another room & sofa the following one, but still insists upon great care & quiet, & utter avoidance of all excitement. He even did not seem to like the idea of her being allowed to see Frau Gervier as from what he had heard he thought she must be a rather excitable person (but is the truth I am sure) & said it could only be allowed for 1/4 of an hour if she ^{promises} to be very quiet & that there should be no "scene" as he termed it. Jugs is ~~both~~ told to speak very little & then only in a low gentle voice.

4 this visit

I begged Lina to put it off still for a day or two
as she ^{had said this} if she saw that Julia did not worry herself
about it. Lina is kind & unselfish
towards Julia & very thoughtful & con-
siderate too, but she has personally had no
experience of illness she says, either in her
self or thou hear her, (save her former
sister's childhood illnesses) & one can see
the natural want of knowledge of some
things w^h comes from this. But Dr Kōte sees
this too I think & so gives very careful direction
all every thing. The nurse is one of his choosing & he
says a very good one. He wishes her to stay on
with Julia till Friday or so in case of her need
help at night. but of course the dear fellow
is now looking forward much to getting rid of
her as one of the last remembrances & reminder
of her bad illness. I mean of its dangerous
& most suffering part.

She asked me to give her love to you both
dear fellows & tell you how she was still
too poorly to write. (she ^{apparently} cannot even sit up in
bed yet, being supported up on the pillow to take her
soup & eat,) she gave me also a letter to Fraulein
von Grunhagen, written & ready before her ill-
ness, to enclose in mine to you, asking you kindly
to post it for her. I have just been interrupted
by callers. The Pertz, with their two children. They have
asked us to tea with them ^{home} tomorrow evening at 1/2 past
seven so as it was so early I have ventured to accept

it meaning to try this once more. besides it ^{is} of course a treat to be with such (apparently) pleasant people & to hear English too & able to speak in a language one is quite at home in & yet be understood.

Edith is for this afternoon at the Zoological Garden with Aunt Bertha, the maid's ^{5 of} the title Haackel's. this is how I have ^{had} such nice quiet time for my letter thus far.

I shall ~~ask~~ try & see Dr Köhler on my own account on a day or two as soon as we are settled in Königgrätz Straße, as I do not feel quite right in ~~these~~ a two little ways in which I think he ^{could} give me help & I shall then take the opportunity of speaking to him very plainly about dear Jule & begging to tell her the truth all herself ^{as he sees it} without any mincing, to the uttermost parting, for I feel that this is the only way to make her take care. of course he must wait till she is stronger first. But I shall beg him to be most plain both to her as to what she ^{should} do & avoid this winter.

But Lion says it is time to close & I have not yet thanked my dear fellows for their last letters. I do not try to answer them dear ones fully (you wd rather hear all) I tell you from here & especially of dear Jule, & there was not time for both. Please give my love to Sarah & my very kind regards to Mrs Pilkington & remember me kindly to poor old Mrs Elliott & Hannah. & to Kate van de Sandt, & the well-bred she you see there

Thank you very much my dear ones for all your loving care of our little ones grave. All you tell us of that seems very nice & satisfactory.

With you dear Fannies write to Papa for me (as I see there will be no time ere this post goes to do it myself as I'd rather hope) & tell him of dear Jule's illness - how it has led me to Berlin & how little time & strength there is to spare for writing & give him my best love; & I love also to Ellen - William - Belva & the others. I have so often thought of him while dear Jule has been ill.

Goodbye my very dear fellows
Yours most affectionately
Fannie

Wilhelm keeps quite comfortable well. Edith too. & I quite as well. I think as one can expect now, we stay on another week or ten days at least ^{or} until we see dear Jule going on her legs again.

She asked me ^{also} to thank you both for your last notes