

Sobernheim

Saturday Aug 7th 1889.

My dearest Jan & Louis

By this mail I hope you may even receive a few lines from Julia herself. That is if she continues as well as when I left her last Monday evening (2nd) - has not forgotten this being mail day; but in case she should not have written I will perhaps enclose the letter from her which I found here on our arrival last evening, & also possibly a kind little note of Lina's about her. She has recovered faster than any one who did not know us or similar iron^{made} fellows ~~would~~ have believed possible, but she is still very far from strong. I think our last letter to you was from Victoria Strafe where we were staying with the old Haackels & told you of dear Jule's being quite out of danger & still in bed. I will try to take up my tale from that time. I think that was Thursday 22nd Wednesday the 21st Thursday then the 22nd - was the day we left the Haackels to take up our abode in Onkel Julius's quarters. We took our goods & chattels there just before dinner as Wilhelm had to go directly after dinner to Professor Perty the Librarian (to accompany him to a session at the Royal Academy or some such thing) but we did not stay to unpack at all then. A large pleasant bedroom with three windows one of them indeed a balcony doors with a pretty tiny balcony on the leads shut in by flowering plants was allotted to us with a smaller anteroom. Dear tante Lotte seemed in some ways sorry to have

with us. I think she has got to like me a little.
There is much in her which I like very much.
Sante Bertha went with me some time after supper
to our new quarters (next door to where her are
only with up & down stairs, court & yard & all
between. We picked up Wilhelm also en route
there. It was now getting late & high time
to unpack & dress for going to the Party where
we were due at tea at 1/2 past 7. This day
I had not been to Juez ~~feeling~~ somewhat poorly & much
tired with the packing & etc & also the great heat
which ~~had~~ beginning. I think it was the first I had missed
some allowance to see her. But what a fearful climb
the something ~~about~~ 80 steps which lead up to their
abode are I cannot well explain. Even Edith
(when later I began to take her) had no breath left
when we reached the top.
While we were dripping with cold & unopportune
but Madame Gervien to ask us to come then
to supper the following afternoon. We reached
the Party very late after leaving Edith at Sante Bertha,
in rather a howling state of mind at my disappearance
but had a particularly pleasant evening there.
They were quite alone. The tea table, arranged just
as in England was a pleasure even to see after all
these fancy German meals but of course it
was their pleasant intelligent conversation
which was the ~~old~~ treat. Fanny & Frau Pertz having
been one of Carl Herschel's bridesmaids together
with another of her sisters the Miss Horners.
We reached home about 11 —
Said day the 23rd. We were horribly tired, at least I was
& the whole bright morning was coming into our
bedroom from almost sunrise till 9 or 10 o'clock

made it so hot that we did not know what to
do. We dined, as we are to do daily now, at
Sante Bertha's where I also took Edith for
a short time in the morning which I went
to dear Juez but the heat was so great
I did not know how to travel back.
Something or other happened this afternoon
too to make us late for coffee at the Gerviens.
Oh I know what it was. When we went
at her usual dinner time to Sante Bertha's
with Edith. Hair with unreplaited & rather
smutty frocks on it at what all we
found there but a whole assemblage.
Sante Minchen (widow of uncle Stefan &
mother of Carl & Ernst Haeckel's first wives)
was passing thro' Berlin & had just got the
news of her former engagement to this Miss
Liscow. So she, with her son Heinrich (police
man) & his Gertrude, also with Ernst Haumann one
of the other numerous cousins, ~~as I think I heard~~
Primer, & with the old Haeckels (the dear old man
with his iron cross in honor of the occasion)
all were come to dine at Sante Bertha's.
You can fancy how late & long dinner was with
its health drinking cream cakes & etc in honor
of the occasion, & how utterly tired out & hopeless
I got. It is so disagreeable to get so late to
people who do not know one well & therefore
cannot be expected to realize how entirely true
our excuses are. It was the worse as Wilhelm
had to be at the meeting of Geographical Society
by 6 & Herr von Forstner had been especially
invited to Frau Gervien to meet him & to
be there punctually on that account —

Irati Gervien's daughter were by her.
& I liked much more what I saw ^{the former} of her this day
& I better understand Julia's having cared so much
for her. There is more in her than appears at
first sight. I got home towards eight with Edith
& when later Wilhelm & I went out & got our supper
at a restaurant when she was asleep. It is
a funny way of living but we often found this
the best thing to do until Oskar Julius returns
as there was not the regular cook at home
only the housemaid & a man servant.

Saturday I was too thankful to be utterly lazy
then have been interruptions with coffee & later the
children & so I see there will be no time to continue
this journal if I will tell you what is of most
interest namely old dear Jule.
Köster has spoken plainly to her as soon as he considered
her strong enough it was only last Friday & yesterday
week so that she can't have time to talk over
anything with us before our departure from Berlin
on Monday. He tells her to go at once & in
a week or two as soon as her chest is quite
right again (at that time he wishes her to continue
her 'molken cur' (whey drink) as far as the
acute disease is concerned) to Badenweiler
a place in the Black forest near to Switzerland
& stay there till the beginning of Oct^r. Then to leave
that & go over Geneva to either Cannes
Menton or Nice & there spend the winter.
He says that going south is the only safety
for her this winter & even then it would
be to a very mild sheltered place but
with as pure air as possible. He is

very good alt^h it poor child, much more
reasonable & sensible than I had dared
hope. & really intend I think to follow his
orders. She has written to Aunt Julia
begging her if possible to fix on one of
these places for her & Henry's winter
quarters. I trust she may be able to do
it. Lina kindly goes with Fug to
Badenweiler, & spent the first four
nights with her there which is a great
comfort to me as you can fancy.
The allusion to money in these letters merely
means that I have begged Lina to go ^{as} in my
stead (as I sh^d certainly have gone had my
present bodily circumstances not put it
out of the question either to go or to
be of any real use to Fug on journey at all)
& for that purpose to make use for
me of the Tom & Dick fund. No salary rec^d;
wh^{ch} in the old course of things wd surely
have been given to dear Fug in her present
greater need rather than to me. I felt I'd offer
that money without offence & dear Fug's
pride & et al^{tho} she sh^d had ^{some} scruples
about it. but after the heavy expenses of
her illness & these coming journeys
with 'pension' at Badenweiler et al^{tho}
of course even this kind of talk is a

heth - I could not only own responsible
have begged Lina to go ~~where~~ the expense
to have fallen on July. - She had natural
scruples as to running off with Lina from
her pensionnaire - father etc etc just
when she had already caused them so
much care & trouble thro' the illness.
However, I knew it would really be a good thing
to poor Lina to after her holidays spend
in sick room in that dreadful hot
Berlin (almost as bad as summer in Cape
town) - far worse than Bowdley summer -
besides, very essential for Jue in his present
weak state so asked without scruple &
was most gladly said yes too.

You can think what a comfort it is to
know the poor child is not going into what
must at first seem something like exile
alone. Poor Jue. She told me that it was
seeing me that first made her wish to get
better; & that she felt ^{too} herself that the wish
- endeavour to get better had really helped.
You can think how thankful I felt that
we had gone to Berlin. Even tho' I fear it
is this that poor Wilhelm ^{has entirely} missed seeing
Johannes.

My dear dear fellow. I can't been the idea of not
coming back to you this year & so am very much
hoping that with see reason to let our old
plan stand but of course one will try to do
whatever he can show us to be for the real best.

But please dear ~~Brothers~~ do not think too much about this until next mail when we shall hope to write for certain about it. It is chiefly seeing how very bad I can stand all travelling now even land travelling that makes me feel that perhaps our return voyage will in the 7th or 8th month might risk the poor little ones life or at least its strength greatly & lessen both our chances of getting well this time in Dec^r. I still think I will be between 15th & 25th Dec^r. probably I sh say 22^d tho I have felt queer now since 22^d ult. wh might look like sooner.

But goodbye & darling or this will be too late. Wilhelm pretty well but not up to much as you can fancy after all of fatigue - pain. This last week has let him. I must betw for hang off Berlin. Lately I felt very poorly there. Edith & Polly. I was

so glad to think of all
my poor fellows suffering
my best thanks for your
letters my darlings.