

one direction and 3 feet in another. These two towers are near each other and lean in opposite directions so that ranging one with the other makes their divergence from the perpendicular appear greater than it really is. They are both built of brick, and it would puzzle any one to tell what they were built for.

Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup>. Left at 7 A.M. for Florence where we arrived at noon. Leaving our trunks at the depot, took carriage to find a suitable boarding house. Drove to Mad. Chapmans, a great place of resort for Americans. As she is an American lady, found suitable rooms and located. Martha and I went back with the carriage and got our trunks on board. Then drove to our bankers and found a letter from My Pet Dora and one from sister Nancy Lathrop. Unfortunately, I have discovered that the young strangers that interfered with my pleasure at Venice were stopping in the same House with us here. The girls immediately went off with this young man and his sisters and spent the afternoon riding with them. Mrs. Van and I did the best we could under the circumstances.

Nov 4<sup>th</sup>. Girls off with the strangers for a ride. Mrs. Van and I walked to the cathedral and went inside of it for a general survey, intending at some other time to give it a more thorough examination. Afternoon did not go out.

Nov 5<sup>th</sup>. The young man and one of his sisters left for Rome, the other sister, an invalid, remains here until their return. Of course, she will not be lonesome with two intimate young ladies to keep her company. Visited the Pitti Gallery in the Pitti palace. The gallery consists of several large rooms crowded with fine pictures. We remained here a long time admiring those celebrated works of art, and many not so celebrated. Then walked through the park and gardens in rear of the palace, known as the Boboli Gardens. Very beautiful with numerous pieces of statuary, a fine grotto, etc. Walked back to our home.

Nov 6<sup>th</sup>. Took carriage. Visited English cemetery. Saw Mrs. Browning & Theodore Parkers tombs and many other fine monuments of strangers who came here in search of health and found a resting place. Then drove around town and out upon the promenade of the Cascine, or "Park of Florence." This is a very fine park about 2 miles in length and of moderate width. The carriage road out through the centre and back on the bank of the river Arno, is a splendid road kept in perfect order. We saw a large number of artilleryists at drill on a plain at the side of the park. It was an interesting sight to see them galloping around with six horses to each gun, the men mounting and dismounting and bringing their pieces into various positions. At times one would think the whole party were in a mixed confusion, but immediately they would all be in line, ready to blaze away if there was a necessity for it.

Nov. 7<sup>th</sup>. Drew 50 £ of Maguay [?] Hooker & Co. Took carriage to visit church of St. Miniato situated on an eminence about 1 mile out of town. The church erected in 1013 on the site of an earlier church is in the Florentine style of architecture without transept. The front is veneered with black and white & verde antique marbles which was done in the 12<sup>th</sup> century. The tower was restored in the 15<sup>th</sup> century. The interior is plain with nave and aisles, the open