

1 or semi-circular niche. A little further west is the Temple of Mercury. Here is a large circular  
2 room with the dome nearly perfect. It is about 100 feet diameter and is a whispering gallery  
3 similar to the St Pauls in London. There are several large antae rooms connected with this  
4 rotunda, all having arched ceilings of masonry.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a mile further we come to the temple of  
5 Venus, an octagonal building (circular inside) about 70 feet diameter. It also had a brick dome,  
6 most of which has fallen. The ruins are imposing, but there is nothing about them of very great  
7 interest except their antiquity. Passing the "lake Morto," or dead lake, we left the carriage and  
8 walked  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a mile to examine an old Roman reservoir called Piscina Mirabilis. This reservoir is  
9 excavated in the tufa rock of which the hill is composed. It is 220 feet long, 83 feet wide and 40  
10 feet high. The arched roof of massive masonry is supported by 48 large brick piers (4 rows, 12  
11 in each row). A flight of 40 stone steps lead from the surface of the ground down into the  
12 reservoir. We descended and explored this mighty cistern, almost as perfect as it was 1800  
13 years ago when it was used to supply the Roman fleet with water which was brought to it by  
14 the Julian aqueduct 50 miles in length. Portions of this aqueduct is visible near the reservoir.  
15 We then walked  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile passing through the dirty little town of Baoli to the promontory of  
16 Miscenum. From this point we had a magnificent view of the bays, island, and headlands of this  
17 extraordinarily beautiful region. Here we found extensive ruins of the Villa of Tiberius who died  
18 within its walls. He was killed by Macro, a captain in his service. The villa was afterwards the  
19 property and residence of Nero. Walking back to our carriage, we left for our return to the city  
20 12 miles distant. Home at 5 o'clock, a good deal fatigued with our very extensive days work.

21 Jany 10<sup>th</sup>. Sunday. A beautiful, warm, and sunny day. Attended the Presbyterian church,  
22 congregation about 120. Good old fashioned singing and a plain, practical sermon. There were  
23 none but Scotch, English & Americans present. It is a comfortable thing for travelers, but don't  
24 bother the Italians to any great extent. After noon did not go out.

25 Jany 11<sup>th</sup>. 8 months to day since we left home on this extensive excursion. Left at 8  $\frac{1}{2}$  this  
26 morning with guide, carriage, and three horses to do up Mount Vesuvius, and it pretty nearly  
27 did us up, as we are all very much fatigued this evening. Our first halt was at the guides bureau  
28 Resina some 3 miles east of Naples, but the entire distance is occupied with a good class of  
29 buildings on both sides of the road so that we could not tell exactly where Naples ended or  
30 where Resina began. At the bureau we engaged 4 saddle horses with mountain guide and  
31 attendants to overtake us at the observatory. We then pursued our way in the carriage to the  
32 observatory. The road passes for some distance between high walls, inclosing vineyards and  
33 gardens, and then by long zig-zags up and across the beds and streams of lava, perhaps 3 miles  
34 to the ridge on which stands the observatory. Most of this lava was ejected in 1872, and we  
35 noticed in several places that smoke and vapors were still issuing from the fissures in the lava.  
36 The appearance of these lava streams or beds is very interesting and defies description.  
37 Instead of a smooth stream of melted matter, they are a tumbled up mass of conglomeration  
38 with the roughest conceivable surface of rocks and scorial forced up in hills and sunk in ravines.  
39 The more liquid parts having oozed out of the fissures resemble black liquid glass bent and  
40 twisted into every known, and unknown, form and variety. It would seem as if the entire