

1 Jany 15th. Another beautiful day. We determined to make this a day of rest. Wrote letter to
2 James & Clara. Took a short walk with Mr. Van Wyck and consulted about future movements
3 generally.

4 Jany 16th. Visited the celebrated museum this morning. The building is large and encloses two
5 spacious courts. It is 2 stories high and is admirably arranged for its purpose. The statuary and
6 other sculptures found in Pompei and Herculaneum, with a countless multitude from Rome and
7 other parts of Italy, are set up in order, and a guide shows you around and calls each bust or
8 statue by name -- weather correctly or not, it makes no difference as the observer could hardly
9 tell Junius Brutus from Caligula, but I have no doubt of his introducing them correctly as he
10 seemed to be very familiar with them. The rooms of the bronzes are very interesting. Here is
11 every thing from a tea spoon to a cooking range found in the ruins of Pompei & Herculaneum.
12 Next visited the cabinet of gems and gold & silver articles, coins, etc. -- one gold lamp weighing
13 3 pounds, many gold rings, some of them very beautiful. Also chains & bracelets found in
14 Diomedes villa. The gallery of paintings contains many very good pictures and a great many
15 artists engaged in copying them. The rooms containing the frescoes and mosaics removed
16 from the walls and floors of the houses at Pompei & Herculaneum gave us the greatest
17 pleasure. The mosaics are of extraordinary beauty. We consider this visit as for a general view
18 of the museum, as we shall be better prepared on making a second visit to examine the
19 numerous interesting objects with a better understanding of their merits, etc. After spending
20 three hours wandering round from room to room, we returned to our hotel and propose a rest
21 until Monday.

22 Jany 17th. Sunday. The first stormy day we have had at Naples. Strong wind from S.W. with
23 heavy showers and occasional sunshine. Thermometer about 60. Wrote letter to L.C.P. Freer.
24 Did not go out.

25 Jany 18th. Bright sun, weather sufficiently warm to sit without fire. Mrs. Van & Martha out for
26 a walk, Julia and I a little out of sorts. Remained at home this morning. Afternoon walked to
27 the bank, looked over Chicago Tribune. Noticed the failure of Gage & Rice of the Pacific, and
28 the installation of J.B. Drake as mine host. I would prefer to have had Drake in the Tremont.

29 Jany. 19th. Took steamboat at 9 o'clock for Sorrento and Island of Capri. The day has been fine,
30 but the storm of last Sunday left a dead swell, and our little steamer running lengthwise of the
31 smooth, heaving billows had a very irritating and deleterious influence on the gastronomic and
32 digestive organs of the feminine three fourths of our party. Those having patent leather
33 stomachs were proof against any uncomfortable sensations arising from the tipping and
34 tossing, rolling, and plunging of the vessel. We stopped a few minutes at Sorrento. The
35 passengers were embarked and disembarked in small boats. Sorrento is a high old town being
36 situated on a perpendicular, rocky bluff about 200 feet high. The bluff forms a perfect wall
37 against the sea, without any beach excepting one small spot which is occupied as a ship yard
38 and has one large vessel on the stocks nearly ready for launching. This ancient city is the
39 "Surrentum" of the Romans, and it is claimed to have been founded by Shem, the son of Noah.