

1 beautifully laid out in walks & drives. This park adjoined the fortifications. As we passed the
2 parade ground, saw many companies of soldiers out for drill. About one half the men in the
3 city are soldiers.

4 Aug. 14th. Left Mayence for Heidelberg at 10:20 a.m. Arrived at our destination at 1 o'clock
5 p.m. Put up at the Prince Charles Hotel. Very pleasant rooms assigned us. After dinner hired
6 carriage. Rode several miles, in a round about way, to get on top of a mountain bounding the
7 south side of the town. Finally arrived at the summit where we found a high tower called the
8 Kings Stool (or konigs stool). We went up inside the tower, which being far above the tree tops,
9 we had a grand view of the surrounding county and an isometrical view of the town, which
10 seemed to [be] directly under us. After satisfying ourselves that every thing was all right, as far
11 as we could see, we descended and took to our carriage. The driver locked the wheels and
12 went down the hill by a steep road, being a short cut to the city. A sudden shower of rain
13 obliged us to close the carriage. We stopped at a half-way house along side of the road and
14 found a large company sitting round small tables drinking wine. We surrounded one of the
15 tables and thought we would go through the motions of the others. Called for "Limonade
16 Gaseous," served in bottles and being effervescent, the corks have the genuine pop of a first
17 class champagne. And if you don't give the order in too loud a tone, your neighbors will think
18 you indulge in costly brands of wine. From a pavilion at the side of this "Café" we had a very
19 fine view of the old castle of Heidelberg which we intend to visit to morrow. Arrived at our
20 hotel in good order in time for Table d' Hote dinner (6 o'clock). I have been schooled by
21 Martha to pronounce this "Tabldote." Don't like it so late in the day.

22 Aug. 15th. Took a stroll this morning through this queer old town. I say through because it is
23 built between two high mountains on the banks of the river Neckar and has but one street
24 about 2 miles long with a few very short branch streets. There is nothing about the
25 architecture of the buildings worthy of mention except the grand old castle located about half
26 way up the mountain on the south side of the town. After breakfast, we started on foot for the
27 castle up a steep paved roadway with stone benches at convenient distances which we found
28 were very acceptable institutions, as we found the walk considerable of an undertaking.
29 Arriving at the castle, we were well paid for our labor. It is an immense building, much of it in
30 ruins, but many of the walls are still standing entire[ly], and a large portion is under the old
31 roof. It is built of red sand stone with immense round towers at the angles, has many fantastic
32 gables. Style of architecture peculiar. Is much ornamented with figures and foliage in bas-
33 relief. The whole structure is of the most massive character and has stood the test of time
34 wonderfully well. We were shown in one of the cellars the celebrated "tun of Heidelberg," an
35 enormous cask that will hold 300000 bottles of wine (if the bottles are not too large). The
36 staves of the cask are 6 inches thick, perhaps 18 feet long, the cask on the bilge, some 12 or 14
37 feet diameter. It rests in an ornamental frame of cut stone work. A second cask was shown
38 similar to this, but 1/3 less dimensions, set up in same manner. After examining the chapel and
39 as much of the interior as we could gain access to, we walked about the grounds which are
40 pretty extensive considering they are on the slope of a very steep hill. The cost and labor of