

1 arranging such a park must have been enormous. Found the walk back to our hotel much  
2 easier than the ascent. Julia and Martha received a lecture on the danger and impropriety of  
3 Sky Larking and running down hill. Left at 12:30 and arrived at Strasbourg at 5 p.m. Stopped at  
4 Hotel Maison Rouge, meaning red house. Nothing extraordinary about this hotel.

5 Aug. 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday. Went to church at the cathedral. This grand old building was commenced in  
6 1277 and finished in 1601. I don't believe the original architect lived to see it finished – the  
7 design by Erwin of Steinbach, assisted by his son & daughter Sabina. The busts of these  
8 architects and the architectress are set up in the building. The tower is remarkable as being the  
9 highest in the world, 468 feet. Gothic style of architecture. Here we remained until 12 o'clock  
10 to see the performance of the automatic clock, a wonderful piece of mechanism stands in the  
11 south transept. Beside showing the time of day, gives the place of the earth in the Zodiac, the  
12 phases of the moon, the rising & setting of the sun, moon, and principal planet. In fact is a  
13 regular almanac, but the performance each day at noon collects a large crowd of strangers to  
14 see the Didos. First a little cherub hits a small bell to give warning. Then the figures of the  
15 twelve apostles pass round in front of a sitting figure, representing the Savior. Each apostle in  
16 passing bows to the Savior. As soon as Peter comes in sight, a very good imitation of a rooster  
17 flaps his wings and crows very naturally. This the rooster repeats 3 times. Peter vanishes  
18 behind the curtain. The clock strikes 12. A figure with an hour glass in his hand reverses the  
19 glass and the fun is over. This clock was invented about 300 years ago. In the afternoon visited  
20 a beautiful park where a military band gave us some good music, and plenty of it. Our hotel  
21 fronts a large public square in the centre of which is a fine monument to some great general.  
22 The north side of the square is the remains of a museum building destroyed by the bombs of  
23 the Prussians in the late war. This place sustained great injury from the bombardment. The  
24 cathedral especially was hit several times.

25 Aug. 17<sup>th</sup>. Very early this morning was aroused from my bed by a great clatter going on in the  
26 public square. Got up and found 4 regiments of soldiers forming in two immense columns,  
27 rigged up in marching order. In a short time the music struck up a marching time and away  
28 they went. It was a pleasing sight to see such a mass of men so thoroughly drilled that their  
29 movements seemed as though they were operated by machinery. Mrs. Van being much  
30 annoyed by some old teeth roots, we went in search of a dentist. Found one. Sent for a doctor  
31 to administer chloroform. Never saw any one under its influence before. Had a good mind to  
32 lick the doctor for poisoning my wife, but kept still to see how it would result. The dentist  
33 appeared to be the master of the situation. The difficulties were soon removed, and Mrs. Van  
34 recovered from the stupor and was led to a comfortable bed in an adjoining room. Martha  
35 remained with her, and I walked out for stroll about the city. Returned in a couple of hours and  
36 found her all right. Returned to our hotel for dinner. Left in the afternoon for Basle, where we  
37 arrived at 5:40 p.m. and put up at the Hotel Trois-Rois (three kings).

38 Aug. 18<sup>th</sup>. Drove about town and visited the cathedral. The city is a beautiful place. Many very  
39 fine private mansions surrounded by beautiful gardens. Drew £ 60 of Passavant & Co.