

1 policeman at the edge of the town who politely informed them that Racing was prohibited
2 through that town. Engaged our seats in the diligence for to morrow, and now for a little rest.

3 Sept. 19th. Left Chamounix at 8 a.m. and had a delightful ride down the incomparable valley of
4 the Arve. Arrived at Geneva at 3 o'clock. Called for letters and found none. Swore all the way
5 home without saying a word.

6 Sept. 20th. Sunday. Mrs. Van and I rested. Girls out for a walk.

7 Sept. 21st. Bought Music box for my "little Pet." Wish she could sit on my knee and hear it play
8 those beautiful tunes. Perhaps she will some pleasant evening hereafter.

9 Sept. 22nd. Received a large package of letters to day
10 that were old enough to be turning grey,
11 which somehow or other had lost their way
12 and went backwards and forwards across the say [sea?].
13

14 Sept. 23rd. Ladies off shopping. Strolled around town. Wrote letters to John, Messrs. Boone &
15 Holmes.

16 Sept. 24th. Saw American Consul and sent Power of Atty in Fitsworth matter. Extensive walk
17 about the city.

18 Sept. 25th. Visited Hotel de Ville (city hall). Stairs in tower, a paved inclined plane. Saw room
19 in which Geneva arbitration was held. Examined old parts of the city.

20 26th. Visited Russian church. Saturday being their Sunday, they appear very devout, striking
21 their foreheads on the floor. Was very expressive of humility.

22 27th. Sunday. Went to the Union ch. Heard a good sermon in English. Very refreshing, but
23 rather lengthy.

24 28th. Took carriage for a drive in the suburbs. Employed a guide and visited places of interest
25 not before examined.

26 29th. Hired carriage for a drive to Fernex, 4 ½ miles N.W. of Geneva. The celebrated Voltaire
27 was the founder of this town. He purchased the land in 1759 and proposed to build a town that
28 would rival Geneva. He founded manufactories, built a church, and inscribed on a stone tablet
29 over the portal, "Deo erexit Voltaire." He also built a chateau and resided here for many years.
30 We explored the mansion. Saw many relics and reminiscences of this singular and notorious
31 individual. The grounds are beautifully laid out and are kept in perfect order. The old church
32 remains, but is used as a stable. From a hill before we reach Fernex, we had a fine view of
33 Geneva, the Lake, and Mount Blanc. By the way, this mountain makes a better show in the
34 distance than when we are close upon it. It looms up grandly from this point of view. We
35 returned by a circuitous route and obtained a good idea of the surroundings west of Geneva.