

1 among them a mutilated Egyptian kneeling figure in black granite with an inscription on it going to show  
2 that it was made 1400 years before Christ. Sorrento is famous for its inlaid wood work manufactures,  
3 and this being Mrs. Van's birth-day, I purchased for her a small casket handsomely ornamented with  
4 inlaid work as a souvenir of our visit, and for other reasons not in place here. Having partaken of a good  
5 dinner, we resumed our carriage at 2 o'clock. Had a pleasant drive back to Castellamare. Taking the  
6 train at 4 ½ o'clock, arrived home in time for dinner at 6, feeling very much pleased with our days  
7 excursion. Castellamare is built on the site of ancient Stabiae. The old city was nearly destroyed by  
8 Sylla, the Roman general, and what was left was buried by Mount Vesuvius at the same time with  
9 Pompei. Pliny the elder was suffocated at this place by the same eruption. To morrow we visit the  
10 churches which is all we have to see here.

11 Jany. 28<sup>th</sup>. Took carriage this morning and drove to the cathedral. The building is located on the site of  
12 the temples of Neptune and Apollo, from the ruins of which were obtained numerous granite columns  
13 and ancient marbles which are used in the present building which dates from the year A.D. 1272. The  
14 church contains many good pictures, tombs, and other works of art. We passed down into the crypt.  
15 This is a subterranean chapel built in 1497. The marble roof is supported by 10 Ionic columns of marble.  
16 The walls are lined with marble. The entire walls and ceiling are profusely decorated with beautiful  
17 sculpture in fine relief in Arabesque style of ornamentation. Ascending again to the principal floor, we  
18 passed by a door in the side of the church into the basilica of some saint supposed to occupy the site of  
19 the temple of Apollo, the ancient Corinthian granite columns which surround the nave having formerly  
20 belonged to the old heathen temple. This basilica dates from the 7<sup>th</sup> century. By its side is an ancient  
21 baptistery, pictures on the walls in mosaic. We were shown several relics in glass cases, one of them a  
22 finger bone of Saint Januarius – but we have seen so much of this sort of folly that it vexes me to  
23 mention it. Next visited the church of S. Fillipo Neri, erected in 1592. This is a very elegant building, the  
24 nave divided from the aisles by 12 granite columns. The entire interior is of surpassing beauty and  
25 profusely decorated. Next visited S. Paolo Maggiore. It stands on the site of a temple of Castor and  
26 Pollux, erected in time of Augustus about A.D. 1. Two fine Corinthian columns and a part of the cornice  
27 of the old temple is standing in front of the church which conforms to the height and finish of these old  
28 relics and has a very interesting effect. The interior is well finished with the usual arrangement of  
29 pictures, statuary, and tombs. Nearly opposite is the church of St. Lorenzo on the site of an ancient  
30 basilica. It is a large building, originally Gothic, but has been of late years Romanised to a great extent.  
31 The original building dates from A.D. 1324. Lastly visited the chapel of Sansevero for the purpose of  
32 examining three celebrated pieces of sculpture. One, the "dead Christ" lying on a bed and covered with  
33 a sheet which is represented as adhering to the \_\_\_\_\_ [several words missing at the bottom of the page  
34 which has worn away] this sheet of opaque marble appears as if it was transparent, showing the muscles  
35 and features of the body under it. The second statue represents Modesty, being the figure of a woman  
36 covered with a veil. The features under the veil are as distinct as though the veil was made of  
37 transparent muslin or lace. The third object is the statue of a man enveloped in a net from which he is  
38 trying to free himself and has partially succeeded – represents man delivered from the snares of vice.  
39 The difficulty in this piece of work was to make the net enveloping the statue of one piece of marble  
40 with the statue. It does not seem possible that the chisel of the sculptor could have been worked  
41 through the meshes of the net. 30,000 dollars has been offered and refused for these three wonderful  
42 works of art. The room, or chapel, is the property of the princes of San Severo, built in 1766, and is  
43 decorated with a profusion of rich marbles in capitals, cornices, etc. There are some pictures and other  
44 work of art, but they are not much \_\_\_\_\_ [several words missing at the bottom of the page which has