

1 mountains and facing the sea on the south. The rays of the sun strike the southern slopes of the
2 mountains at such an angle that the heat is reflected to the intermediate plane, and the reflection from
3 the broad expanse of water from morning till night gives a concentration of heat from the sun not
4 experienced unless under similar circumstances. Now having satisfied myself about the weather and the
5 reason of it, I propose to rest and enjoy it.

6 Feby. 9th. This being the last day of the carnival, every body was out doors to see the fun, which I
7 discovered was pretty hard to find, but a great number of ladies and others were in carriages dressed in
8 fantastic robes of muslin with hoods and masks – were busy spraining their arms in throwing from small
9 tin scoops large quantities of little pellets of hardened plaster of Paris. Many persons on the side walks
10 had fine wire screen masks over their faces to prevent the fun from knocking their eyes out, the
11 procession of carriages, bipeds, & quadrupeds extending 2 miles. Troops of men dressed in imitation of
12 monkeys, with extensive ring tails cutting up all manner of monkey-shines, were rather amusing and
13 natural-like. Some of them required the tail only to make a fair specimen. A large ruined castle on
14 wheels with a number of boys dressed in imitation of huge bats passing in and out of the opening of the
15 sham-castle was a very creditable thing in its line. Young ladies sitting man fashion on horseback with
16 flesh coloured tights was rather picturesque, than otherwise. The carriages were all covered with
17 muslins of red, white, blue, orange, & black colours ornamenting them and at the same time protecting
18 them from injury by the constant shower of the dusty plaster of Paris pebbles. In the evening a grand
19 illumination and display of fire works took place which was in the highest degree creditable to the
20 pyrotechnic artists and to the liberality of the city. Over 100 boats, gayly lighted by Chinese lanterns,
21 were maneuvering in the bay, constantly sending up first class rockets and burning brilliant coloured
22 fires which had a very fine effect on the water. The illumination of the streets with festoons of countless
23 Chinese lanterns crossing the streets in every direction was very beautiful and, upon the whole, I have
24 made up my mind that a carnival is a big thing. Much of it is the biggest boys fooling that can be
25 imagined, and the illumination must have cost somebody a big sum of money. Martha & Julia were
26 invited by a lady friend to accompany her in a carriage in the procession. They were dressed in white
27 muslin trimmed with pink, heads covered with muslin hoods and masks over their faces. I was not
28 aware that they were in the riot until I got a peppering from their tin scoops and Mrs. Van said that is
29 Martha & Julia. Well I did not object to their being in the line and would have consented to have them
30 try it if I had been asked, but there was a little doubt in their minds about it, so they “plowed with my
31 heifer” as old Samson would say. And now their right arms are so lame, they can scarcely raise their
32 hand to their head and will probably feel a great deal worse to morrow.

33 Feby. 10th. Cloudy and cool. I took a long walk this morning. Found a large number of men engaged in
34 sweeping the principal streets over which the fun passed for the last three days. The debris in the form
35 of cream coloured coarse flour, the residue of the plaster-of-paris pellets, ground to powder by the
36 wheels of carriages and feet of pedestrians. I noticed in one street not over 45 feet wide where the
37 powder was collected in heaps that there was a cart load for every 10 feet in length, perhaps 1 ½ bushels
38 for every foot. All this stuff had been in the shape of large peas and dashed in the faces of citizens and
39 strangers for fun. Any person witnessing a carnival for the first time would think the people were crazy.

40 Feby. 11th. Nine months to day since we left home. It seems a long time as we think over the cities and
41 other places we have visited and the time we have spent in each. And as we look over the programme
42 that we have marked out for the three months remaining between us and Chicago and the time we have
43 appropriated for each city we intend yet to visit, the time appears too limited for our purpose, and