

1 and take us to Carrara for 5 francs. We engaged him to go it. He ran off and shortly returned with the  
2 voiture. It was a two wheeled cart, a sort of open frame work with three seats and would carry 6  
3 persons. There was no protection to keep the mud from the wheels flying over any unlucky party who  
4 might happen to be on board the thing. The wheels being low, the back seat was near the ground, and  
5 the front seat as high as the horses back. The girls gave a shout of laughter when they first came in sight  
6 of the carriage, and Mrs. Van looked serious. But we determined to try it. The trunk was stowed under  
7 the seats. I took the back seat. Mrs. Van & Julia the centre, & Martha and the driver in front. (I'd like a  
8 photograph of that load.) But such a ride – rough and no springs, a fast horse and a muddy road. My  
9 pen fails me here, and the rest I must leave to the imagination. We found a comfortable hotel at Carrara  
10 and soon had a good supper and forgot all our little difficulties in a sound sleep.

11 Feby. 27<sup>th</sup>. This morning the clouds thinned away, the sun peeped through occasionally, and looked as  
12 though we might have a tolerably fair day. Hired a guide to show us the quarries. On asking for a  
13 carriage, we were informed that a carriage was out of the question. We must visit the quarries on foot.  
14 I expected the roads would be muddy on account of the rain of yesterday, but the ladies pulled on their  
15 rubbers. It was only two or three miles any way. We started. Fortunately, they all had their water proof  
16 cloaks on and I my heavy overcoat. I took my umbrella to use as a walking stick, and one of the girls had  
17 a large parasol. We traveled along side of a very muddy road, very steep in many places with two  
18 continuous deep ruts filled full of liquid mud formed of pulverized Carrara marble & water. It clouded  
19 up and commenced to rain – and it did rain – but we persevered and saw the most famed of these world  
20 renowned quarries. After satisfying our curiosity, we made our way back to our hotel by a different path  
21 to the one taken in our ascent. We had clambered up the side of a mountain to see a celebrated mine.  
22 The path from the road up to this quarry is about as difficult and dangerous as any we found in  
23 Switzerland, but we are experienced in this sort of travel and had no difficulty. The views from certain  
24 points of the road are grand, or at least would be so in fair weather. We left Carrara wet and tired at 5  
25 o'clock. Arrived at Pisa at 7 P.M. and put up at the Hotel Vittoria. Had a rousing fire and were soon as  
26 dry and comfortable as if nothing extraordinary had happened.

27 Feby. 28<sup>th</sup>. The last day of winter. The sun shine is warm and the day beautiful. We took a walk as far as  
28 the cathedral, Leaning Tower, the baptistery, and Campo-Santo. The custodian of the baptistery politely  
29 invited us to enter which we did. The building is circular, 100 feet diameter, covered with a dome. A  
30 gallery runs around and is supported on massive granite columns. Square columns extend from the  
31 gallery to support the inner dome. The custodian sang a few notes in a full musical voice, and the  
32 echoes were surprising. Every note was repeated several times by the echoing walls, resembling the  
33 music of an organ. We were greatly astonished and pleased with the performance. Purchased a lot of  
34 photographs of the musical gentleman. Next visited the cemetery called the "Campo Santo." It occupies  
35 a space 414 feet long, 171 feet wide. A grass plat in the centre is surrounded by an arcade building in  
36 the cloister style. This arcade about 30 feet wide and 48 feet high is a museum of old Roman and  
37 Etruscan remains. The walls are frescoed with antique pictures of scripture subjects. The floor is paved  
38 with tomb-stone flags. The earth under this pavement was brought from Mount Calvary in 53 ships so  
39 that the pious Pisans rest in Holy ground. This place was very interesting, architecturally, etc. The front  
40 of the cathedral is very fine and is kept in perfect repair. It exceeds in beauty any picture I ever saw of it.  
41 The leaning campanile is a wonderful structure. It looks as if it certainly would topple over. It has stood  
42 in its inclined position about 600 years, and if it stands one day longer, I am going to the top of it. Shall  
43 visit the cathedral and other places of interest to morrow.