

apartments, some of them very magnificent. The throne room, banquet room, and dancing room, particularly grand and beautiful. Before entering these rooms, we were each furnished with heavy woolen slippers which prevented the nails in our boot heels from injuring the polished inlaid floors and made walking a little safer as the floors are as slippery as glass. The walls are hung with costly tapestries embroidered with gold. Saw a great variety of extravagant nonsense made of solid gold & silver. Passed through the private royal chapel, a splendid octagonal room covered with a dome. The room is about 80 feet diameter and is beautifully finished in colored marbles. Walked from the palace back to our hotel passing through an arcade building very similar to one we saw in Milan, but very much inferior to it. Carriage & guide at 2 o'clock. Drove 3 miles to Charlottenburg to see the palace built by Frederick 1<sup>st</sup>. Also the monuments of the late king & queen of Prussia. The palace is a large building not remarkable in an architectural point of view. The tombs are placed in a small Doric temple built of polished granite. The interior is finished with colored marbles. The tombs are of white marble with full length figures of the deceased king & queen lying on the covers of the sarcophagi. The sculptures are exceedingly well done. On our return we stopped at the "Palm-Garden." Here is a very large new concert hall beautifully finished. Attached to this hall is a crystal palace, or palm-house, about 70 feet wide and 150 feet long, roof semi-circular, the whole concern of iron & glass. In this building were walks, grottoes, and fountains, palms, ferns, and many other beautiful green plants. And in a gallery at one side, an immense collection of flowering plants in full bloom. We were much pleased with this place. Driving through the park, our guide notified us that the empress was out walking in the woods and if I would raise my hat, she would bow to me. I caught her eye and raised my plug as gracefully as possible for me, and she acknowledged the salute very becomingly. Pleased our ladies wonderfully, and rather tickled me some. This park is a very delightful place, and in summer must be a great resort and source of pleasure to the people of Berlin. The monument lately erected in this park to commemorate the victories of the Prussians in the late war with France is a splendid affair worthy of the age and the occasion. Returned home at 4 o'clock satisfied.

March 30<sup>th</sup>. Visited Potsdam and its palaces to day and count this one of the best of the many delightful excursions we have made. In describing what we have seen, it will be necessary to mention half a dozen kings, so that I will first give their genealogy. Frederick William 1<sup>st</sup> was father of Frederick the Great. Fred. the Great had no children, and his nephew was Fred. William 2<sup>nd</sup>. His son was Fred. William 3<sup>rd</sup>. F.W. No. 3 had two sons. The eldest Fred. Will 4<sup>th</sup> died without leaving children, and his brother is the present emperor William 1<sup>st</sup>. Our guide had telegraphed to have a carriage meet us at the Potsdam station which we found waiting. First visited the old royal palace a short distance from the station. The building is ornamented with flat Corinthian pilasters with a profusion of statuary. It was built near the close of the 17<sup>th</sup> century. The most interesting rooms are those formerly occupied by Frederick the Great. They are kept in same order & condition in which this comical old fellow left them. In a small room adjoining his bed room, he used to dine alone or with a friend. No attendants were allowed to enter this room. The central part of the dining table, forming a circular platform about 40 inches diameter, was the top of a dumb waiter which brought up from the room below his meals, or whatever else he required. The furniture is scratched & torn by the claws of his dogs. Next drove 2 ½ miles to the new palace built about 100 years since by Fred. The Great to show his enemies that the 7 years war had not used up all his money. The building is very large and imposing in its architecture. Loaded with statues. Also facing the front, at a distance of 500 feet, is a very beautiful and extensive colonnade of Corinthian columns forming an arcade (similar to those at St Peters at Rome) on a semicircular plan having a triumphal arched gate way in the centre and very fine pavilion buildings at each end of the