

1 superstructure will be; that is, a section of the front is set up of wood work – columns, cornice, windows,
2 balustrade, and statues on the pedestals in the balustrade. This wood work is painted white, and as the
3 walls are to be of white marble, the people are shown exactly what kind of building they are to have.
4 The wooden section is retained in its positions by a framed scaffolding. The idea is new to me, but I
5 think it a good one. As the building will be very costly, the proprietors can see clearly what they are to
6 pay for. The ancient fortifications which surrounded the old city in a semi circle have been leveled and
7 formed into an extensive park. We drove along side of this park from the river bank around and nearly
8 to the bank again. We visited the Palm Garden which is a splendid place of about 4 acres. In the center
9 of the grounds is an immense crystal palace, a part of which is a large wine & beer saloon with a gallery
10 for musicians. Some 2- or 300 persons were sitting round small tables in this concert room drinking &
11 smoking, and a large band of musicians were in the gallery doing their best to the evident satisfaction of
12 the music-and-wine-thirsty crowd below. But we satisfied ourselves with a walk through the palm house
13 and flower gallery. The last comes pretty near taking the ribbon of any display of camellias & roses that
14 we have yet seen, both for extent and beauty of the show. We next drove past the house where the
15 poet Goethe was born. It is a queer, old fashioned house and has a marble slab in front with a
16 statement of the fact engraved upon it that the poet was born right there. We propose to leave to
17 morrow for Metz, and, notwithstanding our desire to reach home, we do not intend to rush over places
18 of interest without stopping to examine them.

19 April 6th. Left Frankfort at 8 o'clock this morning and in three fourths of an hour crossed the Rhine at
20 Mayence, rushed through the old city and along the west bank of the river to Bingen. A short distance
21 farther to Bringerbruck where we changed cars and struck off south west at a lively speed passing
22 through a picturesque and otherwise beautifully interesting country. We arrived at Metz at 5 o'clock
23 this evening and found comfortable quarters at the Grand Hotel de Metz. Dinner at 6, and now we will
24 see what their beds are made of.

25 April 7th. A little showery this morning but gave promise of clearing up about 11 o'clock. We walked to
26 the cathedral. Built in the 14th century, it is a magnificent Gothic structure and is a fair rival of those at
27 Strasbourg and Cologne. I felt richly repaid for stopping over one day at Metz as I walked in and around
28 this splendid specimen of Gothic architecture. We extended our walk through the city to the
29 "Esplanade." This is an extensive park surrounding the governors palace, is fully supplied with large
30 trees, shrubs, flower beds, and fountains, and in summer must be a delightful place for promenade and
31 recreation. Returning to our hotel at one o'clock, the sun shining bright and warm, we ordered a
32 carriage for a drive. After a hasty lunch, we started and were driven through the principal parts of the
33 city and out to the cemetery. Thousands of the victims of the late war (1870) lie buried here and a large
34 and very fine monument erected by the French on the spot where 7,000 soldiers were buried who died
35 in the ambulances while being brought in from the battle fields. It will be remembered that Bazaine,
36 when surrounded by the Prussians and cooped up in this city, made three tremendous efforts by sorties
37 to break through the German lines and failed after a great slaughter on both sides. At Gravelot[t]e,
38 about 6 miles west, they had a terrific fight, and 17,000 Germans were killed, the loss of the French
39 exceeding that number. We drove out to this field. It looks calm enough now, but the numerous little
40 mounds of earth carefully grass platted with a white wooden cross erected on each is very suggestive
41 that there had been trouble there. We noticed a large number of monuments of stone in memory of
42 distinguished persons who had fallen here. These indications cover an area of four square miles. From
43 some points of the road on our way to the battle ground, we had a fine view of Metz and the