

Family as all well, I with kindest remembrance
to yourself I repeat Believe me
your own Attached Servant
F. G. S.

Gend Belgium
13th May 1821.

Francis Grosvenor
Smith
Quartermaster at
Trinity Lane School
&
St John's College
Cambridge

In G. D. Care
of Dr. Smith of
Maidstone
Kent.

GEND.

Henry Grosvenor Esq.
St. John's College
Cambridge

Francis Grosvenor Smith

GEND. (Ghent) Belgium
16. Quai aux Herbes May 13. 1821.

My dear Paterfamilias

I should not have allowed so long a time to have
elapsed prior to my writing to you, but when we parted
at Cambridge, it was agreed that you should write soon.
Therefore I was fearful my letter might drop on the road.
However having received yours dated May 5th I have taken
the earliest opportunity of answering it - When I arrived
in Dover on the day we parted I went in search for
Dover Coach; I found several which left London about
6, 7, or 8 past seven o'clock that evening, but the earliest
place of sale was taken, & as I was not willing to take
an outside place till I was fully convinced I had been
to all the coaches which left that evening, I wandered about
from office to office till I at length despaired of finding one,
but however as I did not have it, I found one in
Grace church St. V of course immediately secured it.
The coach did not leave London till 8 past seven, & as I
was not sure then 8 past 8 when I found it, I had plenty
of time to get my ~~box~~ dinner. We arrived in Dover about
1/2 before 10 the following morning the Packet was
prepared to sail in 10 minutes I immediately had
my baggage to the Custom House, & went on board. We
enjoyed a most delightful passage, tho' the wind
blew very strong, as you may suppose, as we were
only 2 hours & 20 minutes from the time we left Dover
till our arrival at Calais harbor. I did not experience

any of the in consequence to usually concomitant on sea
 voyages. The sea was most magnificent, & it afforded you
 considerable pleasure in contemplating the waves as they
 rolled one over another. I was amused much with
 looking at my companions, many of whom were look-
 ing lamentably ill. Upon my arrival at Calais I pursued
 my Cabot's Expedition immediately to Dunkirk. I do assure
 you I was very much fatigued when I arrived both
 from having had no sleep the night before, as also
 from the anxiety I felt about my Mother & Sister. I arrived
 at Ghent on Sunday afternoon. I am happily stay
 found them all quite as well as I could have expected.
 I think we are daily improving in spirit, since time
 is the only antidote against such calamities —
 Serjeant in his part of the letter which by the bye is
 rather a shabby concern, both writing on the same sheet
 of paper says you are become a more violent politician
 than I left. I am sorry for it, as I thought you a Radical
 when I left. If you go on so rapidly, when I return
 my language will not supply a word sufficiently
 strong for your Political Ideas. — If you visit the
 Continent this year I advise you to pay particular
 attention to the Cathedral at Amiens, this which
 place you will pass on your route to Paris. I suppose
 you will think I mean that I should mention this
 for your observation, as I have not seen it myself.

But I assure you I am greatly concerned at not having
 seen it, since every person, whom I have conversed with
 on the subject, says it is one of the finest Cathedrals on
 the Continent. I am not sure when we shall be there
 however, but in all probability not at Ghent. We have
 at present two places in contemplation. I am not yet
 decided which to go to, but I think it will be to
 how should we go to the last. I hope you will come to
 see us, if you can, the chance is, since it will make
 scarcely any difference in your passage whether you
 go back from Boulogne or Calais. But when will
 I leave Ghent, I will write to you that you may know
 when to write to me, however you need not be
 of course. — I wish to see you at present since it
 is winter. I leave before July. I do not
 when I think of him & the approaching examination
 which he says in his letter is not fixed at present.
 I hope he has his subject so far prepared that he will
 be able to get them all perfect. — I shall be at home
 very near the time, I shall of course often think of
 you, & your labours. Soon after the termination of
 the Examination I shall expect a letter from you
 or the paper with an official Collection of every
 thing which has transpired during the Examination
 week. You may tell Serjeant I shall write to him
 before long, but it will be useless at present since
 you will tell him every thing in time. I hope you