

Milan, Oct 4 1845

My dearest Charlotte - I must write you  
a few lines before I turn my face homeward  
I am so tired of my loneliness that I feel a sort  
of desperate wish to hurry my journey - but  
then on the other hand - it would be so absurd  
not to profit by the opportunities within my  
reach & as it were under my ~~hand~~ feet - I  
sent from Venice an order for money which  
I hope has reached you safely - & has been paid  
- whether my bill has come from Casula  
I have no means of knowing - since I have been  
in Germany I have been paid a debt & interest  
which I receive - so I have a little more money  
than I reckoned on - enough to go back by Paris  
& spend a few days there - my plan is to set off  
for Bologna tomorrow at six o'clock there & next  
morning see the pictures - then to Modena on the 9<sup>th</sup>  
where there is much of great importance to see  
then to Parma the 11<sup>th</sup> - where there is also much to see  
the 13<sup>th</sup> Monday I commence my journey west the  
 Alps to Munich by Bologna & Suspecto - over  
the pass of the Brenner - it is 8 days & 2<sup>nd</sup>  
nights - but I dare not venture on 3 nights to  
get there - so shall stop a night & a half - I hope  
to reach Munich the 18<sup>th</sup> - I shall remain there 3  
or 4 days at furthest - then to Strasburg - this being  
me about the end of October to Paris - where you  
may direct your letters & and I trust I shall find  
good news there - perhaps Sophia Maria will return

with me to England - will you please if I see  
- one of the great things I shall do on my return  
will be to go to see my dear Giddie - I am glad  
to hear you are well - I am sure you are - I  
hope she will make good use of her time - that  
if ever I can be of any use to her - I shall be able  
to profit to the utmost by every thing she sees  
& learns - I shall not miss her husband - if Madame  
L'Amour makes a good useful little woman  
of her - & manages some of those habits of work  
- neat, clean, & useful - she will do very  
unpardonable justice - I intended to write to her  
but it is impossible with my head so full - I will  
try sometimes to concentrate on what I have to do  
- I have time to write such a letter as I  
could wish - & I think she quite understands me  
as well as her change - I have heard that Mrs  
King some good tidings of Giddie's apparent  
improvement in health - & I have also heard  
of your <sup>call</sup> from Miss Taylor - that is true lady - the  
writer is contented - I wish I could tell you what  
I have been doing - I spent 10 days at Pavia  
after I wrote to you - & still left many things  
unread - I visited the place & I was in some  
with all I saw - the violent life suited me  
- I saw the absence of noise & non necessity  
of walking - I had a gondola at my orders from  
morning to night for 3-6 a day - & a very smart  
intelligent gondolier - who was my guide -

help & assistance & took most exceedingly care  
of "la Padovana" as he called me - I saw a popular  
fete on the docks - & a "Freno" on the Canal Grande  
- a "Freno" is a grand promenade - only instead  
of high path & dust you have the water &  
the buildings lining on each side - & instead of low  
- wages, gondoliers crowded together - so crowded  
that we were often ten minutes without being  
able to move - the people were all <sup>well</sup> dressed - the  
gondoliers in shabby jackets & the whole scene  
was at gay & picturesque as it was novel, & one  
at least I wished extremely had found some  
old acquaintances & while we were near us & on the  
whole was satisfied with my sojourn in that  
city of beauty & grandeur - it would have left  
an immense impression on my mind of plea-  
sure & profit - had I not there parted with  
my friend - I have since been  
quite lonely - but resolved to take  
a rapid view of as much as lay within my  
reach without being detained by petty discip-  
les - I left Pavia on the 29. (I was detained  
& days by a headful storm) came on to Padua  
where I spent a day studying in the Cappella Delle  
Arzene - & then came on by Mantua - there I was  
quite disgusted by Giulio Romanini's pictures  
which I came on the same day to Cremona - arriving  
late on the 2<sup>d</sup> - I spent a day studying the pictures  
there & came on to Pavia next day - about 4 miles  
from Pavia is the famous Certosa - the most

beautiful church. I believe in the world - I cannot  
attempt to describe it here - it is the church into  
which Francis I was brought after the battle  
of Pavia - I spent two hours in it - till I was  
literally tired of wondering & admiring - the  
Catholican Friars will not allow any woman  
to pass into the choir so that I could only see part  
of the church after all - In England we know very little

via France



Mrs C Murphy  
Broomfield Place  
Laling  
Middlesex  
Angleterre



of the Italian painters - & nothing at all of those  
wonderful sculptures of the same generation - quite  
as fine as pieces in their way - I reached Milan  
last Saturday & have worked incessantly ever  
since - not only studying - I brought no letters so  
am quite alone - but you must believe, dear, that  
I take good care of myself regarding all unnecessary  
fatigue - fatigue is however the predominant feeling, I want

you really sometimes - all of these when  
you will want to - with your own