

TO HARRY DE FOREST SMITH

Cambridge, May 20 - '93

My dear Smith,

I have not yet got over my grouch on account of your not being able to come. Saturday was a magnificent day and I am sure you would have enjoyed yourself. But there is no use growling. I suppose, I hope, though, that you will try to come up next Friday or at least sometime before I leave.

It is pretty hot this forenoon and I am feeling rather dull. If you were here I fancy we would both be smoking pipes or something else, and trying to keep cool and in peace with the world in general. I drank a pint of Ulumm last evening before going to the theatre and it knocked my stomach out. I find the less I drink of anything in that line, the bet[t]er I feel. I had been making plans to go to the theatre with you Saturday evening, so I will send you a programme with another big bundle of Crimsons and Nations. The play did not amount to very much, though it was above the average.

It was enough to do a man's soul good to sit in the Common or Public Gardens yesterday afternoon. It would be hard to imagine anything more pleasant. I had an engagement at four, but went in early to have a smoke and watch the people. People are rather interesting after all, if you don't have to talk with them.



Did I tell you that I went into Schoenhof's not long ago and spent the afternoon there. It was a rainy day and I drifted in too look over the French and German books intending to buy one or two to take the "cuss" off. <C[?]> I met a congenial soul and also many volumes that took my eye, and ended up by ordering fourteen dollars worth of stuff of various sorts--including much of Coppée, Beaumarchais--a copy of Faust--Voltaire's Romances and some stray novels and plays. I managed to curb myself and refrain from buying a magnificent two-volume edition of Freytag's Lost Manuscript and Heyse's "In Paradise"--in German. I suppose I shall have to get them before the year is over, but if my eye[s] keep on as they are now, I shall have [a] hard time reading them.

Now make it a plan to come up here sometime during the next month. If you once get yourself started I know you will always be glad. I do not mean this as an intimation that you might have come this week--you must have had some good reason which I trust will not occur again.

Sincerely

E. A. R.