

Sunday

I am Mr.

I sail Tuesday.

Today I loafed.  
I walked & thought  
math, but got nowhere.  
Also movies. It is  
hot, but tolerable.  
I shall enjoy my  
trip. Love,  
Robert.



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Mrs Leo Wiener,  
Chicopee Row  
Graton, Mass.

Tuesday.

Dear dad:

Just a note before  
sailing. I am at  
the dock. all's well.

I met a student  
yesterday from my  
section at M.I.T.

Also a fellow-Aberdonian

Love  
Robert



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Professor Leo Wiener,  
Chicopee Row,  
Groton, Mass.

These letters are  
a sure cure for  
sea sickness, if  
taken internally.

Father

Groton Mass  
July 9, 1920

Dear Robert,

Mother wants me to  
write you all the news  
that has happened since  
you left. Well, the tomatoes  
are as large as winter apples,  
the pease are as large  
as giant fingers and as sweet  
as yellow sugar corn, the beans

are eating up the potatoes,  
the weeds are choking the  
corn, the chickens are  
laying 30 eggs a day -  
is not that all fine?  
Only all this is not on  
my farm, but on Miss  
Shattocks, Audscott.  
Say she will pay her  
day. With love  
your father

318 Elmwood Ave., Chicago, Ill.

Tell May 15, 1920

% 55 "ile" China Mall, S.S. Co. 510 Moulg. St., S.F., Cal.

" June 26

% Peking 51 Publishing Hall Rd. Peking

" June 16

During the College, Peking.

" June 17

S. (in postscript)

(1) This letter takes about 24 hours to write and 1½ hours to read.

(2) In case this letter fails to reach you, please modify me and I will notify you that I sent it to you.

I can hear you say: "What's become of so and so? I have not seen a shadow of him or heard an echo from him for such a long time?" To tell you the exaggerated truth, I have not written any letter ever since my writing revel in the Fall of 1913. My unanswered letters amount to a drawerful (that is, if I rans them up a little). Does that justify my not writing to you? You'll say: "I don't see how no wrongs can make one right?" Nor do I either. But now I am trying to make n right to make at least one right. There may be some left unwritten to. But n right can't make the left; you know! In case they do, follow direction above under (A.3.(2)).

To be safe and generous, I'll say that you write me back in July, 1920, and I write you last from or before Chicago, 1913. This may be a little more than true, but then it follows that it must be at least true. "Tell me all about yourself," you've so often asked me. — unhesitatingly. All right, I'll begin from 1913, or what is only approximately a decade earlier, from 1903, — well, why not? \* \* \* begin from the last decade of the 18's?

This threatens to be a little autobiographical. But after the part I'll try to be interesting. Here goes: I was born at about 5:30 AM, November 1829. I was born in Tientsin, but my birthplace was Changchow, which used to be two days of punting river steamer from Shanghai, but now the distance has shortened to 4 hrs. By birthplace, according to our usage, I mean of course the place where one's ancestors were born and to which one's own dialect belongs. My own dialect, however, I did not learn to speak until I was 7 or 10.

\* Untranslatable.

That does not however that I was ≤ a moron. I spoke Peking speech first. At 4, I began to memorize a few 1000 character and to learn by heart a few dozen volumes of standard literature.

I traveled a good deal with the members of my family. I visited Tientsin, Peking, Peiping, 天津, 北京, 貝平, et cetera, if any. I saw the Boxers in '00. But I interested myself chiefly in watching thunderstorms, and staying up watching no moon on the sky! Traveling in a ship is another of my dream-frequenting fancies.

\*total  
eclipse,  
about  
1897

"sunshine  
Sketches"  
Preface

My parents & cousins returned home when I was about eight; and apologizing to Stephan Leacock, I decided to return with them. First ride on a great big sea-going ship! Occidental foreigners, playing cards. They must be talking my home dialect, for I could n't understand. Oh, what beautiful shiny noisy majestic machinery. There's my ambition.

Here we are at Shanghai. See those "self-lighting lamps". They actually light themselves! In Shanghai I did n't stay long. Back to Changchow.

Now is the time for study again. But I would rather steal every moment peeping into such borrowed books as 物理須知 (physics), 天文須知 (astron.), 穆勒名學 (Mill's Logic, way over my head [A]), or shooting water at paper windows and people with a home-made bamboo pump, or making a River steamer out of an alarm clock, or boiling Kerosene over a cooking stove, or making a horizontal bar of a bamboo pole, or trying to play flute music with my aunt, — everything reminiscible & less reminiscible, anything rather than study.

Things changed. So did I. At 12 I was the only member of my family. A year at Soochow with relatives. Did n't like arithmetic! Back to Changchow entered a school for 1st time. By this time I had acquired a liking for the language I am writing in. I knew enough to say: "It is a dog." My pronunciation was perfect. I got the exact Anglo-Soochow and Anglo-Changchow accents of my teachers. A phonograph could not have done better. But there was n't much English in this "Creek Hill" (溪山) school. In 1907, I went to Nanking and began three reminiscible years. Whenever I recall

ly a wind blown over from a student camp to the grounds of the Kiangnan High School, then the wind will come back to me. Here I made my first American friend, from whom I learned to say "injoy", "half", "dzero." Here I also learned to know Eugene Sandow and B. F., printer-scientist-statesman-writer. Prep. Sept. graduation in Dec '09. On Jan '10 (or '09?) I puffed my last puff of a few thousand puffs of cigarette. Do you know I went to college in China? Yes, Sir, I studied in the Collegiate Dept for 20 days. Then a whim blew me to Peking picking up some solid geom, trig, hist, latin, etc, for the second item for Tsing Hua Scholarship to America. .... It's August. Aboard for Shanghai! Into a Shanghai barber shop I brought myself and my queuele, out of it I brought myself. Now the barbaric collar custom. With a slight exaggeration, ~~do~~ but much exertion, I put on my first collar in 17 minutes. I don't remember what date I sailed on. But since my arrival at Shanghai is about August 17, 1920, will you please be so good as to let me believe that I sailed on ... "1"?

\*A certain lady was fooled by a firm sending her regular form-letters, pretending to be letters written to her individually. After a few follow-ups, she said "Now I tell you frankly, as man to man", whereupon the lady lost trust in the firm. But I am using "Sir" in the idiomatic slangy sense.

First lesson in operating instrum. of occidental culture.  
The "brunch" on SS "China" was congenial. From the leader I learned such conceptions as "pure science", "means as if end", "principle", "ideal". There was another from Changchow, nicknamed "philosopher"; he impressed me with his deliberate voice, "I thinkke—that's another fellow conversed with me in Morse code, or we tried to."

\* gravity  
is the  
soul of  
Weight.

At this rate, I shall nearly finish my letter when we meet you again. So I'll ask my chauffeur (Mr H. G. Wells) to gear up by time and go straight to Registrar John Christopher Clark—no, I mean him. Fletcher Hoy's office, buy and then a fresh cap take up physiology etc., go to Harvard for 3 philosophical years, visit U. of Chicago, Grand Canyon, Arizona, U. of California, spent a week wrestling with grizzlies in Yosemite, rush at top speed thru the Royal Gorge just in time for opening exercises of the  $\frac{1}{2}$  100-annual celebration of C. U., taking breath once in a while (18 times per minute). 1919 summer & feast on geological science. Fall, 1919. Said E. Cornell: "I would found an inst. where any person can find instruction in any study." So I did. I found instruction in heat, light, electric & magnetism & junior lab. I concluded that teaching agrees with me & me it. .... Apr. 20. Cablegram: DR H. G. Yen to Dr. T. H. H. Sze. Get and do to teach math at Tsing Hua .... To morrow 9 A.M. the trans. man will get my trunk to be checked to Frisco.

I've told you about myself, not of myself yet. But sorry nothing say much. I am not Henry Adams, so glad. His was a brilliant "education" dazzling his readers & himself. Some of his paradoxes are delicious. Sometime, he puts things in a ridiculous light as if to say, "Look, here again, the Universe is out of joint which means the man himself is out joint or affect, like. No, I have not been looking for education. Notime for this diversion. (Excuse my own Adamishness!) It's more profitable to inquire how to educate the world for itself than to inquire how to educate myself to fit a supposedly uncongenial universe. Gu'enditer tout?

To treat  
your question. I  
I'll be back at  
I might have a  
there later, but

**Bad**  
for  
you

you on more chatty terms, I'll leave  
you going only for '20-'21, after which  
Cornell for some real research  
fancy for Tsing Hua that will bring  
not till I've done something.

I am writing on p. 3 and I have 101 things to say. No, count how many I've jotted down. --- Yes, by 101, I mean about 49. I don't see how I can fit in saying them, especially as I am saying nothing right now. Nothing won't never get me nowhere, you know. ( $-P^4 + 1$ ) ∵ Something git me somewhere.

I've met well-meaning society ladies who change the subject as soon as it gets interesting. So here moi aussi. Volume to see in my ideas, not even harmonize them, loosely joined on, no syntax or style or fit or cadence, just like my books & notes, loose-lit. (if any) wrapping tumblers and lamp bulbs, silk shirts (yawn) wrapping heliograph ink and bicycle oil can. I. A. "Howler" Q. "Who was Socrates?" Ans. "He was one of the great divines, ranking with Confucius, Mohammed, Jesus, and Buddha-Pooh."! (Prof. Horner's book) It's great fun to get behind the scenes. In 1918 I switch a bill for a meal or two. It's a point of view one can't get without fact.

\*Supers  
are stage-  
fillers  
who don't  
sing

At Calif. I rehearsed in the chorus on the Greek Theater with a professional Co., watching the self-important solo "acting the part", the stage-manger quarreling with the conductor, the super-men (with hyphen) flirting with super-other, and at the performance, the king whispering stage directions swearingingly at the priests. I never like very much in open air music; musically, it was the sum tot Aida I've heard (even if I hadn't been in it), but it was more instructive of life than the most realistic drama.

Then, again, instructing is another telling the scenes. Yes, I have been rediscovering not to my surprise that people are after all very human\*. Human nature is in parts admirable, even worshippable, in parts improvable & needs much imp't at that. No, those 6,250,000,000 typhoid bacteria that earned my arm recently are not the only vaccine I've been getting. Some doses human nature for persons of sufficient idealistic resistance have the effect of making them immune. I have n't lived much over a  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a century yet, but I fancy I've at least a small amount of anti-cynic pessimist toxin in me now.

"No, sir," if I keep on like this writing an essay on each of my 49 things — permit to be flight and write them as they come:

4. Gull's flight. San Fran. Bay. Beautiful. Graceful! Aerodynamics.

5. Bolshevism. I can feel with Russell's "Proposed Road to Freedom".

But China doesn't want labor autocracy yet. Wanted: Mass education.

6. The characters on my Christmas card mean: New Year brings old face; short words send long thoughts." 新年傳舊影; 短語寄長思。

7. It'll be fun to listen to wireless code on board if chance. ....

8. Philosophical menu: Croquet of raisin puree, Canned dance; Spinoz with Eggel; Pot o' beans. (to be continued — by you)

9. Doppler effect, a hobby of mine. I am surprised to know so few people have noticed the sharp drop (= flattening) of pitch of bell of passing train, sometimes a major third. Other examples: Rd. bell at grade crossing flattened (don't mean run over!), Whistle. Pitch of clatter of freight train.

A big "rit al meno mosso" of tempo of puffs of passing train! Telling direction by pitch of airplane flight by pitch of buzz. Velocity of stars in line of sight.

relation to Spectroanalysis. Relation to relativity. Apparent frequency or in  $v/c$  travel to or of letters during long travel to or from recipient. Will you give me more info? esp. in education

10. "accidental education": Henry Adams's term. A very casual item of experience may have a lasting effect. Our instances: (1) A lecturer said a properly educated man should be a man of taste, i.e., with definite likes & dislikes. The idea sticks to me. (2) Another told me semi-casually you (= I) needn't specialize in one thing all life, but must do something at a time.

11. Shantung? An inlet for opium. Acc. to look-up. able sources, opium grows in India, goes to England, thence to Philadelphia (!), thence to Japan, finally in thru trade free Shantung. Hypodermics a penny per. Pills cheap. No, Japan's anesthetics is more deadly than Japan's anesthetics.

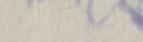
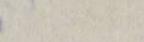
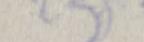
12. At Tsing Hua I shall teach math, don't know yet just what I know. I shall not teach the following: People are like curves. Some people never meet. Others met only once. When they meet, there may be one or more points in common. If they have two pts. in common, they have a close contact. If they have three points in common, they are said to be osculating. Some curves are in a relation known as conjugate. But this does not necessarily imply that their relation is harmonic, for conjugate curves often diverge in contrary directions, like

Expression  
not orig-  
inal. Kindly  
tell me  
source if  
you know.  
I forgot  
it.

Supple-  
ment to  
defect-  
ive  
print

Some  
forget's  
will you  
tell me  
?

as poles & poles. When the relation is harmonic, it is said to cross.

13. More animal analogies: moth () / mammoth ();  / canoe (volcano)

14. Some things I'd like to write on: (1) How to catch oneself. (2) The blessing of being busy (28) How to draw accurately after a geometer. (3) Conversation and correspondence compared. (4) Ragtime prose. (45) How to lose a friend (written). (47) 2 kinds of ordinal numbers (top). (48) 17 ways by which to see the world of our retina. (49) Alice in Thacca. (50) Should the public speaker speak to the public? (I detest oratorical orators.)

15. Skimming a book is not so bad if you can get the cream of it.

16 Henry Adams: "Friends are born, not made." I say, Friends are born, ~~then~~ made. I've often made friends of acquaintances after a long period of mutual ignorance.

17. You may accuse me of having made new friends, otherwise why don't I write to you often? No, Ma'am, I've made only two or three new friends since 1913. Besides, don't you want me to have a lot of friends? 10 years ago

I thought I could scrap with anybody. Later I did get into scrap with one of my friend's friends. But I think I am now absolutely unscrapulous.

18. The art of getting on with a friend is just like concerted music. We can never agree exactly on a tempo or expression of  $1 = 67$  pp and  $(3pp+2mf)/5$ , but if you agree to try each to follow the other's impulsion of motion then we have a musical peace.

19. When I tell you I am going home for a year, you may naturally enough become suspicious, and think it's a outline that someone is in trouble and something is going to happen sometime. "No ma'am," says I. Nobody is anywhere, and nothing ever happens, so far as I foresee and intend. As a man intends, so does, or so don't he. Of course nothing is impossible. For instance, it's not impossible that I become ambassador to Germany in 1922. But I have never proposed, and am not proposing to work towards making ~~the~~ "not impossible" possible, you see?

20. Tell me tactfully drop-  
gladly, etc.  
been ~~won~~  
time and thot.  
surreptitiate,

all about your music, you'll say, in a difficult subject. all right, recklessly. Well, music has always surreptitiated a good deal of my

I don't know exactly what it is to

but that's the way I feel about it.

My piano is rented. Got a Boehm clarinet in B<sup>b</sup>, I can now play it sufficient well so that only a small proportion of the notes I make are wrong note or squawks. Singing tenor in C shell. The China Chorus was another eye opener (holding the voices) as our trainer. I've written some more stunts for the piano and some Chinese folk songs which C.C. Birchard Co. will publish as soon (= late) as trade conditions become normal again. Lately I prepared with collaborative help some songs & yell for the C.S.\* Alliance. Free copies to members.

I thought I had 49 things, but I had only 26. I still have my diary of three too short days at the Silver Bay Christian Conference to copy to you. It would take 3 more pp. No, I won't copy it then.

I think before me Coats Psych. of Religion, Stratton's Psych. of Religion, Cabots What men live by, Fordick's Manhood of the

\* C.S.  
Chinese  
Students  
and  
Christian  
Science

Master, Foster's Christianity, Harnack's What is Christianity, Hocking's Meaning of God in Human Experience, Amess The New Orthodoxy, Monet's Modern Reader's Edition. Cic's work awes in me a great respectful and admiring attitude, not because he elevates, but because his honest attempt at being scientific & impartial is more elevating than less honest the well-meaning intentional elevators. (Men should be prougt as if you preached not.) You who know my moral character as an intellect may perhaps smile at me sitting before such an array of books, and say, "My dear Chao, I think you are growing old. You are hardly old enough yet to indulge in Leibnitian deism and Newtonian dotage."

\* Leibniz used d, &  
wrote  $\frac{dx}{dt}$ ,  $\frac{d^2x}{dt^2}$   
Newton used dots,  
wrote  $\dot{x}$ ,  $\ddot{x}$   
Forgot the source.  
Will you kindly  
remind me?

Yes, but what impresses me is the enormous distance that separate people of dif. previous background. What I am trying to get is first of all to find a language in which I can talk to myself & talk to what is greater than myself on such deeper and larger questions in a style nearer to immediate living than that of discursive philosophy; next, I am interested in finding out ways of putting my own attitude into the native language of my fellows that they will feel that after all we believe

in the same religion. Once I sat with a companion opposite an elderly strange lady eating breaded fried liver & Fr. potatoe, at 11 PM at Childs, on 42nd St. She opened a conversation: "Are you both Japanese? Don't worship the sun anymore. Come to our church. We are Episcopalians. Give up your own religion, won't you?" "Now if I want to be a good missionary, how can't be of help to such a 'case'?" On the other hand, I meet my countrymen who at bottom are just like you and me, in fact more so! But they have been brought up in such form & style of thought that what terms are elsewhere of good, repute and religious do not connote to them that at all. One of the leaders at Silverbay asked me: "Are you a Christian?" Considering Christianity as you and I believe it is, I would almost have said yes. But in order to speak in his language, I decided to be a little more orthodox in my usage and said No. Such a question sounds somewhat like: "Have you stopped beating your wife?" It is a recognizable & meaningful question, or ought to be.

orthodox in  
the "How  
unmeaning  
to Silverbay

My trip to Silverbay was more for seeing it as an institution than to fare farther in my religious journey. This sounds rather supercilious of me, but you see, I am a "hard case", <sup>which is</sup> no ground for conceit. Having browsed in the books as I have, it was somewhat of an anticlimax to listen to the speeches and oratrical sermons. But my trip was certainly fully worth the while, not even counting Lake George & meeting friends!

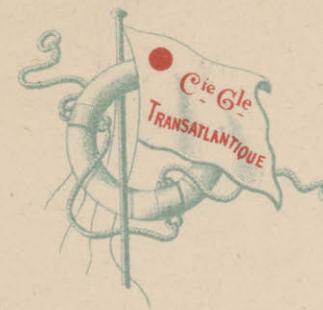
I am beginning to feel that I am actually conversing with you. As I am writing these lines, it's 2 AM tomorrow and I must leave tomorrow 1 PM. Don't you think I've done fairly well to have made up ~~so~~ this much for 2 years, that means a few hundred words a month to you. "No sir," I've never done that to any man for 24 months together, no ma'am either. Now it's you turn to drop a line or two and say: "Yours of July 13-15 has been glanced over, shall read it <sup>me</sup> when and if I have time." "Please don't be so jestful all the time," say you, "If I had to choose, I would rather talk of you as

Mine seriously, Yuen-Pen Chao."

I can get along, but!!!

Love to all

Robert



A Bord de la Bouraine

le 18 July 1920

Dear Conta:

We are a most mixed up crowd on board. Rheal & her friend and Mr. Silz (Frederick's fiancé) are among those present, together with a gentleman from the Harvard French department — I have forgotten his name — and a lot of very nice grad. students. Our table consists of two of the latter — one a musician & a friend of Gaby —

vegetables specially. I eat & eat.

Rhea is vastly improved over what she was when she first came to Cambridge. Bursham's married sister, her friend, is pleasant.

I am drinking wine at my meals now - half a glass ekes out with water & iced. That is the custom. As I have seen Rhea take almost a bottleful without turning a hair, I do not consider myself immoderately indulgent. I have also had a glass of beer.

I am practising my French on all sorts of poor wretches.

Rhea & her friend, a French-teacher - cum - tourist - bear-leader, an Italian worker in mosaic (who did the work in the Boston Public Library and the Congressional Library), and a young vice-consul at Algiers. This latter person feels his superiority, as a future diplomat, to the <sup>rest of us</sup>, and only associates with a few fumacious women down in the smoking-room. We call him Metternich.

We sing, promenade, eat, & sleep. The grub is A. I have

the charts which were ~~left~~ to be found among the effects of that doughty mariner. It never returned, nor did any of its crew. About 1834, however, the British frigate "Invincible," while cruising off the coast of Chile, picked up a bottle containing the following remarkable M.S. — the <sup>log</sup> chronicle of the first mate of the ship "Albion" of the Houyhnym expedition. It reads in part as follows:

" — The Yahoos are a slavish race, but for a wonder like to men. We thought it might be well to make sure if they could not be used on our plantacions in Jamaica, in place of the blacks. On the mainland they are now few, being only such as the horses breed for their umbilical nests. There is an island, however, where they thrive in large numbers, and where the horses do not venture for fear. I determined to visit this island.



a Bord

[ca July 19, 1920]

le Monday 1920

Dear Santa:

Odi profanum volgus et  
arceo. As you are doubtless familiar, Gulliver, in his famous voyage to the land of the Houyhnyns (if that is the spelling), observed that the Yahoos prized highly a certain root, which, when they ate it, made them laugh, howl, shriek, cry, dance, and finally fall on the ground in a state of com or stupor. You are, however, unaware that after Gulliver's return to England, the Houyhnyns of a certain district taking counsel together in the informal way that character-

island not far from the Houghynm coast, which, as it was uninhabited, had escaped the process of eradication to which the mainland had submitted. Under the commands of their leader, ~~fall~~, and at the dead of night, the Yahoos collected fallen trees and bound them together with vines to form a sort of raft, crude but of vast dimensions. A species of smuggling trade arose, about which we are <sup>so</sup> fortunate <sup>as</sup> to have precise information.

About fifty years after Gulliver's ~~voyage~~, the fever of speculation being at that time high in England, a joint-stock company was organized to import Houghynys for the improvement of the breed of horses. A vessel was fitted out at Bristol, and sailed for the territory discovered by Gulliver, in accordance with

izes that noble race, decided that the usefulness of even such inefficient beasts of burden as the Yahoos was seriously impaired by this indulgence. Therefore by ~~too~~ dint of much pawing and biting, <sup>the Houghynys</sup> they finally uprooted the baneful herb from a large tract of country. Upon this, the Yahoos began ~~somes~~ to rave, some to howl, and some to pine away for want of their customary stimulant. Upon the next step history is not clear: ~~we know~~ that ~~accord~~ according to Gulliver the Yahoos are too wild and stupid for any continued directed effort, whereas lying and treason are unknown among the Houghynys. However, whether guided by ~~a~~ Yahoo less utterly brutish than his fellows, or by ~~a~~ renegade Houghyn, or by some third creature from Heaven knows where, a conspiracy arose to transport ~~the~~ a large number of the Yahoo beasts of burden to van-

I hate to see a man showing the  
beast in him, because that beast is  
a monkey. It is curious how one wuss  
laziness will break down the last shred  
of moral fibre with some people —  
they will go right into smoking heavily,  
gambling heavily, drinking heavily, and  
heaven only knows what else. They make  
it very difficult for me, who drink a  
half-glass of wine at meals, and smoke  
about three cigarettes per day to  
associate with anybody, yet keep my  
self-respect. I am, perhaps, on the side of  
austerity. At any rate, I am proud to say  
that none of my failings are amiable  
ones. (Yes, you can guess whom I refer).

I sometimes wonder if planets have  
souls. If the earth has one, than an earthquake  
or a tempest may simply mean that it is



a Bord

le

191

"I founde out that raftes  
<sup>in secrete</sup>  
are in ye habite of phyngs betwixt  
the mainlande and the islande. I desised  
myselfe as a Yahoo (which, in sooth,  
was not difficulte, as I am of  
a hairy skinne) & and founde  
itt lyttle trouble to board this raft.  
As soon as ye raft was a lytel  
distanunce from ye shore, there was  
a moste curious sight. From crevices  
betwene ye trunks of ye tree that  
made ye raft, the Yahoos produced  
ye roote wheresof Capt. Gulliver hath

carry bundles of ye leaves and  
egrely take their noses among them,  
sniffing for ye fragrance, like soe  
many piggies in a troffe. It is notte  
a prettie site.

From here on the document is  
much damaged by water, but we gather  
that the Yahoos have a custom of staking  
the nuts and fruit which they <sup>collect</sup> gather on  
the + manner of fall of a handful  
of stones, whereby some of them ~~do~~ now  
who have acquired the necessary skill  
have managed to hoard up vast  
stores of fruit, roots, and nuts,  
while the rest must gather twice as  
much as they need. On the ~~the~~ raft the  
roots and leaves aforementioned furnished  
the ~~sugge~~ objects of this sport.

spoken. Male and female, olde and  
yonge, began alike to ~~eate therof~~ lefe, stan  
after a litel while to fabber loude and  
to make a noise wondrous like a  
laugh. Then agene after a lytel they  
howled, scremed, yelled, howled,  
lefed, staggered, and lay like unto  
men drunke. More I cannot saye, as  
I have neether ye words nor ye stomache  
of Capt. Gulliver. His roote now groweth <sup>nowhere</sup> ~~not~~  
but on ye island, and is ye cause yet ye latter is so frequented  
by Yahoo. There is also a lefe, whiche groweth  
forth the fumes. The male of ye Yahoo is  
wont to inhale these, for then he  
becometh a littel more calme than  
~~it~~ before. Hawbeit, by this indulgence  
he loseth ~~is~~ somewhat of his rigor and  
strength. Ye female Yahoos indulge in it  
not among ye Houghnayms, but here all alike



a Bord

le

191

scratching itself. Bang! and out go  
two or three thousand of the little vermin that  
are eating it as bare as the back of  
a mangy dog.

You see, the close view that one  
gets of humanity on ship-board does  
not induce to much enthusiasm for our  
fellow featherless bipeds. The utter emptiness  
of ideals which characterizes many lives then  
becomes most apparent, and one becomes  
thankful if he realizes that he is dominated  
by some such purpose as love of scholarship, <sup>less</sup> more  
elusive than the search for monetary pleasure. These  
rich tourists, and more especially those of the

academic crowd. Cf. Aberdeen & Plattsburg.

It's good for me, but I am afraid  
I am so rigidly formed as to character  
and disposition that I shall never learn  
to meet or get along with people ~~on~~ in mass.  
In primis, I show when I am disgusted.  
I must cultivate a poker face.

Love,  
Norbert

female sex, are as empty — what  
shall I say? — as empty as  
interstellar space then. The males  
<sup>at least</sup> have their business, which, however,  
in many cases, degenerates into petty routine  
administrative work. One almost is reconciled  
to the impending fate of mankind — which,  
be it starvation, freezing, burning,  
or strangling, is near as geological  
time goes — when one notices how much of  
it is bluff, sham, and wind.

Pardon me this jeremiad, but it  
helps me to get off steam. The trip  
has been beautiful, the grub great,  
and my French has improved three  
hundred per cent. However, I am never  
completely at ease in any large, non-



À Bord de "TOURAINE"

le 21 juillet  
Touraine 1920

Chère soeur:

J'écris en français pour me pratiquer. Je fais un peu de progrès, parce que je parle à toute opportunité, et je me puis faire comprendre, mais avec difficulté. Ni ma grammaire ni ma vocabulaire suffit pour mes soins; néanmoins, ma prononciation n'est pas trop mal.

À bord de ce navire il y a  
des américains, des français, des espagnols, des italiens, des polonois, et des gens de toute autre nation de l'Europe. Je n'ai pas entendu un tel Babel des langues. À ma table il y a deux étudiants de la Philologie

voyage pour payer les Rourboires. Je  
arriverai demain au Havre, et puis  
je procéderai directement à Southampton,  
Londres, et Cambridge.

Je trouve mon voyage très plaisant,  
et espère que j'aurai l'opportunité de  
renouveler cette expérience fréquemment  
dans les années prochaines.

Je voudrai entendre tous les  
nouvelles de la ferme et de la famille.  
J'espere que notre père ne se fatigue trop  
avec ses œuvres d'agriculture. Les Koopman,  
ont ils vous visité? Avez-vous mangé  
encore de notre pain? Le Fritz, ~~mettrez~~: n'a-t-il  
pas au contournement des enfants dans dont?

Tu me pardonneras quoique je fais  
autant des erreurs. Je n'écris pas en français  
comme affestation, mais parce que je crois que la  
seule méthode de m'enseigner est de ne parler et  
écrire qu'en français, autant que possible  
Ton frère Robert.

romancier, un guide aux touristes, un vice-consul  
des États-Unis à Alger, un artiste italien  
aux mosaïques (très joli et très inter-  
essant), Mlle. Fuller, et Mme. Muerrill, sœur  
de M. Burkhardt. Les deux dames fument  
et boivent trop. Je fus un peu choqué, et ça  
est la raison de ma dernière lettre,  
qui arrivera, je crois, dans la même poste  
comme celle-ci.

*Moi*  
Le voyage a été très calme. Je n'ai  
pas eu de mal-de-mer, et aussi, je crois,  
peu des autres. J'ai trouvé beaucoup à manger,  
et le garçon de table a bien servi. Les  
autres garçons sont des voleurs. Je voulait acheter  
un timbre de poste à vingt-cinq francs, et  
offrit un quatre-dollar. Le garçon n'a donné  
qu'un franc pour change. L'enfer est  
plein de tels comme lui.

Ma situation financière est très bonne.  
Je n'aurai besoin d'employer mes chèques de

pistols. The officers disarmed them, and they and the prize-fighter distributed the fear-smitten not among their stations. As the boxer - champion of Belgium, offered to brain anyone so rash as to start a panic, the steerage soon got under control. Only a few people - mostly women and kids - went to pieces in the second class. One American however, vainglorious in the smoking room turned poltroon, and deliriously kept asking every which one as to the danger.

The American women - and many of the French - are wonderful. They found their places, and talked and chatted as unconcernedly as if they were not facing what was at the best discomfort, exposure, and loss, and at the worst,



à Bord de "TOURAIN"

le 21 July

1920

Dear mother,

Since my last letter, exciting things have come to pass. At about nine o'clock in the morning, we were going ahead at full speed in a somewhat dense fog, when expecting to make our landfall when off the starboard bow ~~there~~ <sup>We heard the form of remonstrance</sup> loomed the dim bulk of the Bishop light. Rocky islets were to be seen to port, and all of a sudden the engines were put over to full speed astern. We were just congratulating ourselves on having escaped so easily from such a perilous situation, when we felt a ~~sh~~ grating shock, not very

what to do. I decided to help calm the women and children, and shepherd them into my boat, but I was scared stiff. Then I intended to make a go for a raft. The hurricane deck above me seemed like the roof of a tomb, and I feared that the ship would capsize and drag me down with her.

A Belgian prizefighter came ~~up~~ calming and quieting the people, so I offered him my services. I am ~~so~~ <sup>not</sup> ~~man~~ ~~a~~ ~~perfect~~ ~~man~~ — his code was that of sport and fair play, and he lived up to it. Down ~~and~~ <sup>among</sup> the steerage — poor devils — there was panic. The water had entered their cabins. They looked up mad with fear. One or two of them brandished knives or

severe. I was at the purser's, having some money changed. I heard someone pass on the order to don life-belts, went quickly to my cabin, and started up the companionway with my belt on and my manuscript-case in hand. There was a bit of a jam at the door ~~with~~ women and children whimpering and wailing. I blocked the door as I tried to reassure them. ~~I~~ stepped back into an alcove to let them pass. I betook myself at once to the ~~base~~ <sup>for</sup> my boat. There I heard for the first time what had befallen. We had struck a rock, and the after-hold was overflowing. I felt my stomach give way within me, and kept thinking to myself

death by drowning. I take off my hat to them.

I chatted with a mechanic through the dynamo-room porthole. He said that a wireless call had been sent out, and that the pumps were holding their own. The lifeboats were swinging outwards, but not lowered. Nothing happened for a while, we began to hope that we would not need to take to the boats or change to another ship. We heard that the carpenter, at imminent risk of his life had strengthened the bulkheads below and kept back the infouring flood. Then the dinner-bell rang, and if ever a welcome sound was heard by the ears of man, it was that, I felt like singing, shouting, exulting,

Well, it was over, and we were  
to make port as we had planned. I  
became garrulous with relief. Everyone  
showed in his own way that the  
strain was ~~over~~<sup>past</sup>. Then a lassitude  
overcame us - a <sup>a reaction of</sup> dulness, tiredness,  
everywhere.

Well, I am well, safe, and  
sound.

Love,  
Robert

18 Portugal Place,  
Cambridge, England,  
July 24, 1920.

Dear dad:

After escaping the perils of the high seas by a somewhat uncomfortably narrow margin, I arrived, tired but safe, at Le Havre. I got my 'vee' for England, and proceeded to see the town. It is quaint, picturesque, and charming. My French was quite adequate for my needs in helping me to buy things or find my way.

I left for Southampton in the first class. Seasick, of course. At S. I found that I had left several things in my stateroom, which the porter brought to me on the train. He also brought an

all summer, and I will work with him there. I will meet him in Paris the 2nd or 3rd, and hear him lecture.

I have not yet made up my mind as to when I shall visit the Duprees's

Love

/  
Norbert

Envelope, which I could not recognize as my own, with Union Trust Company, New York City, on the outside corner, scribbled over with figuring in pounds.

I could not recognize this as my own, and returned it. It had been left in my cabin, and not by the other man. Do you remember any such sealed envelope belonging to me?

I am staying with the Muscos, who, despite the very trying circumstances of life in lodgings, have insisted in extending to me the full measure of their hospitality. They are charming people. My trip to Cambridge seems like a homecoming. I remain here a week. Drechet will stay in Strassburg

[ca. July 25, 1920]



TELEGRAMS: "Grand, Clacton-on-Sea."  
TELEPHONE: N 86, Clacton-on-Sea.

Telephone,  
Battersea 161.

~~GRAND HOTEL,~~  
~~SOUTHCLIFF,~~  
~~CLACTON-ON-SEA.~~

70 Overstrand Mansions  
Prince of Wales Road  
Battersea, S. W. 11

Dear Wiener

I shuddering much like to  
see you but the only possible time  
would be Saturday or Sunday -  
any time probably would suit me.

I am off to China for a year & only  
just back from Russia - I should like  
to know how you work here now.

FYR U. SMC.

B Russell

I bought a fine waterproof coat for about \$13. My funds are holding out wonderfully, as I have almost no expenses here.

I got the letters sent to me on the boat.

I see Russell Saturday. He leaves Monday for China.

I go Monday to Paris.

Love

Norbert

P. S. Mrs. Muscio wants to be remembered affectionately to all of you.

18 Portugal Place,  
Cambridge, England,  
July 27, 20.

Dear Conta:

The Muscios are charming. They have put me up in a room in their own lodgings as their guest, and have simply accepted me as one of themselves. I have met any number of old friends, and feel more at home in this place than in any other on the globe, save only Cantabrigia in Anglia Nova. I have met Hardy, Bartlett, Ogden of the Cambridge Magazine — a queer duck —, Robt, Broad of Bristol, and a host of others whom I had known (before personally) <sup>and friend</sup> they treat me as an equal, and not at all as a tourist from distant parts. The English are not cold —

pretenders and charlatans. Even though Bolshevism and allied evils abound they lack somewhat of the peculiar virulence that they distil in the narrow confines of the Nation and the New Republic in this ampler region of the intellect.

In short, culture and ~~intellect~~<sup>brains</sup> are so universal that they are simply taken for granted, but the social stratification of this country and the isolation of academic life have tended to produce a certain unreality about all the discussions here. All the same, it is heaven to be in a place where a high price is put on the things of the intellect.

We must stop over here on our next trip together.

if they are sure to whom they are talking.

What is this Cambridge atmosphere? Well, imagine a Greenwich village full of people of real ability and mental discipline, notwithstanding all their personal eccentricities and intellectual vagaries — imagine, that is, a self-critical Greenwich village, more masculine than feminine, and you will not miss the point by much. The Bohemian carefully cultivated ~~playboy~~, the freedom of personal habits are there — yes, all the women smoke, including Mrs. Muscio, though not in the least in the blatant, assertive manner of Rhea Fuller — but the people are all intensely interested in really difficult work, and are only too ready to suppress all

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

OFFICE OF THE EDITORS OF THE PROCEEDINGS  
MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY  
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

July 31 1920

Dear Dr Warren

I return your MSS which was rejected by  
our mathematical editor. For your benefit we  
enclose the long careful report of the referee which  
should be returned to me when you are through  
with it. Also a bit of Prof. Thom's letter which should  
also be returned. Perhaps you can polish up your  
MSS so that it will be acceptable. I take it that  
with such delicate matters it is better to be sure  
and delayed rather than to get into print —  
even if the matter is entirely right, it is not much  
use unless your readers think it is right and  
understand the cogency of every point.

Yours very truly  
E. B. Wilson

1

Kindly return  
S. H. Newcomb  
to  
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

July 7, 1920.

My Dear Professor Moore:

Dr. Wiener's paper contains the germs of an interesting development of the foundations of n-dimensional analysis situs in terms of point and limit. However I wish to offer the following criticisms of the paper.

(a) On page 5, at the beginning of the last paragraph, he writes, "Since Moore's set is categorical, the ordinal properties of non-sequential limit on a deformation path and in the series of real numbers are identical." However I wish to offer the following criticism of the paper. First he should say that Moore's set is categorical with respect to point and order as defined. It is not categorical with respect to point and limit as Moore pointed out in a paper in the Bulletin vol 22 (1915) pp. 117-22. The following statement cannot be proved on the basis of any system of Moore quoted by Wiener "If P is a point of  $M$  is a point set such that every segment  $A/B$  containing  $P$ , contains a point of  $M$  different from  $P$ , then  $P$  is a limit point of  $M$ ." Now suppose we write instead of "every segment  $A/B$  containing  $P$ " in the above, the following equivalent "for every point set  $[X]$  which (1) contains  $P$  and (2) has associated with it two points A and B such that  $[X]$  is composed of all points for which the order  $A/X/B$  holds." Now is not the above an ordinal property of non-sequential limit point in the series of real numbers but which Wiener does not show holds on a deformation path by his argument? And thus were the set categorical, Wiener's proof would be insufficient.

(b) Dr. Wiener's set is not categorical in terms of the undefined symbols point and limit. Suppose I consider the following interpretation of Wiener's set

(A)  $K$  is the set of all numbers  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  where the  $x$ 's are real numbers and  $\lambda$  is defined by the formula

$$\lambda[(x_1^2, x_2^2, \dots, x_n^2), (x_1^2, x_2^2, \dots, x_n^2), \dots] = (\lim_{K \rightarrow \infty} [x_1^K], \lim_{K \rightarrow \infty} [x_2^K], \dots, \lim_{K \rightarrow \infty} [x_n^K])$$

This interpretation is given by Wiener on Page 3.

(B)  $K$  is the set of all points whose coordinates are  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  where the  $x_i$ 's are real numbers and limit of a sequence is defined as follows.  $P$  is the limit of the sequence  $P_1, P_2, \dots$  if and only if one of the following two conditions is satisfied

either (a)  $P_i = P$  for every  $i$ . Then  $\lambda[P_1, P_2, \dots] = P$ .

or (b) for every  $i$  and  $j$ ,  $P_i \neq P_j$ .

(a) for every  $i$ , the coordinates of  $P_i$  are of the form

$$[x_{i,1}, x_{i,2}, \dots, x_{i,K-1}, x_{i,K+u}, x_{i,K+1}, \dots, x_{i,n}]$$

where  $x_{i,j}$  is rational for every  $i$  and  $j$  and  $u$  is a real number, ~~and the same~~  
for every  $i$ .

(b)  $P$  is the sequential limit point of  $P_1, P_2, \dots$  in the sense that if  $g$  is an  $n$ -dimensional region containing  $P$ , there there exists an integer  $S$  such that for  $n > S$ ,  $P_n$  is within  $g$ .

Suppose now we consider the following sequence

$Q_1, Q_2, \dots$ , where for every  $n$ ,  $Q_n$  has coordinates  $\left[\frac{1}{n}, 0, \dots, 0\right]$

and ask the question: - does the sequence  $Q_1, Q_2, \dots$  have a limit. Under interpretation A, the answer is "yes" while under interpretation B the answer is "no".

(C) Weiner could have avoided the difficulty as to categoricity had he so defined deformation path as to be able to prove not only Moore's set referred to in the Annals but also the modified set discussed by Moore in the Bulletin, vol 22 (1915) pp 117-22. Had he done so the example B given above would not have satisfied axiom 4. But may I not venture the opinion that were the analysis so made (or for that matter, the analysis as it now stands) becomes rather artificial? Is it not the same procedure as though I should wish to build up two dimensional plane analysis sites in terms of point and limit. Now I have already an excellent treatment giving a categorical set in terms of point and region by R. L. Moore [Transactions (1916) 131-64]. I can easily define region in terms of point and limit and then introduce a number of very strong axioms using point and region, as defined. However, by this process, would we really lose the analysis of two dimensional analysis sites in terms of point and ~~region~~ limit, which I feel would be a very desirable contribution or do we not have extrinsically an analysis in terms of point and region.

(d) On page 2, he gives as one of the desired properties of a deformation path  $\sigma$ , the following: - if any connected set be removed from  $\sigma$ , the remainder of  $\sigma$  cannot be divided into more than two connected sets." On pages 4 and 5 he attempts to show that his deformation path is ordinarily equivalent to the series of real numbers. This cannot be true, for suppose we remove from the series of real numbers the connected set  $K$  composed of all real numbers less than or equal to 1, the remainder can be divided into infinitely many connected sets  $I_n$  such that the real number  $x$  belongs to  $I_n$  if and only if  $n < x \leq n+1$ .

Dr. Weiner might substitute for the statement quoted above, the following statement "if any connected set  $g$  be removed from  $\sigma$ , then  $(\sigma-g)$ , the set composed of  $\sigma-g$  plus its limit points, can be divided into no more than 2 mutually exclusive closed connected sets.

(e) On page 1, would it not be better to say: - "if  $\Delta$  is a sequence of deformations such that there exists a deformation  $D$  such that, for every  $x$ ,

$$D(x) = \lambda[\Delta(x)], \text{ then } D \text{ will be denoted by } L(\Delta).$$

(f) On page 2 in the definition of a uniform sequence, would it not be better to substitute for "where  $L(\Delta) = D$ " the statement " $L(\Delta)$  exists and is  $D$ ".

(g) I do not feel that Postulate 3 on Page 3 is clearly stated. As I interpret Weiner's statement Postulate 3 consists of 2 distinct postulates

Postulate 3<sub>A</sub>: Suppose  $\Delta$  is a sequence of deformations such that (1) whenever  $\Sigma$  is an infinite set of terms from  $\Delta$ , then  $\Sigma$  contains the terms of a sequence  $\Delta'_1, \Delta'_2, \dots$  such that  $L(\Delta')$  exists (2) for every sequence  $\Delta'$  of terms from  $\Delta$  such that  $L(\Delta')$  exists,  $L(\Delta') = D$ . Under these circumstances  ~~$L(\Delta) = D$~~ <sup>exists and</sup>

Postulate 3<sub>B</sub>: Suppose  $\Delta$  is a sequence of deformations

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

containing us term except D an infinite number of times, then  
 $L(\Delta)$  exists and is D.

If I am correct in my interpretation, then I strongly  
 feel that these two parts should be treated as separate  
 postulates. Is it not the same procedure as if I should,  
 in building up a set of independent postulates for betweenness  
 on a line, insert a postulate

"If  $A B C$  and  $B C D$  or  $A B C$  and  $A C D$ , then  $A B D$ .

Would I not in this way avoid a number of independence  
 considerations, which I should have to consider were the  
 axioms separated into its components?

(b) I do not like to see a statement such as that given  
 in the hypothesis of axiom 4. Does not that keep Postulate  
 4 from having any action whatsoever in the free independence  
 examples for Postulates I, II and III?

(i) On page 5, in the 11th line from the bottom, does he  
 not mean "three mutually exclusive rays" instead of three  
 non-overlapping disconnected rays". A ray is connected.

I agree with Prof. Moore in his correction on my <sup>change of two or three notations</sup>  $\Sigma H M$   
 paper. I have sent Professor Wilson my summer address,  
 and shall be at Urbana until September first.

Sincerely yours  
 J. R. Kline

August 2 1920  
Applecroft Farm  
Groton Mass.

Dear Hubbard:

I may be obliged to curtail this letter because I have been delayed in writing it on account of a visit which we have had from Mr & Mrs Frank Brown and baby. Frank is a handsome chap, Mrs. Frank is a charming woman (originally from Groton) and the baby is a red-golden-headed dear.

A week ago Mother & I went to town to do some shopping. We

To visit us at the end of the week.  
Bernard will come later. I got  
a short note from Tyler  
telling that I might see the  
rooks if Mr. Golden  
approved. Father is having  
a cement inner wall built  
under the barn which  
Mrs. Evans and Gilson  
have been getting into nice  
order for us. We visited the  
Knapp's yesterday. Very nice  
people. You'll like the boy.  
Wonderful apples.

Love,  
Constance

met Mrs. Bullard at Filene's. She  
told us about her ~~women~~ family. Harriet  
is to be head of the ~~women's~~ athletic dept'  
at Cornell next winter. Maria  
has a new baby. I went to see  
Dr. John about my ulceze. He  
gave me two bottles of medicine  
and did me the honor of taking  
me seriously, so maybe he'll cure  
it for me. We visited Mrs. Kogeman  
and found that Bernard was at home  
also. He gave up his job because  
they weren't allowed enough time  
to eat up there. They treated us mighty  
nicely. Mrs. K. is coming up here

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11 RUE SCRIBE

VISITORS WRIT.

(NOT OFFICIAL)

PARIS (IX)

August 2 1920

Dear Ma:

Here I am in Paris, with  
a room at 10 francs per day. Meals extra.  
I have about f. 3000 on hand, &  
\$30 in travellers checks. Ticket home  
all paid for.

Fréchet said he would be lecturing  
at the Sorbonne today, but the lecture  
has been cancelled. I am writing to  
him direct.

I all instance that she would  
retract some of the things she said  
of the make-up of Chicago womanhood  
if she saw the specimens in the street  
here. Oh, lord! They put it on with a hose,

apparently. Apparently, also, decency  
here consists in keeping one's breeches  
covered.

My French is rotten, but  
I get along.

Love,  
Norbert

Now, since I am here I  
will write.  
After about a week set for to work a  
few hours of work small  
and took in 5000 f. tools enough  
and took about a dozen in 8 & \$  
of that the  
work of labour has taken  
most all the most work it to  
at present one P. billiards not cost  
to work with  
Now the tooth caries the  
lives etc. for a few days to another  
man now spread to the other set of  
teeth etc. in amnesia etc. etc. was the fi  
reworks show in the park! bird, 10. and

as new. I saw Ogden of the Cambridge Magazine — an awfully queer fish whom I knew in the good old times — and he has taken an article by me on these topics.

Edwin Russell spoke highly of my London Math. Soc. articles. He referred it, and recommended it as very important and valuable. He was shocked to hear of Whitehead's remissness. I did not get into touch with him. Broad of Bristol, the coming man in British philosophy, was much interested in the content of my Monist stuff. Whitehead and Moore I could not find; however I met MacTaggart and thought that 'absurdly non-predicative fat hand' celebrated by Wells. It was all of that.

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11 RUE SCRIBE

VISITORS WRITING ROOM

(NOT OFFICIAL)

PARIS (IX)

August 4 1920

Dear Comte: I have not been able so far to get into touch with Fréchet. I have wired him that I am here and am awaiting an answer. I find I am making a little headway with my problem — sation in function-space — it and in a way that may have practical application. I define the measure of an interval in a way that agrees with probability-theory as it is applied in statistical mechanics, and I am living in hope that the Lebesgue which I can get from it will be good for something. At any rate, when I meet F. I shall have a peach of a problem to work on.

a woman who must be on the shabby side of fifty, painted and powdered like an actress ready to go on the stage, scented like a cat, going along the street with a skirt hanging just below her knees and high-heeled dancing pumps ~~meant for a ballroom~~. Apart from all questions of morals, I cannot understand how a race as artistic as the French can stand such an appalling lack of taste and dignity.

I had a good time in England - a corking good time. I saw Russell, and found him now asserting the very same things that lie buried in my damned old encyclopedic articles. If they had come out in the journals, I would have a reputation by now, for my tirades against ~~the~~ Kitchener deal with the very topics that are now engrossing British philosophical thought, and from the standpoint that is being put forth

I find little trouble in getting on in Paris, even with my very limited stock of French. Fortunately, my pronunciation is quite comprehensible. I cannot say, however, that I like all I see of Paris. Notwithstanding the almost uniform beauty and dignity of the buildings, the evidences of a cultivated artistic taste and skill that one sees in all the shopwindows, I find everywhere, in the dress and make-up of the women, in the book-covers and postcards at the bookstores, in the notices of plays and spectacles, evidences of a mercetriciousness that is to me, personally, loathsome.

I find Paris altogether too much like the caricatures I have seen of it - much more like them than I expected. I do not care, for instance, to see

Pekin.

Constance, these British scholars treat me as an equal, and I am their equal. When I find that my ~~interior~~ work, buried in an obscure corner of an obscure encyclopedia, contains anticipations of ideas that are engaging the chief attention of men like Russell, I feel a certain pride, ~~not to say conceit~~.

It makes me feel that I can build up a reputation, and that I am going to work until I do it.

Mathematical logic ~~per se~~ is a broken reed, and it is as well that I have left it. Russell has turned towards psychology; Hardy to number-theory, and so on. Only Whitehead remains true to his first love. Well, good luck, and lots of it,

Norbert.

dialectician and mountaineer - interesting in both capacities.

Well, the trip to Cambridge alone would have made my European journey worth while, and I have not begun work yet. I have not written to the Dupriez' as my plans are uncertain till I hear from Frechet.

The political situation in Poland looks vile. Russell thinks that the present era can only be compared to the end of the Roman empire. Cheerful devil! By the way, he has just returned from Russia ~~having~~ thoroughly disgusted with the Bolsheviks, and is en route for China. He has a job for a year at the University of

intuitive - intuitive or has intuitive  
intuition - perhaps that in  
intuition at first it is  
no form you have not been  
to what I do like those people  
that have not yet been exposed  
and now as simple I am to  
tear my coat off without  
any intention to do so

about these the school

who are trained at that  
at those that bring up the  
of their belief before moral  
sense - not at you at  
sense -

19 PARIS (IX)

NOT OFFICIAL

VISITORS WRITING ROOM

E. 67. Feb. 201

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By the way both Wells and  
Bennett had stayed at Bartlett's  
rooms a few weeks before I came.  
Bartlett told me that Wells is a  
surprisingly amiable little boulder,  
but without any moral fibre whatever,  
and totally unable to resist either  
the temptation either of betraying a girl  
or of ~~hurting~~ his best friends as easily  
as ~~the~~ other people whom I met  
were Robt of Johns - ~~at home~~  
~~unus libri~~ completely gone on his  
own little method of attacking relativity  
which though valuable, is not sufficiently  
valuable to build a major reputation;  
Rivers also of Johns - psychologist  
and anthropologist - has cut nerves in  
his arm to observe phenomena of healing -  
has also conducted expeditions to New  
Guinea and like places; Richards

July 5 1920  
Groton, Mass.

Dear Mabel: Your article on analytic sets has come back from Moore and Kline who refereed it. I am making copies of the complete correspondence so that there will be no risk of its getting lost at Paris.

1. National Academy of Sciences

Dear Dr. Wiener

I return your MS which was rejected by our mathematical editor. For your benefit we enclose the long careful report of the referee which should be returned to me when you are through with it. Also a bit of Prof. Moore's letter which should also be returned. Perhaps you can polish up your MS so that it will be acceptable. I take it that with such delicate matters it is better to be sure and delayed rather than to get into print — even if the matter is entirely right, it is not much use unless your readers think it is right and understand the cogency of every point.

Yours very truly,

E. B. Wilson

2. — Enclose also the Wiener MS recently returned from Dr. J.R. Kline (I delay in sending this letter until I have his permission to forward it to you) who has, as you will see, given the results of a very careful and constructive critical study of the MS. The matters of which Dr. Wiener writes are of great delicacy and Kline's queries show that in its present form the MS. is not acceptable. You may let Wiener have the Kline letter, but have him return it directly or through you to me. I hope he will appreciate the generous care and the good spirit of Kline and that he will give the whole matter a thorough reworking. I agree with Kline in deprecating (see his (k)) form of Wiener's axiom IV (p 3) to secure independence.

Yours faithfully,  
E. H. Moore

3. The University of Illinois

My dear Prof. Moore:

July 7, 1920

Dr. Wiener's paper contains the germs of an interesting development of the foundations of n-dimensional analysis sets in terms of point and limit. However I wish to offer the following criticisms of the paper:

(a) on page 5 at the beginning of the last paragraph he writes, "Since Moore's set is categorical, the ordinal properties of non-segmental limit on a deformation path and in the series of real numbers are identical". First he should only say that Moore's set is categorical with respect to point and order as defined. It is not

land and the city of Quinsay, and present the letters your Highnesses have given me to the Great Khan, and ask for an answer, and return home with it."

We may here state without circumlocution that Columbus lied every time he said that the Indians he had with him told him so and so. At most, they could only have repeated the words which Columbus shouted at them, and it is clear that he asked them "Cipango?" and they made some kind of attempt to repeat the word. What really happened was this. Columbus failed to find Cipango where he had first placed it. He looked on various maps, and found it variously located and more variously named. We have already heard of Fra Mauro's Capangu. Albertin de Virga\*) called it, "caparu siue

\*) F.R.v. Nieser, *Die Weltkarte des Albertin de Virga, aus dem Anfange des XV. Jahrhunderts*, Innsbruck 1912.

iaua ma'na" and described it as "ysola caparun soto lonperio diindia mazor soe seti ri'hami molto abitabili con pouolo ma'no"\*\*). The Italian MSS., of

\*) Ibid., p. 16.

### Zipangu

Marco Polo read Zipangu, Zibagum, Gunpangue\*), Gipangu\*\*). Caparun, Capangu

\*) G.B. Bardielli Boni, *Il Milione di Marco Polo testo di Lin-  
gu del Secolo Decimoterzo*, Firenze 1827, vol.I, p.151.

\*\*) Ibid., vol.II, p.361.

must have gone through a form Cypangu, Cupangu, or somethin' like it. The various readings are due to the markin' of *n* by a long stroke over the word, Cupagu, which did not make it possible to determine where that *n* belonged.

We do not know with what form of this Cipango Columbus pestered the Indians on his ship, but we know what they said, from an account preserved by Herrera, which is so circumstantial as to leave no doubt as to its authenticity and its presence in Columbus's original account: "Since

Postulate 3<sub>B</sub>. Suppose  $\Delta$  is a sequence of deformations containing no terms except D an infinite number of times, then  $L(\Delta)$  exists and is D.

If I am correct in my interpretation then I strongly ~~feel~~ that these two parts should be treated as separate postulates. Is it not the same procedure as if I should in building up a set of independent postulates for betweenness on a line ~~use~~ a postulate?

"If ABC and BCD or ABC and ACD, then ABD."

Would I not in this way avoid a number of independence considerations which I should have to consider were the axioms separated into its components?

(h) I do not like to see a statement such as that given in the ~~last~~ hypothesis of axiom 4. Does not that keep Postulate 4 from having any action whatever in the independence examples for postulates I, II and III.

(i) On page 5 in the 11th line from the bottom, does he not mean three mutually exclusive rays "instead of three non-overlapping disconnected rays." A ray is connected.

I agree with Prof. Moore in ~~this~~ his correction. [change of two or three relations E. H. M.] on my paper. I have sent Prof. Wilson my summer address and shall be at Urbana until September first.

Sincerely yours,

J. R. Kline.

---

Dear N. They seem to think you can remodel it. Don't make the mistake of sending it anywhere else without doing so. Also I wouldn't send it to a French periodical without giving 'em first chance. I know what they think of people who have jumped their criticisms in such fashion. It is queer you

Love Car.

\*) A. De Candolle, *Géographie Botanique Raisonnée*, Paris,  
Genève 1855, vol. II, p. 223.

from *platana*, and Mayphuri *arata* is unquestionably a corruption of *pratana*. De Candolle decided against Humboldt, and to do so he had to insist that Garcilasso, who said that the banana was cultivated in Peru before the conquest, was mistaken.

Thus it appears that the banana, imported into America in 1516, was very abundant in the islands and on the mainland in 1536, and universal in 1585. But articles of vice, such as tobacco, wine, etc., have the tendency to spread even more rapidly than articles of food. The havoc played by liquor among savages immediately after their contact with the white man is too well established to need any documentary proof. But such proof, fortunately, is abundant in the case of the consumption of tobacco by the Indians. We first turn to its use in Brazil.

Thevet, who passed the year 1556 in Brazil, was the first to give a description of the tobacco and its use. According to him the plant, called *petun* by the Indians, was rolled up and smoked just like a cigar, and this is borne out by the picture which he gave of Indians clicking the leaves and smoking. The Indian men, sometimes also the women, draw in the smoke through the mouth and emit it through the nose, "which attracts and distills the superfluous humors of the brain." The Christians had acquired the habit, although at first it caused them uneasiness. The savages use the leaves of the plant in diseases, especially in case of wounds and ulcers\*). Léry tried to pick a quarrel with Thevet on the real value of

\*) "Avant que se mettre en chemin, ils ont une herbe fort singulière, qu'ils appellent Petun, laquelle est très-utile à plusieurs choses. Ils la cueillent avec soing, et la mettent

Louvain,  
August 10, 20.

Dear Ma: I am now with the Dupre's in Louvain, having a working time. I went for a ten-mile hike with Leon this morning. He has grown to be quite a mature and intelligent youngster.

I hung around Paris for about a week. My first unfavorable impressions refer to the Boulevards - in the Quarter Latin things were much more to my liking. I looked up Murray, who is managing quite well. After a lot of trouble, I got into communication with Flechet, who was examining for the aggregation at the Ecole Saint-Louis. I had dinner with him twice at a café near by. He speaks English very well, and is very approachable and pleasant. My work on analysis situs connects right up with his own investigations, and I am sure I can manage to get something this summer. Indeed, I have been pleasantly surprised several times on this trip as to the importance of some of my own work.

I shall leave in a few days for Strassburg, I settle there till I leave.

a visit to the Dupries', President  
and Mrs. Lowell come to stay, and  
I am expecting a call from the  
Deity at any moment.

Love,  
Robert

I have been through the devastated  
regions by train. One sees miles after miles  
where the old buildings are simple ruins,  
and where the entire population is living  
in wooden huts. All the bridges are  
gone over the railroads. Most of the  
land, however, is again under  
cultivation.

Louvain is being largely  
rebuilt - in the old Flemish style.

Only one house in ten was  
demolished, anyhow. The churches  
are being also rebuilt. The spirit  
of the people in taking hold again  
after seven years is truly remarkable.

The D's house is about 130 years  
old. It is almost a palace. The  
garden in the court is beautiful yet  
and must have been a paradise before  
the war.

The Cabots have just finished

VILLA YRÈNE  
(Pension de famille)  
Cuisine bourgeoise française

PAUL NIDIAU

STRASBOURG  
28, RUE WIMPHELING  
TÉLÉPHONE 34-50

10 15 August

1920

Dear dad:

The Duprize' were very, very nice to me, especially considering that Prexy was there at the same time. I had a most interesting trip to Brussels to see the sights. ~~The~~ Day before yesterday, I came down here. I speak more German than French here, and get along with no trouble whatever. It is queer to see how all the shop-signs have been changed. I saw two, whose originals I would be willing to bet on.

Café au Jilieu — Unter den Linden

An Rhin Français — Am Deutschen Rhein

The german is funny; they speak of 'a scheene Stross' for 'eine schone Strasse'. They say, by the way, that when a darky regiment from New York was sent into Germany, they got along wonderfully with the people. It turned out that they conversed with them in Yiddish.

I have begun work, and start consulting with F. again tomorrow. I have results already.

Love  
Norbert

P.S. I shall bring home  
about \$150

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August 20 1920

King's Parade,

Cambridge.

Dear Werner,

I am returning you the matter  
with the remarks that occur to us, as  
arranged. We like the article & should  
be delighted to use it, but before deciding  
how it can fit into the next issue we should  
like to know the way our remarks strike you  
& whether you think we are approximately  
right in our summary of points of agreement.  
If you think we are right on the points of  
agreement, but cannot see your way to  
omit or modify so as not to conflict  
with the points of disagreement we would

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add some sort of comment on your article as we  
do with Heall's in the East. In this case it would  
at least be good if you could substitute on the lines  
suggested for the single phrase "convey the meaning  
of" (which would imply that you had not read our  
remarks in "Squibbles" on the ambiguity of meaning's  
(this would appear editorially unsatisfactory)

If you agree with our suggestions on the  
other hand we could treat your article as an  
independent contribution on a special point  
to which we could then refer as being ourselves  
in agreement when that special point was in  
question.

How are you getting on?

I hope this will reach you without  
undue delay & look forward to your  
reply, & to seeing you perhaps on your way  
back in town. Yours sincerely  
Ch. Green.

September 5,  
28 Wimphelingstr.,  
Strassburg

Dear Constance:

The sacrée compagnie Générale Transatlantique has postponed the sailing of the Bourgogne 2 weeks. I have written trying to get an earlier passage. I may try steerage. In any case, I shall exert every effort to do the square thing by M. J.

I have finished a paper for the Bulletin de la Société Mathématique de France on limit in terms of transformations, and I have one <sup>well</sup> under way for the Fundamenta Mathematicae published by Sierpinski and some one with a name like Mazurkiewicz at Warsaw. This paper is on linear order in terms of transformation. After this, I shall prepare my two papers for the congress and call it a job. My work here is introductory to a revision of my rejected paper, but does not involve the publication of any results there obtained. When I rewrite my paper in Cambridge, I shall be able to refer in notes to my already published work.

There are in my boarding-house two Oxonians. They are nice enough fellows, but — well I am a Cantabrigian. One feels that the aspects of polish which they value so much in British university life are after all secondary. One of them is quite technically able as a musician, but I don't like the way he plays. He does a lot of most deadly modern stuff — not all bad, but not any

Worthing. He hails from New Zealand and bathes  
Australians. The other fellow is a Rhodes from  
California. Norwegian by birth. They have cash.

You've no idea what a good time I had with  
the Muscios in England and with the Dupres' in Belgium.  
Fréchet is nice, very nice, to me in a more or less  
business way. However, here I have no social  
distractions as in the other places, so I am  
working all day — even when I go out for a walk. When  
the Congress comes, I shall be able to have a lot  
of social interest once more, with the Harvard  
and M.I.T. gang. First, though, I must finish this  
article.

Love,

Robert

Strasbourg 8<sup>th</sup> of Sept.

M. Wenes Strasbourg

We have received a letter from  
the Comp. Trans. to say to us, that  
the Voilaine which should sail  
from Flaine at 1<sup>st</sup> of September  
sails only the 11<sup>th</sup> of this month.  
I think now therefore the next  
passage from this ship would  
be at beginning of the  
October.

I remain

Your sincerely

A. Aubertin

Avenue de la Marseillaise 8.

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Monsieur Robert Miner



Rue Monipfling 98  
en Ville.

Wimpelingstrasse 28,  
Sept. 11 [1920]

Liebste 'Stanzchen!

My record to date is  
1 article completed and accepted by  
the Bulletin de la Société Mathématique de  
France.

1 article completed, and ready to  
send to Sierpinski, of Fundamenta Mathematicae  
at Warsaw.

The article I sent to Fréchet last  
spring nearly revised, and at least good  
enough for Bull. Am. Math. Soc.

I have still left the completion of  
this article, and the preparation of my papers  
for the Congress. S geht schon.

home just at the end of my two weeks  
shift.

Love,

Robert.

Things are coming smoothly at the  
boarding house. The New Zealander  
disliked me, and tried to make me see it.  
I didn't burst out, and he thought I was so  
dense as not to know what he was  
driving at. The Norwegian from California  
intervened before matters came to a head.

Now I put the soft, soft pedal on  
arguments, and the N.Z. doesn't Oxford  
at me any more. I wish to let you  
know that I am singularly grateful to  
the Deity because I went to Cambridge  
instead of Oxford. It might have passed  
H. is divine omnipotence to outstep His divine  
wisdom and make me an Oxford man!

I shall sail on the Tournai on  
the 9th of October. That will bring me

Daggsburg,  
Aug. 24. [1920]  
Aug. 24, 1920

Dear Comte:

The reason why I have been so remiss in writing to you is this: the rejection of my analysis ritus article depressed me a good deal, and I have been working like a slave to save the wreckage. I have followed out Fréchet's advice, and have been developing the theory of continuous transformations over a general range. Our standpoints are not quite identical, but our interests are sufficiently alike so that this work profits me immensely. I have finished fourteen large pages of M.S., and am beginning to see daylight ahead. I shall have more than twenty or twenty-five pages in which I develop my theory from the beginning, correlating it with Fréchet's work at every stage. The paper abounds in concrete examples. I have made one or two mistakes which I have easily succeeded in removing, and on the other hand Fréchet maintains a standpoint which I have pretty well convinced myself gets nowhere by itself. When my stuff is done and O.K.'ed by F., I shall send it to Kline for advice as to where to publish it.

I am up in the Vosges — low mountains, not unlike the Berkshires, but sandstone, not igneous ~~or~~ or metamorphic rock. The villages are on top of the hills. Everything is cultivated to the limit — but the forests remind me of New England.

I went to Strasbourg yesterday to get my washing. Rode in with Mrs. Fréchet. I talked a lot with her in my imperfectly putrid French. She doesn't appreciate the fine evergreen forests here. I think 'em too gloomy.

In town one lens dropped from my glasses & smashed. I went straight to an optician, and had a  $\frac{8}{3}$  diopter lens, no astigmatic correction, put in. It works perfectly well — Haskell said it would do in an emergency — but as it is biconcave instead of practically planocconcave, it distorts objects towards the edge of its field more than the other. Time for ~~repair~~ —  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour. Price — fifty cents. Here I am bothered by that painful ailment, plethora



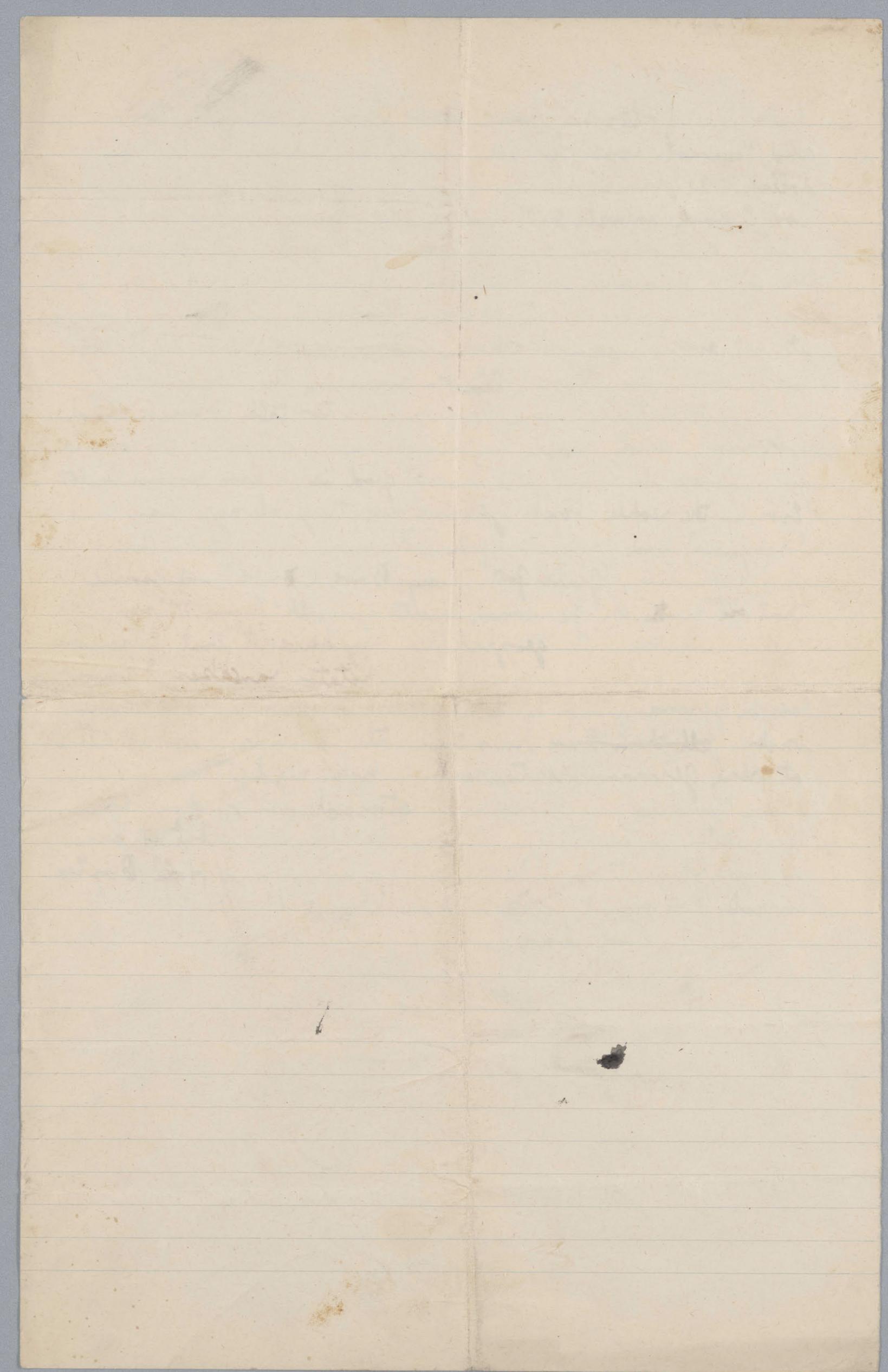
of the pocket-book. I have less than a month to be here, and I cannot possibly see how I can spend more than two dollars (30 francs) a day. I really don't spend 30 francs. Now, I have intact \$10 and 27.45 francs. I shall have left on the boat over \$10 and over 2000 francs. Let us say that the \$10 vanishes on the ocean. I land with \$154, so that I shall have more than \$140 when I get home. I have figured it out every possible way, and always get \$140. That even remains after least-squaring the results.

When I come home, I shall be able to talk French and German, and gargle in Elsässerisch. When they tell you to go anywhere, its "Gehn d'd'dross grad' üs, n'dann kunnas d'doz". Even if the people talk German here, they always say "Bonjour" and "merci, Monsieur". Though they are South Germans, they never say, "Güss Gott". Every Blaue (Bube) and Madelle that one meets on the road greets you with "Bonjou, M'sieu".

Constance, the geographies may have it that Strasbourg is now in France, but when I taste potato pancakes, I know I am in Germany. If the family goes to Wirths before I come back, ~~tell them~~ I am have them tell John that I am eating at real German restaurants now, and getting about the same things as we get there. My stomach is of doubtful loyalty to the Allies. France it tolerates, but it sings a hymn of hate against Old England and Half Boiled carrots. But when it gets to Sauerkraut!!

Tell, love,

Norbert



80%. It looks like a part of Germany. If the Germans had given it a half portion of equal treatment, it would be solidly German to this day. However, they made its administration an imperial — i.e. Prussian — affair, stuffed all the departments and schools full of hartnäckige Berliners, — and then complacently expected Alsace and Lorraine to forget France. How could they, when every German act of arrogance was a reminder of how different it used to be in the good old

Dagburg Lorraine,  
Aug. 22, '20  
(Do not write to this address)

Dear Cona:

Here I am, amid a village of neat houses, dirty streets, dirty children, dirty puppies, dirty kittens, and an all-pervading ammoniacal reek. One almost forgets this latter drawback in the presence of the view which is wonderful. The villages here are on top of the hills, not in the valleys. The peasants speak a most ungodly dialect of German which sounds three degrees more ridiculous than Yiddish.

I am making headway with my work, but I am most ashamed of

point is an important thing I  
know, and Frechet agrees  
with me.

I like Alsace-Lorraine  
very much. The people have  
German Gemütlichkeit without  
Prussian stiffness, and they  
don't call a locomotive driver's  
wife here Frau Oberlokomotivfahrer  
Schmidt. Neither do they "Gräzige  
Herrschäften" you at the stores.  
No wonder the Zabern cobbler  
laughed!

Constance, what damned  
fools these Germans are! Alsace-  
Lorraine is by far more German  
than French in speech - perhaps

that damned Analysis Situs business.  
There is only one real blunder in the  
whole thing - that I didn't notice  
for what m's postulates were  
categorical.) The other things  
were only infelicities of phrasing  
I have just found in a paper of  
Frechet a blunder almost  
as bad as any of mine. But  
what I am afraid is that the  
whole cursed affair - that I  
had a paper checked twice  
- will hang like a millstone  
on my neck for the rest  
of my mathematical career.  
That the transformation stand-

~~elements of a class  $E$  is not affected by removing an element from  $E$ . Let  $A$  be any term in  $(E')$ . As an immediate consequence of the fact that it belongs to~~

[Sept, 1920]

Pension 9 reine,  
Kumpfheimstrasse 28,  
Strassburg i/E.

Liebes Stanschen!

Bitte, verzeih das Papier, weil ~~zu~~ ich zur Zeit kein besseres habe. Ich bin <sup>vorzeitig</sup> von den Bergen zurückgekehrt. Dort habe ich ein ganz angenehmes Aufenthalt gehabt, und dabei viel Arbeit getrieben. Jetzt habe ~~ich~~ ich einen Artikel geschickt, den der Herr Professor Fréchet zur französischen Mathematiker-gesellschaft senden will, um ihm Bulletin drucken zu lassen. Ich schreibe jetzt noch einen neuen Artikel, ~~und~~ über die stetige Übereinstimmungen einer Linie mit sich selbst, worin ich eine neue kategorische Gruppe Voraussetzungen für die Linie in der Analysis situs entwickle.

Als ich von Dagsburg bis Strassburg zurückgekommen bin, hab' ich an der Auto einen gewissen <sup>Herrn</sup> Mandevy getroffen, der Professor der germanischen Philologie an der Universität Strassburg ist. Er hatte sich natürlich an der jüdisch-deutschen Sprache interessiert, wo er das alte Buch des Vaters gut kennt und wie bahnbrechend erkennt. Als ich ihm gesagt habe, dass mein Vater auch über Gotische Fragen geschrieben hat, und dass er in der gotischen Sprache eine Unmenge arabische Wörter erfunden hat, so hat er sofort gefragt, wo er diese Bücher kriegen könnte. Ich habe ihm gesagt, dass wenn er gerade nach meinen Vater schreibe, so würde er ohne Schwierigkeit die Bücher bekommen können. Er hat mich eingeladen, ihn in seinem Zimmer zu besuchen.

Ich werde das Mathematiker-<sup>versammlung</sup> ein Bißchen früh lassen müssen, weil es bis zum 30ten September dauert, und mein Schiff am 29ten fortgeht. Das macht aber gar nichts aus, weil in fünf Tagen werde ich eine genaue Angelegenheit haben, meine Abhandlung vorzulesen und einen jeden treffen zu können.

Verzeih die Fehler, bitte  
mit Liebe,  
Norbert

Sept 17. [1920]

Dear Conta:

I suppose that when this letter reaches you, it will be too late for a reply to arrive, so I ask no questions about affairs at home, but content myself with telling you about conditions here in Strasbourg. In the first place, all told, I have finished three articles, one of which I have sent to the Annals of Mathematics, another of which has been accepted by the Bulletin de la Soc. Math. de France, while the third I shall send to Fundamenta Mathematicae at Warsaw, if that journal exhibits sufficient vitality to issue a second number. Fréchet has asked me for permission to insert in an article of his a note to the effect that I have called his attention to a certain blunder in his work. He has also signified his attention intention of setting his students on some of my problems. Things are looking up!

The conference begins in five days. Then I shall see the gang again. It'll be a relief to be again among people that know me. There is a young English musician here who I know looks upon me as an awful Philistine, though I go out of my way to show interest in his playing and even in his compositions — no, I don't butter him, but I listen. When I begin to chortle over having finished an article. — not boast, just chortle — he closes up like a jackknife. The joke of the matter is that I believe that though I don't know anything about music, I have a good deal of liking for the right sort, and that the sort that I care for isn't so awfully bad after all.

This young boor can't tolerate anything French, and loves nearly everything German. He thinks French art is artificial, and can't see anything in it but the Rococo. I mentioned to him a few names like Millet, Corot, Rousseau, etc., but he regards them as sporadic.

He didn't seem to know much of them. I wish Ellen  
or Bernard were here to put him in his place.  
Enclosed find two photos of me.

J

and

Robert

Mon cher collègue

12 Sept 1930

j'ai reçu les épreuves de votre article du Bulletin  
de la Soc. Math de Fr. avec prière de les corriger  
- sans doute pour éviter un nouveau débat.

J'ai donc corrigé ces épreuves au mieux que  
j'en pu et j'espère que vous ne trouverez pas  
beaucoup de fautes.

Bien cordialement à vous.

W. Fréchet

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CONGRÈS INTERNATIONAL  
DES MATHÉMATICIENS

STRASBOURG, 22 SEPTEMBRE 1920

Strasbourg, le 21 September 1920

Dear dad:

Murray & Taylor are here, & Walsh is coming soon. I'm having a great time. I have two papers, the others one apiece. I sail the 9<sup>th</sup>. News is scarce. I shall go to Paris via Verdun after the conference with Taylor. Then to work! I'm full of prep for the coming year.

Love

Norbert

COMITÉ D'ORGANISATION  
PALAIS DE L'UNIVERSITÉ  
STRASBOURG

SIXIÈME CONGRÈS INTERNATIONAL  
DES MATHÉMATICIENS  
STRASBOURG AOUT 1920  
22 Septembre

Strasbourg, le 10 Octobre

1920

Dear Sir.

I am rather overworked for the present and if you can let me keep your manuscript for some time, it might give me a chance to read it and think on it. (I will spend my Easter Holiday giving lectures in Scotland). As for publication, the Bulletin de la Société Mathématique de France is the only French Math. periodical which is ready to insert papers in English; but it can only be done for its members. There is, besides no difficulty in becoming a member, let alone the subscription, which has been lately increased to ... (25 francs, I think?).

As for the Congress, do you know what the date has been finally put to : Sept. 22<sup>d</sup> 1920, in Strasbourg.

I shall be absent from Strasbourg for examining in Paris between approximately July 20<sup>th</sup> and August 10<sup>th</sup>. Otherwise, I do not expect to leave Strasbourg after Easter, and under those circumstances, I should be very glad to see you and give any help which is in my power to do, particularly during the vacations : August and Sept.

Yours sincerely

Ph. Fréchet

2 Quai Jaquotot, Strasbourg  
Bas-Rhin.

P.S. I expect you know my old and excellent friend Professor E.B. Wilson. Please give him my best regards.

I do not know for Prof. Macmillan's agrees, would you kind enough to let me know it - or forward the enclosed and

CONGRÈS INTERNATIONAL  
DES MATHÉMATICIENS

STRASBOURG, 22 SEPTEMBRE 1920

Strasbourg, le 28 Septembre.

Dear dad:

I expect this will be my last letter till I return, as when the next is due at home, I shall probably be there. I have had one peach of a time. Hadamard has complimented me

on my paper I asked for reprints.  
Ask Constance what that means &  
who Hadamard is!

I buy the Lodenmantel &  
Rucksäcke today.

Love  
Norbert

CONGRÈS INTERNATIONAL  
DES MATHÉMATICIENS

STRASBOURG, 22 SEPTEMBRE 1920

Strasbourg, le 25 Septembre

Dear conta:

I'm having a fine time. The  
gang is all here — Walsh  
is rooming with me. A De Pasquier  
from Neufchâtel has asked me  
for reprints. Danell is here —  
I have beat him to satiation in function-space.  
Lefschetz is here too. If he hasn't  
advanced as fast as he might, his  
rudeness is as much to blame as his  
crippled condition. Dickson speaks vile French  
even I can beat him. Eisenhardt is also  
present, & his wife is charming. Taylor

if he wears a tie. If he does, he certainly can't mind if it is mussed. I think I'll grow one like that, or like Denys', ~~which~~<sup>who</sup> reminds one of the head of a Babylonian bull.

Murray got over his paper much better than at the math club, but I don't think there's much in it. Taylor seems to be beginning to get hold of something.

Love,  
Norbert

is much too alcoholically absorbent. Dickson also surrounds a good deal per unit of t. The English math men are nice. Sir Joseph Larmor is like a fish out of water among all these analysts, but he is a good scout, and does not disdain to talk to a buck section-hand. Same holds true of Sir George Greenhill. Whittaker and Heywood are two of the most unassuming people I have ever met. Whittaker had been advised of our coming by Nor-a-na Pair-a-a-man. Young would be all right if you could find him behind the shrubbery-like this



I do not yet know

Bagnères Beiney

Nov. 28 1/20



Dear Mr Wiener

Many thanks for your  
kind letter of the 16<sup>th</sup> instant  
coming from one who  
knows I appreciate your  
compliment. The columbian  
tradition is so deeply rooted  
that very few will take the  
trouble of investigating its  
foundation. But I am sure  
that it will live my views  
will prevail.

Thanking you again  
I remain

Sincerely yours

Henry Vignaud

I hope that 2 or 3 of your  
books will soon be out.

CONGRÈS INTERNATIONAL  
DES MATHÉMATICIENS

STRASBOURG, 22 SEPTEMBRE 1920

Strasbourg, le 14 Décembre 1920

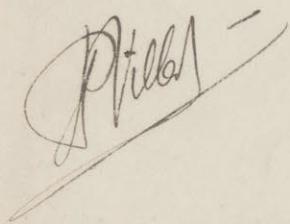
Mon cher Collègue,

Je reçois votre aimable lettre du 23 novembre dernier, et je m'empresse de vous aviser que je prends bonne note de votre souhait concernant les tirages à part de vos deux belles Communications au Congrès. Vous en recevrez, ainsi que vous le désirez, 250 exemplaires (en y comprenant les 25 que le Comité de Rédaction offre sans frais à chaque Auteur.) Je prends note également de l'envoi à faire de la facture correspondante, à l'Institut de Massachusetts.

Voyez-vous quelque inconvénient à m'autoriser à corriger moi-même ici les épreuves, et à donner le bon à torer: étant donnée la distance à parcourir aller et retour pour ces épreuves, nous gagnerions ainsi du temps (Je demanderai également à mon camarade Fréchet de revoir ces épreuves, de façon à éviter autant que possible une chance d'erreur.) Nous avons déjà plus de 200 pages imprimées, et votre première Communication vient en mains ces jours-ci: les tirages à part sont envoyés ensuite immédiatement au fur et à mesure.

Je vous remercie vivement de votre bon souvenir: nous gardons ici aussi un bien cordial souvenir de notre réunion, et nous souhaitons qu'une occasion se retrouve de vous retrouver ici.

Avec mes meilleurs souhaits pour l'année qui vient,  
je vous envoie, mon cher Collègue, l'expression de mes sentiments les plus cordiaux.



Henri VILLAT  
11, Rue du Maréchal Pétain 11  
Strasbourg

reçu C. t. M