

Rome, Jan 22^d 1839.

I am thoroughly ashamed, my darling, to
have to come to you again with an apology
in a letter. But I must go. I cannot
suffer the post to go away today, without
the wish of being remembered to my own
dear little love - who cares so much for her
wandering friend. I give her such dear proofs
of my affectionate remembrance. I have been
so dreadfully busy, ever since I came to Rome
with trying to go into my house, that my
head has been in a complete whirl of worry
and annoyance. I have not been in a state
to write to any one, much less one to whom
I wish to write so well, so thoughtfully, so lovingly
& finally thought, that once in my house, I
should be able to be more the mistress of my
time, & that I should write more clearly and
fully to you. But man & woman, past pro-
& house occupations, & indisposes for some
I came into the house on "Jan 22^d" to this pros-
tution of writing when I had shut the
door upon the last workman. I have not

had one single moment to call my own. I
have been torn by conflicting "instincts" until my
brain has been rendered by confusion & softening
& I can hardly remember from one moment
to another what I have to do or say. The difficulty
has been much increased by my not under-
standing the language well & my struggles to
go in direction. I have mixed up letters in such
an extraordinary way that I don't wonder
at the wild guesses of mistake that have
been made & corrected. corrected & altered until
at times I have been ready to scrawl like any
other woman, from pure vexation. Then again
I have reflected that scrawling would not
help the matter. & then "in extremes" I have
laughed. which habit has continued to do all
the time. I wish never was woman or tried
never did woman. her trial has well. Am
vainly with the "year of consolation". I saw
my to write my "three months of trial".
But after an expenditure which would
make most men stare & would have thrown
of woman into horizontal beyond discip.

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I have and an exhausted experience of Italian
I have achieved a very very long apartment
which respects the arrangements of Italians &
the great pleasure of my host & the pride of my
own country people (I am glad to say) who
seem to find satisfaction in my spending my
means in an artistic way. I looked at my
rooms the other evening full of the best people
from home, & thought my pride & satisfaction
was pardonable. & that through much trib-
ulation, we come to the kingdom of Cushim
may be my name henceforth. Father
has been very very poorly with swollen an-
droids. I was able to get her until yesterday
the rooms are ready & as much furniture as
she has been able to afford in 20 - a bed
with ^{looking glass} & carpet. I presented her with two
tables & her bed room china - chair sofa & a
few etc. etc. she will fit in. it has cost her
one hundred dollars to repair & repair of
the rooms. she has cost me ^{eight or ten}
times as much. so you may have some
idea of how very expensive every thing has been
so far. & how much trial I have had in spending

16. How delighted your father will be to see
so comfortable & healthy to be so well taken
of. He said yesterday at dinner & this
at breakfast. "Oh I have now tasted any
so good in an age." I do really think she
never had proper food & that is one reason
why her blood is so poor & thin. & she is
liable to these dreadful boils. I shall see
she is properly attended to & better taken
of than she has ever been here. I shall
will be dreadfully disappointed if any
should occur to prevent your father's coming
out in the spring - for me - what should
happening if your sister comes out with
Ludie. you must come with her & pass
winter with Hattie & me. we will take
care of you & your morals. you can stop
me in London until we come back to
I purpose leaving England the first of Sept
& going through Germany around to Vienna
from thence taking steam by the Adriatic
to Ancona. then taking carriage on to Rome
so coming a new way. Hattie I hope will
be soon on the way. this would be
pleasant for you would it not? Perhaps