

On board Hely of Dana boat "Slide of Mass."
Fortress Monroe Va
May 6th 1863

Emma:

At length I am able to
write myself "Yours at large" - and in
"God's Country" and under the ever to
be - blessed old "Govison", whose heavenly
rays never seemed so bright before.
Twenty-four hours of freedom, air,
sunshine - which I had not seen in
two months - sea, earth and sky all
appearing to my eye their glorious
aspect. Freedom! The word means
more to me than it ever did before.
It means life, manhood, valuation
being - existence and all its pleasures
& enjoyments in one short perfected
truth. And prison - bondage! Oh!
I know & feel what they mean.

"The Captive's lot he felt in all its
bitterness". It is the first smother
Dive which would not even leave ~~hope~~
at the bottom of Pandora's box. It is
chagrin, humiliation - insult - fused in
fierce flash of misery.

I have had
but two enjoyments - cursing the
Confederacy, and smoking. My wardrobe
consists now of cap, blouse, two shirt
sleeves & the front part of suit in-
lyment - pants & half a pair of shoes.
My worldly effects are & are any very
complete wardrobe would stand thus -
One Jack-knife - one bone tooth-pick and
about 540,000 parastich Confederate
currency - otherwise denominated li-

~~Je vous~~ Demande pardon pour mon ~~minime~~
L'air! Je donne mes regards au
Professeur H - , et M^{lle} Dugley et
Tous les amis qui rejoignent dans ma
jeu. - Hany it did not mean to
write that infernal gibberish. Call the

books I have had are some the
French consul sent in. No
matter one can afford to go
half crazy over such gay fustian.
Got your letter yesterday, after being
changed - never was so happy in my
life. We are just starting for
Cremopolis! Going to the white-cite
arrants, to God's Country an one of our
very dear relative, Uncle Sam's, brown
boats! "It must be near the kingdom
come, etc"! Hurra! Damn the
Southern Confederacy! - I must go
on deck and smoke for my nerves' sake!
Write me at Cremopolis -

à - à - sur autre temps
En Liberté et de V.

Albin Franklin Turgie, H.C.I.

Thursday Morning

I have just arrived
at Columbia from the
interior where we can get at
person - that is not yet left
the state - and it is not
probable that we will get any
leave of absence, so that I shall
not have an opportunity to return
home for many as short a space
of time. For this I am very sorry
since I had intended my leave
upon one thing viz and marriage
I would like to see some money
and have your name on it
Columbia but shall have to leave
immediately after being paid
to I do not see how
it can be done - but I am
determined to break orders to
accomplish it
I am ever
yours
Alfred

Wm. B. J. B. B.

1860

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