

I have a great many to say on these grave subjects
in which I continue to take an much interest, and I
fear at home but knowing that I shall disappoint
you if I do not notice my domestic concerns I
leave the relation to take care of itself as it best may,
and pleased to tell you that your little servants here
Augustine and Johnny are coming on finely. They are
both remarkably pretty, and the boy bet's fair to be
as intelligent as his sister, and more manageable owing
to his having had better health, and consequently
having been less indulged. Felice has always been
very delicate the well formed and comely, she is
deplorably nervous and wants that serenity of heart
and mind which usually belongs to her age. She feels
and thinks too much as a woman. We have I fear been
ever indulgent, ever unreasonably weak, and our friends
who have been much taken by the child's vivacity and
beauty have been allowed to exercise too much influence
over the formation of her character which is now difficult
to deal with. Johnny will have the benefit of our
superiority. Fanny who has now finished her education
has had a fair share of worldly amusement. Her
appearance in society is quite satisfactory. She is modest,
graceful and discreet, and without any thing brilliant
about her was the good will of all. My wife
has nursed her boy three or four months too long
and feels the effects of her otherwise devoted self. She
is quite worn down, and coughs alarmingly. Tomorrow
first of March, the little parasite is to be sent into
the country for a week with our maid, and only
return when he is completely cured. I am to go

and see him daily somewhat of a serious
undertaking with my state of health and that of
the roads - I shall be called to leave by
my unsettled affairs there, in April or May, and
hope to be able to do something in furtherance of my
never abandoned purpose of returning to America.
At all events, I see no probability of being in a position
to give effect to my wishes before two or three years,
and have made my arrangements here accordingly. They
will be such as to enable us to offer you a room
should you come to die at, summer or winter knowing
that our dear little child has always cherished the desire
of visiting Europe, we hope that she will do so, whilst we
are on this side of the Atlantic. We are here out of
the way of Americans, and as I have not been in Havana
for more than 24 hours for the last three years, I fear
that I am losing the Yankee dialect with the opportunity
of hearing it spoken. Fanny and I speak English when
we are by ourselves. She even speaks French like
a French girl. We have begun with Augustine who
has learned a number of phrases, just enough to form
early her pronunciation leading to further opportunities
to perfect her in her father's tongue. The accounts I
receive about my brother Charles little family are
quite satisfactory. On settling his affairs it was found
that he had left enough for their modest support, and that
is all that is desirable. The my life has ceased to be
an active one I do not for that consider myself as
an incumbrance on the earth. In the limited sphere
of action which is now mine I do what I can for
self improvement and the good of those who are
within reach of my hand or counsel. In the school

of domestic life I had a great deal to learn, and a great deal to
unlearn. I am now a tolerable good kind of a husband & father.
Thank by the admirable example of devotedness which I have
found in my partner who is quite a superior woman, in heart
and mind, in the opinion of heri who should know her best.
This a person of usually serene character and countenance,
of great observation and wonderful sagacity. Her memory is
singularly precise and happy and stands me constantly in aid,
as does her decision of mind. What she has learned from books
is quite limited, owing to her having married early and
been absorbed in the duties of life, which others are usually
preparing for them. But of what she has learned she has
forgotten nothing. What we have read together, and that
three or four years ago, which at has vanished from my mind
remains distinctly impressed on hers. She associates
herself readily to all my tastes - and has none in
which I cannot sympathize. We both love religious
only broken, by intercourse with intimate friends. When
we can receive and visit without ceremony. My mother lives
in her house, hold she works in aid by her economy and good
management, to the equality of my income. She treats my
daughter Fanny kindly, so that the child seems quite happy
with her lot. Fanny on her side shows great tact and
discretion in the difficult relation in which I have placed her.
She has excellent principles which united with a complying
and submissive disposition under the assumption of duty
pleasing to her. I hope I shall not remain long without
hearing from you my dear friends, do not be sparing of
intimate details. There is nothing that you can say on any
subject, which will not deeply interest me, but this will
be particularly the case, in reference to yourselves personally.
My wife & Fanny desire their friendly regards to you both
and I remain your affectionate friend

J. D. Appleton

Ms. A. 4. 4. 26

To
M. J. P. Paris
Paris

New York



I send you by the same packet
four other numbers of the Misaiques
de l'ouest.