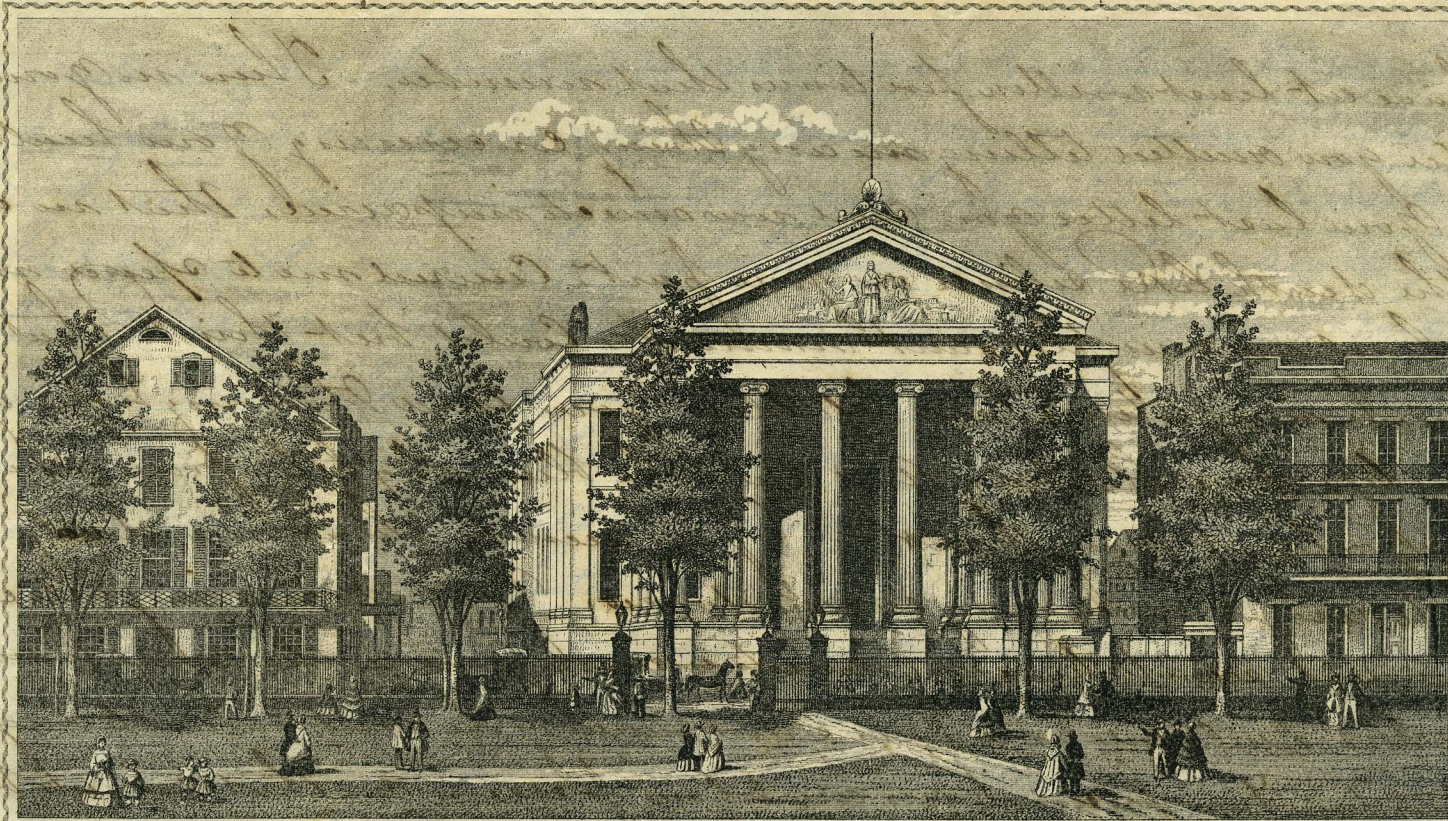




Louis Schwarz 28 Chartres Street.

CITY-HALL OF NEW-ORLEANS.

August 3rd / 1864

Miss Nellie

Dear friend

I imagine my expression of
 surprise on receiving your interesting epistle of the 17th of July.
 First since the 27 of March. I want you been very kind &
 interested in my pleasure, as is clearly exhibited by the number
 of letters "5" that I have received since I saw you one year
 by our promise made before our parting. "To write more frequently" has
 undoubtedly been faithfully redeemed. I am flattered. I indeed feel
 cheerful & hopeful in view of the great interest you have exhibited
 to cause my weary and ^{lonely} life to pass off as nicely. "I can't see it
 in that light. Although don't wish to be considered exacting in
 thing suppose you have written as frequently as you thought
 proper, but certainly have not answered half the "five" letters received.

I have at least written five times that number. Then in your last letter you omitted telling me any thing concerning your health. In your last letter you seem now much impaired, that in relation to the death like silence on your part, caused me to spend many a lonely and unpleasant moment. Could but think that some serious misfortune had befallen you. And that my hopes of a long life were blasted. And have the blues slightly, from which you timely relieved many thanks. You seem to think me strictly to me so to resign under any circumstances. You do me injustice in that and don't seem to have any desire to encourage me in the cause "to me reason in which I trusted, and have spent much of the most valuable days of my life, time too precious to an ambitious person, one that desires to be useful and happy, and have behind a record of a bright and noble career. Last Spring I seriously thought of resigning because of reasons of which you have already been made acquainted. But when the time came. Decisively I could not resolve to execute my promise, though I felt that there could be no sacrifice too great to be made to secure the pleasure of your valuable society. Yet by resigning, it would hasten that day but a few months. And doing that I would be to the care of other a noble band of soldiers that have won for me a reputation, that I am proud of. And have pledged my honor to remain with them until the end, which the desire me to do, that we may have the pleasure of returning to home and friends to gather again of those who have resigned under almost any circumstances. And to avoid the accusation of dishonest motives. God forbid that such be my fate in a single act of my life. When my time expires on the part of God, then I will have redeemed my pledge. Hope faithfully and well. And can undoubtedly be content, "with my physical disability" to remain at home, and turn my attention to something more pleasant, and where I can do with justice to myself. Believe that my duty will have

discharges and Uncle Sam's Claims satisfied at least for the time being. Then if you have any claims on my time, life, or treasure, they must be presented to be promptly satisfied. Mollie has pleasant would be to spend this evening in your pleasant society. I have so many acts that I wish to express your opinion about, as well as to consult your feelings, and wishes, which are paramount to every thing in my mind and a compliance with would be the happiest. But as you do seem to wish to consult your self, in letters probably very discreet ideas, it must necessarily be delayed until we meet. If indeed that should be, I have thought, hope that our fate may, but means no the better. Some way I don't feel sanguine as to the future, so long have we expecting bright days and prospects in our fraternal strife, so many as you say "our armies" have not met with that success anticipated and wished for, though much has been accomplished undoubtedly, yet at present not perceptible. One who has witnessed and participated in some of the stubborn battles fought, can realize how difficult it is to achieve a perfect and overwhelming victory. One like Uncle's Burg as others in this, such as Gettysburg, that fills the hearts of the people of a thankfull Nation with hope and admiration. Few that people are disposed to expect too much of the army and its noble commanders. How ever still full and successful. In reflection on can see that during the present campaign much has been accomplished shamefully not in this department. But Genl. Grant has won several terrible battles and steadily forcing the enemy to give way before his army of determined veterans, until the siege of Petersburg which in due time will have to succumb. Though portions of the Petersburg expedition may have been defeated and beaten by the enemy, yet I think in any great and decisive battle. Sherman seems to be doing and are very encouraging measures though relief seems this evening they seem to think the fate of that hated post is but a question of time and must in the end be surrendered to the Yankee Army.

The rebels or those whose sympathies are with the cause of the Confederacy in the City seems very desponding. And think their cause since the Government is doomed. And that the peace must be profitable for them is to negotiate for the most honorable peace possible. But in this they seem to find little encouragement. As the President has stated the terms upon which their claims would be considered. But that their peculiar institutions Slavery to which they cling with an unparalleled zeal. Much blood and long treasure and peculiar institutions though cut down. Swallowed up by nature's progression in the minds and hearts of a patriotic people. As well as the requirements of society. Thus it was a terrible shock from which the people have partially recovered and seem quite well satisfied in carrying their living in the Descriptive way "by the sweat of the brow." How admirable they succeed in an honest avocation. The Chief object of life in this Country before the war among the Classes. "Selfishness" seems to have been to gain wealth from the labor of the blacks. And selling time in the tentacles to them responsible "to us Vice versa". Amusement". There has been few young men in this City who turned their attention to mental cultivation or pursuits especially those that were educated here and were wealthy. Their leisure hours are usually spent at the theatre. Card table or drinking saloons and in other ways that lead to ruin. These young men are the "better society", "the superintendence". The young men that have proven an honor to this City and State have been those that were educated either in the East or West principally the latter. They seemed to have become convinced that man was created for something more noble than a gambler by profession and saloon keeper by practice though not necessarily being associated with the honest young men of the Nation. Strange that a majority of the latter class opposed the secession while the former were the first to embark on the Gulf to sea and cut throats but the last to spill their blood for the cause.

by dissipation and imprudence. Strange to say the young men of
such habit have been the most respected in ladies society. And
those that were styled the literati, but after an acquaintance of
duration they are many times found to be other than they seem. In
fact vice & immorality in its various and astounding forms pre-
vail clear in the finest array and assuming a respectable feature.
Seems to be in the ascendency, respected and countenanced by
all. There are undoubtedly those that have and are true to themselves
and their God. Though one would, I fear lose all confidence in
the human heart. My associations in both the true and the abandoned
classes during my stay here have created doubts upon my mind
which were the respected ^{of the City} appearing appearance and number.
Mollie I once thought I loved even worshiped as true and noble
in the true sense. But ~~how little did I know~~ how little I knew
of a woman whose heart was pure. I can now appreciate it no
having witnessed so much to the contrary. Mollie you may think
strange of writing this way to you I cannot resist, because I feel
that you are the only being on Earth that has a single claim on
my life and heart you have them all. You may have doubted
thought not true, thought me exacting, Not worthy, the love
I did merit, would that I was. I feel that you alone can share
my confidence. My cares and pleasures, feelings thus I would re-
deem you in a single act of my life though the consequence
down to any fate. It must be made. And then you draw
me with my sunny face and short coming; Once can say
least he has an honest heart. O you Mollie you know me and
something of my habits when I entered the Army. flatter myself
they were passable. Don't think that three years have been spent
in the Army with its wild and reckless associations without
changing in me for the better though I never can the true way.

of our summer pleasure that we have left Texas. "Ad." I am really
your wisher that of "having a very pleasant time" though don't grieve
for the fact that ship and provisions that is only payed in the
that it has all been ordered for the good of the country and the
welfare of a thankfull people. I have been on duty here for some
as a member of Military Commission as a member of the military Court
Congress for the trial of such persons as commit military offenses and
do not belong to the army. Of it as applicable to the laws and regulations of
Among the beautiful subjects of our judicial career was a lady
and tried for corresponding with the enemy. one of the interesting cir-
stances developed was that "her treatment by the Yankees caused the
Noble English blood to boil in her veins". The facts of her history were
she was that the first breath of God's pure air on the turf of good old
I was ~~in the hands of the British~~ by having a passport
by Earl Russell or the receipt of a letter from some English friend
of the lovely land. I have lost of the appreciation and freedom of the
best of the South in the female prison, one of the samples of her
falling for free Republics. believe that a disaffection will yet be
with that Government. I would love to fight them. This is one
gayest places I have ever been in. And would just suit a
gentlemen of pleasure, seeking dispositions. few that many
moral young men that have been here with the army have for-
reckless habits that will prove their ruin. one learns much
the worst and human nature in every state here in a very short
by mingling in the society that first presents its self to us. that
that society degraded and ruinous as it is. seems to be countenanced
even respected by the old residents of the Eastern South. And seems never
think of the manner in which they are morally contaminating them-
and bringing in premature death and misery. The males in this com-
munity and their careers as respectable at 40 years of age.