July 17, 1859

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Ferrater,

I would surely have written sooner, had it not been as you guessed. I misplaced your address almost immediately, and rediscovered it only after I had decided that - niece gauche or no niece gauche - I was entitled to fresh linen at my hotel. The maid found your address neatly filed under my pillow. Although I have no idea how it got there, I am very glad to have found you.

Paris has been cool and wonderful, and, until two days ago, very much alive. The inhabitants of St. Honoré near the Place seem to have slept not at all between the eleventh and the fourteenth of July. Uninterrupted singing, energetic dancing, and thunderous salvoes of fire-
woke possessed the quarter for four solid days. The high point of the celebration was the appearance of a leashed duck in front of the Café Flora. On Tuesday night the duck was repeatedly chased from the sixth floor of a neighboring building, but since it is quite difficult accurately to divine successive bucketsful of water at a small yard, the duck, all very active animal upon the sidewalk, most spectators were nearly drowned and I - caught up in the duck-sympathizing spirit of the occasion - have still a slight cold.

Nonetheless, the holiday in Paris was wonderful. On Monday a group of friends and I will drive to Madrid to spend, if it is terribly hot, two weeks...
somewhere on the coast, or if it is tolerably cool, two weeks just driving around. Since we shall surely disagree about whether it is hot or cool, the group of four will probably split as soon as we reach Spain. What I shall do then depends on who escapes with the car.

I should like to thank you so very much for having been so kind to me in Barcelona. If I do appear in Barcelona, please feel free to tell me that you are very busy, or that you have left for the country, or something like that, since I am so very tempted to impose upon your hospitality again. I shall write Cynthia tonight to propose joining the Knole book club,


to which his father already belongs, and of which G.-
the Duke is founder-
president. Thank you again
for a most lovely time.

Very sincerely,

[Signature]

10-VIII-59.