

Vienna Feb. 13th 1874

Messrs. Lyman Smith & Sons

Newwood
Mass

Gents

I promised to write you during my stay in this side of the ferry but have neglected it till now, because I wanted to give you all the information I could. I find business extremely dull & discouraging in every part of Europe. Not discouraging to me because it is for my benefit to have business dull here. I can buy so much cheaper. In England it is not quite so bad as in other countries but it is bad enough but English pelts are enormously dear and not quite so good as in former years. Basils are out of the question. In France Rouis are more than 30% higher than last year when I bought and there are very few to be had at that. Furthermore there is not much demand for them because the shoe business is fearfully dull. If the shoe trade should revive prices would go much higher. Balfare is also extremely high. The only cheap thing in France is Goat & Kid in crust and finished. Some of the Morocco Manufacturers are selling at a loss of 30%. I bought kid in crust & 25 fcs. which last year cost me 40 fcs.

Please say to Charles E. Pond that I forgot all about his five dollars I had so much to think of that I entirely overlooked it.