

Rome March 7. 76.

I should have left earlier; but it is difficult to get away from Rome.

I forgot to mention that our friend Clin. Studeraker acted here with us as a prince. The day before he left for Florence he brought me a splendid mosaic representing St. Peter. My little Mattie came with them with a magnificent cent. Moser; & over & above <sup>they gave</sup> 10, each one in money to Rev. St. Bernardino to buy any thing he chose for his wife & all that, to show their friendship & their appreciation of our procuring them an admission to see the Pope. We did not look for one cent.

My little Mattie is very much improved. A prince has been here 3 times to beg of me to find him a bride in America. I told him I was engaged.

since over 30 years, in the service  
of one I know better able to make  
happy any one I would bring,  
for this purpose. He is in  
earnest & very highly spoken of,  
favored by birth & school mate  
of Leon Carlos, & a writer of note.  
as you see I have become a personage  
here, a man of importance. But  
I will not spend much time in  
bringing about terrestrial marriages,  
even if I could make a princess  
of one of my little protégés.  
& why? Because I can make  
her, possibly, a queen. I am  
not satisfied with any inferior  
title; my agency is to look for  
queens to espouse them to the  
King of Kings, before whom Princes  
are but dust. I will not lower  
myself to any thing of minor interest  
when my hands are full of things

so much more worthy of my attention, one day that  
Prince & his bride will inevitably meet the gate  
of common mortals; their title not worth a straw;  
for a little honor enjoyed here below, an eternal  
misery may follow them. Not so with the fortunate  
Virgins on whose brows I placed a white crown: they  
were espoused on that day the <sup>queens</sup> spouses of the Son of God,  
& for ever they shall wear the crown of glory. May they  
understand it well & bless their divine Spouse for  
ever in Heaven! They will owe me some thing  
& pray for me.

Yours devoted in Christ

E. Soria