

GRAN HOTEL Y RESTAURANT

"EL PASAJE."

Habana Jan 31<sup>st</sup> de 1884

Dear Mama:—

When we concluded to come to Cuba, a week was to be the limit of our stay, we have since learned that the Hutchison, the ship we intended to return by, is aground. The consequence to us will be obliged to wait for the Morgan which comes in on the 5th. We have had a very pleasant time here. Very fortunately for us we were joined by two other agreeable young couples, (we must be agreeable as they seem to like us very much.) it would have ~~been~~ been rather lonely without some <sup>one</sup> to talk "United States" as Mr H. says. We spend the morning visiting curiosity shops and other queer places. Mr. & Mrs. Cullyford left day before

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yesterday for Nassau, on an island south of Cuba, said to be a pleasant place. Mr. & Mrs. Richards leave at four this afternoon on the steamer *Sabaloga* for New York. We take the cars for Matanzas, a pretty place on the coast, noted more particularly for a grotto, or cave near it. The climate here is delightful. I have left off all my flannels, and almost live in my summer silk.

The hotel is constructed to be as cool as possible, marble floors even in the bed rooms. We have oranges, bananas, pine apples, dillys and Guava jelly at every meal. The only objection to Spanish cooking is - garlic! Mr. H. says he can taste it in fried eggs. We have an engagement to go with Mr. & Mrs. Richards to see some curious church before we leave, so

will close. I have commenced  
a letter to Stella, have no idea  
when it will be finished.

Give my love to all. Bessie  
told me in Jacksonville that  
~~Grandma~~ was not at all well  
I hope she is better. My love  
to all the cousins, aunts and  
uncles.

Your loving daughter,  
A. L. H.

P.S. If you get this before the  
5th, you may send a letter here  
in the care of Gran Hotel Passage.  
It is an age since I left you  
all, or rather it seems so. Mr  
H. sends love.

Yrs affectionately,  
A. L. H.