human societies, innovations are more likely to make things worse than better. Lenin, Pol Pot, Marx, Hegel, Robespierre, the Marquis de Sade, and John Stuart Mill are just a few examples of innovators who have left the world worse off.

A Letter to Sartre

Wednesday 22 January

My sweet little one

Well, I spent a studious day yesterday, then went to Kos's for dinner ...

The other day I caught sight of Gibert, who seems to have given up acting. She's even preparing to take an *agrégation* in philosophy: she wanted to do her probation under me, which would have made me laugh, but I don't think it'll happen. I came home at 10:30 and read in bed – some detective stories and pornographic books that Sorokine passed on to me – but that kind of literature is disappointingly monotonous. Then I came back to work at the Dôme. I have an hour's teaching to do, then I'll have lunch with Bost and work again. Goodbye my love – I so long for some letters and news! I'll send you Hegel's *Phenomenology* in the next parcel, so you'll be able to improve your education.

Goodbye, little best beloved, my dear love, my life.

Your charming Beaver


There's Something About Those Teachers of Teenage Girls ...

The following is taken from *Atheism and Pantheism: A Lecture Delivered Before the Young Men's Association for Mutual Improvement in the City of Albany, on Friday Evening, March 10, 1848*, by Charles Murray Nairne, M.A., Prof. of Mathematics, etc., in the Albany Female Academy (Albany: E.H. Pease & Co., 1848), pp. 12-13:

The Atheist even now promulgates his dismal skepticism, and grimly rejoices in being the denizen of a forsaken and fatherless world; the Epicurean, albeit under another name, sets up even now an imagination of his own, as a deity, with no moral charac-