



[William Crosfield Letters](#)

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Russell's Hotel Quebec
 Sunday Aug 21. 1859

My dear Charlie,

You must think that your turn for a letter is rather long in coming, but "ladies first" is a rule that ought to be adopted universally and if you do not learn it in England ~~and~~ they will soon teach it you ^{here}. Perhaps this way; a woman was standing by me the other day on a steam boat. Had a very good seat in a corner there were many seats about, unoccupied but this in particular had command of a good view without disturbing our position. A gentleman asked her which was the seat that she chose to take. They discussed many and at last she turned and said looking towards me as I was reading "that would be a very nice one" I thought it horrid cool but would not hear it for some time but at

last I made room that she might but like a huge sugar loaf turn
share it with me if she chose. on its point the upper end must
This is the way they often do. I be $1\frac{1}{2}$ yard across. Then where the
might have been rude I don't steam valve goes with us there is
know but she was not a lady here a large brass bell which they
and so I did not care. Fancy constantly ring slowly and very
you would laugh if you saw monotonously especially when they
some of their locomotives in there are moving about in the station or
country. I do not know whether they call them here depots. The
I can describe one or not, but I men stand in a house with glass
will try. They have two driving all round. I forgot to say that in
wheels on each side much in front of the funnel above the cow
than any on the L & N R and a catcher there is a large square
supported on two small trucks, lamp with a bright reflector about
one at each end, with very small 2 feet in diameter. Their engines
solid wheels so that each engine are not handsome but there is
12 wheels the principle is the same always a very large quantity of
the timber trucks at home and polished brass about them always
can thus turn corners much that kept in good condition. Each
than any that we are accustomed to. one is kept in a stall of its own
to. In front they carry a large platform for the engine houses are in the
shaped like a Dutch oven only the form of a horse shoe just deep
more angular more like this  enough to hold one engine, and
which goes along in front to take there is a turn table in the centre
up anything that may be on the so that any one can be brought
line. The funnel is a most unsightly thing from its stall without interfering
thing and makes the engine look with any of the rest. But I have
very clumsy. It is not straight like my yarn much too long.

Monday night
I have just come in after spending
the day with the Daltons. There are many
things that I should like to tell you
about but I do not know which to
take first. You would be surprised to
see the large quantity of stuff that
people eat over here, the great variety
I should say; one gentleman I know
who ordered 9 dishes for his breakfast.
The young ladies are generally very
fond of pickles - particularly what
they call "mustard pickles" cucumbers
preserved in the cool liquid above
mentioned, instead of vinegar. When
I demonstrated with a friend of mine
she said that she had always lunched
off pickles, when she could get them
since she was a child. Mrs Dalton
lives in a very small farm house
9 miles from here in a lovely
part of the country, on the bank
of the St Lawrence. Send you
some stamps please give some of
them to Nicholas, Remember me
to all my friends and amongst
other Turner. Remain your affec-
tionate brother
W. Grosfield