



[William Crosfield Letters](#)

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5 Owen Hotel New York
Sunday. September 11/59

Oh my dear mama it is such a
pleasure again to thank you
for letters containing good news.
I cannot but be thankful that
only two days elapsed between my
"Africa" letters and those by the "Europe"
for tho' in my letter to Maggie per "City
of Washington" I spoke of Monday by
stupidity in Nova Scotia the "Europe"
was up before we knew it and I had
my letters yesterday. Please thank
Arthur for thinking of me and say
that tho' I would not impose myself
upon his time now alas so valuable
that if he has a moment now and
then I shall be most happy to hear
from him. Charlie & Bertha were to
have heard from me today also Maggie
but I have no time to write more
than this one ask them to wait
I am very sorry that mine from
Hatskill was not prompt, but
calculations are intricate every
other week when New York and
Boston posts have to be added to

the first - but I will do my best and a family. Father, ⁴⁶ Mother & two daughters
leave the rest to your patience. You that found very pleasant companions
ask for addresses that is impossible as far as Boston. Had seen much of
as you will see; for this week I look for them before and we stuck together.
for my letters on Wednesday certainly. The journey was for eleven miles by
last week they were delivered on Saturday stage then about six different lines
add to this the up country mails of railroad. White Mount RR. Connect-
and you arrive at confusion worse Passumpsic RR by way of Thompson-
confounded. So still New York if focus. Vermont Central. Sullivan RR.
you please and the more the better (getting near home) Goshen RR then
I have just come in from P. & L. & Westmoreland. Fitchburg RR
where I heard a very excellent sermon brought me thro revolutionary ground
Left Rev: 15 chap 3 ver. The conqueror by way of Old Concord. But beauty
having arrived at home all his difficulties combined with hard names for I
dangers, and distresses overcome look passed down a portion of the beautiful
back and on the face of that glassy sea Connecticut called the garden of
sees like the Israelites of old his enemies New England. There is the Monadnock
vanquished. "He sings the song of Moses mountain & the Ammonoosuc
and of the Lamb" all is present it is river. Eight o'clock found me at the River
still going on "The Lord is my strength House Boston Brass, that is a first
and song he is become my salvation rate hotel and I shall never forget
P" Ex 15. 1-19. Felt the sermon sing my bed so scrupulously clean that
-ularly appropriate and comforting. Had misgivings, and woke up in
I must continue my journal from the night to the fact that there were
last Sunday. On Monday morning mosquitos in the room but sleep
at seven o'clock I left the "Profile" with forgot all that in due time. And
many others amongst whom was in the morning found that there

had indeed been mosquitos and that as the place ⁴⁷ was empty I had
that I had been poisoned, may not missed very much. It must be
never feel the like again? Have a very nice place to spend a summer
months still. They say they like it (paid money). I hear of a lady
Englishman I can't blame them who had 27 (twenty seven) hundred
tho' I wish they would not have stolen from her, here are not hat boxes.
so close to me. Spent Tuesday in ~~the~~ the city (a small town) lies on one
calling on a friend and seeing side of a neck of land and two miles
the Boston Sugar House which ~~is~~ of a drive is skirted by pleasant
bushes was kind enough to go country houses and end ~~in~~ in a
me a permit for, at great cost of group of handsome dwelling
time to himself. At five o'clock looking out to sea (and Ireland)
cars to Fall River and then stand that remained of fashion made
to Newport I was horribly frightened think what it must be when
by this time and was just going "people are there". The horses and
change my destination and have carriages have a great deal of style
scarlet fever at New York instead about them and so have also the
Newport when I again attend to ladies. The hotels are now closed at
mind and went at once to bed this great place so I was only just
my arrival at the Ocean House in time to see it over. Wednesday
I doctored myself and must have night spent on board "the Metropolis"
looked like a wounded prizefighter and arrived at New York at 8 o'clock
a big bandage over one eye and on Thursday morning. This night
and one bound over each hand was an experience in itself a thing
wrist: not much better on Wednesday night a "floating palace"
I did not enjoy it much, but must have a letter to "its own"
I consoled myself with thinking "cheer up". Very soon believe me I was

in possession of your letter and half past seven 48 man stepped
sad day I spent I assure you on the platform from the vestry
Thursday I ranble about and threw his wide awake on the floor
could do nothing. But dinner did too to his seat. His face was

Kept by Mr Beecher till 9.20 long and somewhat thin, smooth
a walk to the Ferry crossing a shaver, his hair brown and flowing
three miles walk up Broadway back over the velvet collar of his
added to supper makes it now single breasted suit out coat, his
than 10.30 but I must finish pants black, his waistcoat pure
to night. At once after dinner white, a linen collar was turned
walked to Five Points House of prayer over a small black oravat, just
and never did I spend an hour after the fashion so much disliked
and a half more pleasantly than by some people, in the young man
there; about 200 little children of England. After this I was not at
black & white, boys & girls were all surprised to hear him say "these
singing our own sundayschool are some who profess to present
hymns far more sweetly than truth in a new form, I must admit
can at Parliament Street; they I am one of those myself; mind-
looked so happy. From there I went only in a new way thank God the
over to Brooklyn and not know truth is the same old thing. Men
how to dispose of my time I had sometimes say the Gospel is played
to walk about from 5.30 till church out we want a new Revelation.
time viz 7 o'clock and observe that the sun may be clouded or even
half an hour before Mr B appeared eclipsed but there is in the sun
many were waiting at the door the same life giving power now as
to get seats and before the time when first it burst forth on creation
named every place was full. So the Gospel." &c. We opened with

prayer after listening for ten minutes to a voluntary on the organ. His face is at times beautiful, so peaceful, calm, and angelic, it is again moved and shows a wonderful development of mind. He prayed "that those in the congregation who were anxious for light might find the way from the east might find the star of Bethlehem and by it find the spot where Jesus lies, and bring presents not of such worthless things as myrror & cassia, but themselves to Him". He spoke of the revivals as greater than those of Pentecost at times even deducting those thousands who tho' awakened fell back again, in his belief. There was reading of the Bible 3 very long hymns joined in by all, 2 prayers & sermon.

On Friday I went to Greenwood Cemetery four miles from Brookline. I was pleased tho' not so much as with Mount Auburn; here the appearance is this 'one of those long rows of

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mason's yards, so disagreeable to my idea. The stones are mostly very simple; it seems to be the custom to have family lots so we see "Our father" "Our baby boy" "Our little Maggie" "Darling Annie" and nothing more. One of the first that I read was the grave of a child "God gave, He took He will restore He doeth all things well" written for a child doesn't it not apply equally to a father. The ground is not so suited for a cemetery as the one at Boston for there forest trees give shade and a partial gloom which shrubs at Greenwood cannot do. (Dr. Lyng's church deserves a word or two - externally it is very handsome among the handsomest churches of New York. The inside is large, the windows at the side all of painted glass ditto the large star above the organ. There is no east window, for the Communion Table stands North & South, in a bay or chancel of brown stone very plain whilst the daylight is admitted through frosted glass in the roof, this is

Small - this morning at 5 Points - today
when before to be

a great relief to the eye after the
very elaborate carving of the front
of the gallery, altogether the taste
is perfect. I went yesterday to a
Fullon & midday prayer meeting
found a full room so that an Ep
was started below. I was very much
pleased for once to hear all join
the hymns. The prayers were very
feeling and nice, and many bore
testimony to the benefit of these
meetings and others (offshoots)
in various quarters. One raw boned
man from Macon, Georgia very
much astonished me I thought
him a slave driving sort of man
but shall not judge by externals
again. He invited me to see him
at home, go to 5 Points Prayer meet
and see his schools in Macon, and
some colored congregations there.
Oh how I hope the Persia's news will
be good. It is pleasant to reply to
yours. My best love to all at
home. Trust the Grange & Father Lane
your very affectionate son

W. H. Field Jr