



[William Crosfield Letters](#)

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50-New York

September 14. 1859

My dearest Bertha,

Here I am on the fifth story of an immense hotel at no 303 and there are two more floors above me. But I will tell you first about the trees - very many indeed most of them are new to me. The first that I was struck with was the rhurmac but that is only a shrub it has divided leaves like the monardella only they stick up from the twig and grow in groups having a long bunch of crimson seeds now the seeds look black and the leaves which 3 weeks ago were pretty green are red. A much nicer green even, than the last is the soft-maple. There are the maple, soft maple, sugar maple. Then there is the catalpa a tree with a leaf upwards of a foot long and very broad strong big enough to make a large leaf fan. There is another tree which has a leaf like the mountain ash in shape

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but two feet long, they grow in very bright blue and a larger
bunches at the top of the trunk ~~one~~ that I think is a blue jay.
like palm, I believe they call it. But the prettiest that I have seen
the Alantus. The square in front is about the size of a canary but
of this house is nearly full of them. He looks like a little yellow clergy-
and now the seed pods are ripening with a black hood, his body
and look very brilliant, and always like gold and his wings which
cover the trees; most of the better are quite black fold over and
streets are planted with them but look very funny. In two weeks the
they will not allow any more for White Mountains where I was ten
in spring they smell very badly days ago will look very grand for
and are much disliked. There here after one or two frosty nights the
are only few birds here their leaves turn all kinds of red. One
only singing birds are frogs or two young and tender soft-maples
grasshoppers which latter about were turned before I came away.
I have not seen but have heard from them, and it looked very
another insect. - I was told of one beautiful to see on the side of
of them that got into a church a little hill trees of all kinds
sitting in the roof, last Sunday the dark fir almost black sometimes
when the minister was beginning their other kinds to the maple so
to preach it cried out "cata did" that there were all shades of
cata did" and made most of the green and in the middle of
people laugh for it kept it up the whole time there was perhaps a
almost all the time. Some of crimson tree. I never saw one
the birds that I have seen are without thinking of Moses
very pretty not smoked like and the burning bush. You
ours. There is one the blue bird would like to hear something of

the house that I am staying in.
It is built of white marble and
now that it is quite new it looks
most beautiful but even here
will soon get dirty. The furnishing
is not quite finished for all the
are not carpeted and they have not
spitoons in all the bedrooms. On the
first floor there are several rooms and
the front of the house fitted up for
ladies one has a piano. All are different
in the furnishing but all most rich
upholstered. The two largest are thrown
into one with only pink silk damask
curtains to let down between, and all
the couches & chairs clothed with the same.
Then there is one for gentlemen with green
cloth and a great many colored flowers.
one little corner that I think might have
been wasted, but it has two desks and
chairs so that ladies can write letters and
it is lighted by a skylight it is a very sweet
little place "exclusively for ladies" there is
is a curtain and no door. passages with
and give plenty of room to let the ladies
show their jewels and dress after dinner
for which they do dress indeed. But my
paper is getting shortened my subject
longer as I go on so I must stop now
before it is too late, and I can not send
any loves to all the good people in
Liverpool will you give them mine
all the good ones you must fix which
they are. Goodbye dear Bertha from
your very affectionate brother
Willie