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CATARACT HOUSE
NIAGARA FALLS.
WHITNEY, JERAULD & CO.
PROPRIETORS.

Niagara Falls,
N.Y. Aug 5th 1862

Dear Harris

Although I have not yet heard from you still I keep writing. I know full well the leangth of time it takes to get a letter south to say nothing of receiving an answer. That accounts for the charity and Christian forbearance which I am displaying. I arrived at this magnificent place last evening. I never knew what granduer and sublimity meant until I saw the falls. Now I wish you could only see them with me. This morning I started out bright and Earley to "do" the cataract.

I first visited Goat Island and the American Fall. The American Fall is as its name implies on the American side and about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile from the main or "Horseshoe" Fall. In the pictures they are generally represented as being nearly close together. It is a beautiful fall but not to be compared to the Horsehoe.

Next I went to the Tower which is on the very brink of the Horseshoe fall. A beautiful view of both falls and rapids is obtained here. To attempt to describe it would be futile. After dinner I got a team and drove over the Suspension bridge into Little Vic's dominions. I visited the cave of the winds under the main or Canada fall. This is a passage about 60 feet in leangth which extends entirely under the sheet of water. There was quite a party of us and after we had doned our waterproof clothing we looked more like a gang of dilapidated cheap Cape Cod fishermen on a drunk than like honest yankee citizens. The women looked homely enough to frighten a gorilla. After we "did" the cave we drove to the burning spring. This is a natural spring of sulphureted hydrogen gass mixed with water which burns freely when fire is applied. We touched it off and drank a glass of the water and then "skedadled". Next came the battle field of Lundy's lane. We were shown over it by an old British soldier who pointed out all the objects of interest such as the positions of the troops, where Gen Scott was wounded &c &c. I brought away a piece of a soldiers rib as a memento and sketched the place. I forgot to say that we also saw the monument erected to Gen Brock. Coming home we saw the place where Blondin crossed on the cable &c.

As you see at the head of this letter I am staying at the Cataract House the best house at the Falls, 2.50 per day and find your own rum. You can bet high that I found some about as soon as they do it. I shall probably stop here a week or ten days and then ho for Saratoga. Remember me kindly to all the boys, also Mrs Sawyer & Mrs Morse. Hoping to hear from you soon I remain as ever

Yours truly
J. G. Hunt