

1 concern, and went by the name of Crane whenever I spoke of her. Left Paris for Brussels at
2 7:20 a.m. and arrived at this interesting city about 2 p.m. Put up at the Mangelle Hotel,
3 beautiful location and very pleasant rooms. Rested balance of this day. Old Crane and the girls
4 went off on a ramble. The old critter had a passion for laces and made a bee line for the shops.
5 The girls caught the fever from the old lady and went entirely delirious on the subject of laces
6 and imagined that was their principal business in making the trip to Europe. They kept their
7 purchases out of the sight of old Fogies.

8 Aug. 7th. Hired a carriage this morning to visit the field of Waterloo, 12 miles from Brussels. Old
9 Lady would like to go and pay her share of the ride. Couldn't refuse very well, but shall next
10 time. She couldn't ride backwards. Neither could I. The carriage was roomy, the old lady, Mrs.
11 Van and I on the back seat. I thought the 5th party was narrow, but she carried greater breadth
12 of beam than I at first gave her credit for, and the thing was rather uncomfortable. Arriving on
13 the field, first visited the Chateau of Hougomont [Hougoumont], an old farm house which was
14 one of the bloodiest places on that bloody field. Then went to the Mound in the centre of the
15 field. This mound of earth 200 feet high is an immense cone (artificial) piled up on a slightly
16 rising field. On top of this is a massive pedestal of granite of large dimensions surmounted by a
17 colossal bronze lion with a great round ball under his right paw. 272 cut granite steps lead from
18 the base of the mound to the top, having a firm iron rail on both sides. We all went up, and our
19 guide pointed out the spots where such and such things happened on that terrible day of June
20 1815. At the foot of the mound found a tolerable hotel and had our dinner, then drove around
21 the field to look at some very fine monuments erected on spots where some noted persons fell
22 on that eventful day. We hired our guide at a little town on the edge of the field. After
23 dropping him on our return, I took a seat with the driver, leaving Mrs. Van and the 5th party
24 plenty of room on that back seat. We drove through a very beautiful park in the south east
25 suburb of the city.

26 Aug. 8th. Hired a carriage and drove around to all places of interest in the city. The Cathedral of
27 St Gudule, commenced in 1010, the outside restored in 1843. The front is flanked with well
28 proportioned towers of great height, Gothic style of architecture. The stained glass windows
29 are the best we have yet seen, which is saying much for them. The interior is very imposing
30 with magnificent altars and many fine paintings. The pulpit is very remarkable, carved figures,
31 life size, representing the expulsion from paradise, a tree supporting the pulpit, the virgin and
32 child with a cross bruising the serpents head. The grouping is very effective and must have
33 been a very costly affair. The grand old Town Hall with its lofty tower is a very imposing and
34 interesting structure. The New Exchange building, or Bourse as it is called, is the finest building
35 architecturally considered that I have seen since I left home. I do not propose to describe
36 buildings in detail, but refer to the photographs which I procure of all the principal buildings
37 and places of interest visited by us and which will give a better idea of what we have seen than
38 any written description can convey. We saw the celebrated Manikin fountain, a small bronze
39 figure of a naked boy. The fountain issues in a small stream in the natural way [referring to the
40 youth's continual "urination"] and is very amusing. It is a very old boy and highly prized by the