

1 and orange groves perfume the halls
2 whose sides are formed of vines & trees
3 and walks [?]formed of boughs and leaves.
4 The architect that planned this bower
5 spent many a restless sleepless hour
6 or else some Genii gave him power
7 over ordinary minds to tower.

8

9 Got into the boat as quickly as possible after that and steered for the Isola Madre. More
10 extensive than the Isola Bella. The park and gardens very fine and to my taste more enjoyable.
11 There can be too much of a good thing, particularly in a small place. The Isola Bella is crowded
12 with an evident extravagance, yet in a perfect good taste as circumstances would admit.
13 Returned to our hotel. Hired a carriage and drove 15 miles along the margin of the lake to the
14 city of Arona. Passed the celebrated statue of Carlo Boromeo and determined to have a nearer
15 view of it. Ordered dinner at the hotel in Arona and left in a carriage 2 miles to the statue. This
16 is the figure of a man 70 feet high standing on a granite pedestal 40 feet high. The figure is
17 enveloped in a cardinals cloak, the hem of the cloak being 20 feet above the pedestal. There is
18 an opening under the lower edge of the cloak where venturesome persons can crawl to the
19 inside of the stature and ascend by a ladder of iron bars to the head and look out of a small
20 window between its shoulders. The girls wanted to go up. I expostulated with them on the
21 folly and danger of such an undertaking. "I never was willing to let them go anywhere. Others
22 had done it, and they knew they could." I got my mad up and said go. Parties in waiting ran off
23 a few rods and came back with a ladder 43 feet long and commenced to raise it. The girls
24 looked at the ladder and guessed they didn't care about going up, but I ordered the ladder to
25 be put up and told the young ladies to climb, which they did, each being followed closely by
26 one of the men. They reached the top of the pedestal and crawled cautiously around the toe of
27 the boot and sat down. The men now took up a 20 foot ladder and commenced to fix it on top
28 of the long ladder to reach the whole under the edge of the cloak. This was too much for the
29 girls and, frightened nearly into fits, they declared they must come down. I laughed heartily at
30 their calamity and said come down. They obeyed me this time, and when they touched the
31 ground, declared it was the happiest moment of their lives and promise to listen to me next
32 time (if they don't forget, and I don't think they will very soon[]). Drove back to the hotel.
33 After dinner took the cars and at 7 o'clock were safely in our hotel at Milan.

34 Oct. 18th. Sunday. Went to the cathedral. Took a long walk. Returned by the grand boulevard
35 to our hotel. There is a very extensive and beautiful park in front of our windows. The view is
36 soothing to troubled spirits, if it weren't for that infernal hand organ down on the side walk.

37 Oct. 19th. Second visit to the cathedral. Ascended to the roof. Mrs. Van and the girls kept on
38 up to the top most turret of the dome. I satisfied myself with a walk around the base.
39 Saturated and overwhelmed with ecstatic pleasure on examining this, by far the most beautiful
40 building in the world. When I first came in sight of this wonderful structure, my emotion of