

UNION-CASTLE LINE



R.M.S "KENILWORTH CASTLE"

June 26th 1912
off Cape Finis terre.

My own darling Sweetheart.

Your mother wrote me such a sweet letter. Did you see it? I was feeling rather mournful & sad on Sat^{dy} morning & her letter quite cheered me up. I have just replied to it & no doubt you will see it & appreciate the kind regards I send you. Now dearest I will try & give you a detailed account of every thing but there is not much to tell as yet.

We left the Manchester on Sat^{dy} about 10.45 & drove to Waterloo. Cochrane & Jones were with me. We had a final drink & I was introduced to a fellow traveller



He was going second class though so I shouldn't be able to see him as much as I might. I don't mind much, 'cause he aint a particularly nice chap seeing as 'ow he's a Jew. On the platform I was introduced to another man & he was nice. I didnt see him till later but of that more anon. (This boat does pitch) Jones came down with me & we had a good lunch on board. There was some difficulty about us getting away. The firemen struck about some trivial matter but eventually they resumed work & I said good bye to Jones. He watched the boat out, & we sailed at 5.20 instead of 4.0 o'clock. We saw the Olympic come in & she looks a huge ship. You cannot realise the extent of the Titanic disaster until you see the

immense size of her sister. We sailed away quickly & soon left England & the Isle of Wight behind. ~~At~~ I saw a nice little dog on board & made friends with it because it's a good way to make friends with the muster. Right enough it came off & he is a colonial of the best sort. We went & had a drink together & there met my acquaintance of the platform. I introduced them & in the course of the conversation I learned his cabin was 256 - the same as mine. ^{the platform acquaintance} Wasn't that a most extraordinary thing. We arranged our seats for the voyage & we are at the chief officer's table. We all had a good dinner & I was mightily surprised to find a lady sitting opposite to me, ~~that~~ who had a great many of your characteristics. (Do they spell it that way. seems funny to me & my dictionary isn't handy). She is

just about your height - perhaps a
little taller + the same bright look
+ ^{has} a lot of your lovable qualities.

She is married + has a sweet little
baby. She isint to be compared
with you, sweetheart by a long way.
although she is nice. After dinner

we adjourned to the smoked room
talked. I learned a lot of things.

We retired about 9.30. Fact I
assure you. After the late nights I
had at home + in London I wanted
to feel fresh + bright so I concluded
the best thing to do was to go to
bed early. I didnt sleep much.

I dont know whether it was the motion
of the ship or the turbines or what it was
but it was hopeless so I watched the sun
rise. I had my bath at 7.0 o'clock +

after dressing went on deck + had a
food sickness + for breakfast had a cup
of tea. I didnt feel inclined to do much

in the morning so sat on deck + tried
to sleep. I didnt have much lunch either

+ all afternoon I wrapped myself up +
slept in the drawing room, + awoke
just in time for dinner. I chanced
a little dinner because I was so hungry

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+ although I felt funny afterwards I stuck it alright. We sat in the smoke room all night & listened to the band & discussed ethics politics & religion - altogether a most interesting affair. I heard also one of the finest arguments against suffrage I have ever heard altho' the man himself was in favor of it. He came across some of the WSPV ladies in London & they argued with him. He said - "now look here ladies - you know me & I know you. You are all over 30 years of age so dont take offence at what I am going to ask you. I want a straight answer. Suppose tonight one of you were arrested on a criminal charge - would you sooner be tried by 12 men or 12 women" & they all said 12 men. "Therefore said here "you prefer to be tried by men but you object to men making laws for you. The two things are not consistent."

after that we went to bed by 10 o'clock & I had a splendid night & felt absolutely fit this morning.

I have done nothing except put a pair of trousers in the press - write home & your mother & your sweet self. It is afternoon & I was in two minds whether to go & have some tea or wait till seven o'clock. I decided to wait & have just been digging my dress clothes out of my trunks. I have also spoken to the purser & got another cabin for my mate to dress in though we shall sleep together. I do wish my dearest you were with me. I would give almost anything at the present moment just to even see you. Someday I might possibly manage to bring you with me. I will try - as I think I shall come out again. We have been discussing a sports committee, & arranged to form one on Wednesday after we leave Madera. I think we shall

have a pretty good time. It is not impossible sweetheart is it, for you to have some holidays? Surely you can arrange to have at least a fortnight. You know as well as I do dearest - you have not had a decent holiday since Switzerland. You were not on your own with Miss Ashton & altho' you may have enjoyed it - as you did - it is not like pleasing yourself what you do. Please see what can be done. This boat keeps pitching all over the place altho' the sea looks quite calm. There is another heavy swell on & the chief officer felt funny yesterday as he has been on shore for six months. We have lost all sight of land & ships, & we are alone on the wild ocean - sounds nice doesn't it. The sky is a beautiful blue & there is a nice breeze & the whites of my eyes look white & altogether things are happy. When I send you my photograph from Cape Town - just notice how well I look. There is really nothing else to write about at present sweetheart so until tomorrow I will put this away - The pen writes beautifully &

I treasure it immensely. The card case looks awfully sweet when I exchange card with another man, & he asks to look at it a moment when he catches sight of the initials. I shall have to shave before dinner - a bally nuisance. However my darling - till tomorrow when I hope something interesting will have turned up.

Nothing has turned up. We had dinner & afterwards listened to the band for an hour or so. We went to the smoke room & discussed business matters, just my cabin mate & self. The others came in so we had to sit with them & it was a right. ~~I~~ Thank Heaven I was T.T or I should have been in the cart. We sang all kinds of songs without any music & I had to sing one as well. You never would let me sing one at Salford but you wait till I come home! You'll get the biggest shock of your life - I mean to know that I can sing. (Phew its hot today!) However I left them to it at 11.15 & they went on till one o'clock. They all feel pretty froppy just at present - but they are all hardened sinners & can stand a lot.

PS No 2 What do the office say about the
letters? anything? let me know.

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I have just asked a lady for
this paper. Never seen her before,
she is on deck for about the first
time. She looks fairly nice but
not quite worth flirting with. In
fact there is only one girl worth
it & she is married. The one I
mentioned previously. This
morning I played quarts for an
hour or so & just for a whim
had ten minutes at the piano.
I got my duets out & wanted a
man to come & play with me.
He promised if I would go & have
a drink. I did but he didn't come
& play. Some other chaps came in
& we threw the dice about as
to who should pay. I did once
& it cost me 5/4 for a round of
drinks. I got my own back

P.S. On reading this over it seems abrupt.
you know dearest I don't mean it to be
but I dislike a lot of "ands" + "buts".

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Later as I was 12^{1/2} in
a small "sweep". The seaswell
is still on but I am used
to it now. I will send you
an "official" sort of card tomorrow
from Madeira, just for old
times sake. Do you know
what I found in my pocket?
The Chester hotel bill! I wish
I could slip over tomorrow +
take you there + love you in
my arms. I keep looking at
your photograph + almost
talk to it.

I shall make up for lost
time when I get back. You
won't have a moment's peace

for weeks. You will wish
I was ~~back~~ away again - then
you could do some work. Am
in the seventh heaven of
delight to know you love me.
I haven't really realised the
fact before but I do now +
I am as keen as it is possible
to be to get back as soon as
possible + come + claim you.

I haven't time to write
more before dinner nor shall
I have afterwards as the
post goes 8.30 tonight, or
rather close.

Beloved you know what
I want you to do re holidays.
Do your best my dearest
+ think of me as your most affectionate
loving sweetheart. My love to you
a thousand fold.
Harry.



Miss Darlington

Grosvenor Chambers

16 Deansgate

Manchester
