

Postmark  
24.10.35

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Tuscania  
Sunday.  
off Cape Vincent

Dear Mother.

We are having a lovely time on the boat & very satisfied with the accommodation. of course the cabin is small & not luxurious like those on the upper decks, but Amice & I are sharing one, & can manage very well with our various space saving contrivances. There is a lot of deck space, more than 2<sup>nd</sup> class on the ordinary P&O boats, & the food is all one can wish. There are all sorts of fruit for breakfast including grape fruit as well as the usual porridge, egg, bacon & fish dishes & a great variety of fresh rolls & good butter. lunch ~~at~~ tea & dinner are all on the same generous scale so I am doing myself very well.

There are quite a lot of nice dogs aboard. including the great dane we saw on the station

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They all have their special kennels and are exercised on the deck morning & evening.

I was very amused to see a huge mastif curled up in his kennel & snuggling up close to him was a little grey rabbit.

I hear from one of the dog owners who sits at our table, that the mastif's owner brought the rabbit for his little boy & the dog & the bunny struck up a mutual friendship, when the family were preparing to leave England for India they gave the rabbit away, & from that day the dog refused to eat, & pined so, that they had to get his bunny friend back, & now they are on their way to India together perfectly happy. I wish you could see them. The dog is as big as the great dane, & the rabbit is not much larger than one of his paws. There is a spaniel & whippet, a fox terrier, Irish Terrier, pointer, salouky. (spelling uncertain) & lots of other breeds. & all nice & friendly.

So far the weather has been wonderful & today

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we sat on the open deck in glorious sunshine. Amice has had a wretched cold & bad throat. she went to see the doctor & had her throat painted, it is much better today & I hope the sea air & warmer weather will soon clear it up. I am hoping there will be a letter for me when we arrive at Marseilles, this will have to be posted before we get into port.

Monday. Amice & I each saved a lettuce leaf from our salad at lunch today & took it along to feed the rabbit, it was nibbling a cabbage leaf. but when it saw the lettuce it came hopping up to the bars & fed from our hands, the great dog, (who by the way is a lady) came & had a sniff & decided it wasn't dog food but took a great interest in the proceedings. There are some prize cocks & hens, we usually wake in the morning to the sound of their crowing & there was great excitement yesterday when one of the hens laid an egg.

We stopped at Gibraltar<sup>sic</sup> early this morning, but

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only long enough for the tender to put on, & take off passengers. So far everything is quite normal, Amice quite expected we should be detained at Gib & only allowed to proceed on our way with a convoy. I do not know where she got the idea from. but she always does exaggerate & fuss over things. we get the wireless news every day. We have an orchestra that plays at lunch, during the afternoon, & for dinner, in fact every luxury. Our table steward is a real scot<sup>sic</sup>, we find it a little difficult to understand all he says. he looks after us splendidly & tells us when there is something specially good on the menu. the other day we had crushed pineapple pie & ice cream (two separate items on the menu) together, & they were good. another evening we tried wine jelly with ice cream. what a pity Father is not here as we have ices twice a day.

I have been busy with my embroidery & I find I have not cut a piece of linen to face the front

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could you cut out a piece the shape of the enclosed paper & put it in one of your letters, there is no hurry for it, as I do not suppose the embroidery will be finished for a long time but as it will have to have a little decoration where it turns over I had better have the piece here with the rest of it.

I hope Father has quite forgotten about his cold by now.

I will send my next letter when we reach Port Said.

Lots of love to you both.  
Your affectionate daughter  
Myrtle.

Amice sends love

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