

Some of them carry on -
The dancing which they have
almost every night on deck is
quite good sport to watch
& the other night both the
1st & 3rd class passengers had
a concert, which was very
well got up, although of the
two I thought the 3rd ^{great} a deal
more amusing, if not better
than the first - The ladies &
gentlemen's sports are just about
over but they were also very
good - Tomorrow we are
expecting to arrive at Town
I do not think I have
any more news to tell
you & so 'Au revoir'
mother dear!

My fondest love to all,

Your affectionate son

Cym

P.S. I expect you will receive
this ^{letter} in time to post another
to 'Madeira' but I think
you will ~~be~~ better able
to judge than I!!

UNION-CASTLE LINE



S.S. "DURHAM CASTLE"

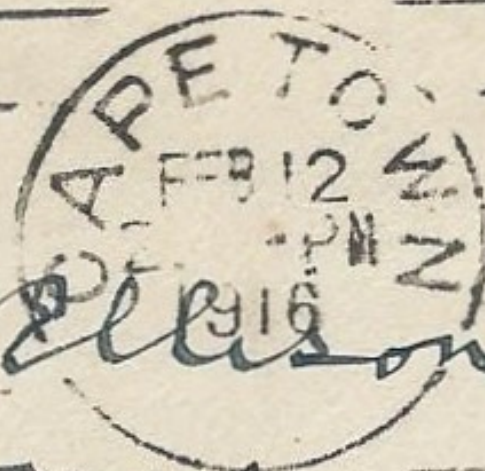
8/2/16

We occasionally get a
strawberry ice at 11 o'clock -
Lunch is served at 1, cup
of tea & cake at 4, and
dinner at 7, so I cannot
say that we really do so
badly - Do you think I
shall ever sail on a
cargo boat again? Not
if I know it! When I come
off duty at 9 P.M. I spend
about another 2 hours on
the lower deck so that
all the sleep I am able
to get only amounts to
about 4 hours out of 24 -
However since we have
been out of the war zone

and up to the day before yesterday, we did not keep a continuous watch as the captain said it was not necessary, which I think was very considerate of him, so that instead of doing 12 hours out of 24 we were only doing 5 each. Therefore, during the period of about 1 week, my watch was from 5 to 8 am, 12 to 1 am & 5 to 6 pm - This arrangement I found, of course, very agreeable, it allowing us an easy time during the hot weather & I am hoping rather that we get the same coming home. To return to the topic on passengers, I should say about 50 per cent of them are soldiers, who are

going out to 'German East Africa'. Some of the officers are very nice chaps but the Colonel, a man called 'French' is (if I may use the expression) one of the best. - Although I have had but very few words with him there is just something about his manner which is so extremely nice or attractive that I could not properly define - except that he is an Irishman which accounts for a lot. - There is another young Colonel called 'Christie' with a stiff leg, who is invariably flirting with a married woman - Her daughter, a very pretty but decidedly spoiled kiddie of 6, was telling me in confidence the other day that her 'mumie' was on the stage which any one knowing her I think could very well believe - people on board this ship seem to ~~be~~ be by no means reserved it is, in fact, absolutely surprising the easy way in which

Letters
from
Cyril Ellison
Father of
Tom, Steph, Jack



Mrs Ellison

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1914-18 War

UNION-CASTLE LINE

