

June 1st Tuesday

I have just received your letter, & also one from Thula for which I thank you both very very much -

The weather is hawling hot but I am feeling fairly fit - I spent yesterday afternoon & evening down at Oney Island - it is certainly a wonderful sight "White city" on a large scale sort a thing! 54,000 people there yesterday

S.S. "Matopps"

Ellerman & Bucknall

S.S. Co.

Fondest love
To all

Dear Mother,

As we are expecting to arrive New York in a few days time, I am commencing this letter in the hopes of giving you some slight impression of my rather uninteresting & uneventful voyage - The weather has been cold & wet & we have had several stormy days with a strong gale blowing from the west - The heavy seas have somewhat delayed our progress & the ship has been rolling badly all the way - There has been a considerable change however during the last few days, which have been a great deal milder - This might be accounted for by the Gulf Stream! - I was mistaken when I told you that we were loading cargo in Manchester for I discovered later that we were sailing to New York as a light ship & it is there, she is loading for New Zealand - It seems like months already since I left old England & it was only yesterday that I was able to get some war news from another ship, I also received something

2

about the train smash near Carlisle, which appears to have been rather serious from the number given as killed & wounded but I do not suppose it will be considered as much in time of war, although the loss must actually be of greater importance - So far I have not had any telegrams to send, nor any to receive, bar ice reports, but the skipper was telling me the other day that he wanted to send one as soon as I got in touch with land - I am glad to say, the accommodation on this ship is greatly superior to that of the 'Crown Point' & my black boy "Hafnon" seems to look after me fairly well - I am glad that I brought my violin, as I have found it very consoling during my lonely hours - The Berlin puzzle is no longer any use to me as I can now get the bullet there & back without any trouble - Sometimes in the evening I have a few rounds at boxing, or else I am requested to play my violin in the 4th engineers room, where we can always get some very harmonious singing & I am rather sorry that I did not bring more music with me - The capt. although of German descent, has not turned out to be as bad as I thought - I cannot say that the officers are quite such a nice lot as those on the "Crown Point" but maybe I have hardly known them long enough to express an opinion

3

Today I have had some excellent work -!!
I have been shoveling soil overboard from
the lower aft deck - There is altogether
about 200 tons of this stuff, which we
took on board in Manchester for ballast
but now that we have not much further
to go, it is no longer needed & the deck
has to be cleared before we arrive at
New York - The capt. seemed very pleased
at finding me so well engaged & it was
not long before he came & had a turn
himself - It has been a lovely day &
I think the exercise has done me good -
I could almost imagine that I was getting
sand with old Corbett - I have not had
any clothes washed yet but I think
I shall be able to get a lot of things, ^{etc} socks,
done on board a ship - I dare say
you will be glad to know that I am
able to get a fairly respectable bath
with a bucket of hot water, when
ever I wish - I have taken a few photographs
already, of the ship & one or two portraits
which I shall probably get developed in
New York - as I do not think I have any-
thing more of interest to tell you, I will
now close - Trusting you, father & the girls
are all quite well - I am, Your Affec. Son
Cyrus

4 Sunday.

May 30th

May 31st

Weather
Terribly hot -
General
holiday
in N. York

All the
place is
decorated
with flags.
~~Have~~ been for
a stroll
up 3rd Av.
This morning -
Not yet rec'd
any letters

P. S. From what I understand, we shall be staying in New York for about two weeks but this would hardly give you time to send me a letter there, in reply to this - Anyhow I will send you a card or something when I know definitely where we are sailing to from there. We expect to arrive N. York at some early hour tomorrow morning - This has been just a terrible long voyage & I shall not be sorry when I can stretch my legs ashore "id est, terra firma" - I received news fm. South Wellfleet last night, saying that Italy had, at last, joined in the fray & that her armies were 16 miles from Trieste - I guess the war will soon be over now! It is a most glorious day & the sea is as calm as a lake - I can hear all the Yankee stations wky away for all they are worth & now I will close - Best love to all - Cym