

On Board the Steam S. Egypt.
Still in the Wide Wide Atlantic
Saturday June 21st 1873

My Dear Wife

This morning completes our week at sea things have gone on very quiet
ly and very harmoniously we have some
rain but upon the whole most glorious
weather it will quite set me up again
only to thank a whole week of quiet and
rest no expenses to brood over no applica-
tions for discount no fears about bills not
being met or just a perfect abandon
from care what a luxury but how
much more it would be enjoyed if my
dear wife was with me I had no idea we
should have found such smooth sailing
for so great a distance or I should have
thought more seriously of bringing you
along I think I am quite a sailor at
any rate a fair weather one I have been
wondering how I could get an extra
seam to the waistband of my pantaloons
I really think I have increased several
pounds in weight since coming on board
with a fair prospect of a still further in-

gratitude to Him who holds the water
as in the hollow of his hand and who has
compassed to us so far in our voyage
that steady manifestation of his loving kind-
ness and mercy which has ever kept our
path through life we are just passing a
quail in our harbour how how cheering
the sight when we have been so isolated
from the world we did not signal her
or hold any communication yet the very
sight of her inspired us with confidence
that we were not alone in this vast wild
desert I cannot express to you how
I enjoy the quail while all are expres-
sing their impotence to get across I
do not find the time heavy heavy upon
my hands at all I shall not care if the
fine weather continues if we do not
reach port for a week to come

I hear so many discouraging features in
conjunction with the Vienna Exposition as
almost to stagger me in my intention of
visiting it but if this nothing dissuade
till I reach London we have a party
of fourteen from the South who are ma-
king the tour of Europe we look ex-
cursion tickets but come to look over

their programme I would not care to be
one of the party they are hurried so on the
oiled road & speed that all pleasure
must be destroyed by the fatigue even
ted by such rapid transit their route
does not take them to Vienna I may
join a party of the kind as far as Vienna
and then leave them the impositions
and extortions in Vienna I hear are
frightful still this may be much more
refined by distance looks towards work
in a measure be a safeguard against
their rapacity a strange feature comes
over me as I am nearer and nearer
this little Isle that has played
so conspicuous a part in the world's
history the place of my birth and
the place where those early impressions
were formed which leave a lasting
curiosity in after life to be again
familiar with I have and my
man had a strong desire to revisit
those scenes with which my early
boyhood was familiar not that
they will be familiar to me now
forty five years in the life of pro-
gressions will have long ago obliterated

rated every vestige of recognition but still the curiosity to revisit them even though as a stranger and a foreigner still haunts my mind.

It is now Saturday evening a whole week has been spent on board to me it has been a very enjoyable one I have kept very well indeed have not had occasion to resort to my medicine chest at all and hope I may be able to bring it home intact. There is a goodly company sitting around the cabin table this evening many no doubt whose thoughts are directed homewards and whose worship for the once at least will be offered up at the shrine of those household Gods erected upon the altar of every household. I know one who is longing to see the dear creatures from whom his representation may a kind Father's protecting care be extended over them and till such time as we meet again it is now bed time and as the ship's rules require the lights to be put out we get lucky at eleven o'clock I must say good night.

Sunday June 22^d another glorious
morning we have been steadily pro-
gressing all night with the same
moderate fair wind which has followed
us for several days our ship makes
from two hundred and ninety to three
hundred miles in the twenty four hours
and our Captain has just told me
we shall most likely arrive at Queen
stown about four o'clock on Tuesday
morning and in that case we shall
not land in Liverpool till Wednesday
the 25th our ship is heavily laden and
does not make as fast progress as some
others we have just had a lecture ser-
vice by Doctor Montgomery who is a
clear forcible and impressive speak-
er after reading the Service he gave
a short sermon from the 2^d Thessalonians
2^d chap & part of the 16th verse "and God
our Father which hath loved us
and hath given us everlasting consolation
and good hope through grace"
his aim was to show forth the love
and mercy of God in the gift of his
son as a sacrifice for our redemption
and reconciliation to him as a proof

to preach such a sermon - a glorious
message this abstract - you
for what it is worth my heart felt
little full just now and I have no
other way but this quiet one of ge
ring vent we are to have another ser
mon this evening by some other minis
ter on board (as we have several) in the
mean time I will go up on deck to
enjoy the sea air and a walk before
dinner on deck I found another
service going on among the steerage
passengers by a presbyterian min
ister we have on board from the
text of ~~Isaac~~ ^{Abraham} offering up his son
Isaac a sacrifice at the command
of God as a test of his faith a very
excellent discourse he made but as
I have already sermonized before
to day in my observations I will not
weary you with an analysis of the
subject it to say it was very good
and practical the afternoon has set
in rather wet though very mild
in the evening we had another dis
course from a Baptist minister from
the text "sin in the flesh" I did not

like to see entering the father meeting
to prodigal son even when he was a
great way off and offering him those
creature comforts necessary to his ex-
istence even though he had deserted
~~his father~~ his former gratitude and de-
meaned himself to the level of the beasts
that perish yet in the face of all this
debasement the father love still yearns
for the son past offences were forgiven and
forgotten and he was restored to his ori-
ginal position. So Gods love is manifested
towards fallen man the love of a parent
is manifested towards him and when
the soul in its natural state is ready
to cast away the burks upon which it
has been feeding and feels in his heart
to exclaim with the prodigal Lord
I have sinned against ^{heaven} and in thy sight
and approaches his God pleading that at
ning blood of the Saviour. God is ever
ready and ever willing to meet that souls
a great way off and clothe it in those
garments of salvation that entitles him
to rank as a son of God and gives
him everlasting consolation and a full
hope through grace. I did not intend

like him as well as his predecessor in
the afternoon though his remarks were
very good I should have liked them
better had he had less of the United
States in them There is one thing though
that pleases me very much in the
allusions made to our beloved Queen
by these American Ministers their fer-
vent supplication for divine grace to
influence his heart and their generous
acknowledgment of her goodness There
is a widow lady I have not learnt her
name yet who sits nearly opposite us
at the table she is from the South who so
forcibly reminds me of Aunt Fanny eve-
ry time I look at her she is a most
charming looking widow quite a lady
like person but acting upon the colour
of the elder better I have bewared
of her but I do not think there is any
harm in looking at her on the whole
we have not an interesting lot of pas-
sengers on board and I feel quite iso-
lated among them our ship is well
officered and apparently a good crew
at any rate very orderly and quiet
time is now up so good night

Thursday June 23^d Still out at sea men
their misty and foggy little to be seen
and scarcely fit to be upon alert dur-
ing the forenoon many of the passen-
gers are engaged writing home in the
expectation of mailing letters at Saues-
town where we expect to be either clea-
ring the night or tomorrow morning we
shall soon now be all separated again
never to meet as now on this side ster-
ty and yet it will a passage long to
be remembered by many of us there is
a great deal of novelty in an ocean
passage to an inland shore man to
me it has been very enjoyable and will
form an era in my life long to be
remembered with pleasure although
I feel lonely in the midst of the crowd
we have not seen a ship for the past
two days our utter isolation from the
outer world begets a peculiar feeling
of curiosity to know what is transpi-
ring we shall soon be in communica-
tion with it if all goes well with us
I am longing to hear from and about
you all every individual member
of the household outcries as well

every one of you from Grandmother
downwards give them all my warmest
love and kiss the dear girls for me
my heart warm to you all as the dis-
tance increases between us I have
started with the intention of giving you
a daily synopsis of my travels and
experiences if I go on at the rate I
shall surely weary you before I get
around but I have more leisure here
to elaborate than I will have on land
but a great deal less matter to do
it out of than I expect on shore
whenever you get tired of reading
just drop me hint and I will cur-
tail we passed through a school
of porpoises to day hundreds and
hundreds it was very amusing to
watch their gambols and the rapid-
ity they darted through the water
jumping and skipping about like
so many lambs they followed the
ship quite a long way it is surpri-
sing what an excitement any little
thing of this kind creates on board ship
I see we are making fine headway
to take soundings an indication

that we are nearing the coast of Iow
land many are very anxious to see
land for myself I feel quite resigned
to our position and shall quietly wait
its announcement without impatience
I have felt so well the whole trip
that I am quite encouraged for the rest
of my journey I shall expect letters
from home soon after my arrival at
Saugohome now anxiously I shall
look for them tell Charlie Charles
Henry & Effie to write me I close
this now in expectation of meeting what
I have written on board at Queerstown
should I be disappointed in this there
may be a delay of a week in the
mean time good by

Yours affectionately

W. L. Chadwick