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4536

Red Sea  
29<sup>th</sup> Sept

My dear Pippa

We are getting  
towards the end of the Red Sea  
now & shall get to Aden  
about midday tomorrow. It  
is not so very hot today as  
there is a decent breeze, but  
yesterday was a scorcher es-  
pecially as the box with my  
tropical garments was not taken  
out of the hold till the middle

of the day, when I had to  
burst it open and change its  
contents with those of my cabin  
trunk in the sweltering recesses  
of my cabin. It has been  
quite calm up to date except  
one day in the Mediterranean  
when there was a slight swell  
which had the effect of dispersing  
most of the females & putting off  
the fancy dress ball. The ship  
is very full, there are about  
150 Bombay passengers most of  
the rest being Australians who  
seem to be rather less obnoxious  
than usual. I am thoroughly

sick of the voyage which is ex-  
tremely dull especially today wh.  
is Sunday & you are not allowed  
to play whist. I sit next a  
painful man at dinner who is  
going to Madras. Whenever any  
subject is started he waits for  
an opportunity to mention himself  
& then talks about nothing else for  
the rest of the meal. He is called  
the Oculist or Eye-man. I shall  
avoid him on the Clyde if poss.  
The only other people besides  
Herbert that I have spoken to  
are my whist players who are  
dummies. H. does not appear  
to be much more depressed

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than usual - nothing has  
been said about the painful  
incident though I was much  
afraid he would unburden  
himself when I showed him  
Mr. Bird's photographs. However  
I managed to keep him off it &  
he gazed in silence - How did  
you get back from Victoria?  
Did you ever see such a sight  
as Sir A?

I must stop now - I wish  
this beastly steamer's nose was  
turned the other way -

Love to all the family -

Goodbye

The sun has just set in the sea - a  
most extraordinary spectacle.

Yr loving brother  
Ralph.