



I led horses, & we saw one delightful  
march of with all their  
kits on their backs. - Well I  
wandered all about - the town  
Well! we went to a queer fresh  
hotel - recommended by the  
head man of the L. & W. office  
& slept there - In the morning  
we were assured a boat wd  
leave for Jersey so we dis-  
patched our trunks direct to  
Southampton - & left St. Malo  
at 27 - arriving at Jersey  
about 5. We had engaged  
rooms there - & were very  
comfortable - & Jersey is a lovely  
Island - but when we  
learned that England had  
declared war & the Germans  
entered Belgium, we thought  
the sooner we left - the better  
Also the night boat - from St-  
Malo, to Southampton had been  
taken off, because queer ever  
said about - Warsmouth  
Every one was advised  
to leave the Island & so we could  
even quarter that there wd  
be a boat to leave by - (French  
reservists abt 1200) were being  
shipped to France as fast as  
possible - Poor fellows many  
of them had been living in  
Jersey 10 or 15 years - their crops  
were all standing, fields &

(2)  
fields of Tomato plants each  
tied up so neatly & just - farming  
fruit. It was bad to see it all  
left. Our landlord was at  
ways dashing out to war  
reserves - to muster & receive  
arms, or to do this or that  
about the parts. All the English  
Artillery had left. & the Devon  
regiment was all ready to  
leave at an hours notice. The  
Jersey people have a conscription  
law & are all trained soldiers.

So Friday Thursday morning  
up at 6 - left house at 7<sup>1/2</sup> &  
drove into St. Hilliers, such a slow  
hurry, & all kinds of people & trucks  
of luggage kept passing us &  
fleeing on. Eva said it remind  
ed her of Tucky's old horses, & gang  
up to Metis station. At last we  
reached the boat. Ah! 400 people  
packed into it - mainly, holiday  
people - lots of children & a few sol-  
diers in hats (Med. service men)  
& detachment of Salvation Army  
men - with a band, which  
played patriotic airs - Every one  
who could sit down - & stayed the  
others sat on the  
deck parties sat in the life  
boats & they looked comfortable.  
Then the people began to be sick  
it was not very nice at first  
& it rained at intervals - So we  
sat on till lunch time. We had

provisions & eat them on deck  
a few people had dinner in the  
saloon, but I think they had no  
benches to sit on. Others had tea &  
fruit brought to them, & there were  
sickens than ever. We had berths  
with our 1<sup>st</sup> class ticket, but  
Eva went to recontract, & said  
the people were two to each  
berth "itching & scratching"  
in chorus.

Then we saw a wonderful  
sight. The french channel  
squadron - 16 gun boats such  
active, powerful wicked-  
looking things. They passed us  
streaming out in line. At  
such a speed & we cheered  
them & they cheered & waved  
their hats & the band played  
the Marseilles. & God save the  
King. They were patrolling  
putting up any thing german &  
turning back all here. British  
or French ships. Later a cruiser  
English, this time - first signalled &  
then megaphoned orders us to our  
course. We were just off  
Cherbourg. a way that 16 boats  
never go. then on again the  
side of Wight ahead! We just  
choked near & then stopped  
of the island & waited. then  
the got some orders & went on  
to see again & made a detour  
to where some other boats were

of scattered our anchor down (3)  
by this time it was after 7<sup>00</sup> - Finally  
two pilots came on board  
& we slowly made for Sault  
auxterre - landing about 9<sup>00</sup> - We  
were congratulating ourselves  
only having hand luggage -  
but we were all herded into  
big shed place & had to stay there  
till every one was personally  
questioned as to home - age -  
destination etc. There was a  
lunch counter, but all they  
had disappeared in no time  
when we were released we  
found all the hotels had been  
commandeered by War Office &  
they were full of troops. The  
guests & servants having been  
cleared out a few hours notice  
there was no one to see us - C.A.S.  
& the Am. Exp. had appeared we  
were anchored for the night - as  
no ship was supposed to enter after  
dark. Most of the people were  
big - several parties hurried to  
get into cabs - & go to sleep in the  
N.Y. station - We began asking  
the Cab Men - if they knew of any  
place to go - One who was just  
leaving with a load for the station  
said if we waited he w<sup>d</sup> re-  
turn & meanwhile see if a  
friend of his who let baggage co.  
take us - in abt 20 m. - the rest

prepared in about 20 min. I said he  
w<sup>d</sup> take us. & he did, it was  
now after 11<sup>9</sup>. Just a hurried  
little lodging house - no supply  
of bread & cheese & some hot  
cocoa - with almost no milk &  
after inspecting the rooms wrap  
ped ourselves in our rain  
coats & put the clean towels over  
the pillow cases, & slept quite  
soundly - Up early - I had tea  
& toast & eggs. & flew to the  
American Express. They were  
very nice. & found us a board-  
ing place in the nice part of the  
town. said they w<sup>d</sup> give us  
money for our Am. Ex. charges  
between 11<sup>9</sup> & 17. when the  
banks w<sup>d</sup> be open. Remember  
it was a bank holiday on Mon-  
day & the banks remained  
closed till Friday morning  
so you may think how people  
were left. But it was a nice  
place. Then they sent one of the  
office men, with Clara & Will to  
see if our trunks c<sup>d</sup> be found  
they were finally got, but we c<sup>d</sup>  
not enter the docks without a pass  
& every one had to question you  
& give your name to go in & Clara  
drew her portrait in than must have  
act over so carefully.

We are the only thing was to  
telegraph to you & Aunt Eva

right rates 3/6 - but - while we  
were writing it out - orders came  
"no more right rates" - so you got  
the least possible at 11/- . Then  
Eva & I went - round to our lady,  
collected our things - paid the  
woman at the rate of a good hotel  
& she said it wd be a "great help to her  
with her large family" - I calling  
a cab we departed, this cabman  
only asked us his usual fare,  
we gave him extra because he  
had not held us up -

We are in a nice comfortable  
house - in a beautiful quarter  
with parks & trees all about.  
We are staying till Monday.

We tried to find out about  
trains but were not allowed  
to enter the office of the R.M. station  
Two policemen held us - looked  
up the trains for the places we  
indicated & then we went in &  
asked if there was a train for them  
& when it wd go. As for tomorrow  
we must inquire tomorrow, as  
nothing wd be the same - We  
decided to send Will to Aunt  
Eva. who had expressed her  
wish to have him come to her  
soon. & we wd go to St Leonards  
for a week. I did not like to  
go to Devon alone, just now.

This a. m. (Sat -) we telephoned  
to Andrew what - trains for Ber-  
kenhead - = were told one at  
10.21 - We hurriedly got Will

ready & clear & Eva current to the  
station with him - Wo! no  
train at 10.21 - but might be on at  
11.05 - so they waited & at 11.30  
a train was made up. w. w.  
run to Basingstoke - might have  
to change once - at Basingstoke  
w. w. connect with something  
but must inquire there. Clerk  
found a nice looking man  
going in that direction - &

Will is on his way somewhere.  
& a telegram has warned  
Eva when he left, & to look  
out for him - He will doubt-  
less get somewhere - In usual  
times he sh<sup>d</sup> arrive at 5<sup>PM</sup>.

Soldiers everywhere!  
Camped in Parks - ranks of <sup>infantry</sup>  
standing ready - Boy scouts  
also under canvas - Few  
cabs. horses taken over by <sup>authorities</sup>  
Everything dislocated - All the  
military movements are kept  
secret - & a good thing too -  
Such a crowd of laborers wait  
in hope of work - That is dreadful!  
How can they have any heart  
to face life -

We send all love, & I will be  
anxious to hear again of your  
welfare. The uncertainty of all  
things in war time & the <sup>thought</sup> of  
the years of depression that must  
follow. & the <sup>relentless</sup> work of all  
necessity makes one dis-  
satisfied -