

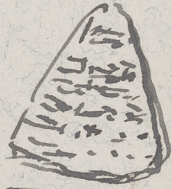
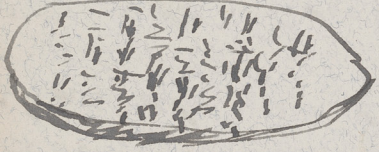
London
Russel Square

Aug. 4th 1907

Dear Family

I have no idea what I have told you about this great Babylon - I wrote in such a hurry - I had not even time to read over - We find this quarter rather out of the way - & it has not the merit of being quiet for all the coming & going to Euston Station seems to pass both night & day - The whole street is composed of hotels & boarding houses & we could almost throw a stone at the British Museum - We have not devoted much attention to it - beyond the Egyptian & the Assyrian galleries - & the ancient British remains - These latter certainly show that the old inhabitants before the Romans understood not only pottery & stone work but - worked in bronze & iron - made bits for harness & wheels & tires for their chariots as well as armor & jet ornaments & shields of bronze or copper - I wish you could all have seen the wonderful Rosetta stone, the very flat black surface covered with such small & confusing markings - also pieces of clay tablets of a grammatical nature containing lists of words with similar meanings & words

classified according to their uses, or structure - probably part of the Collyer books used in the instruction of Daniel - then others with astrology & astronomical details - also many small ones referring to sales of barley, trumps of slaves - loans of barley & of money at 25 per cent - sales of houses



& so on - these were the deeds - then the curious history of the Flood, being very similar to our Bible one - only here said to have been sent out & no mention of the blue bag was made -

The huge Assyrian bulls stand as quiet & majestic guardians to the museum halls, as they did of old at the palace gate of Assur, as if & paid no more attention to modern Londoners than they did to the cries of Jonah - or the land reputation of the Ninevites -

If I could tell you of all the places we have tried & lunched you would see what a Bohemian life we have led. We had breakfast here at 17 Montague St. - I have had meals at - A. B. C. - places, at various restaurants - but very stylish dinner on Sunday at an Italian place - another late tea dinner at Earl's court - & one lunch at a quite vulgar place called Mile End, in the White-chapel region - We went there to see the people's palace & found that besides

large winter garden - & a huge music hall²
the rest was mainly a large technical school
where boys over 12 could learn engineering
etc etc. Both Aunt - & I had the idea
that it was far the very poor, but far from
it - it benefits the mechanic & small clerk
class - The slums seem obliterated, all
the places one has heard of as bad quarters
have had good streets run through them
& look quite respectable - We have seen
very few tatty people, & very few who looked
deplorable - though we have been through
the town on buses - from Mill East to
the World's end on the way to Kew &
have come home at night also -

We have been twice to the National Gallery
it is full of splendid pictures. Today we
looked well at some of Rembrandt's Jewish
two old ladies. The Burgomaster. & a portrait
of himself that especially attracted. Some of
Gustave Klimt also were splendid. Ecclesiastes
a Madeline. & soon - Some of Cypri also -
are lovely, others just not worth a second
glance - One of Van Dyck that was of a man
& not a profanity such as he generally has
to commemorate. I never liked Rembrandt's
& like him less than ever - he is a pig among
painters, nothing but gross flesh & coarse
faming ideas. Murillo's colouring is beautiful
some of his little cherubs just lovely -

What Ighel Wilson says is quite true that
all these great painters painted some great
pictures, & many other poor ones - all can

recognize the really fine ones, & only the
well-instructed stupid, insists upon ad-
miring them all.

We were at Chislehurst today - having
collapse of a tunnel, had to get out at
Eltham Station Mrs K. was waiting for us,
& we spent a couple of hours pleasantly
seeing her wonderful house & gardens
she was most kind & sent love to
mother & Clare. Amy Redpath was there
looking better than she has for a long time
Miss Wavel sent special love to Clare. Mrs K
is going to Holland in a few days & Amy &
Meggie go to Italy & France.

On Sunday we went to the Temple
Church in the morning. & it was a most
quiet service but a very commonplace
sermon from a man said to be something
ultra Canon Anger. After our dinner at
Gatti's which we were grateful to get in
most places were shut we went to St Pauls
very grand indeed, but as we had no
prayer book we could not follow closely the
service as hearing was impossible. & the
sermon was again a disappointment, by a
Canon Newbolt. From there we went to
St Anne St & had 5-4 tea with Kate Gall-
who had undertaken to guide us to a
church where a Canon willurfarce was
sure to give us food for reflection.
We were quietest in arrival, but alas
though deterred to speak we only the Canon

3
did not appear but a candid young
curate, who had some very good views
in a plain way as to our national re-
sponsibilities. Certainly we did not feel
much instructed. We see seats up
on every hand for the ceremony on
Saturday. We passed Buckingham
Palace last night & it looked very
quiet & dismal as yet.

We are talking of going to Bedford in route
home - but I am rather wishful to go
to Ipswich & see Mrs White again. If I do
I shall have to find my way back to
L'pool on my own account which I
don't much like - It will depend upon
some information we have to get in the
morning - Today being a Bank Holiday we
could get no R.R. office - or Cook's or anything
& you should have seen the "populace" with
whom we came back from Cheshurst.

The two-penny tube is the cleanest
place in London all lined with white tiles
in the passages & stations - ready electricity
nothing to sneeze & great care exercised
to coming off & on trains - & directly you
buy a ticket - you drop it - into a box
at the gate & are down with it & the
cars are so clean & nice long open ones
like ours going to Lachin.

Tuesday

Today we purpose taking a cheap
trip to Bedford - if it does not rain

I still want to see the Tail-gallery, but
may not - manage it -

I copied the inscription on Gordon's
tomb at St. Paul's, & I wish the boys would
think it over that was worth seeing, &
reading.

after his name & titles.

Who at all times & every where gave
his strength to the weak his assistance to
the poor, his sympathy to the suffering, his
heart to God, he ruled an empire by his
warlike genius, he ruled vast provinces
with justice & wisdom & power. Lastly
obedient to his sovereign's command he
died in the heroic struggle attempt to save
men, women, & children from imminent &
deadly peril.

Greater love hath no man than this
that he lay down his life for his friends

With much love
Mother,

1902

A. S. H.

English Trip.