

Give my best  
love to Mother, &  
remember me  
very kindly to  
all -  
with all good  
wishes  
from  
your affectionate  
son  
J. Perkins

Rau Reu  
T

Colombo -  
Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> 87 -

Although I have  
no important communica-  
tions to make, I must  
not omit my usual  
line, from our half way  
house, Ceylon, since I know  
that you still take an  
interest in my wandering,  
however unworthy I  
am any be of such kind  
solicitude -

Our present voyage has  
been a decided success  
hitherto, from my point of view

2/ at least. Amongst our  
passengers there are some  
dozen or more travelling  
anxiously for their health,  
and what with these and  
other delicate & susceptible  
people, the amount of sickness  
has been exceptionally great,  
fully occupying my morning.  
Although we have avoided  
dangerous and fatal maladies,  
the attention to comparatively  
trifling although often very  
irritating and annoying  
illnesses, is far from being  
without interest. Ship life,  
where every little difficulty  
is seen in a very early  
stage and can be followed  
out and kept under our  
observations in a way  
that would be impossible

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3) ashore, affords opportunities  
for investigations & experiment  
very different from those  
to be had in an hospital.

This I believe is the week  
for the winter Carnival in  
Mont<sup>l</sup>. I hope it may prove  
a greater success than ever  
& shall look forward to  
receiving some account of the  
festive doings & illustrations  
of impressive scenes of our  
return voyage - It is quite  
world wide in its fame  
now & has given Montreal  
a name which it might  
not easily have acquired  
otherwise; I only hope that  
it may not also be the  
means of Americanizing  
it. You & Ann I suppose been  
enjoying unbroken winter  
weather now, for some time. I

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4) From the health stand-  
point I have little doubt  
that the cold winter is much  
better than the enervating  
climate of many parts of  
Australia. Australians will  
doubtless in time become  
acclimatized, but at present  
those brought up in most parts  
of the continent, exhibit I think,  
an unmistakable loss of  
stamina as compared  
with their parents, who left  
the Old Home. This especially  
amongst the women, where  
it would perhaps naturally  
show itself first. It is to  
be hoped that they will not  
graduate towards the physical  
type of the aborigines, as is  
supposed to be so markedly  
apparent in the U.S.  
This of course hardly applies to  
Tasmania & New Zealand.