A TWO MONTHS' TOUR IN CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES, IN THE AUTUMN OF 1889

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A Two Months' Tour in Canada and the United States, in the Autumn of 1889 by $\,$ Sir Henry Edwards

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SIR HENRY EDWARDS

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We left London on Friday, 30th August, 1889, at two p.m., by London and North-Western Railway, in a comfortable front coupé—bright, sunny afternoon—and we saw energetic harvest operations going on all along the line, and arrived at Liverpool at 6.45. Luckily, quarters had been secured for us at North-Western Hotel. Every room was engaged, much to the annoyance and vexation of many who were obliged to

put up with very second-rate accommodation, and who will in future remember the necessity of securing rooms for the night prior to the departure of the mail steamer.

All was bustle and confusion at the hotel. Such crowds of people, and such piles of luggage! It is, indeed, a sight to see American ladies returning home after 'doing' Europe—such huge boxes, five and six feet long, and three to four feet deep, and many of them. I was in light marching order—two moderate-sized portmanteaus and dressing-bag. The head porter of the hotel labelled them and gave me a voucher promising safe delivery in my cabin, where I found them when I went on board the Cunard steamer Etruria at twelve o'clock. It is, indeed, an exciting scene to see 620

passengers crowding on board ship, and the overwhelming amount of luggage taken home by the Americans. Luckily for me, I was free from anxiety, and could look on with complacency at the worry and excitement of so many hundreds stowing themselves and their worldly goods away. And then came the anxiety of getting comfortable seats at table. Luckily the captain invited me to sit at his table at the second dinner, served at seven o'clock. The 620 were all saloon passengers, and it seemed wonderful how they were all provided for. One half had breakfast at eight, lunch at twelve, and dinner at 5.30; the second, breakfast at nine, luncheon at one, and dinner at seven, and it is surprising how quickly all get settled down.

We left Liverpool at one p.m., weather fine, smooth sea, but no sunshine. We arrived at Queenstown on Sunday morning at six o'clock. Many passengers went on shore. It was a grey morning, with a cool breeze. Passengers and mails came along-side at one p.m., and we at once got under way; the sun shone, and every one settled down for the voyage.

Out of the 620 passengers, I think the odd twenty were English, all the rest Americans, and almost every one had a large cane reclining chair, enabling them to recline at full length. The whole of the upper deck was lined with these chairs on both sides, and any number of pillows, cushions, and rugs—only a small passage to pass between them, and I could not but think it looked