



RCS Cadet R.R. Waesche's Journal of a Cadet Cruise Aboard
the Training Cutter *Itasca*, 1909



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[Cover]
USRC TAHOMA
R. R. WAESCHE

[inside cover]

The Tahoma cruise around the world – 1909
Written by Russell R. Waesche Sr.
(U.S. Revenue Cutter Service)

Saturday, Apr. 17 [1909]

Underway at 7 a.m. out of Balto[Baltimore]harbor and down bay. Compensated compasses off Patuxent River. 8⁰⁰ p.m. anchored 2 mi. below Smith Pt. (Potomac river).

Sunday, Apr. 18.

5 a.m. underway down bay. 12:05 p.m. passed through Capes, co, E.S.E.3/4E. fine weather. Breeze, south 3. Doctor and {gafs, Japs} seasick.

Monday, Apr. 19

Continued fine weather; breeze S to S.W. 3-4. Doctor, {Japs} and part of crew seasick. Doctor feels o.k. as long as he is

Page 2

lying down.

Tuesday, Apr. 20

Same weather same breeze same people sick. Reading Kipling's "Light that Failed". Saw two large black fish.

Wednesday. Apr 21st.

Same breeze. Raining. Same people sick. Eating onions 3 ways 3 times a day. Poor {Jap} Baggers {drink } across the way is dead to the world with his face buried in a sheet.

Thursday Apr 22

Gentle breeze SW. Heavy sea still running

Page 3

fine weather. Still eating onions. 18.21 Took a time sight.

Apr 23, 24, 25

Everything same.

Apr 27th Tuesday

Cloudy – Everybody looking for Pico, distant about 50 mi. Did not see it owing to cloudy, heavy atmosphere.

Wednesday, April 28th

Sighted St. {Uliahalls} about 7 a.m. – looming up. Very pretty sight, pink + white houses dotted here and there. Volcanic origin and therefore very

Page 4

hilly o level ground at all just a succession of knolls. A great big garden – Hillside and tops of knolls all cultivated and looking very pretty with the different colored fields. Cruised close in shore looking at the scenery – sides of islands being very precipitous – impossible to land along

shore. About 8³⁰ anchored off end of breakwater of Ponto Delgado, 17 fms. Tourist steamer "Canopis" (White Star liner anchored a little farther in

Page 5

surrounded with bum boatmen. The City a beautiful sight – houses either pink or white – mountain on left end of island its top above the clouds all day. Scally and Surgeon went ashore to see Consul and coaling conditions. Pilot came off in row boat. Captain and pilot haggling over pilot charges – Captain not wanting to pay anything for government vessel. Scally returned with cablegram from

Page 6

Department ordering us to coal and proceed without delay to Gibraltar – important. Eveybody wondering what's up. Captain very much puzzled. Consul came off in small boat towed by little tug. Bryan went in to see about coal + water. Bryan and coal man came off. Captain wants to remain outside + be coaled. Coal man otherwise. Great arguments between Captain, coal man + pilot about coaling pilotage etc. Coal man and pilot

Page 7

hand in glove. Finally vessel goes inside and moors head and stern to # 2 + #3 buoy – pilot charges – about \$5⁰⁰ – Captain lost all around. Captain took vessel in himself would not let pilot take charge. Moored at 230. "Canopic" has sailed at noon. Snet mail to "Canopic" – purser took charge of it to mail in Boston 2 ct. U.S. stamp good for a letter sealed. My days duty – Addision relieved me – Scally

page 8

Heflum + I went ashore at 3⁰⁰ – orders to be back at 8⁰⁰ – sail at 9⁰⁰ p.m. Wandered around town like lost. Town very quaint + picturesque. Streets very Narrow – side walks about 2 ft wide – streets cobbled. People very poor – beggars numerous – one little fellow found followed us all around with a cry of "money" every two minutes. All children seem to know one English word "money" which they cry at you. Few houses never more than two stories

Page 9

- doors open right into living room and as you walk along you can see women and children through the door sitting on stone floor working etc. Streets remarkably clean – no filth. Many old picturesque arches and buildings. Soldiers all through the town – can't tell a soldier from police-man. Soldiers far from military looking. Quite a number of remarkably pretty girls which was very surprising.

Page 10

Hard to make ourselves understood – lots of fun trying to talk – however, quite a number of merchants talk English. American money seems to be even more desirable than English money. Bought an article in a store, gave merchant a sovereign + for change got 3 American quarters 2 half crowns, a 2 shilling piece and 2 20 reis pieces – U.S., English + Portugese money. Bought souvenir spoon. After much asking and looking around

Page 11

Found a livery stable –hired a carriage – two seats facing each other – 2 horses, price \$1⁰⁰ per hour. Drove around town. Passed fort-very picturesque but not much good for anything but to look at. Could not get in but probably could by giving sentinel some money. Drove out in country –roads very good – gardens very pretty. Fences around fields and wals around gardens by piling lumps of lava on top of one another – very neat.

Page 12

Heflum left us to go back to relieve Bagger. Drove to one of the principle public gardens – got out of carriage and walked through. Palace in garden was occupied by King + Queen of Portugal in 1901. lake in center – flower beds laid out in various designs, paths leading back and forth through them. Large beautiful palms – {bamyou} trees – foliage and all very beautiful took picture of palm tree. Driver did not speak English but managed to make him understand

Page 13

“Brown’s hotel” Drove there. Hotel up on hillside, very secluded – pretty little garden in front. No sign of life. Driver got out and routed out manager. Made arrangements to get dinner. Dinner not served until 7⁰⁰ p.m. drove back downtown and sent carriage back. \$1⁵⁰ for 1 ½ hrs and gave driver 25 cts. Bought postal cards. Went down dock to meet Bagger. Bagger and Scally and I walked back to hotel. Hotel half way between a real hotel and boarding house. Wrote postals – went in to

Page 14

Dinner. Coal man and doctor there. Dinner – soup, beef, tongue, salad, cold beef – all in courses. At the cold beef course had to leave to get boat. Coal man had carriage waiting for us and drove us down to the wharf. At dinner table were coal man, wireless operator of local station, four or five other men and Miss Brown proprietress {day} later who really runs the hotel herself I think. Met Satterlee at dock. Had hard time getting big liberty

Page 15

party aboard – all more or less drunk – hoisted Broom aboard with gant line. Coal brought off in little 5 ton barges loaded through trap in wharf – little cares pulled down on wharf by mules narrow gauge track. Fresh water pumped in from little barge by hand. Recd 100 tons coal in about 5 hours. Captain and Addison did not go ashore. Fired no salute – not customary so Consul said. No official calls made.

Page 16

Very good boat landing – protected – stone-landing. Poor people wear queer wooden shoes – women wear queer fore + aft hat entirely concealing face, peculiar for such warm country. Did not have time to take carriage and mule trip to lake on top of mountains which is the principle point of interest for tourists. Pack mules re mules(small) used to carry truck etc. very interesting and picturesque . Satterlee wandered around trying to find place to eat but

Page 17

without success. Tried several and had a lot of fine and interesting experiences but nothing to eat. Did not find Browns hotel which is very likely only English place there. Scene at waterfront – launching and hauling up on beach of fishing boats very interesting. Oars very

crude. One sail boat, three masts latteen rig on all three yard arm foremast as long as whole boat – natives very expert in handling them.

Page 18

Got underway about 11 p.m.

Thursday, Friday, Saturday
19th 30th May 1st

First day very smooth other two strong N.E. breeze made sea very choppy – worst eather since left Capes. Doctor down as usual. Did feel at my best myself.

Page 19

Sunday May 2nd, 1909

Morning, breeze had died out – {beary} swell – approaching Straits of Gib. Wind sprang up from E.S.E. Strong gale (9). Dead ahead wind driving spray into your face very disagreeable – vessel wet all over – everybody wearing oil skins – lots of vessels going both ways. Passed through Straits – high mountains land on both sides. Sighted Cape Trafalgar about 5 p.m. Account of haze did not get good view of scenery.

Page 20

About 8 p.m. headed up into Gibraltar Bay, wind died down – clear moonlight night – approaching Gib. Slowly. Very pretty sight- high rock with village at bottom all lighted up. Sounded evening gun (fort) at 9⁰⁰. Quarantine boat came off for bill of health. 9³⁰ anchored outside Breakwater – sea watches. Rock of Gibraltar and village very beautiful by moonlight. Gust of wind, intense but short lived, blow wx every five minutes or so,

Page 21

very peculiar.

Monday May 3rd

Cloudy all day – raining during afternoon – no chance to take any pictures. Senior LT. from Navy Yard called on Captain after we had moored inside of breakwater. 8 a.m. fired National Salute which was answered by saluting battery ashore. Pilot came off and took us inside Breakwater and moored with port bower cable to buoy – no stern mooring. No pilot charges – government pilot.

Page 22

Coal acem off about 9 a.m. coal handled over side in baskets. Agents from firms ashore came aboard to supply provisions. Scally went into Consulate. Consul came off. Did not fire salute to Consul when he left at his own request. Cablegram from Department ordering us to Alexandretto, Asia Minor with all speed – revolution there. Rec'd charts + Hydrographic information by mail from London as ordered before leaving States. Captain and Navigator went ashoeer in full

Page 23

Dress to call on Admiral + Governor General. Bought four extra charts from Navy Yard at \$1.25 each. Only sold to us after much persuasion. Hexburn and I went ashore in regard to mess affairs. Jerome Saccini + James Speed & Co. Ltd the big firm. Went to their establishment and they sent man with us to market to pick out our provisions. Market very unique – quite like American markets – same stalls kept by Moors others by Spaniards, Englishman, etc. Tried to go

Page 24

up in galleries of fortifications but not allowed. Only Englishmen allowed in galleries and no one allowed on top of rock. Gibraltar wonderfully fortified – town enclosed by big wall with only two gates opening to waterfront which at night are carefully guarded and no one can get in or out until carefully examined and showing pass port. All Spaniards must be outside the gates by 9³⁰ at which time a gun is fired and

Page 25

any Spaniards found inside after that are imprisoned three days. No Spaniards allowed to come in after 7 p.m. Every Spaniard on entering is listed so they know exactly how many are inside. Every boat going from landing to harbor and vice versa held up and examined at night – very courteous to us. 6000 troops here. Soldiers every place – big fellows – very active and snappy in their movements. A military town under

Page 26

military rule.

Cocktails unknown here – Hexburn + I ordered one at Cecil and they brought us the strongest concoction I ever tasted. Came off to ship at 6⁰⁰ p.m. Settled Gen. Mess bill except fresh meat + ice which was to be paid on voucher. Wrote postals and went ashore again about 8 p.m. Ate dinner at a restaurant – good meal for about 50 cts. Served strawberries with caps on. Met Bryan Scally Bagger Doctor + Satterlee.

Page 27

Went to store and bought 2 sleeves @ \$6⁰⁰ each; 1 moutilla @ 5⁰⁰ 3 shirt waists @ 1²⁵. ½ doz {fars} @ .25 each. 200 cig. @ \$1⁵⁰ per 100. photos book of views bull fight post cards, stand cover, etc. Great fun haggling over price. After bartering finally get about 20% off. Doctor bought about \$50⁰⁰, carved ivory, drawn work etc. Waiting to get my ivory at Japan. Had boy with us to carry our stuff + take us around. He was regular solicitor for those stores @ \$3⁰⁰

Page 28 per week. Tipped him about \$2⁰⁰. Tried English ale – N.G.

Town very cosmopolitan – moors in Moorish garb – Spaniards – Portugese – English etc. etc. Hamburg-American + P&O Tourist steamer there for few hours. Great big drydocks for battleships – magnificent breakwaters – coal stowed on breakwater – buoys for moorings and by anchors buried in bottom no concrete. Big steel cable running from base of mountains

Page 29 to top for transporting supplies – tunnels throughout rock for communication – big wireless station on North shore, antennae running from operative house at bottom to top of rock.

Barracks everywhere. Town divided into two forts separated [sp] by a big garden – North fort commercial South side military although lots of barracks etc on commercial side. High land on opposite point only, dangerous to Gibraltar Treaty with Spain forbids Spain to fortify it. During

Page 30 Spanish American War Spain started to fortify it but Great Britain stopped them on account of treaty. Vessels not allowed to go inside breakwater at night. Great Britain apparently getting ready for trouble as vessels are arriving with provisions & coal. Neutral ground North side. Queer yellow vehicles – two –seated, facing each other – canvas curtains. Hotels – Cecil & Groud, former the better.

Page 31

Tuesday May 4th

Underway and out at 11 a.m. No pilot necessary going out. Anchor foul of buoy wire cable. Rounded Europa point headed east. Fresh east wind which is predominant at all times Mid watch very pleasant.

Wednesday May 5th

Fine calm clear warm weather in a.m. Fresh to strong E.N.E. breeze in p.m. about 11 a.m. sighted land coast of Algeria – coasting along African coast – high mountainous land –almost barren

Page 32 no trees – land seems to be slightly cultivated at places along {Ure} shore. Very few houses. Some tents. 6 p.m. off {Terrey} Cape, high rock –signal station on top – lighthouse near bottom –kind of a white castle half way between. Village of Terry a few miles to left.

May 6th Thursday

Fine warm calm day . Passed Zembra island high rock – Passed Cape Bou which we had seen when 45 miles away – high

Page 33

rock {LtKO} ¼ way up signal station on top – ruins of old castle. – Passed Parthenon Island – also seen 45 miles – at 9 p.m. very fine weather.

May 7th

Continuous fine weather

May 8th Saturday

In mid watch looked for Mt. Etna but could not see it. At 8:30, approaching Voiletto harbor malta. Entered narrow gateway to harbor firing national salute and at 9:10 – made fast to buoy

Page 34

#17 which harbor master pointed out to us. Did not take pilot. Pilot came off but did not let him come aboard as he was not a government pilot. Fort returned salute. Officer from H.M.S. “Andromeda” called officially – officer from French cruiser called – full dress eppaulettes etc. Ship surrounded by bum boatcrew – every one clamoring to get aboard – coal man & provision man – ash man waterman etc etc. etc.

Page 35

Fired salute 13 guns to admiral. Scally went ashore + came off with Consul. Fired salute 7 guns to Consul when he left. National salute Br. Ensign at main – Admiral salute Br. Ensign at fore. First man aboard was health officer. Scally dressed up and returned Frenchman's call then went ashore to Admiral's quarters to pay Captains respects to Admiral – left Captain's card at Governor General's palace + wrote name

Page 36

in Duke of Connaught's book. Salute to Admiral was acknowledged in no way. Rec'd from local firm 86 tons coal in about 3 hours. Coal cane in 3 small lighters –coaled from both sides. Admiralty water boat came off at request through Consul + gave us water – no charge. Addison went ashore for charts pertaining to Alexandretta. Only charged for one – Admiral gave us rest. Capt wrote

Page 37

letter to Admiral thanking him for charts + water. Satterlee went ashore + got check cashed for 1000 in English gold. Kept side boys at gangway all the time. Attended gangway when Consul left and then rushed for'd + fired salute = Scally + Addison both ashore. Place very picturesque and one of the most interesting of our stops. Did not put foot on beach. Doctor only one who saw anything of town

Page 38

{largely} Navy hospital close by + took picture of it. Took 6 pictures with camera – might be good. Ladies of charity came off to beg. Franciscno monk came off to beg. Would not allow them to come aboard. 2 Canary birds and 3 or 4 {maltese {faddles} bought. Great excitement all the time. Launch + dinghy in water. Scally bought spoons when calling on Governor. Under way and out at 4⁰⁰. Frenchman had gone

Page 39 out at 3⁰⁰. Stood at attention for both men-of-war. Put harbor Co E.S.E. ½ E.

Everybody glad to be at sea and away from excitement of rush.

Most persistent people in trying to get aboard – selling goods and trying to make you take provisions.

May 9th. Sunday

Fine weather – moderate swell – ship rolling.

Page 40.

Monday, May 10th

Coasting along south shore of Candiu (Crete) all day – high barren mountainous land – no sign of life or habitation – one or two snow capped peaks. Fine weather

Tuesday May 11th

Fine weather. 300 p.m. sighted Cyprus all that night running through Cyprus channel. Captain very much worried and nervous. Captain + Addison in chart room laying every conceivable

Page 41

course – different deviations etc. Compass deviation on N.E. $8\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ E. When swing ship in Balto it was only about $1\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$. deviation increased a little on other easterly headings.

Wednesday, May 12th

Fine weather – rather warm. Entered Gulf of Islamderun and about 9:30 a.m. anchored off Alexandretta. 2 French battleships and 1 Italian in harbor. French + Italian officers called. Scally returned them I went ashore

Page 42

for Consul. Consul came off in his own boat with his major domo who wears a solid gilt jacket with exception of sleeves which are merely flax hanging from shoulder. Also wears a long curved sword. Consul a foreigner – native of Cyprus and agent for Libby's Beef, Marine Insurance Co., Russian line of steamers and numerous other companies. Borrowed French flag from French vessel and fired salute of 13 guns to French Admiral which was

Page 43

returned 13 guns. Fired salute of 5 guns to Consular agent when he left (U.S. has no Consul here – Consular agent) A crowd of us went ashore and wandered around the place. Typical Turkish town – everyone wears Fezes. Men are human drays – have kind of a saddle on their back and carry loads of from 200 to 400 lbs.

Stables and all spare buildings used to house refugees. Very pitiful sight – women and children absolutely without means, fathers husbands + brothers massacred. Children

Page 44 with saber cuts on head etc. Wounded men who escaped – all in abject poverty homes burned and crops ruined and no place to go. Miss Methene and Mrs. Kennedy and Mr. Kennedy ({sciesscoriani} 1st from U.S. other 2 English) taking care of as many as possible. Armenian + Turks both here former mostly refugees – also Greeks, Syrians etc. Not much in the line of souvenirs to buy. Visited mission

Page 45

Captain called on French Admiral who returned the call. Captain returned Consul's call. French cruiser Jules Ferry came in.

Thursday May 13

“Jules Ferry” left at 5 a.m. Captain called on Turkish civil + military governor who returned the call. Fired salute of 7 guns at departure. Captain exchanged calls with Captains of French + Italian ships. H.M.S. Triumph came in. Exchanged calls. Went ashore with Doctor + took some pictures. Saw camel

Page 46

caravan of about 300 camels. Only 4 drivers – two at head and 2 at end. Camels were light when loaded – about one guard to 12 camels. Not allowed in barracks of Turks. No place to eat always came aboard for meals and at night. No entertainment. Italian torpedo boat came in. I called. Call was returned.

Page 47

Friday, May 14

On duty. Exchanged calls with H.M.S. "Diana" "Diana" left. Very hot go in swimming every night.

Saturday, May 15

Delivered 580 rations to missionaries. They had sent off letter asking for aid. Bryan, Bagger and I called on wardroom officers of Italian cruiser "Perruccio" very pleasant evening.

Page 48

Sunday May 16

3 Officers from "Triumph" called on wardroom. Very pleasant fellows. "Montana" came in. Captain called which was returned by C.O. of "Montana" Capt. Reynolds. In evening Chief Eng. White + Lieut Dyer of Marine Corps paid wardroom call on us. Extremely pleasant.

Page 49

At same time 3 Italian officers from Perruccio called. They seemed to enjoy themselves immensely – played piano etc. left about 11 p.m. Captain stayed in wardroom all the time.

Monday May 16

On duty. Cabled Dept. permission to proceed as "Montana" was here. Rec'd invitation to a dance on "Perruccio" for Wednesday night.

Page 50

"Ferruccio", Montana, "Valionia" + a French cruiser only vessels in harbor now. Did not get chance to return "Triumph's" wardroom call. Too hot to write letter have not written since we have been here. Bryan, Bagger and Doctor returned Montana's wardroom call. They were received very pleasantly and had a fine time. On evening four from "Perruccio" came aboard to dinner 3 officers and 1 midshipman.

Page 51

Dinner at 6³⁰ – left at 10⁰⁰. They seemed to enjoy themselves very much – played piano + sang. All extremely polite like all foreigners. Turkish troop ship came in and landed troops at night – played searchlight on her.

Tuesday, May 18

Consul from Alfio arrived on Russian steamer. Conferred with C.O. No news. Br. Torpedo boat "Stag" came in and left again after a few hours.

Page 52

Wednesday May 19

German ship "Lubeck" came in and stayed about 6 hours. C.O. exchanged calls. At night, Hefburn, Bagger doctor + I went to dance on "Ferruccio". Satterlee + Bryan came over later. About 10 midshipmen and five or six officers from Montana there also officers from French ship [blank in journal], consuls, etc. About 40 women, ladies, girls + children. Vessel very prettily decorated – foreign flags, flowers, wines etc.

Page 53

Orchestra of a piano and 10 mandolins + guitars (sailors). Danced. Europeans dance very quickly with a different kind of step. Danced once and along very well. Mazurka + Polka principle dances although they dance a two-step + waltz similar to ours. Finally danced a square dance similar to Virginia reel. Very interesting. Italians very gay and go in for lots of fun. Very elaborate refreshments-----

Page 54

beer, champagne, etc. ices - cakes, sandwiches, etc. Dancing lasted from 8.30 – 12.00
Italian officer on duty wears blue ribbon over left shoulder + down under right arm. English Counsel's wife only woman that could speak English – no pretty girls.

Thursday May 20

On duty. French, Russian, English + Turkish merchant steamers in harbor. Everybody {daffy}

Page 55

on buying Persian rugs. Br. Torpedo boat stag mad short visit. English + Germans playing a diplomatic game.

Friday, May 21st

Scally, Bagger + I went ashore. Went to a store and haggled with merchant over {fine} of rugs, sword, etc. Bought chairs for us – had attendant pass cigarettes + then lemonade – very polite. Haggled about 1 ½ hours and then went to another

Page 56

dealer. Then walked about 1 mi. out of town to a silk farm.
Thousands of silkworm in racks on building – one rack over another – feeding on mulberry leaves which are cut from cultivated trees + carried in to silkworms. When silk worm is nearly done feeding put branches in on racks for them to climb up and spin. The cocoons are picked off branches + baked to kill worm. Best cocoons are

Page 57

shipped to France – others are spun there – put them in vat of hot water – catch strands of silk with stick and lead through fair leaders to loom turned by hand. Very crude. Very interesting. Came back to rug store, sat down, smoke merchant's cigarettes, ate some kind of an ice. After about an hour finally bought 2 rugs + 1 sword for £20_ original price £23. I took both rugs – 1 at £11 + 1 at £2 former

Page 58 Persian – latter Turkish. Great fun getting off to ship for 1 shilling – bum boatmen to take you off.

Saturday, May 22

Lieut Brouson, {Eli. Eng.} White (booth bull Lt.) Lt. Dyer M.C. + Ensign Howard come aboard as guests of wardroom. Consul Jackson from Alippo with his interpreter + guard came aboard in cabin for cruise. Underway + up to Boyas where anchored about noon

Page 59

Montana Officers, Consul's party, Hefburn, Bryan, Captain + myself went ashore. Looked through prison where there had been 432 criminals for life – who at time of massacre had been turned loose to help kill Christians. About 42 were Christians + they were killed + then bodies thrown in moat. Passed through old stable, stone stalls for a couple hundred horses. Went through ruins of old Roman watch tower.

Page 60

Natives would not hire us horses to go to Durytol so walked, soldier came along as escort. Passed numerous bands – Christians + Turks proceeding under escort. Finally arrived at Durytol where 1000 Turkish troops of new Sultan were en-camped. Turkish officer very cordial. Went in city to band stand and smoked + drank, hundreds of people around us many refugees there.

Page 61

Went back out to camp. Saw soldiers drill – watched them pray in place marked off by a file of stones about 6 inches high. At 5⁰⁰ had dress parade – soldiers saluted Sultan by presenting arms and yelling 3 times often flourishes by drum + bugle corps. Ate dinner in camp. Drove back in four carriages – a Turkish officer in each car-carriage. Turkish officers came aboard + spent the night. Very interested in

Page 62 American game of poker which we but not the Turks, On way up to Durytol passed through several villages which were completely desolate and destroyed – al buildings having been burned + people massacred.

While in Turkish camp, Armenian doctor introduced himself who had graduated from medical school in Detroit + had taken

Page 63

post graduate work at Harvard. He had practices in States a while and then went back to Turkey. His home in Damascus had been completely destroyed + his wife + children were with his brother in Damascus and he was afraid to go through the country and could not get an escort. He slipped the Consul a paper (without the knowledge of the Turkish officers) stating condition of things in

Page 64

that part of the country Turkish army very orderly and comfortable – digging little ditches for running water – making ponds + fountains – little water wheels set up in ditches – very attractive.

Sunday, May 23

Underway about 9 A.M. and up to Iasus. Stopped + sunk floating body of massacred Armenian. Anchored off Iasus about noon. I was on duty rest went ashore but did not

Page 65

See very much except a few bodies in different stages of decay along the beach. Underway at 6 p.m. and back to Alexandretta. All passengers went ashore.

Monday May 24

In the evening all officers except Addison + I went to smoker on Montana.

Tuesday May 25

About noon received orders by cablegram to proceed on cruise – underway at 6 A.M.

Page 66

Wednesday May 26

Cruising down along coast close in shore about noon off Durytol very pretty with numerous little towns on hill tops all around. Very large city – great sea fort – red city – all roofs red. French men-of-war in harbor. On down along coast passing numerous little towns among them Sidon, Tyre and Acre. Could see the old walls of Acre, etc.

Page 67

Thursday May 27

Arrived in Port Said about 10 a.m. Did not fire salute – they wanted us to go too far offshore – evidently try to discourage saluting. Took a pilot – compulsory. Came in basin let go both anchors and run 2 bowsers from stern to piles on shore. All vessels are compelled to moor that way. Portugese man-of-war (Issu?) in port a little larger than

Page 68

“Tahoma” – 2 stacks – wooden hull – 250 men – about 6 or 8 guns – undergoing repairs – rudder knocked off in corral. Exchanged boarding calls. I called on Portugese. Captain very sociable, spoke English fairly well. Went ashore that evening + took a look at the tower. Drove through Arab quarter – went in Mosque, guide got us way back in little room + then held us up for

Page 69 “baksheesh”. When came out had to pay again for use of shoes. Everything “baksheesh” Went out to Casino and listened to Ladies orchestra – very good.

Friday May 28

On duty. Great time keeping from boatmen off the ship. Portugese Captain called. Doctor + Hefbun went to Cairo.

Page 70

Saturday, May 29

Satterlee _ I went to Cairo. Train left Port Said at 8⁰⁰ + arrived in Cairo at 12⁵⁵. cars very light, about 6 compartments in each car and 6 seats in each compartment. 1st-2nd-3rd class. We went 1st class. Had Consul stamp our calling cards thereby getting ½ rates (government officers). Fare \$2⁵⁰. Even went 2nd class at ½ rate fare \$1²⁵. Above fares are for one way Sat + I had compartment to

Page 71

ourselves – very private. R.R. followed canal as far as Ishmalia – country a desert to zag-a-zig (about ½ way) and after that a big garden – irrigation ditches all through the land. At Cairo were besieged by hotel men – but went to Shepheard's. Left our grips + went out to pyramids by tram way. At end of care hire Sat. rode a donkey and I a camel off to the pyramids – a regular following of guides + boys etc.

Page 72

Saw pyramids, Sphinx, Temple of Sphinx etc. Baksheesh for everything. Pay for going in temple of Sphinx – for {niagiesia} burnt in dark chamber to show size of stone etc. etc. Went back to hotel and got rooms. ⁴⁰⁰ per day including meals (summer prices) After dinner drove around the city – across the Nile – on Island of Rhoda etc. In the evening we did the town.

Page 73

Sunday, May 30

Drove up to citadel – mosque of Mohammed Ali. Mosque extremely beautiful – arches + domes – Persian rugs, chandileers[sp] – gold + silver ornamentation. Drove down through bazaars – I bought Turkish sword for £3-10. and a few brass trinkets. Bazaar very unique + interesting. Little narrow streets – box like stores with whole front open and everybody trying

Page 74

to pull you into his store. Went in a Persian rug store – thousands of beautiful rugs. Sat bought one. Slept during afternoon and did the town in the evening.

Monday May 31

Visited blue mosque + other mosques – old Cairo –tomb of Maurbehikes – Museum, etc. Tomb of Maurbehikes in dome shaped buildings – sarcophagi ornamented with gilding etc.

Page 75

Museum full of mummies and all kind of old Egyptian antiquities

Cairo is certainly “some city” about 700000 people and as expensive and uop to date as New York. All kinds + classes of people with the one word baksheesh on their lips.. Everybody hangs around for baksheesh. It is the curse of the country and the cause of laziness of the people. Numerous cafes and dance

Page 76 halls with suggestive and extremely risqué performances. The R.L.D. is in a class by itself – all nationalities represented.

The people know how to live comfortably everybody takes their time and gets enjoyment out of life. It takes about four servants to do one servants work but labor is very cheap. Waiters in hotel

Page 77 were Soudanese with two or three pretty little German boys in charge. Talked for about 1 hour one evening with French widow stopping there – very interesting character.

Left Cairo at 6 p.m. and arrived at Port Said at 11. Took dinner on train. Fine meal and served very well. Comfortable dining chairs. In all it is more comfortable traveling here than in U. S.

Page 78

Tuesday June 1

On Duty/Nothing doing

Wednesday June 2nd.

Went ashore and attended to Gen. Mess + canteen stores. Bought everything through Pace. Pace gave me tow little clay mummies + some scarabs. Took lunch at eastern hotel exchange. In evening Doctor, Hepburn and I went ashore + listened to music at Casino

Page 79

Thursday, June 2nd

Cast off at noon after fitting search light over bow – big box containing light with {wou} in it to operate. Pilot on board. Stared down through canal. Posts on one side with distance marked in miles + tenths of miles – on other side kilometers + meters. In passing steamer one of us had to tie up to bank – Signal station signals

Page 80 which one shall tie up unless there is a current when vessel having head current ties up. Piles for tieing [sp] up to bank about every 200 ft. all along canal on both sides. Signal stations about every four or five miles. Banks of canal are not perpendicular + are not walled. Line of buoys on either side about 20 ft from bank.

Page 81 Changed pilots at Ishmalion/

Charges at Suez Water .49 per ton Coal (Welsh) \$4.7775 per ton Port dues for 6 day \$9.77 use of light in navigating canal \$39.20 canal dues for Fasnur \$631.40

Friday, June 4

Standing down Gulf of Suez – very high + picturesque mountains on both sides – passed Mt. Sinai – moderate North breeze – very pleasant.

Page 82

Saturday June 5

Gentle North breeze very warm – standing down Red Sea. Mountains in sight on starboard side.

Sunday, Monday, Tuesday

6th – 7th + 8th

Standing down Red Sea – following breeze – very warmther. Only 90⁰ but heat more oppressive that 103⁰ in Cairo on account of moist air.

Wednesday June 9th

Passed through Strait of Babel ex- Mandeb

Page 83

Perini cld. to starboard Eng. Garrison on Perini cld {cwd} one allowed to reside there without permission of English government. Entered Aden harbor about 3 p.m. Similar to Gibraltar – high rock on stb'd side another high rock which is fortified could {commmer} and Aden. Stopped off fort + fired 21 gun salute which was returned. Pilot came off – government pilot, no charge – and took {wo} in

Page 84

inner harbor – let go starboard anchor + moored stern to buoy – same buoy “Nlinto’s” stern was moored to. Health Officer did not come off. Indian government vessel “Nlinto” – Br. Gunboat “Philomel” and an Italian naval vessel in fort. Exchanged calls wall all of them. Captains exchanged calls. Usual bum-boat nuisances. Ostrich feathers plentiful.

Page 85

I went ashore to call on Consul. Very pleasant man – Scotchman, also Norwegian Consul. Drank and smoked and read mail while he put on frock coat etc. Recd' quite a bit of mail – lot more at P.O. postage due. Went back to ship with Consul. Scally, Bagger, Satterlee and I went ashore. Visited Consul a while and then walked about in shops, dickering. Bought

Page 86 Fan for 25 schillings – sleeping mat – gross cig. Cases_ rhinoceros hide swagger stick etc. Aden s a rather small town – better portion in form of a semi circle where are consulates, hotel d'Europe, best shops, etc. A large English garrison is stationed there – there are about 30 telegraph clerks as Aden is a relay cable port. Tennis + cricket in day and bridge at night are principal[sp]

Page 87 amusements. We were invited to club to play bridge but did not go as did not have time. Temple of Zoroaster, Tower of Silence, water tanks, Buddhist temple etc. Back 3 miles in crater of volcano is another small town “little Aden” which is composed mostly of natives. The natives are blacks – rather good features boat crew are half naked an=d some wear very comical

Page 88

costumes – they wear a heavy turbn. Bunkaho in all shops and drinking houses. Litle natives wanted to hip on Tahoma as Punkah Wallaus.

Thursday, June 10th

Coaled ship – barge came alongside with coal in bags and about 100 blocks – half naked passed it aboard – 90 tons in a little over an

Page 89 hour Underway and out about noon.

Friday, June 11th

Standing East. Variable winds/ Pleasant weather but arm.

Saturday June 12th

Passed U.S. Army Transport “Kilpatrick” about 5 p.m. Exchanged signal numbers with her. Talked with her by wireless – told us she had heavy

Page 90 weather all the way from Colombo to Socotia.

Sunday June 13

Clear of Socotia fresh strong S.W. breeze – moderate sea – vessel rolling heavily – doctor and Liberty seasick.

Monday, June 14

Same weather – same sea- doctor still sick. Flying fish numerous all along.

Page 91

Tuesday, June 15

Wind and sea moderating – doctor feeling fairly good. Weather much cooler with the S.W> monsoon.

Wednesday, Thursday + Friday

16th 17th 18

Conditions same. Passed Minokoi –grove of coconut trees. etc etc

Saturday June 19

Sighted Colombo about 8 a.m. Steamed up off fort + fired national salute which was returned. Two pilots came off

Page 92

(one just learning)

steamed in North entrance of breakwater and down to buoy – let go anchor – steamed ahead on anchor to swing vessel and collided with dredge which was entering harbor by N.W. entrance – struck ion starboard bow denting in flats and frames. All damage above waterline. Pilot was handling vessel and said Eng'r went ahead when he gave astern bell which was not true. Captain

Page 93

Very much upset.

H.M.S. "Fry" sent officer to call. I returned it. Fine bunch of fellows – did not see Captain he was too busy. Smoked and drank with officer – stayed about ½ hour. Called on Consul – got a rickshaw on the beach and went to consulate in Galle face hotel. Consul's name Maggellsson from Minnesota – had been Consul at Bagdad. Very pleasant man – met S.O. Co. agent. Consul came aboard. Doctor, Hepburn

Page 94

Addison + myself went to dinner with Consul at Galle Face – 4 civilians in party – very fine dinner – double line of wine glasses. Attended dance at hotel that evening. I did not dance no young girls there After dance went over to Columbia club and stayed till 2 a.m. Bagger and I went for rickshaw ride and while passing a garden someone grabbed my hat and beat it. Stayed at Galle Face that night. Colombo

Page 95

is certainly a lovely city. Magnificent roads especially down along beach to Galle Face hotel. Shingalese + Tamils the native people – the former (higher caste) wear tortoise combs to signify they do not carry burdens on their heads.

Sunday, June 20

On duty. Mr Siedle, jewel appraiser came aboard with some precious stones. This is certainly the place for jewels – the home of pearls

Page 96

catseyes and rubies – also sapphires etc etc. Bought provisions from Mr. Siedle. C.O. from H.M.S. “Perseus” called. Capt, Bryan, Satterlee + Scally dines with Consul.

Monday, June 21st

Bagger took 7:15 a.m. train to Kandy. Had let Cel. Apartment to ourselves. Passed at through city and up mountain. Scenery magnificent. Foilage very dense + tropical groves of coconut palm trees

Page 97 laden with coconuts – rice paddies in tiers one above the other being worked with water buffalo – immense white ant hills four and five ft high and some almost cylindrical in shape – picturesque thatch covered bungalows with naked children and half naked people. Tea, coffee+ cocoa plantations also farm rubber plantations About 20 20 miles from Kandy extra locomotive coupled on for steep grade. Up through tunnels alongside cliff where

Page 98

you could look perpendicularly below and see rice paddys in tiers – very beautiful/ Workmen even in Colombo wear nothing but breech cloth +small one at that. Women wear funny breast band – showing stomach between skirt + breast bad. Ate breakfast on train – and spent most time in dining car.

Left train at Paradenyini 4 miles from Kandy to visit botanical garden. Gardens most famous in world with

Page 99

exception of Java garden. Some Talifruit palm (largest palm that grows) etc every palm that grows, Nutmeg tree with nutmegs on. Nutmeg is surrounded by covering from which sage is made and whole thing is encased in hull like a walnut. Clove tree with clove nuts on (the spice cloves is before nut is formed) cinnamon tree – all-spice tree.

Page 100

black peppers – camphor tree the camphor is extracted from sap + juice of leaves, twigs, trunk and all. Tree the sap from which cocaine is made. Pineapples growing. Sensitive plant – if you touch the leaves they close up and droop.

Page 101

Bought cane made of talifruit + coconut wood. Visited + went through the tea factory. Went on up to Kandy by train. Took room at Queens Hotel – most comfortable room I have ever had at hotel – desk with writing material – 2 sofas with cushions all kinds of easy chairs etc. Had tiffon.

Took rickshaws + went out to see sacred elephants. They were lying down in river – keepers on their backs

Page 102

Wanted us to pay to have them get up + perform. Went back to town – on way stopped + drank milk from green coconut. Went to Buddhist temple – fed turtles flowers etc. In evening went back to Buddhist temple to see services. Saw case containing scared tooth etc. etc etc etc etc Visited shops + bought some trunk.

Page 103

Tuesday, June 22nd

Came back to Colombo on morning train. Satterlee + Addison waiting to take Bagger to court for investigating accident. Visited museum/ Leaf bug, etc etc. Bought 3 pearls of \$25⁰⁰. Mr. Siedle came off to ship bought following jewels Pearl {Frm} \$7⁵⁰

Moonstone.. 2²⁵

2 reconstructed rubies 4⁵⁰

1 amethyst 1²⁵

4 moonstones 3²

1 matrix opal; 2²⁵

Bought 2 ivory elephants for \$3²⁰

Page 104

Wednesday June 23

Underway and out about 10 a.m. Coasted down around Ceylon at 7 p.m. or so for Straits of Malacca

Thursday, Friday, Saturday

24 25 26

raining + squally weather – rather cool

Sunday 27

Sighted Sumatra passed in Malacca Strait Nicabar cld on fort canal

Monday 28

Standing down

Page 105 Strait of Malacca – anchored at night from 4 p.m. to midnight. Went ashore island Jarak. Dense jungle nothing alive on it. ½ mi long ¼ mi. wide.

Tuesday 29

Standing down Strait Anchored at night from 9 p.m. to 4 a.m.

Wednesday 30

Standing through narrows at Singapore – very pretty – native village on starboard bound built in water on piles. Made fast

Page 106 to wharf(pilot on board). I called on consul General. First natural harbor yet visited. The land of Chinese. Coaled ship – coolies carried baskets on bamboo pole – 2 men to

each basket. Rode around town. Very pretty place. Rickshaws here hold two people. Lots of educated looking Chinese. Wealthiest people are Chinese. Full of English schools for Chinese and natives – fine looking buildings.

Page 107 Went down through Chinese district and eating houses. Eat right on street. Sit on “hunkers” when eat – wear wooden shoes – some barefooted .

After coaling anchored in Singapore Roads. Fine large roadstead. About 75 large vessels anchored there. Anchored about 1 ½ mi from landing. Went ashore that night and stayed at

Page 108 Hotel Raffles – best in town. Each room offers own court and has private veranda with four or five easy wicker chairs. Extremely comfortable.

Thursday July 1st

Went ashore + took some pictures

Page 109

At night rode around place – lots of Japanese girls.

Friday, July 2nd

On duty. Bofterini Doctor + Satterlee went ashore to Johone + Sultans palace there. Bought Malacca canes – Chinese pipe – spoon. Bryan got a monkey

Saturday July 3rd

Underway at 5⁰⁰ a.m. out through Straits – standing up China Sea. Fine weather

Page 110 sighted large rock Donat took new departure

Sunday July 4th

Stthrough China Sea. Good weather

Monday July 5th

Moderate gale S.W. Vessel rolling. Doctor on his back Captain watching barometer – afraid of typhoon.

Journal ends here with light pencil notes n page 111:

“remainder of trip via Japan and return to U.S., not recorded- RRW Jr. April 17 to July 5, 1909 (RRW Jr)”









