

1847-1848

**October 1847** "I do not yet know whether Lord Henry and myself will dine with the Queen or not - Our cabin is on the main-deck, close to her own apartments, and she has promised the Duchess of Buccleuch to look after her boy as her own son - but all this I will tell you from Lisbon". (No letters from Lisbon have survived).

"The officers seem a very pleasant set, and willing to make everything comfortable. I suggested all sorts of improvements this morning which were instantly complied with. They themselves will, I fear, be rather indifferently accommodated owing to the passengers. Another steamer takes out the Duke de Palmella and

December 5th  
1847

family to Madeira. Everyday I hear of new English families who are to winter there. We have taken out a complete library for the voyage. The Duchess proposes I should make a little money by lending them out to the other passengers. I hope myself to become quite accomplished".

**November 1847** "We live, you must know, quite in public - our rooms opening straight, like in Swiss houses, by steps into the garden, and people walk in and out in the most unconcerned way".

**November 12th  
1847**

"It seems quite absurd for me to talk of winter when we have no fires, sit and sleep with our windows open, and have every sort of fruit and flower flourishing in our garden ..... Last Tuesday we

rode up the mountain with the Queen to about two thousand feet, and found ourselves suddenly transported from the tropical heat of Funchal to a complete November English fog - the trees dripping with rain and the clouds rolling beneath our feet - It is this which is dangerous to invalids, however we have not had any noxious consequences. We are now quite accustomed to the place and people as if we had lived here for the last hundred years".

"Yesterday a sentry had the impudence to poke at me with his bayonet for merely cantering past him. I was not aware that they (the Portuguese) expect all people to pass through the streets of their cities at a sedate and solemn pace".

**December 5th  
1847**

"Just now my interest has been much excited by your namesake - Mr Young - who I find is a brother of the late Sir Wm Young, the Buckinghamshire Baronet. He was deeply attached to Miss Moore, a friend of mine and a relation of Lord Henry's, who is out here for her health. She twice refused him, but he was not to be daunted, so he left his regiment in Canada and came to England. Finding she was gone to Madeira he followed her there, and was last week accepted. He is now as happy as a man can be and spends his whole day with her - sits with her in the morning, rides with her in the afternoon, and all this is not thought improper even by the strict etiquette of the Palace, for of course Her Majesty has been informed of it. I believe they are to return to England in March, if they can wait so long, to be married".

"We were thinking of a trip to the Azores last week, but the Queen has positively forbidden Henry to go. Though she kindly offered to take entire charge of him if I wished to go, I have also declined".

**March 12th  
1848**

"I have been absent from Funchal on my northern excursion. We took eight days and had a most delightful trip with beautiful weather and no serious accidents ..... In the bracing climate of the North I felt quite strong again .... but this hot climate in Funchal has already undone all the good. Still, as the Howe is now expected in less than three weeks, I shall of course think it my duty to wait for her, and go home with the Queen Dowager. Much as I should rejoice in reaching home sooner, and seeing you which is the constant wish nearest to my heart, I think it would now be manifest folly to run away before the expiry of the time. I am sure the Duchess of Buccleuch will be much more pleased if I stay with Henry until the last, and he, poor boy, would I am sure be quite unhappy if I left him. He was so delighted to see me back from the North that he threw his arms round me and would not let me go at first. Mr Fagan had stayed with him during my absence, and would do so still were I to request him. But I think it more prudent to go through with the matter myself".

**March 14th  
1848**

"We have a cruise in prospect - to Tenerife. The Royalties are all going except the Queen. Henry and myself, (with our invaluable friend Mrs Cozen the housekeeper) are also going. We sail in a most beautiful brig, the Brilliant, built for Lord Donegal originally, the

Commodore of the Yacht Squadron, and then bought by a native of Madeira. We hope, some of us, to ascend the Peak, which however is now said to be in a state of eruption, and also to land on the other Canaries".

.... "Yesterday the Queen took us in a Man of War Steamer to the East of the Island. We landed at Santa Cruz where we saw a Palm tree 300 years old and other wonders of nature and art. Immediately upon our landing the whole population turned out to meet us, the bells of the Church were rung, and the priests putting on their officiating robes, came out to receive us. We visited a ruined Convent in the neighbourhood. Coming back we created still greater astonishment in the minds of the crew of the Brazil Packet which we discerned through our glasses, endeavouring to approach Madeira but unable to on account of the wind. We steamed out to her and came alongside. They did not even seem to conjecture what we were, but stood aghast when they saw a smart steamer approach with the officers in full dress uniforms and white trousers, marines on deck, etc, etc. They themselves having been 8 days in a tempestuous sea of which they bore most evident marks and forming a striking contrast to us".

**April 27th  
1848**

"I am quite ignorant of your present movements, and just write these few hurried lines to announce our safe arrival at Spithead. We have not yet heard when Her Majesty will disembark, nor do I know where the Buccleuch family at present are ..... You will be

able to write to me at Montagu House, Whitehall Gardens by tomorrow's post, and then I shall know more about my movements, but I shall not wait there longer than to deliver Henry up in to his mother's care ..... We have had a most tempestuous passage, but are all quite well".