

HAVING taken my passage in the Allan steamship *Sardinian*, J. E. Dutton, Commander, I went on board at Liverpool, on the 20th July last, in company with Mr. J. R. Birks, of York City, in whom, through all our journeyings, I found a pleasant and agreeable companion. Not having been on board an ocean-going steamer before, I was a little curious as to the accommodation, &c.; and I would say here, that I was agreeably surprised at the provision made for the comfort of the passengers, whether in the saloon, intermediate, or steerage. As far as I could observe, everything possible is done to make the voyage across the ocean comfortable and agreeable. The kindness and courtesy of Captain Dutton and the officers of the ship; the attention of the stewards, both in the saloon and bedrooms, more especially if through sickness you are unable to go to the saloon table for your meals, when the steward will procure you anything you may fancy and bring it to your cabin; the cleanliness and order everywhere prevailing on board, and the care and skill shown in navigating these floating palaces, make a voyage in them very enjoyable. Few, however, escaped without suffering from sea-sickness to some extent, but it soon passed off, leaving us with better appetites than before, to do justice to the splendid meals which were placed before us, consisting of nearly every delicacy of the season. I had the opportunity during the voyage of looking through the intermediate and steerage departments, and of tasting the soup, bread, and beef served out to the steerage passengers, and was very much pleased with the manner in which the emigrants were treated. The food was good and wholesome, the apartments clean and well aired, and the wonder to me was that, with about one thousand steerage passengers aboard, the stewards managed to get them their meals with such order and precision; everything was arranged and superintended by the officers of the ship, and carried out by the stewards with military precision. In conversing with the emigrants I found very little fault-finding indeed; and where there was fault found it was generally by someone who, from his appearance, had left a worse table at home than he had found on board ship. With an ordinarily favourable passage there is no need for anyone to fear crossing the Atlantic; to me it was really enjoyable. The friendships I formed in going out and returning will never be forgotten. I had equal comfort in returning to England, in the steamer *Sarmatian*, belonging to the same company, and I have no hesitation in recommending those who contemplate crossing the Atlantic to avail themselves of the Allan line of steamers; they will be taken at a reasonable charge across the sea, and get excellent accommodation, and as the Company is under contract with the Canadian Government for conveyance of the mails, the steamers start punctually on their appointed dates, a matter of no small consideration to passengers.

As the sea route has been so often described, I will only say that we arrived safely at Quebec about seven o'clock on Saturday night, and after getting out our luggage, stayed there over the Sabbath. Monday morning, July 31st, started for Ottawa, by the Occidental Railway, via Montreal, 190 miles. Passed through a poorly cultivated district inhabited principally by French Canadians. The land appeared to be of poor quality; but in running through it by railway one does not get a correct idea of the country, for generally speaking the rails run very often through the worst parts of the country. I found afterwards

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