

port, a very pretty seaport, and not far away. We left in a mist and arrived there in rain as usual, but the weather soon turned and instead of rain we had to do with a very high wind. Our boarding-house overlooked the water and the long promenade, while on the sands below the children find any amount of amusement with spade and shovel. Donkey rides, Punch and Judy shows, bands, and all kinds of performances, are carried on here. We enjoy it very much. We do our own marketing, which is all we have to do with our housekeeping, so that we can have what we please, and the town is so pretty, the bread so good, and a splendid market makes living here very enjoyable. A great many people seem to spend the summer here. In the evening the long promenade is crowded, also the pier. We are close to the salt or fresh water baths. The children never tire of the swimming pond, which is in the same building. While here Robert and I visited Preston and Lytham, where he has some relatives. We were now thinking of our trip to Ireland, where we intended spending a short time before sailing, but had spent such a happy time here that we felt very lonely upon leaving them.

We crossed from Liverpool, and for once had a smooth passage and no sea-sickness. After spending a few hours in Belfast, where it rained again (we drove around, though, and went sight-seeing in spite of it), we took train for a small place called Newton-Butler, where we had friends. We arrived in the evening, our friends meeting us with