

loaded with shot, a flag (Union Jack) is over all, it is then put on a board, and is then shot into the water through one of the port-holes. There never has been a death on board this ship before, so it was a new and solemn duty the captain had to perform. I felt very much for the poor mothers, and went to my room and thanked my Maker for preserving me. There are some nice gentlemen on board, officers, &c., and we have lots of fencing, boxing, &c. I have made the acquaintance of a young farmer whom the captain introduced to me, and have promised to visit him, as he lives close to Toronto, with his mother and family, on a large farm of his own. We will reach St Johns, Newfoundland, to-morrow, where we are to get on shore to see the town, &c. I shan't post this letter there, as it gets to you no quicker, but wait till I reach Quebec, which will be Tuesday or Wednesday, and then I will have more to tell you. I trust poor dear old grandfather is keeping cheery. Tell him there are a couple here on board, the old gentleman is 87 and the old lady close on 80. They are going out to spend the *fiftieth anniversary of their marriage* with their family; *so surely there is hope for him yet.* Ditto for the "old woman" who takes snuff, &c., at 4 Albyn Place, Edinburgh. The postage of this thick paper will cost me *more* I know; but I don't mind, as I want you to keep all my letters perfectly clean, and get them neatly bound, as I am writing as nicely as possible for that purpose. Mr M'Kie will kindly check all my errors very neatly and small, as my letters are too long to read over twice by the writer, then I will have something to look back upon. The other evening the moon was shining beautifully, and I really could not