

bad with what the doctor called colic. For about two hours I could hardly move, and was dosed with castor oil to any extent, but by about the middle of the day I was all right again, but had missed my day's shooting. There is some talk of having another steeplechase when the *Swiftsure* comes out, if there is time, but I hardly expect there will be. I do hope next winter will not be a hard one, as I want to get as much hunting as possible. I see from your letter that Diddy and Randy have taken to hunting. I suppose Di has not managed to get the brush yet. Will you thank her for all her letters to me, and also all the others? Give my love to Mum, and say I will write soon. Drop me a line when you have time. Good-bye, from—Your loving son,

NED.

LXXIII.

H.M.S. *Triumph*. Coquimbo, 29th July 1888.

MY DEAR MOTHER,—We have just got back here after being away a fortnight. We were five days at Caldera, and ten days at sea. I have just got my steeplechase cup, which is very fine. We expect the *Swiftsure* to be here in another week, so that we ought to be home about the beginning of November. We shall not come back the same way as we came out, as, instead of going to Monte Video and Madeira, we shall go to Rio de Janeiro and Lisbon. Will you ask father if he has any objection to my having a suit of riding-clothes? The things that most naval officers wear are either