

This is written from B B Hurlington - my dear
brother sailed in this ship 14th Oct 1909. He
was then only 17 years 3 months old.

Dear Mother

Just a few lines to let you know that
we arrived at Medera this morning after
a twelve days passage and I can tell
you that we have had a rare old
putting up right from the time we
left the Tyne until we got through
the Bay of Biscay we were very nearly
four days in the Bay instead of
about 38 hours and not only that
but the forecastle has been flooded
all the time every thing floating
about and in the bunkers you
are very nearly up to the knees
in water she is a proper wreck
and nearly everybody is about
full up with her already we are
just calling at Medera for
bunkers and we will leave tonight
again for Valparaiso after that
we expect to go to ~~San Pedro~~
Sidney

and if she does everybody will be clearing ~~the~~ ~~out~~ ~~for~~ ~~the~~ she is a rotten packet altogether and.

The grub ~~the~~ is not up to ~~much~~ either so that we are not getting much encouragement to stop in her now noth I think I have given you all the news at pres^{ent} so give my love to Annie and with ^{best} love to yourself

I remain

^{ever}
Your loving and affectionate

son

Jack

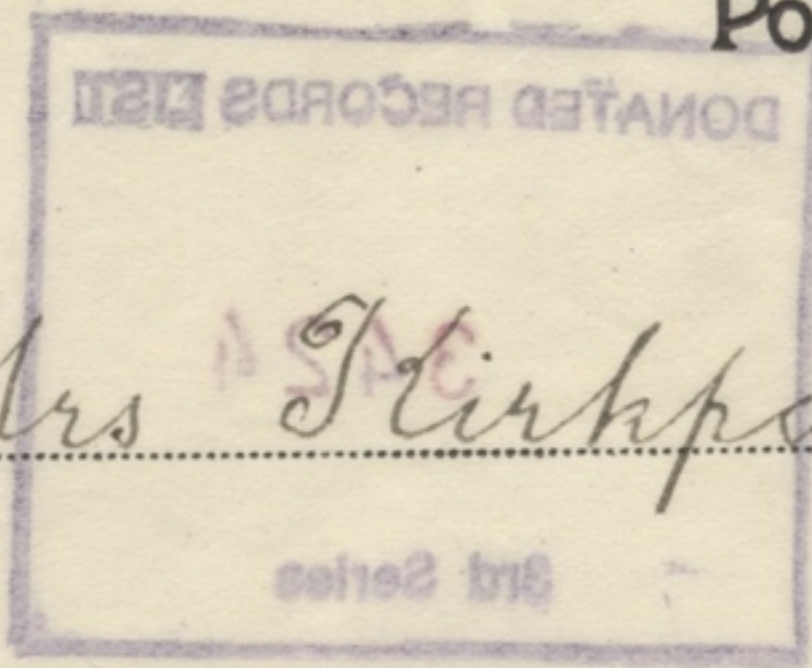
P.S. Tell Beggie I have not had time to write her from here and give my love to the kids. Now Mother do not forget to write to Valparaiso c/o British Consul also with love from Jack

S.S. Highington

Port of Genoa

October 26th 1909

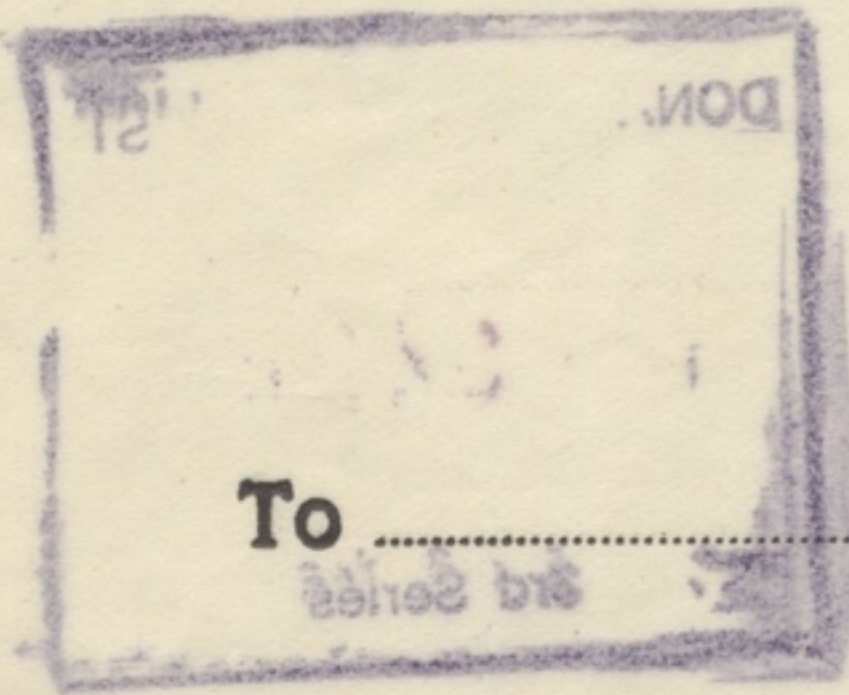
To Mrs Kirkpatrick



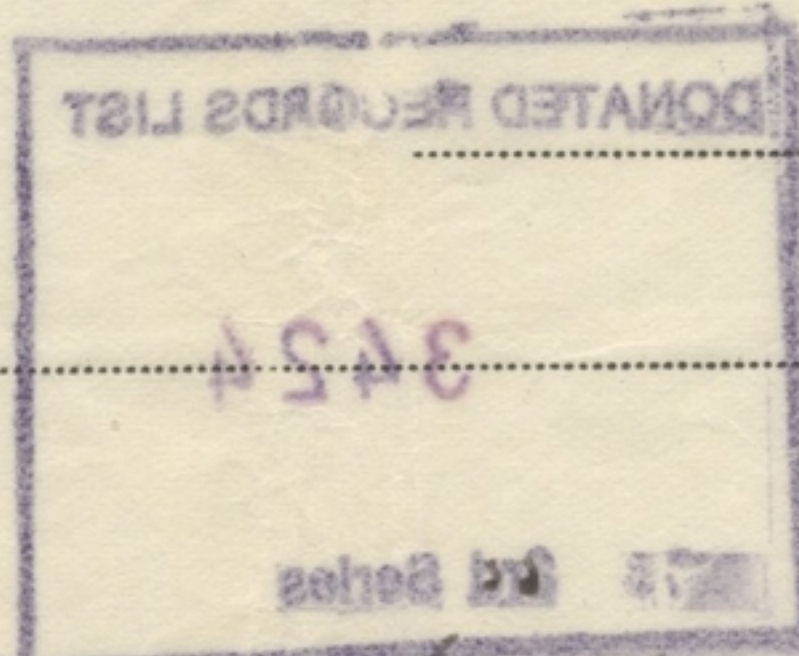
Dear Mother

I received your welcome letter this morning at 10 o'clock when we arrived, making it a 14 days trip, which I quite enjoyed I can tell you, Now I do hope you are keeping your pecker up and not worrying yourself about me for you have no call at all, here I am having grand weather and little work and plenty of good grub and ~~eat~~ eating ^{of it} every Gods amount I think I have eaten more in this fortnight than I have eaten for the last six months. I eat enough for two men at meals, still I am always feeling ["]hungry I am getting an appetite like a horse but there is one consolation there is plenty ^{always} of good grub more than is used, they do live high in this Messroom they are fed like fighting cocks I can tell you. I get up at 4.45 in the morning and ^{make} tea and toast for the second engineer and you bet I have my own tea and toast I then work on till about 1.30 and then I have my afternoon nap. I have a pretty soft time of it

S.S.



Port of



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it is money for now and I get on that well with the engineers they are these fine fellows. if I keep on the way I am going on now I will be like a pet elephant by the time I get home for the sea air is doing me a lot of good, now after we left the Tyne we did catch the weather until we got through the Bay of Biscay my best she can roll, for she has no ballancers on her bottom. The first Sunday after we got out I had a good laugh they were having dinner when ^{the ship} she took a big lurch to one side then over come the soup, vegetables, meat, and puddings all ~~on~~ on top of the Engineers knees and they could not stop them for they were hanging on to the table for all they were worth they did look ~~not~~ dignified scraping all the ruffish of their trants and jackets and all the plates and dishes were smashed.

Now I cant Tell you anything about Genova yet for I have not been ashore yet and I am not going ashore till Saturday

S.S.

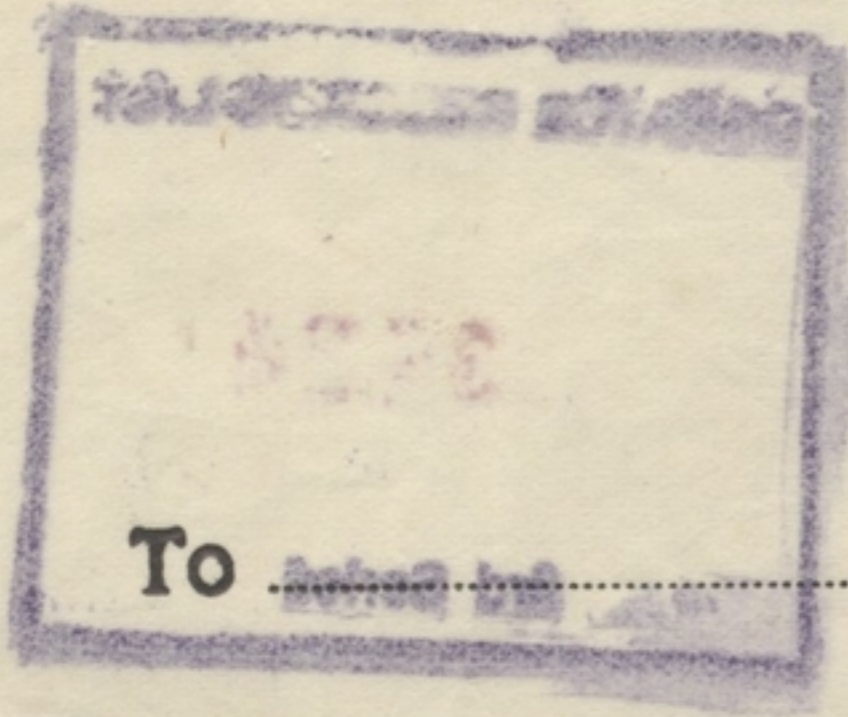
Port of



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To

night, Now about these photos you can send them out as soon as you like they will be very welcome, I am glad you and Peggie are getting on all right and hope it will last and I hope Peggie gives you and give her a thick ear to be going on with till I get home, and dont let your ^{mother} temper get the better of you or I will tell Peggie to give the same to you till I arrive, You tell Annie I am very sorry I did not bid her goodbye but that was no fault of mine as I did not expect to get away so soon, but never mind I am going to buy you a new nose in Genoa and send you some post cards so that will make up for it, and thank Will for me for taking them photos Now tell Sarah I hope Sam is working, Tell Bob and George that I will not forget that parrot and monkey, I am sorry to hear that Martha is keeping so poor but she will soon get better, Now Mother you forget to put the cards and addresses



S.S.

Port of



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To

in my bag, but then that is surprising seeing the state you were in. But now would lass you will not have to worry any more for I am as happy as a lindy and I dont see why you should not be same now I dont think that you will be able to guess what this been a short letter but I am about tired now and I am thinking of turning in. Now hoping this finds you all as it find me and that ~~is~~ in the pink of condition. Now this ^{is} about all I have to say at present so love to all

I remain

Your loving son

Jack

P.S. Now Mother keep your heart up. And write out again for we will be here about a week or ten day and send the photos. So long for the present

B.S. Hughington

88 "Hughington"

Port of Genoa

November 9th 1909

To Mrs Kirkpatrick

Dear Mother

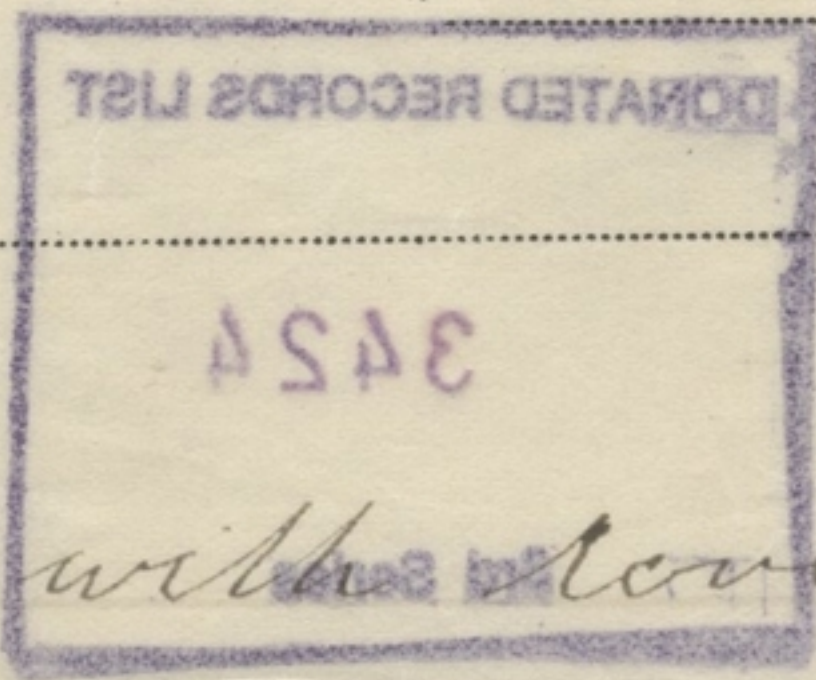
Just a line to let you know that we are leaving Genoa tonight or tomorrow morning bound for Tunis and Sausa on the North coast of Africa where we will load part of general cargo at each port for London and Aberdeen. Now Mother I do hope you are keeping all right and that Sarah and Peggy are being kind you. Now don't forget that half pay note on Thursday, I am very sorry to hear that Peggy is keeping so poorly and I hope that she will soon get better. I have been to see the cemetery at Genoa it is a sight worth going to see there is hundreds of thousands of pounds worth of statues and monuments on the graves all cut out of marble they say it is the finest cemetery in the world and I believe it is, it is beautiful. Now on Sunday 4th I was playing at a football match a team picked out of the ships in the harbor, and we played the Genoa college boys an unbeaten team and we beat them four to one. Now Mother if you answer this sharp I will get it at Tunis and write it to the British Consul. Now Mother this is about all at present so give my fondest love

S.S.

Port of

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To



to all at home & with love to yourself
I remain

your loving & affectionate son
Jack

x x x x x x

P.S. hope you received them P.C. all right
 Now Annie you are along time is ranging that
 P.C. If it does not ~~not~~ come to Tunis I will
 pull your nose for you when I get home, O. I forgot
 to tell you what I thought of the photos
 they are champion but a matter I think
 you might have tried to look a bit pleasant
 or you look as if you had lost a tanner and
 found a thespessary dodger you know I work
 better ^{something} than yourself not words for I know
 you can look better than that photo when
 you like Now don't forget to write sharp
 Salong

S.S. Hughington

Port of Tunis

Nov 16th

1909

To Mrs Kirkpatrick

Dear Mother

Just a few lines to let you know that we arrived at Tunis on Saturday morning and we are loading Battery and locust Beans and we will next go to Bone instead of Susa and from there we will go to Phillip Dale and then to Adgerais to load for London and Leith instead of Aberdeen now Mother I do hope you are keeping all right and that you and Reggie and Sarah are agreeing all right and making you happy I forget to tell you in my last letter that I had a letter from Bob and he tells me that you have not yet the insurance yet now Mother it is going to be hard times after all the struggling and depriving yourself that you have had to pay it to be twisted ~~of~~ out of it & I am afraid Bob was right when he said that these insurance companies were a swindle but I hope by the time this reaches you that you have got it all right. I was ashore in Tunis last night with ~~my~~ a young Arab the ship chandler

88. 28. 1909

Port of Tunis

1909

To Mrs. [Name]

Son and a nice young fellow he is to He took
 me all round Tunis it is a pretty little
 place and it looks well to see all the
 Arabs dressed in their long white shirts
 and white turbans Now mother we expect
 to be leaving here tomorrow for Bona but
 I don't think we will get as far as Algiers
 for we will have our full cargo by then
 Now Mother this is all at present so give
 my love to all at home and with ^{best} love to
 yourself

I remain

Your loving Son

Jack

P.S. hope Annie has sent that P.C. it has
 not all arrived yet



S.S. Highington

Port of Fifelli

Nov 30th

1909

To

Dear Mother

I received those welcome letters and post card just as we were leaving Tunis so I could not answer them from that port but I wrote as soon as we got to Bona and the steward forget to give to give them to the old man to post ~~and~~ he put them away in the ^{draw} and never came across them again until we were leaving Phillip Vale so here I was expecting a reply when my letters had never went. We arrived at Fifelli this morning so I am in fact we are not in yet for we are lying outside waiting for the pilot so you can see I am taking the first opportunity of writing. Now Mother I am glad to hear that you are all keeping well at home and Peggy tells me she had you out for an afternoon at Sunderland "Well done" I am glad to hear that you are keeping ^{up your} spirits and keeping your heart up and Peggy tells me she has never seen you in a bad temper since I went away. Now that is what I call a good change. Now tell Sarah I received her letter all right and I am glad that you are keeping all right

1001

Port of

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and sorry that she is not getting plenty of
 strokes at work and tell ^{her} that ^{I hope} Jim is
 working and fetching her plenty quicks now
 tell Annie I received her P.C. all right
 and I am very sorry to hear that she has
 been paid off but never mind kid I do
 hope that you will get another cunning
 little job soon now Annie I am sure it
 will be hard for you now when anybody
 asks you what you are working at you
 will not be able to blow out your chest
 and tell them that you are a "Lady Clerk"
 but never mind kid I am sure some better
 job than that will soon turn up. Now
 right up to now we have been having
 splendid weather better than it was in
 the summer at England we are going to
 Algiers from here and then to London but
 I will write from Algiers and let you know
 the London address now Mother I think this is
 all at present so with fondest love to yourself
 and all I remain

Your Loving & Affectionate Son
 * * * * * Jack * * * * *

Highington

Port of

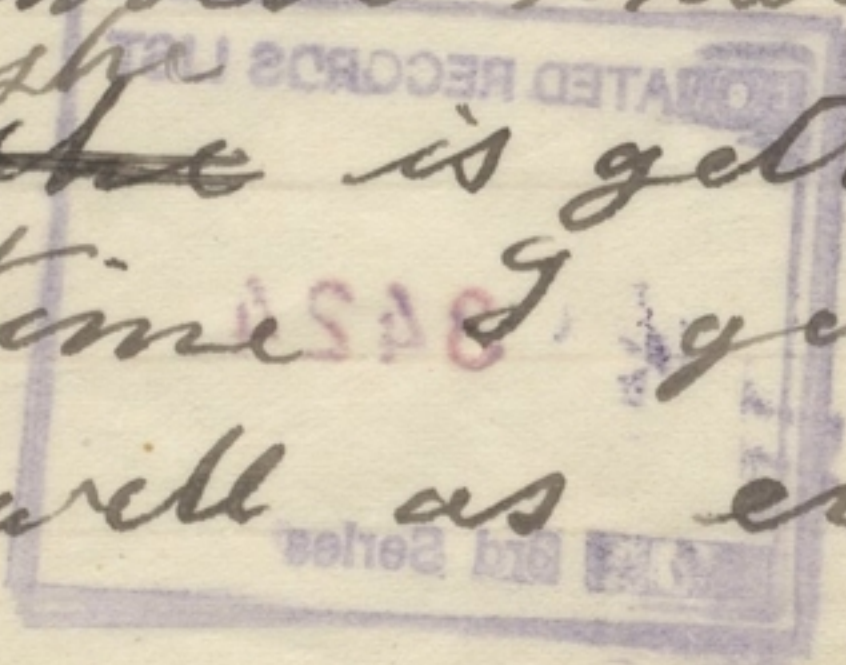
Leith

December 18 1909

To Mrs Kirkpatrick

Dear Mother

Just a few lines to let you know that I received your welcome letters on Saturday Night when we arrived I had four altogether there was 2 from you and one from Peggie and one from Bob. Now Mother I don't know whether we are going to pay off here ~~or~~ or not or whether we are going to the Tyne or Leardiff to ~~load~~ ^{and} pay off it. I had a letter from Bob and he says ~~that~~ that he would like to have a visit from me if I can manage it I was ashore last Night and I had a look round Leith I was in Leith Work and all over the shop but it was terribly cold there was a very severe frost on and this morning it is snowing but I have got a good stove in the mess room and it heats the place up as treat. Now tell Annie that I am very glad to hear that ~~she~~ ^{she} is getting better and I hope by the time I get home that she will be as well as ever again and tell Sarah



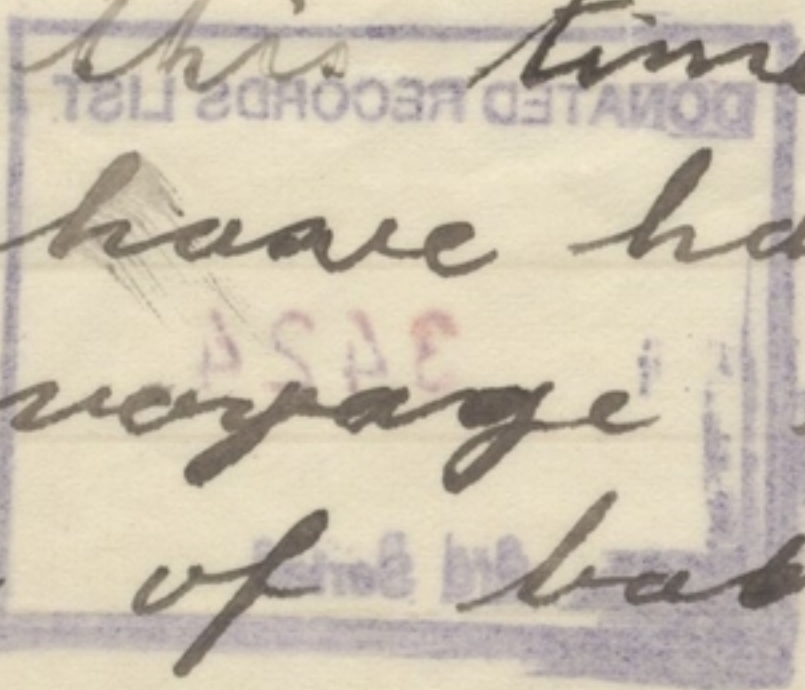
S.S.

Port of

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To

that I am hoping that she is feeling better now and tell her that I am very glad to hear that Sam is working and being good to her and that she is being good to ^{her mother} ~~you~~ & Pow Mother is I do hope that you are keeping well yourself for mind I am, eating like a horse, the steward and me have a row every afternoon for I gorge ~~my~~ and worry all the roast beef that there is left ^{at dinner} and take him the bare bone to put cold meat and make stew for the tea and he does groan I can tell you but then you see I blame the engineers for eating all the meat and then you see it is all right Pow Mother I think we will be paying off here so I ~~to~~ will be home for my Duck at Xmas I say do you remember when I pinched that duck so mind you watch it well ^{this time} I am very fond of poultry we have had a good few chickens on the voyage but they were almost the size of bantams and nothing else but



S.S.

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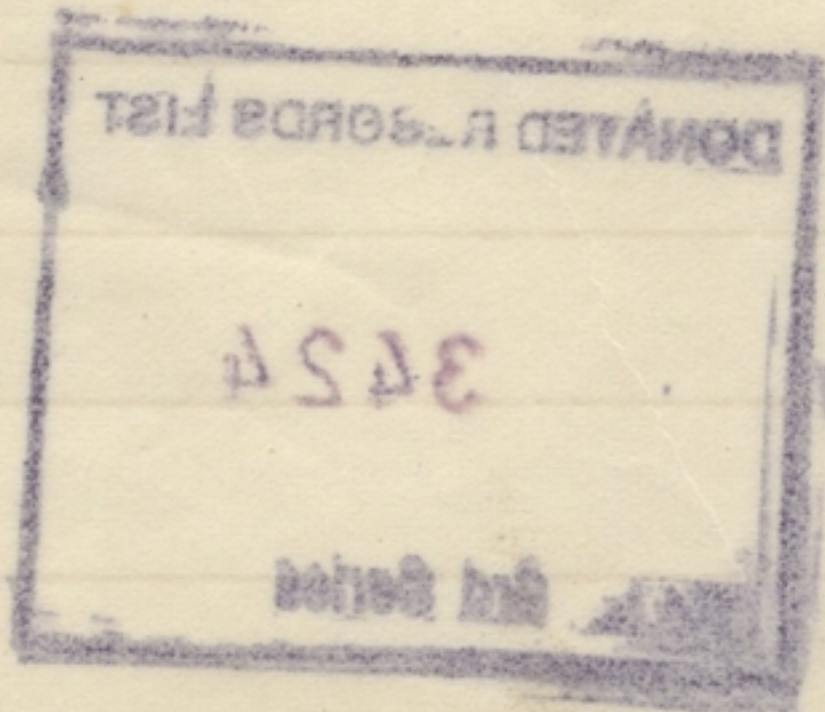
To

skin and bone but never mind I
 got my share of them the first day
 we had chickens they wolfed the lot
 but mind they didnt they after that I
 watched them for it I had my wack
 for shored in the suboard before I told
 them dinner was ready so you bet I
 had my chicken as well now Mother I think
 that this is all at present So give my love to
 all at home and with love to yourself

I remain

Your loving son
 Jack

x x x x x x x x



SS. Highington

Port of London

December 16 1909

To Mrs Kirkpatrick

Dear Mother

Just a line or two to let you know that I have just received your letter. And I am writing back by return of post as you ask I wrote on Tuesday night home and I see you have not said anything about receiving it Now it seems as if my letters are not getting sent, you see I just take them aft and the skipper he stamps them for me and sends them off Now Mother I sent you a letter from Jifelli and a post card from Algiers with the London address on it I had no time to write more and if you have not mentioned about ^{receiving} neither P.C. nor letter in your letter. Now it is a bit thick if my letters are not being sent for I will be charged for them just the same when I pay off. I hear we are going to pay off at Leith. Now Mother tell Annie that I am very sorry to hear that she is so poorly but I hope she will soon get better and tell Sarah that she will not have to get bad now P.S. I wrote to Peggie and Bob last night

To

or else she will be making him think that he ~~had~~ has got an invalid for his wife & her mother I think that I will be getting the chuck when I get to Leith for I hear that they are going ~~the~~ to send a lad from the office I warned he will be coming for about 30 bob or two pound but he will not get a great catch. for the ~~eg~~ engineers & mates do their own washing the cook said he has never seen a chief engineer doing his own washing until now but never mind I expect I will be able to get along without their washing & her mother I think this is all at except that I ~~have~~ had a dose of cold since we left Algiers and a sore throat & her mother give my love to Sarah and Annie and with love to yourself

I remain

Your loving son

Jack

it is now 3000ch we expect to leave about 4