

"The Log of the 'Persic.'"



South Africa	England	Australia
David G. Jubbas Capt.	Stanley G. Curtis Capt.	H. R. Arnott Capt.
Ad. White	Alex. F. Nash	Geo. A. Pritchard
J. C. Angle	John K. Marshall	Henry L. Harvey
E. S. Sargantaram	Edgar M. Miller	A. G. Pritchard
A. Long	James G. ...	W. A. Smith
J. H. ...	W. ...	James H. Anderson
W. ...	W. ...	George Leggart
R. ...	A. ...	George A. Gony
...	F. ...	E. T. ...
...	...	J. ...
...	...	W. ...

Liverpool to Sydney Aug. Sept Oct 1909



Editor - - - H. L. HARVEY.
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"The Log of the 'Persic.'"

AUGUST, SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER, 1909.

THE VOYAGE.

ON the 26th August, 1909, the "Persic" left Liverpool, on the outward half of her twenty-fifth voyage, with a list of 328 passengers on board.

The commander of the boat was Captain William Morgan (Lieutenant R.N.R.), and throughout the voyage his courtesy to all and his consideration for the comfort and material welfare of the passengers were very marked and contributed largely to make the voyage a pleasant one.

The liner experienced very pleasant weather as far as the Cape, though the head gales during the last week of this section reduced considerably the average of the daily runs. The Line was crossed on September 6th at ten minutes past seven in the evening. An account of the celebrations accompanying this event will be found elsewhere.

On September 15th the liner reached Capetown and came to anchor in Table Bay about six o'clock in the evening. The more energetic spirits, doubtless feeling cramped after three weeks on the boat, went ashore in the evening to find some outlet for their energy, and many a chorussed song announced their return in the dead of night. Next day nearly everybody took the opportunity to see the city and do a little shopping, though in most cases the high prices charged were not conducive to undue expenditure.

After leaving Capetown, we had the misfortune to experience foggy weather, and the roar of the foghorn was rather trying at night to light sleepers. As the ship approached the 45th parallel of latitude the weather became very cold and a slight fall of snow occurred on several occasions. The sea was very rough at times and cases of mal-de-mer were somewhat numerous.

On approaching Australia the weather improved considerably and patriotic Australians were not slow in ascribing the improvement to the benign influence of their own sunny clime. Albany was reached on October 1st, and the ship was soon emptied of passengers eager to set foot on Australian soil. The wild-flowers were a great joy, and the scenery came in for general admiration—though more than one Sassenach refused to enthuse over the spectacle of an old rusty kerosene tin or a broken fence.

Leaving Albany, the ship was soon crossing the Australian Bight, which can rival the Bay of Biscay for rough seas. However, Australia was kind to her homing children and desired to welcome her guests, and it was across a very placid Bight that the good ship "Persic" steamed.

On October 5th we arrived at Adelaide and stayed twenty hours, during which time a surprising quantity of cargo was taken out of the ship to the accompaniment of a corresponding volume of noise. The beautiful way in which Adelaide is laid out was much appreciated by the visitors, and there is no doubt that South Australia is to be congratulated on her capital.

The run from Adelaide to Melbourne was not marked by anything of importance, though Father Neptune sent a heavy swell which made the ship roll considerably, and was an unpleasant send off for the more biliously inclined. The "Persic" berthed at the Railway Pier, Port Melbourne, about 6 a.m. on October 8th.

SPORTS AND PASTIMES.

On the second day out from Liverpool, at a meeting of passengers in the saloon presided over by Archdeacon Alnutt, a Committee was elected to provide and direct the

amusements for the first half of the voyage. The following were elected :—

President : Mr. H. J. Rose.

Treas. : Mr. P. V. Ambler. Sec. : Mr. F. G. Petts.

Gen. Committee :

Misses Symonds, H. Tate, J. Tate, Walker; Messrs. Brough, Cardwell, Curtis, Dawson, Giblyn, Ingle, Leslie, Marks, Turner, and Rev. Jackson.

These lost no time in getting to work and provided a most interesting programme. If one can differentiate where all worked so hard, the President, the Secretary, and Messrs. Giblyn, Dawson and Ingle deserve special thanks for the energy they showed.

The Prize List was as follows :—

LADIES.

- Miss Anderson—2nd Gretna Green.
Miss Ballard 1st Deck Quoits, 1st Bull-Board.
Miss F. Clarke—1st Whist Drive, 1st Bridge Drive.
Miss Barnes—2nd Nail Driving.
Miss Gessner—1st Potato Race, Cotton Winding, Peg Quoits, Deck Billiards, Whistling Race.
Miss Goode—Best dressed Lady at the Fancy Dress Ball.
Miss Gibson—2nd Deck Quoits.
Miss Hobson—1st Gretna Green.
Miss Irwin—Consolation prize Fancy Dress Ball.
Mrs. Jameson—1st Bridge Tournament.
Miss McAlpine—1st Threading Needle.
Miss Sweetzer—1st 50-yards Race.
Miss Symonds—1st Nail-driving, 2nd (Potato Race, Peg Quoits, Cart and Horse, and 50-yards Race).
Mrs. Smith—2nd Tie and Cigarette.
Mrs. Tompkins—2nd Egg and Spoon.
Miss H. Tate—1st Cart and Horse.
Mrs. Venter—2nd Bull-Board.
Miss Wood—1st Egg and Spoon.
Mrs. White—1st Chalking Pig's Eye, 1st Tie and Cigarette.
Miss Walker—Best dress made on board, Fancy Dress Ball, 2nd Cotton Winding.
Miss Wearne—Girl's Prize, Fancy Dress Ball.
Miss Wedge—2nd Deck Billiards.

GENTLEMEN.

- Mr. Brough—1st Threading Needle.
Mr. Crossley—2nd Cock Fighting.

- Mr. Dawson—1st 100-yards, 2nd Sack Race, Obstacle Race, Chess, Deck Quoits, Deck Billiards.
- Mr. Giblin—1st Whistling Race, Chalking Pig's Eye, 2nd Spar Boxing.
- Mr. Guinness—1st Slings the Monkey, Cockfighting.
- Mr. Harvey—Best Dressed Gent. Fancy Dress Ball.
- Mr. Ingle—1st Cart and Horse, Whist Drive, 2nd Potato Race.
- Master Kiddle—Boy's Prize Fancy Dress Ball.
- Mr. Long—2nd Slings the Monkey, Bridge.
- Mr. Miller—1st Tie and Cigarette, 2nd 100-yards, Horse and Cart.
- Mr. Meadows—2nd Peg Quoits.
- Mr. Maydon—1st Deck Billiards.
- Mr. McPherson—1st Draughts.
- Mr. Penny—1st Spar Boxing.
- Mr. Pritchard—1st Deck Quoits.
- Mr. Parry—1st Bezique, 2nd Bridge.
- Mr. Petts—1st Obstacle Race.
- Mr. Reinhard—1st Chess.
- Mr. Rose—1st Bridge.
- Mr. D. Smith—2nd Draughts.
- Mr. F. A. Smith—1st Bull Board, 2nd Cigarette and Tie, most original dress Fancy Dress Ball.
- Mr. Streaton—1st Bridge Drive.
- Stewart—1st Potato Race, "Are you there, Mike?", Peg Quoits, Sack Race.
- Mr. Taffs—2nd "Are you there, Mike?"
- Mr. White—2nd Bull Board.
- Mr. Watts—1st Cribbage.

After leaving the Cape, the old Committee retired, and the following were elected on to the new :

President : Mr. Arnott.

Treas. : Mr. Rose. Sec. : Mr. Crossley.

Gen. Committee :

Misses Gessner, Ballard, Anderson, and Barnes ; Messrs. Harvey, Stewart, Bonsfield, Barriskill, Colquhoun, Pritchard, Stead, Taffs, and McCracken.

The Second Committee rivalled the first in energy and provided amusement of some description practically every day between Capetown and Albany.

We regret that we are unable to furnish the list of prizewinners, but the Secretary, unfortunately, used it as shaving paper for himself, and curl papers for his numerous lady friends.

CRICKET.

Between Liverpool and Capetown a triangular series of test matches was played between teams representing England, Australia and South Africa.

Australia beat South Africa by an innings and 27 runs, and England by an innings and 4 runs.

South Africa beat England by 55 runs.

Australia thus won outright, with South Africa second, while England carried off the wooden spoon.

Australia then played a combined team, but lost by 16 runs.

The teams were :—

Australia.—Messrs. Arnott (capt.), Parry, Harvey, A. G. and G. E. Pritchard, Giblin, Maydon, Stewart, Anderson, Tomkins, and Martin.

South Africa.—Messrs. Jubber (capt.), Dawson, Ingle, H. W. and G. Shoesmith, White, Farquharson, Turner, Long, McPherson, and Dr. Bailey.

England.—Messrs. Curtis (capt.), Benton, V. and G. Tanton, Miller, Crossley, Colquhoun, Petts, Guinness, Nash, and Shaw.

Between Capetown and Adelaide two matches were played between teams representing Australia and England. Australia won both after keen struggles ; in each instance, having more than a hundred to get in the last innings. The chief features of the games were the fine all-round play of Benton who, in one innings, captured every wicket ; and the excellent batting of Arnott who always provided a good score when runs were badly wanted.

The Ladies played two international matches ; England winning the first by 25 runs, and Australia the second by 39 runs.

To end up the season the Doctor and the Purser picked teams and played a game. The Purser's side romped home, chiefly owing to a fine innings of 75 by Mr. Curtis.

We print the following, with apologies to all whom it may concern :

Upon the "Persic's" poop they sat,
He held her hand, she held her hat,
I held my peace and lay quite flat.
They kissed—I saw them do it!
He held that kissing was no crime ;
She held her head up every time ;
I held my peace and wrote this rhyme
While they thought no one knew it.

THE FANCY DRESS BALL.

The Fancy Dress Ball was held on September 11th. About forty couples turned out in fancy dress, which ranged from the garb of pre-historic man to the brocaded silks and satins of the period. Special mention must be made of Miss Goode who went as an Arcadian shepherdess, and who might have stepped down from one of Watteau's canvases. Mr. Smith as the Indian chief was extremely original, and a source of much merriment, as were the antics of the two sailor lads whose brazen love-making was quite in accordance with the traditional idea of Jack's amours.

MUSICAL.

Six concerts were given on the voyage, and were much enjoyed. The following artistes contributed, and deserve the heartiest thanks of the passengers for their successful efforts:—Mrs. Carr, Mrs. Barriskill, Miss Bolton, Miss Hobson, Miss Titheradge, Miss McAlpine, Miss Taffs, Miss Ballard, Miss Egerton, and Miss Goode; Messrs. Benton, Taffs, Rose, Meadows, Ingle, Dawson, Rev. Jackson, Pope, Maydon, Tomkins, Giblin Jubber, Pritchard and Weatherley.

ON DIT.

That the Captain has a very keen sense of humour.

That the Doctor, like his fielding at cricket, is one of the best.

That the following was overheard in the bathroom :
" I am a perfect lady and I defy you to prove it."

That the ship's longest day's run on the voyage was 330 miles on Sept. 24-25.

That the shortest was 279 on Sept. 8-9.

That the run from Albany to Adelaide was a record for the ship.

That her engines develop 6,000 horse power.

That she is the best boat in a heavy sea in the Australian service.

That the efforts of the Indoor Games Committee were much appreciated during the run from Capetown to Albany, when the inclement weather prevented the ordinary deck games from being held.

That one lady we know will die a merry death (Meredith) (Execrable? Yes!).

That Mr. Taffs believes in free speech and song, also in himself.

That the following experts should be consulted :—

Mr. Curtis, on politeness.	Mr. Penny, on most things.
Mr. Crossley, on neatness.	Mr. Harvey, on early rising
Mr. Maydon, on deportment.	Mr. Taylor, on bridge.
Mr. Arnott, on the leg theory.	

That the White Star Company, having regard to the safety of the individual, requested Mr. Rose to leave the ship at Melbourne by means of the derrick, as the new gangway had not been fully tested for steam rollers, traction engines, etc.

ENGAGEMENT.

One fortunate couple became engaged on the voyage—Mr. G. A. Parry, of Ballarat and Johannesburg, to Miss Clara Irwin, of Guernsey and West Australia. Both took a prominent part in the social life on the ship, and were deservedly popular. Mr. Parry captained the Australian XI. after Capetown. Miss Irwin, it will be remembered, was much admired at the Fancy Dress Ball, where she took a prize with a costume representing the White Star Line. We offer them our heartiest congratulations.

SOCIAL NEWS.

Mr. W. A. Smith held a reception in No. 56 cabin on September 26th, which was attended by nearly everyone on board. Mr. Smith, whose attitude denoted extreme fatigue, was assisted in his duties as host by Mr. Rose. The pattern of his pyjamas was very much admired.

Mr. Weatherly entertained his friends in the smoke room the same evening. An extensive programme was presented; the following were the chief items:—

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|--|---|-----------------|
| Song—"O Rags and Tatters" | ... | Mr. Young |
| Song—"Two Soft Grey Eyes" | ... | Mr. Penny |
| Song—"I Love a Lassie" | ... | Mr. Parry |
| Recitation—"Is this a dagger that I see before me" | | |
| | ... | Mr. Weatherley |
| Quartette—"I stood on the Bridge at Midnight" | | |
| | Messrs. Harvey, Arnott, Penny and Stevens | |
| Comic Song—"John Willie, come on" | | Miss Maud Allan |
| | (By special request.) | |
| Song—"Put me among the girls" | ... | Mr. Curtis |
| Balla(r)d—(selected) | ... | Mr. Todd |
| Song—"I'm going to Maxim's" | ... | Coolgardie Bill |
| Song—"Love me and the world is mine" | ... | Mr. Nash |
| Recitation—"Meddlesome Matty" | ... | Mr. Marks |
| Song—"A life on the ocean wave" | ... | Mr. Harvey |
| Recitation—"The hungry man from Frisco" | | Mr. Alphick |

THE NEPTUNE CELEBRATIONS.

On Monday, September 6th, at 7.10 p.m., the "Persic" crossed the Line, and at 10 o'clock in the morning of the same day we were honoured with a visit from His Majesty King Neptune. He first appeared on the fore-castle and was attended by Her Majesty the Queen, the court doctor and barber, a squad of police and a band of myrmidons. Neptune's most striking characteristic was his flowing beard, and the sidelong glances that the barber cast on it were very pathetic. The Queen, amongst other ornaments, wore a continual blush, and she was very fair to look upon. The doctor, barber and policemen were in the garb of their calling, but the myrmidons resembled nothing so much as a cross between a land-crab and a pre-historic man. The King ascended his throne and read his speech welcoming all to his dominions, but mentioning that some of the company were trespassing and had committed other heinous offences. The names of the criminals were read out and the police by vigorous and effective methods soon haled them before the tribunal where they were charged; they were then handed over to the doctor, who, after exhaustive examination, generally prescribed a bread pill or a draught of strong coffee. After being lathered with oatmeal porridge and shaved with a three-foot razor made of the best deal, they were handed over to the myrmidons, who invested them with the order of the bath in very joyous and sportive fashion. The charges were as follows:—

Mr. Rose: That he is far too successful in imitating the fog-horn after the hour of midnight.

Mr. Crossley: That he doth continually wipe his knife and fork upon the table-cloth.

Mr. Miller was charged with being an unspeakable Scot.

Mr. Young was charged with dipping his nose too deep in the foaming fourpenny.

Mr. Colquhoun was charged with defective eyesight which did cause him frequently to mistake a lady's knee for a deck-chair.

Mr. Jenkins was accused of the murder of one of His Majesty's subjects, to wit, a small fish, by poisoning. He pleaded, in extenuation, that he intended merely to feed it.

Mr. Penny had evinced feline characteristics, in that he did prowl round at night and did glare greenly with his eyes.

Mr. Beattie was accused of imitating the methods of Sherlock Holmes with the usual result—failure.

Professor Xerxes did practise black magic and displayed unmistakable symptoms of hydrophobia.

Mr. Weatherley: That he hath possession of a lethal weapon to wit, a dagger; and hath threatened to shoot every bushranger in the streets of Melbourne.

Mr. Alphick was a prominent member of a secret society yclept Y.M.C.A., Young Men's Courting Association.

Messrs. Miller and Colquhoun aggravated their offences by kissing Her Majesty the Queen whereat the King was very wroth, but Her Majesty, methinks, was not displeased.

After all the charges had been disposed of, the King and Court plunged into the sea (or, rather, that portion of it that was contained in the tank) and were seen no more.

AT LAST! AT LAST!! *AT LAST!!!

A Reliable Cure for Sea Sickness!

LOTOS. LOTOS. LOTOS.

LORD TENNYSON writes:—

"My great poem, the Lotos Eaters, occurred to me after taking a dose of your sovereign remedy."

Also invaluable as a lubricant for Steam Engines.

The CHIEF ENGINEER writes:—

"We procured some at Capetown, and have done over 300 miles a day ever since."

Can be used for any purpose.

Try it in your bath!

PROF. XERXES writes:—

"I have never used it."

Try the new Breakfast Food.

GORSE!

Winnie Wimple
Had a dimple.
Gorse brought out
A prickly pimple!

Mr. SACCO HOMAN writes :—

“ It is the secret of my success as a faster. My trainer put me on a diet of Gorse. I would rather fast than eat it ! ”

The PUBLIC ANALYST writes :—

“ There is absolutely nothing whatever in it. ”

