

Tuesday

My dear old Love. I did not write to you last night as I had been printing a few bromides of your photo one of which I enclose – not having all the necessary chemicals they were not a great success.

Now I must tell my little girl what I have been doing today. Well having let one contract yesterday I had to go down and set the building out at 8 o'clock this morning. After which I returned here and have been busy all day trying to get some plans ready for a contract which is to be let tomorrow. Finishing same at about 6pm. I went up to tea and have just returned, having paid a visit

to the S.S. Liddersdale a large steamer of over 4000 tons burthens. She is anchored about a mile off. It being a beautiful calm night with a glimpse of the moon occasionally – Oh what thoughts ran thro me as I saw the shadows in the boat and looked up and saw the bright moon above – having a letter to the Captain Balding, Foy and myself rowed over spent a very enjoyable hour after which we decided to visit the "Orient" a large barque which I had put back on account of unfavourable weather and now anchored about ½ mile beyond the "Liddersdale". The skipper with whom I was acquainted

was very pleased to see us and in his cabin we spent a most enjoyable half hour. Returning home we received a nice little drenching – the sky was overcast with dull heavy clouds rendering the night very dark – but the water was as calm as a mill pond. After getting out of our reckoning a few times we eventually brought the jetty where we separated for our various destinations.

Well Cis the *Helen Nicholl* only arrived today I expected a letter by her but was disappointed. However I have been thinking it over and knowing that Arthur is over and probably monopolising your

time I will wait until the next steamer comes.

I wonder how my dear little girl feels now that she has attained her majority. I suppose she is a big authority now (eh dearie) I am going to write to Ruth tomorrow Cis and will send her one of your photos. I know you will not mind will you pet.

Now I will say "au revoir" and "turn in". Good night my own love x Good night x Kind regards to all and some to Cis from

Her's alone

Ray

P.S. By the way I have not heard from the other Siss lately write and tell me what she sent now my own and if acceptable.

Ray