

Twelvemonths. I asked him “if he thought it the correct thing to keep his paramour in suspense” to which he replied that he must “attend to business first as by studying business he was studying her” After this we had a chat and he assured me that he would give anything to get back to her without interfering with his work I know he loves her dearly (-----) showed me part of a (-----) he received from her which assured me that it was requited. (The lady referred to is a Miss Young (daughter of the Minister for Works Sydney) of whom I had a slight acquaintance.

Well my pet must think that I have had enough rambling.

When I started this epistle I did not think I would have quite so much time as I had an appointment, but the gentleman has not turned up yet so I will write till he does.

I do hope my dear little girl will understand why my letters are so short (-----) You know dearie I (-----) up early in the morning now to go round the various buildings before breakfast consequently I cannot stay up overnight. And I can assure you my time is pretty well monopolised thro the

day. Cis I must thank you very very much for those dear verses. You say “if we could only act up to them all would be well” I am afraid it would be rather a difficult task however we will try shall we my own?

I also received your dear sweet violets- Cis I have a book pretty full of your dear flowers which I treasure. The violets smell so sweetly when I open the letters but lost their scent in a day or two.

Now Lovey here he is so I will leave you wishing you a sweet good night and happy happy from

Yours alone

Ray xxx

Good night Beloved good night with Love to all x more tomorrow.

Thursday

Here I am again my own I have been reading your dear letter again Cis and as I read the certain parts so I was affected with different feelings.

I do really feel sorry for disappointing you on that momentous day Cis, but in future I will not put too much faith in the advertised departures of vessels. I can just imagine my little sweethearts feelings on her birthday- you must have been (-----) excited dearest. How I would have loved to have a little chat with you I feel sure that I (or rather my presence) would have made your burden a little lighter. What a nice present for your dear mother to give you
From your description it must be very handsome. Well Cis talking

talking about dear mother reminds me of her trouble on that day, how awfully unfortunate that it should fall on that day above all others. Was it merely a coincidence or was it so arranged purposely?

You must not worry about it dearest although it is hard to realise it is only an example of the experience we so often have to pay for and from which we derive benefit in the future. Cis altogether I think you ought to be pleased altho the result was rather unsatisfactory how nice it must be for dear Mrs Ray when we know (rather presumption on my part) that the business is finally settled. I know Mother worried an awful lot about it and all for her children's sake.

Now I sincerely hope she will have no more troubles and for that alone I know you must feel delighted.

I received a very nice letter from Minnie yesterday containing a full description of the Children's ball. But she did not say whether you went or not. Did you lovey?

Talking about my other sweetheart I don't think I told you that she went away with her mother some three weeks ago on a visit to Perth and has not yet returned. I am sending you a photo of her & her little sister taken by Foy. It is not a good one as she was

rather cross and said "she would not be took only by Mr Sarkey" so Foy tells me.

Now Cis you did not tell me whether you received the photos or which you liked the best. I am expecting some photo materials by next boat so you must let me know if you would like one particular color or some of each. Don't be afraid dearie to tell me. I expect I will have a slack day or two at (-----) week and I love doing something for you.

I have not seen Arthur since to have a long chat with In fact I have seen very few except those that come down to the office. But I will see him in a day or two.

Did I tell you that Mr Foy has gone back to Perth Cis? Well he went away by the “MacGregor” I felt awfully sorry for more than one reason I know I promised to take a photo of the office for you and yet have not done so and will be unable to do so until I get my own Camera which unfortunately has gone astray (-----) here & the Norseman. But you will have your photo in due time Cis I will not forget it & now I must ask you to remember me kindly to all and tell Minnie I will answer hers by next mail

With Love & lots of Kisses for you only I will say Au revoir my darling
Au Revoir from Your Ray