

1 and own uncle to my brother in law, so that legally we felt somewhat connected and had a very social  
2 and good time generally, returning to our hotel at 9 o'clock in the evening.

3 April 27<sup>th</sup>. All ready. We have now reached the close of the last day of our European tour. Visited St.  
4 Georges Hall to day. It is in every respect worthy of the great city of Liverpool. It measures 167 feet in  
5 length and 77 feet in width and 82 feet high. The ceiling is vaulted semi-circular, beautifully paneled,  
6 and rests on Corinthian columns of Scotch granite, polished. The building has a front of 500 feet with a  
7 colonnade of 16 fluted Corinthian columns, is a fine specimen of classic architecture, its cost about  
8 \$1,600,000. The hall contains one of the largest and best organs in Europe and cost 50 thousand dollars.  
9 It is played once each week for the public. The organist receives a salary of \$1700 per annum paid by  
10 the corporation. These performances occur on Thursdays, and we are so fortunate as to leave the day  
11 before, so that the music will waste its sweetness on the smoky air for all we care.

12 April 28<sup>th</sup>. All aboard. Left Liverpool at half past one P.M. on board a small steamer which conveyed us  
13 two miles down the river where we boarded the ocean steamer England. We were soon safely on board  
14 with all our traps. Ella & Kitty Wright accompanied us this far and returned to Liverpool in the little  
15 steamer. We have had a very pleasant day, and the sail down the river, and so far in the channel, has  
16 been all that we could desire. Our ship is one of the largest afloat, is 470 feet long, draws 22 feet water,  
17 and is considered a first class sea boat. Though not as fast as some others, I greatly prefer a sure thing, if  
18 it is a little slow.

19 April 29<sup>th</sup>. A fine day with stiff breeze from the S.W. We notice smaller vessels are a good deal moved  
20 by the turbulence of the waters, but our Leviathan runs as steady as if sailing in smooth water. I am  
21 pleased to record that Mrs. Van and the girls have a good appetite for their meals and have no  
22 inclination to review them. I trust that this may be their good fortune continuously. Arrived at  
23 Queenstown about 12 o'clock and received on board over 100 Irish emigrants. They are welcome to  
24 Ameriky if they will spread off into the country and keep out of the city jails & poor-houses. We left the  
25 steamer Iora at this point on the 26<sup>th</sup> of May, 1874. This is therefore the connecting point of our  
26 extended wanderings. We know now exactly where we are and propose to go right straight home.

27 April 30<sup>th</sup>. Stormy this morning. Wind blew hard from the S.W. The sea is badly tumbled up. Our good  
28 ship accommodates herself to existing circumstances, glides up and down the huge billows in gallant  
29 style, but in the performance, she makes a giant see-saw of herself, regardless of the effect such  
30 oscillation has upon a large majority of the passengers, putting three fourths of my party on the sick-list.

31 May 1<sup>st</sup>. The early morning with bright sunshine seemed to promise a beautiful day, but before noon we  
32 had a cloudy sky and a misty rain. The wind and rain has increased during the afternoon and now blows  
33 fiercely. We are making good speed with all sails set, although our ship is very uncomfortably tipped  
34 over to the leeward. Not more than half of the passengers were at table to day, and half of those looked  
35 as though the sentence of death had passed upon them, and they were expecting the hangman every  
36 moment. Such is life on the ocean wave on the poetical deep blue sea. A peep into the long line of state  
37 rooms would take the poetry and every thing else out of the most inspired writer.

38 May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Sunday. Wind shifted to N.W. and blows a gale. Our ship proves to be a first class sea boat.  
39 The afternoon was pleasant, and my party mustered courage to come up on deck for a short time. No  
40 service on board to day, and the monotony of the surroundings is becoming rather tiresome. We have