

refined, etc.

This trip was to bring us to Interlake, then down to Frankfurt, down the Rhine to Amsterdam, Haage, Brussell, Paris, London, Ireland and other cities of England, all being paid for in advance, but man proposes and the Lord disposes for, when we arrived at Interlaken Swiss as happy as ever a small company like ours was, the terrible war was declared between England, Russia, France on one side, and Austria and Germany on the other side. Consternation on every side, banks closed, department stores, in fact, trade suspended everywhere, only movement of the military, so we had to stay at the Hotel Youngfrau until arrangements could be perfected to retrace our trip through Italy as far as Naples and take steamer there.

In the year 1865, I crossed the Atlantic on a sailing vessel, as a deck passenger, which lasted seven weeks. In the year 1914, traveled on an Italian freight steamer as a deck passenger, the only available transportation, by way of the Mediterranean Sea to New York. The trip was not so bad as I had plenty of space in my stall on the lower deck. There were only a little over a hundred passengers, which they had berths for about 800, as the previous steamer had.

When I reached New York, the war was in full operation and great excitement prevailed. Travel on all the Seven Seas was taken over by the Military Departments of the several warring nations so the people who usually went abroad stayed home until 1920.

DECEMBER 20-24

This morning is very cold, damp and looks like snow, thermometer 28°. My health seems to be not very good. I have still a night nurse at seven dollars but she is the best, not only attractive, but she does so many extra things, such as manicuring finger and toe nails, shaving every other night, also sponge bath,

alcohol rub, gets my morning coffee at six in the mornings, washes my face and hands before she has my breakfast prepared. She is a young widow, been married and tortured by a brute called husband, so that she has no love left for mankind. She says I am a model patient, unusually so. This is about the fourth Christmas that I am on the sick list more or less. My heart is very weak and I have to go from now on very slow in my movements.

I donated about \$100,000 in cash bonds bearing 8% interest, and properties, so my income from now on will be reduced to about ten thousand per annum.

JANUARY 20, 1925.

It was in the year 1895 that the United States Government offered a certain amount of 5% Certified Notes. It was understood that the notes were to have preference in the South as at that time some in Louisiana and other Southern States were still Rebels. As it happened, I had put aside \$2,000.00 in gold. The notes were to be paid only in gold as we had no banks in the country, so I took my twenty dollar gold pieces, which I had collected as my profit in business for several years, went on the steamboat and, when I arrived in New Orleans, before eating breakfast, went to the Custom House, where I disposed of my two thousand twenty dollar gold pieces to the surprise of the official who called in another official to help to count all that gold.

In getting the Bonds allotted to me, I was favored by the Government of the United States as the Banks in the North offered as much as 102 1/2 while I offered par, not thinking they would take notice of my offer anyway. To my surprise, notice came within no time accepting my offer. It seems that Dussion of Crowley heard of it and he was so surprised of it, that he told me he would give me 12% whereas the Government only paid me 5% but I told him I had rather have Government Notes anyway so I was the only Gold Bond owner in