

Hôtel Thunerhof

Thun, Switzerland,

Aug 10. [1898]

My Dear J. L.:

Your letter has only just reached me, for we have been travelling about, and the letter has been making the most ineffectual efforts to overtake us, stopping at Dieppe, Rouen, Paris, and Berne, before finally winning us to earth in this quiet valley. So you see why I have not written to you before - to thank you for your kind invitation, which we should have been delighted to accept if time and space had permitted - and to wish you all sorts of luck and happiness on the beautiful marriage Heaven has made for you. All our best wishes and congratulations go to you and Mrs King and that adorable Mrs Eichberg. May you have the most prosperous of voyages to Boston, and may you come back to London completely well and completely happy. And there we will all meet, and clasp hands. You will be far too much occupied to have time or patience to read a long letter now, and therefore I shall cut this one short. The essential thing you will know without my saying it - how heartily both Alice and I rejoice in your happiness, how earnestly we pray for its continuation. You deserve it, old chap. No man has made a braver fight, in a good cause, against bigger odds, than you have. And now you are getting your rewards.

We both give you the warmest hand-shake, with our love to your beautiful wife and her beautiful mother.

Yours always

H. H.