

2/ a number of papers, & I have read
the papers, which say that a great
many soldiers have been
marching about Montreal, & some
have been going off in the Railway
a long distance to fight. I hope
they will fight bravely, & come
back again victors. There are
a lot of soldiers here too, British
Soldiers, like those you saw, but
here they travel in big ships,
because there are no railways.
The ships have white numbers
painted on the side, & belong to the
government, they are called
transport ships & carry soldiers,
sometimes as many as a
thousand in one ship, which is
a great many. I wonder if
Eric can count up to a thousand.
The ships carry camels too. The
camels don't walk on board the
ship as it is too high, but they are
put on board in big slings, which

~~My dear little~~
Camels & what!

J. J. Jarranica
Thursday. 23rd

My dear little Clare,
Thank you for
your interesting & pretty letter, which
are the first I have ever received
from you. Yesterday & the day
before yesterday we were passing
through the big canal, where a great
deal of sand is dug out, & where
big ships go. As we came out, we
saw, what do you think? A great
many camels. Eric will show you
a picture of a camel in one of his
books. These camels were standing
on shore, looking very sleepy & tired
of doing nothing. They are going to the
war. Do you know what they do
there. They cannot fight you know,
so they carry clothes & food & guns
on their backs for the soldiers.
Did you see the soldiers walking
about the streets, a while ago,
with their guns & uniforms & bands
playing. Uncle William sent me

3) fit about their bellies, & lift them up high in the air, & then lower them into the inside of the ship. Sometimes they kick very much because they don't like being swung up in the air, & think perhaps that they may fall down & hurt themselves, but they don't fall down and it does not really hurt them at all.

I am glad you like the little baby "boy six", which is Maud's name for him, is it not. But you & I know his real name is Conrad, and a very pretty name it is, I think. You must not mind his pulling your hair, because he is too young to know that it is naughty to do so.

Perhaps he pulls it because he thinks that it is pretty hair & likes to have it in his hand. I dare say he hasn't much of his own to pull on yet. I hope you will be very kind to him & teach

him all sorts of things that you know, so that when uncle comes home some day, he will find a fine little boy who is very fond of his three little sisters.

Mama wrote a long letter to me, & I should like you to say "Thank you mama for your long letter, which uncle enjoyed reading". She told me a great deal about Eric & Edith & Maud & yourself & baby, & I should like to have some photos, to see how you have changed since I was staying with you all, a whole year & a half ago, before you were as big as you are now.

I am so sorry to hear that Carpy has been sick, but hope she is better now. Do you go and see her sometimes? Next time you go give her a kiss & my love, & tell her I hope she will be well for a long time.

How long will it be before you can write a letter all yourself, as Eric does? Your affectionate Uncle

