

TELEGRAMS
THACKERAY WESTCENT LONDON
TELEPHONES MUSEUM 1230-1231

THACKERAY HOTEL

(OPPOSITE THE BRITISH MUSEUM)

GREAT RUSSELL STREET

LONDON

W.C. 1

May 10. 1922.

Mother dear:-

I cannot remember whether
or no I wrote you of my sad tragedy
just before the boat left New York.
That awful voyage quite upset my
memory of what I have and haven't
done. Well what happened was
this.- I saw a very delectable
bit to photograph over the edge of
the ship looking down on the men

loading her. all beautifully patterned
with sunlight. As I made the
exposure I heard some one say "You
lost something" and couldn't
imagine what I had dropped.

I had the camera outside the rails
so they would not cut into the
picture. Well - I looked around
and to my utter horror found that
it was my Smith lens, lens-band
and all, that had fallen out and
now lies at the bottom of New
York Harbor Pier 54. You just
can't imagine what an awful moment

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that was! My one instinct was
to hurriedly write a note ~~from~~ there
and there to replace the lens. The
Opticians in Boston, Pinkham & Smith,
and I am delighted to say that
Petnam's has just phoned that
it has arrived. Also a letter from
them. They want me to pay for it
with American check so I am
mailing it to day. I forget what
my balance is but the check
will be \$32.- Can you see for me

whether I have that balance and
could you make it for me if I haven't.
I hate to ask this but I guess I'll
have to.

Tell Auntie herby is no just as you
think best. The lens is now exactly
duplicated.

We have a very comfortable Hotel.
Rather like the Buckminster. And
best of all our room and board is
15 shillings a week. and very good
food at that. We walk right out
of the door to the British Museum.
I have just this minute talked

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to Olive Houtan. She is
coming in to spend the day with
us a week from tomorrow and wants
us to go there for a weekend. Also
we go to Cambridge with Peggy
Rayton (Chester h.s. remember her?)
on next Sunday. I have written
a note to Dorothy Palmer. I looked
up Mr. Fisher and found many
William Fishers, and am not sure
of his middle name is it E.
Perhaps Dorothy will know.

I am alternating with you and
Betty with long letters of description.
Which she will type and keep as
my diary, I despatched one to her
yesterday and will write you one the
end of this week all about London.
Let her have it to copy if she will.

I'm always so anxious to write you
both everything that I believe this
is the best way.

We lunch with Mr. & Mrs. Huntington
the head of Putnam's here. this noon.

Best love to all. from a busy
happy child.

Laura.