It's warm & quiet mushy & perhaps dozy is a better word.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY

OCEAN SERVICES

R.M.S. Empress of Asia

June 4th 1915

Letter No 1.

Dear Lucile.

It is now 2.30 p.m. & can hardly believe it was 10½ a.m. when I left 47 St. Mark St. Dinkie has been busy ever since she came on board, it seems true. Had to report almost immediately to the Col. in charge, (I don't know his name) who apparently although curious like was very nice; & of course she had to be. He showed back our plans

at the table. Trail has been called for 3 p.m. so no time is being lost.

I think the Col. fears are all being welcome with the Indians. He wants to have everything in good running order before any of us disappear.

Of course being the first day out there is an air of confusion & hurry everywhere, judging by the number in the dining saloon, I think the boat is frightfully crowded.

Apparently there is no style put on in the way of dressing, but except we

Will have a good deal worse sit the way I found before we came home. Needless to say I was not particularly hungry any way – it seemed to be a stuffy, but am looking forward to a good evening meal for once. Will is well, I intend having a nice little lunch.

Will dear this were steps I things I intended to say before leaving, but ~~but~~ suppose I have hit upon "Holland reserve" ever to find the right moment. Am really awfully pleased to be on the way towards Peking, but dale leaving you behind, especially as I feel you've had two cheerful a time ahead first. However let's hope it won't be for long.

Mildred sends love, keep the dreadful cheerful message to day more – the responsibilities are weighing somewhat heavily I imagine, owing somewhat to her uncertainty as to what is expected.

Well good-bye for the present. Take care of yourself & get a little rest, for you've been frightfully over-worked getting me off.

Lovingly yours Billie.