May 29 Dear aunt May

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Dear Aunt May

Yesterday morning I kept looking out my porthole waiting for the sun to rise. I knew I would see the place Paul landed but did not dream I would suddenly [illegible] upon Vesuvius. The harbor at Naples is perfect. The bay is sapphire and the houses mostly pink. When we got through the customs we got in an automobile and drove over Naples. Up where Shelley lived and out where Virgil wrote the Aeneid. This afternoon we went to Pompeii. It is amazing. All inscriptions too mild. The whole town of 20000 standing. There preserved as it was when Vesuvius buried it in 79AD. The paintings have not faded in the two thousand years although exposed to the climate. It would take weeks to see it and we only had an hour. Then we drove over country the like of which I [illegible] dreamed to [illegible] and spent the night in an old palace of the 11th century at Ravelle. I had read about it in a book. Only the most traveled people know about it. The monastary was built in the 9th century. The walks steps arches etc vineyards on the steep cliffs 2000 feet above the bay were so beautiful they took your breath. Then back to Naples where we took the Express for Rome getting in just before dark. We have seen the Dome of St Peters but nothing else yet. I found a man next me on the train who could speak French and two priests from the boat. Its an awful problem to see anything at all of Rome in 3 days.

Am at American Express CO and no mail from home. Just mustant get discouraged. The P.O. Should have a list of time to allow for each place.

Save these letters if convenient because I wont have time to write a diary.

We are before the main American season so there are not such moles.

Rome seems much more like a modern city than Naples.

Much love and please write

Eleanor