

I am very happy that you are planning for your trip, and the fact that Mrs. Maloney is 83 years old I do not think will bother you much. Let me make one suggestion--in securing your deck chairs, which you should do as soon as possible, after boarding the boat, try to secure chairs as near as possible at the center of the boat. By taking a piece of paper on you hand and turning it up and down you will see that the center moves very much less than the ends, and that is exactly what happens on a boat. It will probably take a tip of a dollar or two to get the seat you want, but money talks..

Tippping is quite a problem I think. But you will have your table steward and your room steward, and it pays to keep them satisfied. It is a pretty good thing to give a tip of, perhaps, \$5 to the head steward. You will then see that you have a good table and competent stewards to wait on you.

You may know of these things even better than I do, but there is no harm in mentioning them. I know when I took the first ride to the Carribean, I talked things over with a fellow traveler who was accustomed to making trips and, therefore, found out the best way to get along. You can talk these things over with some of your friends who are accustomed to traveling by boat.

I was off to the cemetery the other day and was assured by the caretaker that work would be done on our lot as soon as the weather permits. The sod which was placed upon the grave has settled, probably four to six inches so that it will have to be removed and after additional dirt has been added will be replaced. The stone is here for marking her grave and copy for the inscription has been given. It was eighteen weeks ago today that she was buried.

Everything is moving along smoothly at home, but I miss the presence of my wife and children.

Love to all of you

P.S. Let me know if you have not received the birth certificate.