

Naval Review At Spithead

Letter from
W. W. Pitt-RiversTo W^{rs} C. H. Bridge.Regency Square, Brighton
EnglandJuly 6th 1894-

Annie has sent you a paper giving an account of the Jubilee Festivities so that I need not go into details except to say that we went up to London for a few days and saw all that was to be seen. The illumination of the fleet at Spithead was by far the finest sight of all. We went in the "Plymouth Belle" from Brighton, passed up and down between the lines of battle ships and cruisers five miles long, were landed at Southsea for two or three hours during which a most terrific thunderstorm broke over us. This had passed off before we re-embarked, then came the grand moment when in the twinkling of an eye each vessel of the fleet became outlined in glowing light, funnels, masts, yards and hull and along the water line. It was a truly fairy-like scene. At eleven o'clock a parting salute of twenty

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shots from each vessel was given to the Prince of Wales as the Royal Yacht steamed along, and in the darkness the tongues of ^{fire} flame from each gun showed up most vividly, while the roar of the cannon was heard on all sides. We got back to Brighton about three in the morning.

From Annie Pitt-Rivers to W^{rs} C. H. B. on same subject - 7th July. ---

We are enclosing within two Jubilee Hospital Stamps. --- as the Prince saw the die destroyed there will only a limited number which may be very valuable by and bye. You will have had a graphic account of the Procession and Naval Review from Willie, we did enjoy them so much. The Illuminations at Spithead baffled description and we have not seen one picture that gives an adequate representation. The ships were more like diamond palaces than anything else, and people around us were saying there was no need to read "The Arabian Nights" after that. "