



H.M.S. "Renown".

Sydney.

16th August 1920.

Girls and Boys

My wonderful first visit to Australia is nearly over & I want to tell you before I sail how sorry I am to be going & to give you all my best wishes. All of you whom I have seen have given me delightfully kind welcomes of your own, & I only wish that I could have gone everywhere & not missed seeing any of you. -

I should like you all to remember my first visit, which I have enjoyed so much myself, & so I have asked that as a special favour to me you may have an extra week's holiday some time this year. -

Australia is a magnificent country & I think you very fortunate to have it for your own. Make up your minds to serve Australia well, for the future of every country depends before all things on the spirit of its girls & boys -

You have a splendid example of patriotism before you in the men & women of Australia who fought & worked & won in the great war. Your sailors & soldiers thought first of Australia & the Empire,

not of themselves; & many gave up every thing, even their lives, in order that Australia & the Empire might be safe & free. Many of Australia's women too served gallantly over sea, & others did all they could to help at home.

If you follow in their footsteps, you will make Australia one of the greatest & happiest countries in the World.

I want to say one thing more.

You have all been told how great the British Empire is. Our flag, the Union Jack, flies in all British territories throughout the World as a sign that all British peoples stand together in peace as in war. Think always of Australia as part of that great Empire, which has withstood great trials & never failed. -

I am not going to say good bye, because I belong to Australia as much as to all the other British nations & shall come back whenever I can.

Please always think of me as one of your own kin who will try to serve Australia as truly all his life as you will yourselves.

Edward P