

Answered by  
N.S. picture card,  
Jan. 22, 1969

Mr. J. Morris  
38. Rothwell Gardens  
Dagenham - Essex  
England.

Dear Mr Raddall

Dec 15<sup>th</sup> 1968

No doubt you will be suprised to receive a letter from me, and wonder who I am. I will now explain how it happened. You see, I recently wrote a Christmas Card and thanked the people of Westport for what they did on Sat Dec 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> 1918, and it was the Post Master who received it, and exhibited it in his Post Office for everybody to read, for it was on Dec 14<sup>th</sup> 1918 that the ship, S-S. CORINTHIAN sank in the Bay of Fundy, and I was one of the crew, then a lad of 17 years old. Well since the card was exhibited I have received a few letters from people in Westport, thanking me. One of the letters came from a Mr.

Herman. A. Shaw and he tells me you bought a model boat from him that was made from the wood that was salvaged from the Corinthian, and that you were very pleased with it, and wrote him a Complimentary letter, also that you were a writer of Sea Stories, and that you would like to hear my story. Its not very exciting, but it is at least a True Story. The Corinthian had completed loading Cargoe at St John's New Brunswick and we left on Saturday morning Dec 14<sup>th</sup> 1918 the Cargoe was mostly Grain, and I believe, Cases of Linned meat. It was a nice bright day, but a keen wind was blowing and it was cold, well everything seemed to be going alright until about 2PM, I was sitting on my bunk, drinking a cup of Coffee, when, all of a sudden the ship gave a lurch followed by a terrific grinding noise, we ran up on to the deck expecting to see another ship in collesion with us, but there was nothing, but we could see that the ship

was not travelling, We reported to our Boat Stations, and were told that we had hit some submerged rocks. We stood by and could see that the ship was getting lower and lower in the water, there were a few fishing boats near by, and now and again the ship would give a lurch, this went on until after midnight and the decks started to get awash and we were given the order to abandon ship, by this time there were quite a number of fishermen around in their boats, So we pulled away from the ship and we transferred to the Motor boats, I think only one man was hurt, that was when the swell crashed one of the boats against the ship and a man with a cork life jacket on hurt his back, his name was Littlefield, but I dont think it was serious. We were then taken ashore at Westport, and greeted there in the early hours of Sunday Given hot meals, and thawed out, It was real cold there, I forget how long we were at Westport, I know it wasn't very long, then they took us aboard a Naval vessel and took us back to St Johns, We were then put aboard a Lines on her Maiden Voyage, R.M.S. METAGAMA and taken to Liverpool, England, as Distressed British Seamen, on the way we passed the Corinthian (about a week later). and all that was showing was the Funnel and 2 Masts, From Liverpool we were taken by Train to London. The Captain of the Corinthian name was . D. Tannock. I carried on with the Sea for 6 years after that, Then gave it up, married and settled down, I am now retired, (Compulsory of course) as I am now 67 years old, and a Great Grandfather, 44 1/2 years married.

with all my Best Regards.

Mr. J. Morris