Arriving at Liverpool, the first objects that strike your attention are the docks. To say that the docks are the chief features of Liverpool is to say too little; the docks are Liverpool. The tide rises here about twenty five feet, consequently some way must be devised to keep enough water in the harbor at low water to float the large steamships. This is done by constructing an immense sea wall lining the river bank of the city. In this wall are at intervals openings provided with locks; these openings lead to very large interior docks, large enough to hold dozens of vessels. The ships go into these docks at high water; then the locks are closed, thus keeping the water in the docks at a constant level. This is the way all the shipping business is done in Liverpool. The effect is very curious on looking up the river you see both banks of it clear of ships, while if you look into the city you see forests of masts rising during the warehouses.

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Furness Abbey July 6th

I am now writing amid very different scenes from those I was in when I was obliged to break off above. We left Liverpool this morning for this place. As I look out of the window of the room in which I am writing I have a beautiful view of the most exquisite old ruins in all England, & the second only in point of grandeur to any in the whole of Great Britain. They are the ruins of "Furness Abbey", an old catholic church and convent commenced about the year 1150. It is entirely in ruins now, the roofs except upon one or two small chapels are gone. The side walls, arches, & columns, partly remain standing, & are covered with ivy. The Abbey must