

EAST SHEEN LODGE,

SHEEN,

SURREY.

DEAR Mr. Calder

Shortly after the Battle of Jutland Captain Dannreuther, who was saved from the "Invincible," came to see me. He told me about what happened on board the ship during the action, and as he gave me great comfort, I wanted you to hear about it also.

He spoke of the glorious excitement and happiness of the rush from Scapa to the Horn Reef. They were so pleased that the moment had really come at last. On the way down they met an enemy Light Cruiser Squadron, and sank one ship with the first volley. When they reached the other Battle Cruisers Sir David Beatty was hard pressed, as he had engaged the enemy for about two hours.

The arrival of the "Invincible" was a most splendid sight. She steamed at full speed into the battle, and took her place at the head of the line. As she went by them I have heard that the other Battle Cruisers burst into a loud cheer. Her turrets then opened a terrific fire, and although she was only in action for about half-an-hour, no ship did more to win the battle than the "Invincible." Admiral Hood telephoned to the guns: "The firing is excellent, keep it up as fast as you can; every shell is telling."

Then the crash came. Commander Dannreuther was in a position high up on one of the masts and was thrown into the water some way off. When he came up again to the surface there was no one to be seen but the other five men who were saved. He is quite sure that the blast of the explosion must have killed all instantaneously, and we know the ship went down in ten seconds.

One can be so thankful that these brave men did not suffer, and that there was no time for them to grieve or to think one sad thought.

I hope that you will keep this letter and will sometimes read it over—and I only hope that this short account will help you as it has helped me.

Faithfully yours,

Edwin Hood