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Letter to Henry Bede, 1890-09-20

Joseph Peace Hazard

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Pennsdale, R. I. Sept. 20th, 1890.

Dear friend,

It's long time since
I have had the pleasure of seeing
you, or even, hearing from you.

You are of a strong race, and I
doubt not you are yet in enjoy-
ment of life, though you must
be 70, now.

I, am $83\frac{1}{2}$ years of age,
and my hand nearly as steady
as ever. Nevertheless, I am
greatly broken down lately,
and wish to be on the other side,
so soon as I can arrange my affairs,

You may recollect,
that not many years ago, you
wrote a letter to me, in which you

you
gave me an account of, having
seen - from the top of your house,
~~and~~ describing a fire, bright,
moonlight evening - what you
supposed to be a ship ^{on fire,} at sea, and
was not far from "Brenton Point,"
a "Reef". I think ~~that~~ you
supposed ^{to} be a ship on fire, at sea,
but concluded it must be the
famous "Palatine Ship";
~~that~~ "The Phantom Ship", that
used to be seen sailing ^{at night,} about
the Island of Block Island,
whenever a storm was brewing;
and which I have seen twice,
from my premises at "Sea Side,"
that ~~are~~ are situated by the
sea. and my house, ^{that is} near the
sea shore. Then two incidents
occurred, not until many years
after ~~"The Palatine Ship"~~,
after the Reign of "The Palatine Ship".

had ~~exceed~~ her usual visits
to our eyes.

I would like to know the
date of the ~~day~~ you coming on
which you witnessed this scene.
You described to me, you are aware
that "Phantom Ships" - so called -
used to be seen in a great many
places, and in all parts of
the world. The most famous
one, being "The Flying Dutchman"
that was seen by commercial
vessels, or others, off - but near
the Island of Madagascar. She
out-ran every ~~thing~~ ^{thing}
I have known several persons,
whose truthfulness might be fully
relied upon, who ^{told me they} had seen it;
and one of them, on several occasions,
I recollect when a ship
that ^{had been} ~~was~~ wrecked on a beach
that is near Salem, Massachusetts,
and came ashore stern foremost.

