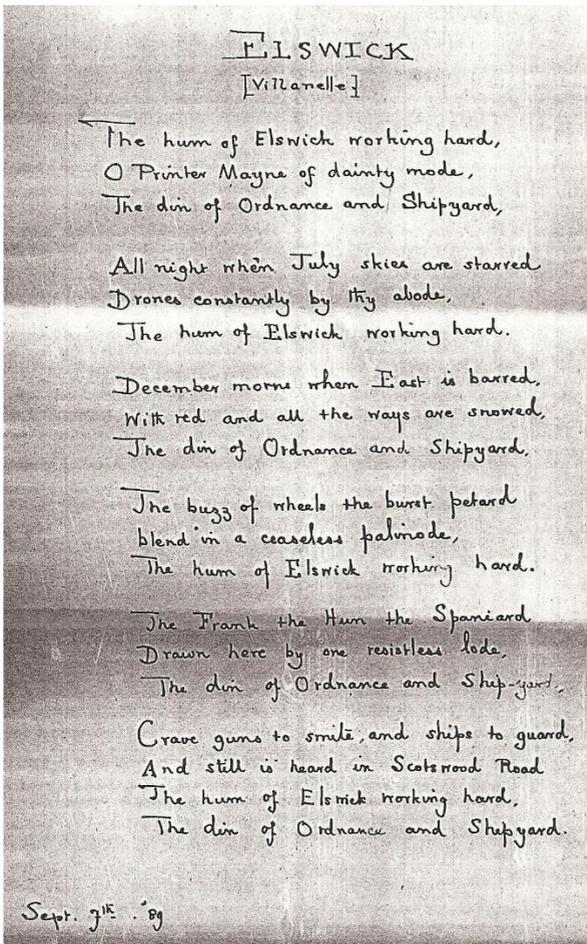
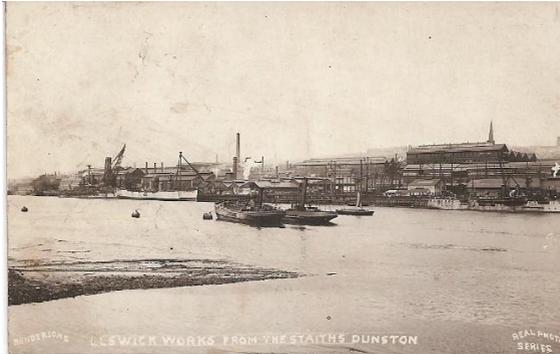


Elswick "an augean stable"

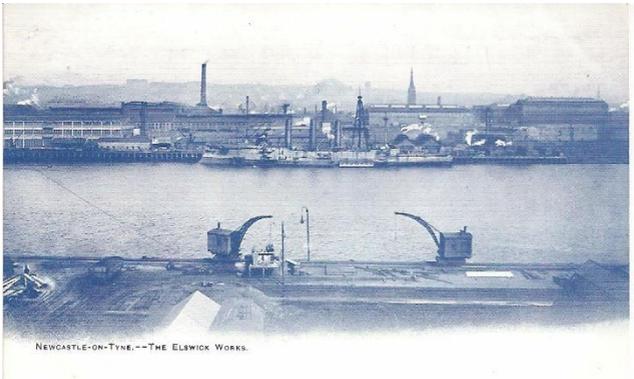
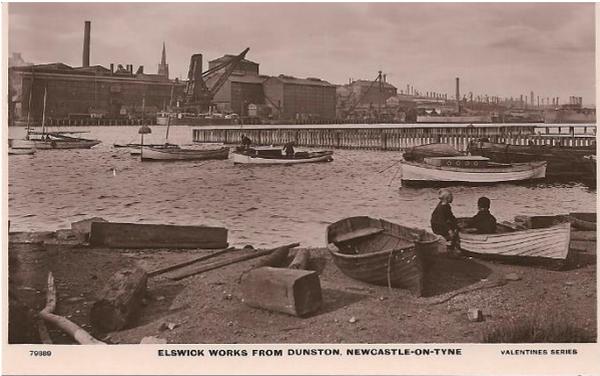
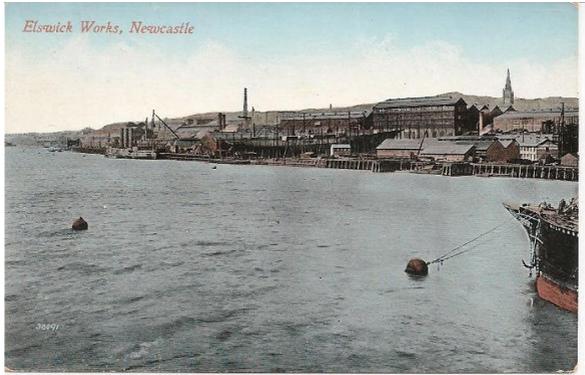
Elswick. Her spell has fallen irresistibly upon me, and I am devoted to her, soul and body, for she makes calls on our bodies too. No one except those at Elswick know the attraction of her, the mother that bred us, and fed us... [JMF to Lord Rendel, 15 January 1904]



There was a time when I looked forward to the day when I could leave Elswick, but that feeling is long long past: and my greatest happiness is to see our great firm doing well... Elswick is so vast and so consuming that the anxiety of providing for her, is only to be lulled for the shortest of times, and no one except those really in the swim know how ever-present that anxiety is.



Above: a Raphael Tuck postcard which has printed on the reverse: ***Elswick Works.*** *These magnificent works are situated on the banks of the Tyne, about two miles west of Newcastle. They cover an area of over 230 acres, having a river frontage of over a mile. In this bewildering collection of workshops, factories, laboratories, and yards, is housed the immense organisation of Sir W. G. Armstrong, Mitchell & Co., Ltd., who give employment to over 26,000 workers,*

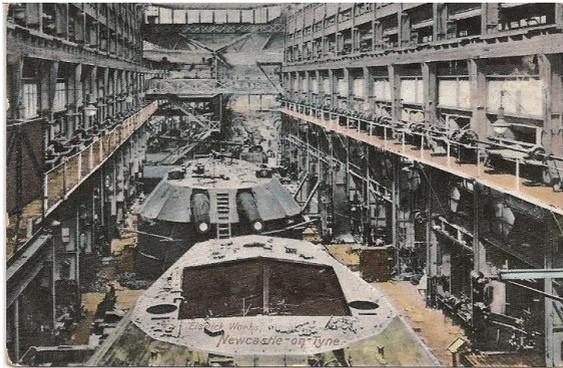




The above card was sent to Miss Catton, Chasely House,
Rugely, Staffordshire.

10th 1907

To day is a lovely day; raining as hard as it jolly well can. This is a postcard of the works. I am going to see the manager this afternoon and going round the works. Your loving Peter



In 1851 Elswick had a population of 3,539; by 1891 it had risen to 51,600, almost totally dependent on the Armstrong works - “one of the sights of England..... their size, their completeness, their tremendous productive energy, their variety of blast furnaces, foundries, machine shops and chemical laboratories, teeming with human life, reverberating with the shriek of steam, the clang of hammers and the whine of machinery, overhung by a pillar of smoke by day and of fire by night... which overwhelms and astonishes....”