

COPY OF A DIARY BY SAMUEL READY WHO CAME TO
LAIROBE IN THE EIGHTEEN-SIXTIES.

Boarded the sailing-ship "Utopia" on Tuesday, 7th February
1865.

Wednesday, February 8. A day of most singular and strange
adventures, often a series of changes, had to look sharp to
get breakfast, or rather tea leaves, got no dinner save a
little soup; after dinner called on the poop and had to pass
an examination and present our tickets; had the great pleasure
of waiting till nearly the last and then was told we might
have passed before. A vessel ran into us tonight but got
worse? having her bowsprit carried away, and I learnt was
making water fast. A most amusing sight to see certain
individuals contesting who should get beef or no. Some poor
fellows got a piece about the size of their finger for three or
four of them, a most audacious sight to see the precious morsel
in a large tin dish or even pail. But now to ship, we must
be up by six.

Thursday 9, Friday 10, Saturday 11, Sunday 12, Monday 13, Tuesday
14, Wednesday 15. I feel utterly impossible to give any
adequate description of the time elapsing between my last entry,
suffice to say may the like never transpire in my history again.
I am writing on the bulwarks of the vessel, Tuesday 14th
February 1865. 'Tis a lovely morning, our ship scarcely moving,
the sails are flapping idly on the masts, 'tis certainly quite
refreshing after so rough a time of it. On the 12th and 13th
we had a rough time of it, it blew quite a gale, it required
some tack and ingenuity to keep one's head in its proper place
and no mistake. I felt as if I had more than a book (?) too
much; I have heard and read of a storm at sea but never realised
it so fully as I have done during the past few days. Minnie
is on the poop of the vessel enjoying the fresh air, and no
mistake but she needs it after being cooped down in that stifling
place; its enough alone to make one sick. I got over my sickness
very well indeed but poor Minnie has been awful queer, no mistake,
but thank God she seems much better today. I can't say anything
in favour of our berth; they are so small, and yet we are favoured
instead of having another couple with us. We have two little boys
who sleep in the lower bunk and we in the upper one. On Sunday
night we were very near going down, the man at the helm not
understanding his work, very nearly put the vessel down stern
foremost. The Captain rushed out of his cabin in his drawers and
slippers and pulled and hauled with the rest like a jolly tar.
He is an Irishman, rather warm in temperament but kind hearted.
He has two sons on board; one is purser and the other a lad up
to all kind of games. Take the crew as a body they are passable.
The second mate is a nice fellow and a good sailor; so is the
boatswain. We have very agreeable people next our berths and
that makes it more pleasant. A very great many are Irish people
and very dirty indeed to see the messes, sick all about everywhere
nearly, and some look rather queer still, though it was very
rough thank God the wind was favourable and put us along at a
fine pace - eleven and above knots an hour. There are a great
many single men and women on board, chiefly Irish. The Captain

has just turned up on deck in his slippers. We have pigs and sheep on board. One poor pig was sea sick I suppose so they killed him for the cabin. I suppose there is only one cabin passenger. I went to the doctor who is a little man, wears spectacles, for something for Min. He gave me a very small powder, and the next day, though it was blowing hard, I got her on deck. He saw her and said she was doing all right, and I flatter myself will get on well now. It was most laughable to see folks tumbling about the decks if they fetched within a 100 rods the place started for the, did wonders. I myself went across the poop in fine style stopping myself against the hand-rail. The carpenter upset two females in great style. They were making to the House of Commons with their slop-pails, a sudden lurch of the vessel capsized them all together, or rather the carpenter was really the person at fault and got the worst off, for he got a good share of the "not over nice" contents of the above-mentioned pails, and some sly passenger, fancying he had got some well-sheltered nook there to enjoy himself found father Neptune remembered him and gave him his share with the rest. This is boiling day, salt beef and what you like to cook in the way of pudding. We are messed with a family just opposite us. They have done all the cooking, for we could not, and having so little time at Liverpool we did not get all we wanted in the way of tin dishes etc. but we must put up with it and manage as best we can. We shan't starve anyhow for we get much more than we can eat, such as it is. The sun is quite warm while I am writing and makes me feel cheerful. We are quite at sea now, nothing to be seen but sky and water. The sea is a beautiful deep blue color and so calm, only gentle swells. In fact it's like summer time to what it has been. But I must be off, having work to do, cleaning up etc. I forgot to say we have a machine on board that makes salt water fresh. It works by steam, and somehow by condensing the salt water makes it fresh.

Thursday 16. Very fine day and favourable the ship going about 9 knots. Just had dinner off preserved beef pie, half cooked. Min is away on the poop. She does not get to eat much yet. I am writing on the forepart of the vessel surrounded by fellow passengers like myself taking it easy. Sighted a vessel this morning in the distance. She was going a contrary course to us so we soon lost her. Sickness is now nearly gone from all and the cook's galley begins to get crowded with folk after their cookery. The passengers look rather pale and thin. The weather seems to get warmer every hour. I shall be pleased when we get it nice and warm. I had a good pull this morning at the pump. Its fine exercise for the muscles and does one good. There was a fight yesterday morning between the engineer and the ship's cook, but it was soon stopped, neither got any material damage. I find myself getting stronger every day and more reconciled to the mode of life. I confess, what with sea sickness and the rough weather I wished myself anywhere but here. We were very fortunate in getting a berth that kept free from leakages. Nearly everyone got more or less water battling about them. Not very pleasant but the carpenter has been doing his best to stop the leakages so we shall do better in the future. It's very amusing to hear the men singing as they

haul away at the ropes. Such queer songs they are and they seem so to enjoy it, one can't help laughing. We have nearly all sail set now and spinning along finely. Have not seen any fish yet. Some of the passengers saw some porpoises the day before we had the gale. There has been several birds flying about the ship and alighting on the rigging; one looks very much like a lark, and one yesterday we saw very high up again.

Friday, 17th February. Just dined off salt beef and pea soup; not bad stuff; begin to relish my food. Quite a calm comparatively, only a mild swell, the ship heaving fore and aft, but going very slow, about three knots. The crew are rigging up more sails, outriggers they call them. Had a good clean out down in our cabin, not before it wanted it. Sun quite warm today. Sang some songs on deck last night by moon-light. Saw a splendid star last night, one of the first magnitude. The second mate invited us to walk on the poop last night. He is very kind thought **Min?** some ??? the third time he has done so. He is very kind indeed, and so is the Captain. It makes me feel much more comfortable. He very often - the Captain - jokes her about me. Min seems a trifle better today but she won't keep down below, she is on deck from 9 till five regularly and often later.

Saturday, 18 February. Very fine day but a not very favourable wind. A vessel hove in sight on the same tack as ourselves. She proved to be the "Adamsen"? quite a new vessel from Liverpool bound for New Zealand, a very fine ship. We exchanged signals at a distance, did not get nearer than two miles to each other, that does not seem a great way on the water.

Sunday, 19 February. I can scarcely give any description of today. I think one of the most miserable ever spent, slowing down, and the vessel pitching and rolling fearfully. Have had no service since we came on board. It seems so queer, no service. It would be a long time ere I got used to this mode of life, got no breakfast, no dinner, nothing till tea time, and then some hot water only to make some tea, so had a regular fast, not very pleasant I assure you. Sighted a vessel in the morning, spoke to her by signals about noon. She proved to be a new vessel on her first voyage to Queenstown from Liverpool, the "Admenia". Could not understand her, she made some strange tacks, thought her rudder was not right.

Monday, 20 February. Much better today, a fair wind, got up some more sail today. Expect to get into the trade winds tomorrow. Got some dinner today. The weather keeps getting warmer. Sighted a ship and passed her today, not near enough to speak. She was not steering exactly the same course as we are. Hope to have a more comfortable night than last Saturday was. Could not sleep at all so got up and went on deck, and truly the scene I shall never forget. One cannot imagine the scene unless they witnessed it.

Tuesday, 21 February. Splendid day, quite warm, fair wind, getting up more sails. Had a very comfortable night. 'Tis thought we have entered into the trade winds which will carry us to the line or very nearly so. Had for dinner pea soup and salt beef. The cook is very kind, allowing us to cook nearly as we like. The pea soup is made altogether. We get about $\frac{1}{2}$ pint each. Got some coffee off the purser - a great luxury as the steerage are not allowed any. The tea is very decent, we get exactly as the printed form specifies. We get more than we can eat in the meat line. It's

so salt we cannot eat it, and our stomachs are not in eating order yet. Minn being so ill have not been able to cook so had to rest entirely on the mercies of the family we are messed with. The man is a very decent fellow and does nearly all the cooking. He made me a nice loaf today. The water is very good what the engine makes. Only the noise is very disagreeable and makes Minn's head ache very badly. They gave out a week's provisions at once and we scarcely know where to stow it our berths are so miserably small. I don't know what we should do if we had another couple in our berth. As it is we have two? lads? Have had lime juice and pickles served out today for the first, the pickles tasted very good indeed, the lime-juice I cannot understand, it's about the colour of strong tea and a very queer taste. I am writing on the fo'c'sle surrounded by my fellow passengers who are reposing in every possible position. Some got their beds on deck, some reading, some smoking, and a host of things of all colour and shape hanging on the rigging today. We intend to get our mattresses on deck tomorrow, if fine. The stores are very awfully situated at the end of our bunks. We have feared the whole lot would come through and smother us, the place was not made strong enough there being in one compartment two tons of biscuits; not a very nice thing to come over one while in bed. We could eat our way out providing our teeth and appetite continued good. The stores make an awful creaking noise but we begin to get used to it. We are on deck as often as possible, it won't do down below it's so cramped. There is good ventilation and the place is tolerably light, but I cannot stomach it much, yet it's far from being pleasant. ~~xxxxxx~~ On the whole the Captain and Mate are very kind to us. Min is quite a favourite. The sun is quite hot today and the wind seems warm.

Wednesday, 22 February. Very fine day and favourable weather, quite warm. Talk of getting an awning over the poop. It's very like a May day, the passengers lying about the decks in all directions. The sky a beautiful light blue shaded with fleecy clouds. While I am writing there is a vessel keeping our own company to windward of us. We sighted her yesterday and came up with her this noon. She is an iron ship loaded chiefly with iron sleepers for railways bound to Calcutta. Name, the "Arabia", she is a clipper and very deep loaded. Our vessel is nearly covered with canvas now. We have a very fine breeze pushing us along at a fine rate. We have had our beds on deck to air today, and cleaned out our bunks. We had some fun on the poop last night, the Captain sent for me to play some tunes for the girls to dance and sing to, only they are kept to themselves, no single men allowed on there, so I am a privileged one and can go up as often as I choose, and Min is there nearly all day when fine. The Captain seems very fond of music and seemed very pleased with my performance. I expect I shall very often be called upon to do the like again. The girls are crazy to dance having no amusement. As soon as it gets dark they are all ordered below into their berths.

Thursday, 23 February. Fine day and strong favourable breeze. We keep up with the clipper I named yesterday, ~~in~~ Though the Utopia is not really a clipper she sails very well considering; she is a North American built vessel. It has been a busy day with the sailors fitting up and repairing. It's very laughable to hear the funny names they call each other; for instance, "Chips, engine

wants you", meaning the carpenter wants the engineer. There has been some flying fish seen today. We had quite a stall on the quarter deck today and finished up on the poop. The Mate and Captain danced a reel and the cabin passenger joined and we had some songs. They are all fond of music. The Mate dances very nicely. They got some of the passengers' luggage up today. There were some boxes very much broken and some had got very wet, but the Captain ordered the carpenter to repair them. The folks on board are very busy at work and seem very happy.

Friday, 24 February. Very fine again today, fair wind and going along at a fine pace with all sail set or nearly so. We still keep up with the "Arabia" proving our vessel is not one of the slowest sailers. One of the sailors said to me this noon he never had such a continuation of fair winds before. We have had only foul winds once and that was when we were in the Channel. The ~~weather~~^{water} is really splendid the waves running mountains high and our vessel now on the top and then dashing down. I am writing quite on the front of the vessel against the bow sprit and it's really worth all the trouble and care to see such a day. The wind blows quite warm. Min is in the berth laid down. She has been taking some medicine and feels rather poorly. She has not got over her sickness yet. I am getting on quite fast. Per soup again today, only it was so thick we could not eat it. There was a fine spree yesterday; about thirty of the passengers had gathered together talking and laughing when a large wave came over the side and drowned them almost. Not an unusual thing to see but it seemed just the right thing at the right time. I got a pretty sprinkling this morning from head to foot but it very soon dries. But I must leave off for it's hard work to keep the pen so as to write and I find myself get rather too ??? and wants to confine me ??? severely? to my quarter so I must arise. Just saw some flying fish.

Saturday, 25th February. Very fine again today and favourable breeze though not quite so strong as yesterday. The "Arabia" keeps our company still. She is now just alongside of us about a mile to windward. It has been a very equal match. She has most certainly tried to get away from us but cannot, nor we from her. She was several miles away from us last night as we saw by a light she burnt on deck. We also burnt a blue one just to show our position. The Captain invited us to go into the cabin for an hour and we had a regular concert. He is very kind considering a stranger. I went and played to the single girls for a treat for them. The Captain said he could not trust me alone so Min had to go. She is better today and begins to regain her appetite. It takes one some time to get used to this sort of life. It's a very tough one at that and won't suit folks that are over-particular. They must make up their minds to rough it on board a vessel especially one like the "Utopia". She is not adapted for passengers. I never mean to have another such a trip, should I be spared to get safe through this, in a vessel like the "Utopia". It's well the Captain is so kind and agreeable, and the crew are very decent sort of men. The Captain is talking to the other vessel while I am writing, by means of flags. Some more flying fish have been seen today and some of Mother Carey's Clickens (stormy petrel).

Sunday, 26, Monday 27. Sunday 26th very fine day. Saw lots of fish of a beautiful colour swimming past the vessel. Had a service on the poop, if it deserves the name. The doctor read about a quarter of the morning service and sung one hymn. The people murmured very much about the service. The Captain said he would have a longer one in the evening. When the time came we went forward, or rather aft, to hear what we should be required to sing, found it had been set aside, so ended the first service we have had on board. Shame to the Captain. There is no chaplain on board so the doctor will have to officiate - pretty parson to be sure. There are a good many Roman Catholics on board and they had service to themselves in their cabins. There is one seaman sick on board with a bad foot. The doctor intends to attend to him this afternoon. I would not care to be under his hands, he is such a queer fellow. We three? manage to get our food to ourselves tomorrow. I think for the future they give out a weeks provisions at once with the exception of that that we have three times a week. Min has a very bad headache. We are leaving the "Arabian", or rather lost sight of her so the Captain lost his dinner?.

Monday, 27th. Very fine day and smart breeze. We are fast nearing the line, I think, so must make up our minds to a scorcher. It was very hot last night, wanted no blankets I can assure you, and scarcely anything if it gets much hotter. I shall stay on deck at least good part of the night. Have been very busy helping the purser today and expect to get at it again presently giving out stores. It's a troublesome job and the purser, to make amends been a hook in his eye, luckily not damaging the sight. Min is on the fo'c'sle at work. She kept up all day at work and I am, or must be, in the future head cook. Have just had dinner off salt beef, pickles, and brisket and lime juice, not very bad but diluted in water and a little sugar put into it. The tea is very poor stuff. We get plenty of it but cannot drink it. Mean to have coffee for tea if I can get the purser in the mind. He is not a bad chap and I help him all I can and I loose nothing by it. The Captain also is very kind so I don't mind lending a hand. The Captain asked me to lead the singing with two other friends. He is a queer chap but not so bad, but there are many far worse. He certainly is a very energetic man and a good sailor and very careful.

Tuesday, 28th. Just three weeks today since we came on board. It's a very fine day. I am lying on the fo'c'sle in my shirt sleeves and waist coat unbuttoned and now very much too hot. Thank God we have not got becalmed yet, nor do I want to for it's very hot and we have not reached the line yet. Had quite a ball on the deck last night. The Captain ordered us a lamp to be hung up so as to see. He seems very fond of music in any way or shape. Had our box on deck today and got out some light dresses and so forth for Min. It's very much hotter today than the height of summer in England. It makes one feel very lazy. Had a fine dinner today of pork and pickles, pea soup. Baked a cake today and nice pudding. Got my provisions to myself. It's very much nicer so we are to ourselves. The purser is very kind and so ^{is} the purser Brother? who gives out the water is very precious now but he gives me a very liberal allowance so we get on very fine now. Several of the sailors

are working their passage out. They only get a shilling per month, not a very liberal allowance, besides their food. I like the crew very much, they are a decent sort of fellows. I am strong friends with them and play to them.

Wednesday, 1st March. Very miserable day raining very fast and intolerably hot. We are nearing the line, about four degrees from it now. I hope we are not going to have much weather like this. Passengers are very busy catching rain-water. It was fearfully hot last night. Wanted no blankets to wrap one up. Could scarcely keep one's shirt on. Thank God we are both very hearty. Now not at all dainty our food continues very good and plenty of it. The Irish girls wear no shoes or stockings and but very little clothes. One little one died this morning and was buried about 9 a.m.. They don't keep them long. It was a very sickly child and died from natural causes, not any ?? disease and gradual decay.

Thursday, 2nd March. Very fine today and a nice breeze compared to yesterday. Going about three knots, but still very hot, 120 degrees in the sun and over 50 in the shade. About 3½ degrees from the line. Had quite a ball on the poop last night. The Captain gave Min some supper and me a glass of whisky and water and stood chatting with us till eleven o'clock. He is a rare one for a yarn. Some of the passengers have live stock on their person, not very agreeable I assure you. There was a fine set out with them this morning. We must report then if we see anything like it again.

Friday, 3rd March. Saturday 4th. Yesterday was a very hot day, no wind scarcely, and smart showers, most miserable weather when wet. We get our share of it below in our berths. Saturday very fine day today, still very warm. Was awfully hot last night. I could not sleep so got up and laid on the table opposite our berth. Lots of the passengers never go to bed at all, the heat regular knocks Minx xxx up, she fainted on the fo'c'sle last night, she is not well yet. I have been hauling up the signals for the Captain. He has been speaking to a vessel nearby us. There are three now in sight but all outward bound. The one (Lambelia) we spoke to that they lost hands in the English Channel. They came out four days earlier than we did. One of the other vessels has been out 20 (?42) days (40 miles out of her course - Earl of Chester) longer than we so we must be thankful. There is a nice breeze blowing now and it really desirable after the intollerable heat. England's summer is nothing to the heat here and we shall get it worse yet so must make up our minds to be partially roasted. The sun while I am writing makes my arm smart and it's getting for four o'clock. We anticipate crossing the line tomorrow. I certainly hope we may.

Saturday, 4th March. Had a fine lark on Saturday night while I was playing my ?violin? on the poop to the girls. The Captain ordered the **First Mate** to go and prepare Neptune in a large ?barrel? filled with pitch and tar and all sorts of combustibles and set it on fire over the ?hands? and the Captain and man forward held a dialogue, it gave the passengers a fine fright and they thought the vessel was on fire, and well they might for it was a fine blaze as it came by the vessel. I felt alarmed at

first not knowing the cause. It's the custom to have some sort of spree on crossing the line such as shaving the passengers with a razor made of iron hoop with teeth, for lather using grease and pitch, and finally giving you a good, cold bath in a sail filled with water, but we had none of that ^{mischiefs} the Captain ordered it down.

Sunday, 5th March. Fine morning. Prepared for church. Just got through a portion of the service when a ~~big~~ squall came on about and nearly washed us away. The parser who was reading persisted as long as possible in carrying on the service till finally the water came spurting on his book through the awning and he finally had to cut. Min got very wet but somehow or other I got off v ery fair considering, so no more service. Very wet the rest of the day could scarcely come on deck. It's most miserable weather. I hope, please God, this may soon pass off. Slept on the table. I gave Min the bunk to herself.

Monday, 6th March. Rather more wind today, therefore not so hot, rash? ??? affairs on hand today. The Matron and doctor between them told some lies about Min and one or two other married women to the Captain, and so put up a notice to the effect no married women allowed on the poop. The reason given was they complained of catching vermin on the poop. I went and spoke to the Captain. He referred me to the doctor. I told them very plainly the thing had been misrepresented. He seemed inclined to think different and so I left. I gave them to understand it was not for the privilege of coming on to the poop again I came to ask but to vindicate Min's character. While I was settling things ??? below down came the Captain soon and said the doctor wanted me. I at once went and saw the Captain and doctor and the cabin passenger. They both said they were sorry the thing had been ~~misrepresented~~ misunderstood. The Captain said it was through jealousy and spoke very coolly about the Matron, at all events he didn't place much faith in her and he requested me to tear the notice down, but I found someone had already done so when I came up in the morning, so once more the truth has triumphed over falsehood.

Tuesday, 7th. Fine breeze this morning, quite a treat. Cannot say if we have crossed the line or not. Cannot get any observation no sun being visible, clear sufficient. Shoal of porpoises passed our bows this morning about 6.30. The crew were too late with their gear to catch any. It's nice and cool. This morning no sun visible, very dark towards leward though clear and lightened awfully last night, almost blinded me. On deck it was very visible?. Min's arm is very painful today? driving and hurt the bone. I think she has hitherto borne the rough? very well. It's most awfully hot below deck. I never had so much sweat in all my life it rolls down my face like peas. Helped clean up the place this morning. It has to be scraped and then swabbed with a large swab. If all the passengers take it in turns it requires a good deal of swearing to get the people to clear out and to clean up. Scrubbed the bunk out. Have a port hole in our bunk so we get a little fresh air when it can be open. It serves to air our beds. We must think ourselves fortunate there are four couples in the bunk next ours. All adults. I cannot think how they manage. It must be fearful this hot weather. I am writing how sitting on a spare mast with my shirt sleeves rolled up, no

coat on, waist-coat unbuttoned, no stockings, and sometimes no shoes. Scarcely any of the girls wear shoes, but I must leave off as I anticipate another shower. The wind gets puffy, the squalls come very quietly? You see them in the wind's eye and they come making the water boil almost and rain falls in torrents, and the thunder and lightning is awful seeming right over us where I sit. I can see over the bulwarks opposite me in the engine room, next the galley for cooking. The Boatswain had his foot crushed by a boat but it's getting better.

Wednesday, 8th March. Very fine day and nice breeze. About 17 miles from the line, and thank God for this mild breeze. It was fearfully hot this morning and last night especially. Had a good ~~krexx~~ bath in a large tub on deck last evening and feel much the better for it. Saw plenty of fish this morning but could not take any. The Captain tried his hand with the ??? but failed, and so did all like efforts. Min seems very sadly this morning. I went to the doctor again who gave her a powder. She is now lying down. Just been baking some bread on George's principle with sugar yeast. Just took it to be baked. The cook is very kind and allows us to bake anything. We of course get the right side of him. Taking all things into consideration we are living very well indeed and have no fault to find. All goes on well about the poop affair now. They are even kinder than they were before to Kin since they find we are independent and mean to be. We get on very well for music: three violins including myself, concertinas, accordion, flute, and one fellow is about manufacturing a kettle drum. One of the sailors can play very decently.

Thursday, 9th March. Very stormy day and very uncomfortable, the wind dying away. Got an observation. Found we were one degree 7 miles south of the line (67). I sincerely hope we may have a favourable wind. We expect to get the south-east trades continually now till we get to the Cape. The Captain and one of the sailors got to logger-heads today. He has his wife on board and he went too often to see her. The Captain is very strict with the girls; they have to go in at certain hours, 9 in the evening, now 8 when we started. It was very hot last night. When you awake you find yourself bathed in perspiration. Not very agreeable. Min's arm is better today. I think it was hurt by her ~~falling~~ down. ~~xxxxxxx~~ Tea-soup for dinner today. I enjoy it very much; so does Min. She's beginning to regain her appetite. Flayed on the poop this evening. The doctor telling the Captain tales again. He is a most despicable character I ever met with. It was about me again because the purser asked me to go up and play before the Captain had intended I should.

Friday, 10th March. Showery the first part of the day but a nice breeze now, and going along merrily with a fair wind or nearly so. Had a bath in a large tub about 2 this morning. Had two or three very heavy squalls in the night no mistake. Shortened sail a little. I do enjoy the breeze today, so it seems so different after seeing the sails flapping against the masts and the rain coming down heavily. Its very clear though not so hot as it has been, nor do we ~~need~~^{need} it. We both forsook our lunks last night.

Min slept on a form set against our bunks, and I on the table. She rested very much better. I am very glad she does. She feels so ??? away and suffers very much with the head-sche, and no wonder for the heat is really awful down below especially after a heavy shower and the sun coming out on the deck sends a nasty damp heat on to you that something like a Turkish bath. I fancy at all events it answers the purpose admirably; for it opens the pores no mistake, and having so many down below it feels very foul. The girls aft they say are worse off than we are and that's ?nearless? but we must make the best of it, we cannot help it.

Saturday, 11th March. Fine day and very nice breeze only not exactly putting us where we would like to make a tack this morning, the first since we got out of the channel. We are now on the leaside. I prefer the weather side as you can open your port-hole and get a little fresh air in your bunks. We are blessed with one in ours. Some have nothing but a little piece of glass let in the deck overhead about three inches broad by 3. We have a port-hole about a foot ?? night awfully hot again but slept very well considering. Scarcely any sleep in their berths that can help it. Only fancy eight persons sleeping in as many berths just large enough to contain them and room for one couple to undress at a time, not very inspiring.

Sunday, 12th March. Very fine breeze and nice day. Not quite so warm. Going about 5 knots. I am writing on the bulwarks of the vessel. Min is reading beside me. Had prayers read on the poop this morning by the purser without interruption by the weather. After they were over the Captain said any one having cousins in the girls department could speak with them on the poop so all those who had taken a fancy to each other had the opportunity of chatting till dinner time. There are three constables appointed to wait and take care of the single girls. I wish very much I was at Burnham today. I spin ? an hour or enjoy a service as I have done in days past. Have seen no home-ward bound vessels for several days. In fact we only saw and never got near that. There were two past us in the night but could not speak to them. But I must be off. There is a cry of tea oh!, meaning hot water awaits those who will fetch it, and I can assure you that/almost too much trouble this hot weather, and yet our appetites are very good indeed.

Monday, 13th March. Very fine day and warm. Went to the Captain with three others and requested to have a wind-sail fixed down in our cabin window. He very kindly complied and we had it down by twelve. It is a funnel made of canvas open at the top on one side that's in the wind and then closed up up the open side placed so the wind is caught and forces its way down below. Our place is very much cooler now but it's awfully hot. To see the perspiration running down folk's faces while at meals. I can tell you eating is quite hard work and, were it not for necessity I could never take the trouble to get it ready. Have only seen one shark and that we lost through our over-clever doctor. ^{ones} Have had stores served out day to day. It takes nearly all ~~xxx~~ time to get our things and it generally takes two days to serve out the bulk, and all have to be carried by our berth and it makes it very unhandy. I wish the stores were anywhere but here.

Tuesday, 14th ~~9752~~ Very fine day and warm as usual.

Going about 7 knots. Saw a vessel in the distance. Min not very well today, had a very bad night, could not sleep. Have not slept in our bunks for a week or more. I slept on the table and Min on a form. We expect a fortnight more like this. Not very consoling to look forward to. I only hope this breeze may continue. A calm is very much to be dreaded. Our English summer won't bear comparison. On Sunday last as I stood on the deck after service the sun was right over us, no shadow at all. We are now 8 or 9 degrees south of the line. ??? have had a most sweating in the store for a treat this afternoon, the perspiration dropped off me quite fast, in fact the store room is in a very bad place and so crowded you can't get at anything handy. A vessel just sighted in the distance while I am writing, a very long way off. One of the girls locked up for had contact. It's a great pity. She is quite a young English girl and very respectably conducted, but all think , , , , short of change. The matron got in a mess again. The Captain found out she had her food at the cabin table and took her stores just the same as a passenger, so I hear no more cabin-fare for her. No-one likes her and therefore she gets no pity. She is a regular tatter and as such does not confine herself to the truth. I cannot pity her however much she suffers. I hope it may teach her to be better.

Wednesday, 17th March, 1864. Very fine day, the atmosphere very clear, an indication of fine weather. Very hot last night. Engine had up our windsail to make it amends so the wind could not come down free, found it out in several places so had it taken down and repaired. It caused quite a fuss. The Captain would have taken it down altogether but the folks grumble so and found fault They should have fixed it better. Splendid breeze this evening, so quiet and gentle, going about 4 knots. Three more young men went to the Captain about the matron last night. She had been saying they were the three worst blackguards in the ship. They over-heard her so the Captain gets plenty of tales from one end the other. He is after-all not a bad sort, fond of flattery and spinning yarns, a regular Jacktar. I find ??? about helping the sailors instead of lolling about very much more beneficial to one's health so I generally lend a hand at pulling a rope and it's fine fun to hear the quaint chant of the sailors and join in their hearty chorus. One chorus very much amuses me as follows:

Oh, slake that girl with a blue dress on
 Johnnie come down with a hilo
 Poor old man.

Thursday, 16th March. Very fine and smart breeze. Very hot down below. Evening, quite a calm, no wind so am afraid we are again becalmed. About 14 degrees from the line. About 840 miles from the line. The Captain's birthday. The Mate says the month is the worst month in the year for calm here.

Friday, 17th March. Very fine and hot today. No wind. Very hot down below. Both slept on the fo^{biscuit}. Had beef and pickles and ~~take~~ pudding for dinner today. ~~Ma~~ ?rare? dinner today and Min seemed to enjoy. A bird just passed us on the wing - evening - The Irish are keeping up St. Patrick's day and are going into the bottled porter? at 18? per bottle. They are very much disappointed no whisky can be had on board.

Saturday, 18th March. Very fine day. Had a nice breeze in the

early part of the night but nearly all gone. Two rather heavy squalls came down upon us and gave us a lift along, but there is a breeze, and that's all just enough to fan one and keep one from melting. There was a rare lot out yesterday afternoon and evening, the sailors got a holiday and the Captain gave them two bottles of whisky. They fool-like drank it up at once with about three or four ?avsin? of ?posten? and then got to quarreling and fighting. There are several Dutchmen on board and they, poor fellows, come in for their share and no mistake, but no serious damage was done excepting a swelled nose and ?shins?. The Captain came down and was very angry so they must expect no more whisky from him. The ?rest? were very quiet, not one of them the worse as I saw, but all came quiet in the evening and was finished with a dance on the quarter deck. Its a great pity to see such folly amongst some. We were expecting very anxiously to be able to send a letter home by a vessel we met but it proved a disappointment, a strong breeze blowing so would not stop the ship. All hands were busy but were baulked.~~at~~ It proved a foreign vessel, a small one.

Saturday night had the great pleasure of posting a rather ???-some letterhome. Had very short notice after we knew ^{where} the vessel was bound. Wrote one to mother, Annie, and not a line to Burnham to H. New ell. The vessel came close alongside. She was bound to Hamburg from South America loaded with some kind of liquor or wine ?????? One passed us close by in the night so the mate said he could have pitched anything on board almost about 12 o'clock.

Sunday, 19th March. Squally day, expecting some strong breeze. Min and myself both very seedy with headache and sickness. The vessel is riding over a rough head sea not making much way and three points from her course. Have not done much towards getting to Melbourne for the last fortnight. I am getting sick of the funny weather. We either get such strong winds we cannot carry any sail, or else so light we can make no head way and unfortunately the heavy winds are generally foul. Min seems very seedy, in fact there are a great many sick again. It is much cooler today. Had no service today. I shall feel heartily thankful when the voyage is over to enjoy one more Sabbath, the recollection of the past happy Sundays often cause me to feel very sad and uncomfortable.

Monday 20th March. Very fine this morning and light breeze, but no mistake we had a squall last night, all hands came up on deck to work the ship and put the ship about. We are close to the ????? Islands and we were compelled to do so, not very pleasant. I slept on a form again last night and slept very well till about half past one when Min woke me up. She was sleeping in her bunk, and no mistake it was blowing, the vessel pitching fearfully. However I ~~kept~~ kept my billet? very well considering. Min was very frightened and, what with the lightening and the wind it was awful, no mistake. However we got no damage save a rope or so. Thank God for protecting and shielding us. Our vessel was taken aback against the wind suddening came ahead and drove her back. Its the most dangerous of all occurrences for many a vessel goes down stern first. But thank God that was not the case.

Tuesday, 21st March. Fine day, only one squall present for

about half an hour. No wind at all, scarcely not getting on much at this rate, had no fair winds for nearly, or quite two weeks. ??? the mate expects it till we get a new moon. It was cooler down below last night. Began to make use of our passengers. They have kept very well, we lack nothing but some potted meat that did not keep at all. Our ham kept very well. We get very good pork, in fact as good as we get at home when ?till? 23??? It's a splendid evening. The Captain he expected we could have six or seven weeks more of this so we must put up with it. Min is better today, slept on the form last night again on the rug. Gave one of my mattresses away. They are such nasty dirty things I mean to ??? to a one I keep. Saw some fish. ~~cañhãd~~ the Portuguese men-of-war today. They hoist a little sail and ride over the waves very prettily. Have caught no fish at present, have seen none for some days, but a few very small ones. The crew have been lightening the rigging today. Thought of going to the doctor today but changed my mind. The warm weather seems to suit me very well.

Wednesday, 22nd March. Very fair ~~xixã~~ ??? and also fair wind, Thank God, just what we want, going about 3 or 4 knots. We are about 18 south of the line. Got up stunsails to catch every inch of this. We all now contemplate a long passage unless we get very fair winds, and really this has been very tedious and tiresome ?tacking? about. Min got the headache today. There was a raffle on the way last ??? and now while I am writing, it has been very hot today. Min has been up nearly all day. The hot weather makes her feel ill. Folks say I look better than I did, in fact I never thought I should have stood it so well. No fish, only some flying fish skimming over the surface. It was ~~xixã~~ awfully hot again last night. Slept on the forms. Beef and pickle for dinner today. Porter nearly all done. 18 bottles rather stiff. I buy a little just for a relish now and then. I don't care much for it. Night storm seems coming down upon us and I fear to spoil our fine wind. Just saw two ?waterspouts? at once nearly close together.

Thursday, 23rd March. Very fine day and fair wind, thank God. The wind freshened about eleven last night and has continued very steady up till now with a fair prospect of its continuation. The wind is very nearly fair, easterly, and we are making west by south west. We winds we had foul drove us out of our course very much. We were close on the Brazil coast and it's a very nasty coast for dirty weather. We are expecting some rough weather at the Cape but thank God he has kept us safe at present and we will still trust him. Have been very busy seeing after my remaining bed and blankets and airing my shirts. Min is better today. Have been also very busy making a three-legged stool. There are no ~~xxix~~ seats but ~~mxg~~ tough spare to sit upon and they are not at all convenient. So, ??? up a three legged one. Have got our stunsails set. Had a dance on the poop. I played for the girls. It's very laughable to see them dance their jigs. The appearance of a storm tonight. I sincerely pray it may continue thus to blow us past the Cape. The sky is very beautifully shaded with clouds. We see the Southern Cross every night now and also a vast number of stars. It's not so hot or sticky today but very warm down below. Slept in the bunk last night. Left the port-hole open and has about three or four buckets of water over our bunk in about a moment.

Friday, 24th March. Very fine day on the whole but fear our fair wind is being superseded by a foul one. Caught a fine lot of rain-water last night but it very soon vanished so had a wash at some things. I generally wash something or other every week. It doesn't take long to dry them. The great difficulty is to get the water. Min has just made some ~~?????~~ or pasties for dinner today and tomorrow. We get on very well for living while the beef is very good when well soaked, and the pork far better. We get a nice pile of both each week and two pounds of ~~?????~~ beef which we don't care about this warm weather. It will not keep after the tin is opened. We are messed by ourselves.

Saturday, 25th March. Very fine day but foul wind, going about five points out of our course. It's not so bad today, more like our summer. Folks are all on deck today. The Captain just came below to see if the place is clean. He often sends the boys or anyone down to put on clean linen.

Sunday, 26th. Very fine day and fair breeze, going about 5 knots in the general way. Went to service. Felt rather sad at the thoughts of the Sabbaths spent in England in contrast with the present. Rather warm ~~warm~~ again. Only one service and that read by the purser. No sermon of course and no singing. They can sing songs but not hymns. The second mate is very poorly with a bad cold. The Captain's youngest son is very poorly. The cousins were permitted to speak to each other again after service.

Monday, 27th March. Very fine day and smart favourable breeze. Going about 8 or 9 knots, and that all day, so we anticipate to reach the Cape in a few days. Have had a warm job of getting in our stores. Have to look sharp, but after all we have no cause to complain. We get on very well if the stores continue. Our water for last two days has been very bad from the water casks. The machine water is very pure and nice. They clean the engine on Saturday. The water is very pure, only it has not time to get quite cool, but it's very wholesome. While I am writing a raffle is going on for a dagger knife, making the fifth raffle on the voyage. I am writing on the top of the bulwarks, the water foaming and soaring just below me. It's splendid to see the waves come rolling along crested with foam. The water hisses and froths like ginger beer by the side of our vessel showing we are going through it smartly, one faster later? have been 12 knots.

Tuesday, 28th March. Rather dull day but fine breeze. Had a shower this morning and seems inclined to rain now. Have a fair wind going quite 10 knots I think so we have got over some ground this time. The water is splendid today, large waves crested with foam sweeping by. Much more pleasant than when we have to ~~stern?~~ them. They quite make the vessel shake from stem to stern when a large one hits her. It was fearfully hot last night almost unbearable. We could get no wind down our windsail the wind being nearly aft. Min got up about one and took my cub on the form and I went into the bunk. She went on deck and had an airing and just missing having a regular drenching, a wave coming over her side very smartly just after she had left.

Wednesday, 29th March. Fine day and stiff breeze only not exactly from where we wanted it to blow. Going about 4 ~~xxxx~~ points out of her course. Had to keep on deck from breakfast till

till tea. They have been very busy settling the cargo square below our berths. The Captain says the vessel was badly loaded, the water casks being embedded in coal, and they use the coal first, and we fear will be short of coals before long. Our vessel does not sail so well as she did in consequence of her head being lightened by the cargo taken out of her for use, and water. The engine does not make sufficient water quite to supply the ship regularly. We had a rough night rather last night. Have all our sails set now, her two main royals fore and aft. Those who got any dinner had to get down the skylight and so get up their food unless they had it on deck. The great waves come rolling along the side where I am writing and seem to threaten to give me a drenching. I anticipate some of my friends at home are speaking of me as my ears burn at a fearful rate. The second mate is better and so is the Captain's son. This has been a regular busy day. Thank God no accident has accounted though some have had narrow escapes from things falling down on their heads.

Thursday, 30th March. A fine day considering; a great swell and strong wind. We are not going our course I understand. I very much wish we were past the Cape. We sighted two vessels, which we believe are bound for the Cape, in the distance. I expect we are scarcely half way yet. Our short passage talked of will prove a long one I fear. Our win'sail was taken up today. The weather gets cooler every day but we could have borne it longer yet. We have fine fun with the Dutchman. There is one sweeping the decks while I am writing. He is a general favourite. I am writing sitting on the deck just below the deck. Min and her friend and two or three more have got up the corner out of the wind. I enjoy the cool weather after the heat very much. It was very rough last night and to make amends two Irishmen got to fighting. It was only a rough and tumble affair, no great damage done, but keeping one awake by the awful noise. There were some Cape pigeons seen today. The sailors finished today setting the stores and cargo. They have put down the two guns from the fo'c'sle to make the vessel list more on one side, one side being the highest. They also filled the empty water casks with salt water, so we are trim again and ready to cut away the next favourable breeze. Beef for our dinner this week. At least we are entitled to two pounds a week but during the hot weather we could not eat it for it would scarcely keep till you could eat it. The weather, ever so hot. We made a pie of it one day and it was quite bad meat. I think the Irish on board many of them never lived ~~xxxxx~~ so well in their lives before. But I must leave off and see after Min. She is aft somewhere. She has her old complaint, headache today very bad.

Friday, 31st March. Very fine day but very ~~xxxxx~~ much colder so I anticipate we are getting in the latitude of the Cape. Have seen several Cape hens today. There was a great deal of sea last night and a stiff breeze, and so there is this morning; a Cape sea they call it. I begin to wish we were at Australia. Evening, I am seated on the top of a place I need not describe, but when I can recline and obtain a fine view of the setting sun and sky. 'Tis a fine evening about as hot as our April now on deck. Our vessel

has given some of us some cold baths over her bows. I cannot describe the scenery but it is splendid. I do really enjoy this. I got up last night for I could not sleep, and had a yarn with the second mate which I generally do every evening. They are both very communicative. One of them was in that great typhoon? in Calcutta in a vessel and was wrecked. The account he gave is truly awful. He saw vessels blown bottom upwards. Min sometimes takes it into her head to get up and go on deck, a practice I must not allow her now or she may get a ducking some time or other. Had some short cake for tea and preserve biscuit and butter, tea etc. but no milk. We get a six-pound pot of preserved beef for our dinner this week. At least we are entitled to two pounds a week but during the hot weather we could not eat it for it would scarcely keep till you could eat it. The weather, ever so hot. We made a pie of it one day and it was quite bad meat. I think the Irish on board many of them never lived so well in their lives before. But I must leave off and see after Min. She is aft somewhere. She has her old complaint, headache today very bad.

April 1st, Saturday. Fine day and smart breeze but not exactly fair, going 6 or 7 knots. It was very rough last night indeed. We both got up and I went on deck. The wind was blowing from the south-east or nearly so. Ke^{arly} all sail was taken in and then the vessel lurched heavily. Our bulwarks are six feet high at least. Not one on board can see over them when standing on deck and they seemed at times level with the water's edge. We have had some stiff breezes but the sailors tell us we shall get heavier yet or we shall be very fortunate. We neither of us are well today. Min has her old complaint, the headache, and I have a swelled face and a small boil on it, not very pleasant to ~~xxx~~ cut much here. You cannot nurse yourself as you would at home. I begin to be tired of doing nothing very much. We see lots of birds now from the Cape. I suppose we are in the ^{longitude} ~~latitude~~ of the Cape but not the latitude, nor shall we ^{see} it at all. ~~xxx~~. Now expect to see ^{not} land till we see the land we are bound to and I heartily wish it was in sight now but no, nothing but water water whichever way you look and get near something cheery in the look of the water so blue and sparkling. Here and there crested with foam like flakes of snow.

Sunday, April 2nd. Fine day but a wind dead ahead of us so it's not very consoling in connection with our journey, but the air is very like our Spring weather, the air so bracing. I feel better today. Have had a cold in my head and a small boil on my face. Min is very seedy. I have been to the doctor's for some medicine for her. He has given me a small powder. She suffers so much from indigestion and headache and there is not much comfort for one ill here. The Captain is very kind and called the doctor to her when he came on deck. He said he could do no~~x~~ more than he had already done in her case. Service on the poop but there are not many attending. Have found out at last one brother in Christ on board, a Scotchman, one of Dr. Morrison's ^{hearers} ~~???????~~ and felt quite refreshed from the ~~???????~~

Monday, April 3rd. Very fine day but no fair wind. Oh dear me, going backward instead of forward. Min is much better today and can eat some salt beef and pickles, biscuit and ~~????~~ for breakfast.

My face is better. Caught or ~~????~~ shot a fine albatross today. There were three following very closely for some ~~pieces~~ pieces of fat thrown to them. The doctor shot one measuring eleven feet from tip of wing to tip; a fine bird, body nearly white, wing of a dark colour, very tapering and narrow webbed feet and a strong hook bill very like a parrot's ~~????~~. They had to lower a boat to get it. The sailor who hauled it into the boat got a fine nip on the back of his hand. They bite very hard. Their beak is about four inches long to six inches. It was very savage and bit at everything it could get at, even the boat cars, but they soon stopped that by passing a noose over his bill, and so he had to submit to be inspected by all who desired. The Captain ran after the girls with it causing much fun. The doctor had his skin off to dry. I wish they could get one alive as they cannot rise from the deck of a ship or any substance but water, their wings require so much air and their feet are webbed like a duck. They are commonly called Berkays. One they shot at thought wounded, got away.

Tuesday, April 4th. Very fine day and fair wind, thank God, at last, though not a very strong one, yet it's better than a foul one. We are now going north east by east, about 4 or 5 knots. Min is much better today. Another set out with the matron with the single young women and Min ~~sticking~~ sticking together. Two very ~~fine~~ respectable young men prohibited from going on the poop any more. They have, it seemed, fell in love with two English girls on board, and the Matron, having a spite, most certainly? ~~????~~. All the English passengers reported to the Captain, though the parents of one are on board, yet they are kept very strict including everyone on board ~~disliking~~ disliking the Matron very much, but the doctor and the Irish. She is a most contemptible person indeed. While I was playing my violin on the main deck some one threw a dish cloth in her face as she was looking out of her window. She was very jealous because the Captain commanded ~~my~~ my playing last night. She was so annoyed and came to ~~???~~ ~~attention~~ attention to the Irish girls singing. He certainly ~~?????~~ he could not listen to two at once. I never saw such nonsense going on for ship life. I anticipate the Matron will catch it yet.

Wednesday, April 5th. Very fine day and fair breeze and nearly aft, going about 9 or 10 knots, all sail set nearly. Dined off salt beef and preserved potatoes. There is a good deal of sea today and the vessel rolls heavily at times. There are several Cape pigeons flying about, so we are nearing the Cape. We have generally the ~~toughest~~ toughest weather in the night, or we fancy it toughest. I would very much rather have it in the day time. In fact I don't mind how rough it is scarcely if I can but get ~~??????~~. The rats are very numerous on board. You can often hear them making a noise. A great many have been seen. I saw a loaf of bread and the treacle nearly all cut or eaten out by them.

Thursday, April 6th. Very fine day and strong fair breeze from north-west, going about 10 knots. The wind will help us along finely. The vessel rolls a good deal today and occasionally a sea comes over her side and gives and gives the loiterer a ducking. It comes very quietly over sometimes wetting only one out of a dozen persons standing together. Sometimes a splash comes right ~~xxxx~~ in one's face. It did Min yesterday.

Friday, April 7th. Very fine day and fair wind. Nothing fresh today but a continuation of great mercies, thank God.

Saturday, April 8th. Very fine day and fair wind, thank God, rather more on her quarter. Just as I came on the fo'c'sle to write a vessel was sighted in the distance on her port side, a barque the sett^{er} to be. Several Cape pigeons to be seen. They are about the size of our English pigeons, white spotted with black. The doctor has been very busy shooting at some Albatross but missed them all. We are going along at a fine rate, 10 knots I should think. We were 1,400 miles from the Cape yesterday. We ran four degrees of longitude the day before. The wind seems to freshen and a good sea running, the pitching rather unpleasant but nothing to what she does sometimes. Min is better today. She was very poorly last night, should not have come on the fo'c'sle since she caught those croccp;???. There are a great many birds flying about. There is a ?whale? bird, a large brown bird, Cape Hens, stormy petrol. They fly very fast and seem nearly always on the wing. Sometimes they follow the wake of the vessel and pick up anything in the eatable way they can pick up. They hooked one but it ??? the line and off it went hook and all.

Sunday, April 9th. Very rough indeed. In fact while I am writing I can scarcely keep pen to my paper. We are sitting in our berths below. Our ship keeps rolling fearfully. There has been a great many upsettings with pots and pans. It was very rough last night and to make it amends the sailors threw down a large empty iron cask down the ladder and shouted someone overboard on purpose to frighten us. In fact there was an awful noise, what with the ???.

Monday, April 10th. Very fine day, not so much wind as there was. We commenced east longitude today. We are now, ~~xxxxxxx~~ 6,000 miles from Melbourne. Have been very busy in the stores. Have just had tea. The stores continue very good indeed. The water is rather poor from the casks. A man seriously hurt from eating stolen cake which contained a certain portion of ?jalopp?.

Tuesday, April 11th. Fine day but not ~~xxxx~~ going within? bur course by 3 or 4 points. Nearly calm all night. Caught four albatross with a hook and piece of fat. One a very fine one. Expect a very rough night so we must prepare for it. This is just the place for it. I hope by God's blessing we may soon weather the Cape.

Wednesday, April 12th. Very rough day, blowing quite hard all last night; only three sails set and these cloud? reefed. The sea runs awful high and comes right over us and down our berth. A great many got a ~~xxxxxx~~ wetting by the seas coming over her, and the glass shows signs for more wind having gone down considerably today. The mate tells me we are going to leeward very fast indeed. Cannot carry sufficient sail to get any way against the wind, and it's not fair so we must trust in providence and leave the rest to Him who can ??? all things to work together for our good. Min has a headache, I expect keeping down in this confined place, and the children make so much noise; but I must leave off all ??? ???? and tea is nearly ready.

Thursday, April 13th. Very rough day. Had a fearful night, the vessel rolled fearfully and continues to do so blowing quite a gale. Some of the stores got loose and made a terrible noise, what with the tins etc. rolling about, children crying, and men grumbling, a

pretty set out, however I kept my ~~????~~ or rather lazed, rolling about like a porpoise in a rough sea. The reason was there was no sail set scarcely till four in the morning and then it blew so hard, ~~thx~~ but very little could be set. She therefore most of the night lay tumbling in the trough of the sea like a log making no head way only going to leawara. She gave one fearful lurch this evening. I was on deck. She seemed quite on her beam ends and you had to hold on for your life. Min was calm. There was a lot of damage done to the passengers pots and pans. One cannot realize what a good rolling at sea is unless they experience it from. From one side to the other every roll increasing till the final comes, generally upsetting someone. One young man got a severe cut over the eye last night through a fall. I myself have had several slides and got sore shins but nothing more. The poor pigs roll about fearfully. One of the Dutch sailors stumbled over ^{one} yesterday and hurt his leg, the poor pig got jammed under some spars and made a fine set out but was ~~released~~-rescued. One of the girls aft got some damage to her face I believe. I hope, please God, things may soon assume a better appearance.

Friday, April 14th. (64 days out). Much finer today and fair wind, and nearly aft. Got stunsails out today. It cleared up about half past six and was a beautiful evening. The moon just past the full shone very bright and the stars twinkled, and it seemed quite another thing. We had a good night's rest last night thank God for it, but the rolling makes Min very sick. She was sick all day yesterday; she could not get on deck, it being so rough. She is up now just under the lee of the poop enjoying the breeze. The sailors are busy bending some fresh sails; the others got ~~????~~ up rather split in several places. They are not first rate ones. Some of them. One of the hand spikes broke yesterday and let go the fore sheet and caused some commotion on the deck by a block fastened to the end of a long rope flying about caused by the flapping of the sail. It was soon set right.

Saturday, 15th April. Very fine day and fair wind, going about 8 knots. Got all sails set. The sun is shining splendid and the sky very clear. The vessel rolls heavily at times. Sighted a sail in the distance this morning about 7 bells. I am getting quite stout, my belt will scarcely buckle to.

Sunday, 16th April. Monday, 17th April. A fair wind. Went to service on ship. Fine day and fair breeze, blowing up strong, thank God. We have weathered the Cape and are now steering straight for our destination. We are going seven knots if not more. About 10 this morning we were going 12, our greatest speed. Min got a fine ducking from a sea coming over her, and several more had to take change of dress, and not long after I was helping to hoist the main-top staysail when a sea came over the quarter about 9 feet above us and fell very unpleasantly on our heads wetting me very nicely, and one next to me worse. There has been a good deal of water on deck today but only what sailors call ~~????~~, not heavy seas, so one is up to their knees in it. I am writing on the fo'c'sle. "Utopia" is rushing along with all sail set but her main royals and stunsails. We muster 26 sails when all set. It is a splendid day, not very cold. We have not sighted any land at all. Did not go near the Cape by a great many miles.

Tuesday, April 18th. Fine day, wind keeping fair, ~~???~~. Blowing very strong and fair, going at the top of her speed, all sail set.

Wednesday, 19th April

set.

Wednesday, April 19. (69 days out). Fine day and fair breeze, going about 9 knots evening. While I am writing it is blowing very strong, the water flying over deck, finally, had a fair strong breeze all day. Sighted two vessels this morning, one we overhauled, a barque from Liverpool 64 days out, name, Anne Copton, proving we are not the slowest sailers on the water. The other hauled more to windward by???. She was sighted sometime today very far astern. The water engine has ceased going and now we have water out of the barrels below. It's not so bad as it was when near the Line. The engine water is far the best and very pure. If this breeze continues we anticipate seeing our destination in about three weeks. I hope we may, please God!

Thursday, April 20th. I can scarcely give you any idea of yesterday's proceedings. It was a fine morning and the Captain had prophesied some rough weather, and sure it came all at once, a perfect hurricane, the vessel rolling fearfully just after dinner. It was truly awful, away with a crash went the maintopsail chain with a tremendous crash, the chain flying about in all directions. About four fathoms went overboard and presently down came part of the booby hatch with one of the constables, luckily only bruising his side. Two ??? casks, lashed alongside, went to the sides making an awful crash. What with the sail flying about presently away went the fore-main sheet stay. I was down below and it nearly pitched one on their heads. Next berth to us three or four boxes came ~~came~~ tumbling down with a basket of crockeryware, a fine smash and what with the women and children the confusion was complete. The Captain had a narrow chance of going overboard. He slipped on the poop while the gale was on and was hanging with his feet over the side, and was then picked up. One sailor got a severe bruise at the wheel. It broke from his grip and struck him just above the elbow. Another got a severe ?hook bar? in his leg. Both are laid up and may have very narrow escapes, but thank God no very serious damage was done. It continued ~~thas~~ to blow hard for about ? , then lulled for about a quarter of an hour.

Friday, April 21st. Fine day but a great deal of sea. Thank God we have had a fair wind. ~~???~~ ~~through-the-night?~~ it blew very heavy all night. Neither of us could sleep. Min got up. In fact it was a miserable night, but thank God we are now able to set nearly all sail. The Captain says he never knew it to blow so heavy all the fine years he has been to see. For the time it was just like a tremendous blow when it struck the ship making her heel over so that her stunsails & booms were five feet under water. It was hold on then for your life. It was feared we should have to heave to and that no easy job, the sea running mountains high. I sincerely hope the impression made by the squall may never be forgotten, but be something to keep me from forgetting the power and mercy of my God.

Saturday, 22nd April. Very fine day, but fearful rolling about the sea from those squalls not subsided yet. One could scarcely keep in bed last night, it rolled very much all night. It's quite warm and the sun shining very nicely. I hope a breeze may soon spring up. There's just enough wind to keep her head to her course and that's all. These calms generally follow after

Monday, 1st May. 81 days out. very rough day. Blew hard and very puffy last night. Got no rest scarcely. The glass still continues very low. The wind is a good deal ahead. Not going very fast. Getting quite sick of the weather. Afraid to carry much sail for fear of losing her masts, a not very pleasant thing to do. Nearly all the sails set are lifted so we must rest on the goodness of God.

Tuesday, 2nd May. Very rough today, but much worse in the night. Blew almost a gale. Could not sleep scarcely at all, what with the rolling and pitching. Our vessel makes very little water. A few passengers, myself included, pumped her out in about a few minutes.

Wednesday, 3rd May. A fair wind and fine, all sail set. Going along at a fine rate, eleven knots. Thank God for the fair wind. We have it after so rough a time of it. Captain just sent Bin some fresh meat for dinner.

Thursday, 4th May. Very fine day and fair wind. Past St. Paul's Island yesterday about 12, 70 miles to southward. Going about 8 knots. Hope now to get to our destination very soon, about 14 days or so.

Friday, 5th May. Fine day and fair breeze. A shower occasionally. Going about 9. Sailors busy painting and cleaning.

Saturday, 6th May. Fine day and fair wind and going along very steady, no rocking or rolling. It would be very pleasant if it were all like this.

Sunday, 7th May. Fine day and fair breeze. Went to church in the morning. Minn not very well so stayed below. Expect very soon now to reach our destination.

rough and squally weather. There is no ??? water today, only well.

Sunday, 23rd April. Very fine day, going about point ??? out of our course. Sighted two vessels, one a barque unknown, the other a vessel from Liverpool to Bombay, a fine vessel once a steamer in the East India Company's, now a merchant vessel. She overhauled us and passed us going to windward in fine style.

Monday, 24th April. Very fine day, wind the same only light. Sighted two vessels in the distance. One I can see on our port side while I am writing. Bin very seedy today with cold and sore throat.

Tuesday, 25th April. Very dull day and ??? of wind, the glass going down fast, so perhaps we shall get another stinger and not fair driving us further to the southward than we want to go. I sincerely hope we may soon have favourable wind. It's quite a calm just now with a smart shower of rain. Evening blowing quite hard and a gale almost, sending us back to the eastward making up for the lost ground. Wind nearly ahead making the sails shake very much. Don't anticipate much rest tonight. Bin seems a little better, her throat is very sore yet. Sighted a vessel to leeward in the distance.

Wednesday, 26th April. Fine day today and wind nearly fair, helping us on our proper position and out of bad weather. Our ship is very light loaded and has got a luff in that heavy squall shifted the cargo so leans over a little one side. However we have the wind on the other side today. The wind was quite aft last night and by 10 was nearly a head wind. It changes very quickly and gales soon come on, but we must not complain. We have had our share of fine weather. If we get no more on the voyage. Bin seems much better today. Went to bed about 2 this morning. It blew very hard and the wind being ahead made the sails rattle very much, a not very pleasant thing to hear, and the waves coming against the side and making her tremble with it's heavy blows and feeling everything straining, even the deck, the wind seeming to do its best to drag away the sails. Thank God we are past all that safe. Surely he is merciful.

Thursday, 27th April. Fine day. Wind about same as yesterday. The vessel pitches very much, the wind being ahead.

Friday, 28th April. Fine day and strong wind, going about 10 knots. Vessel pitching rather heavily. At times the sun shining very much. Bin has a very bad headache today. Various opinions as to when we shall arrive to 18 days from ??? to a month.

Saturday, 29th April. Fine day but expecting rough weather, a great many on board looking the dark side. Thank God for the past and may we be enabled to trust him for the future. Not going our course. We have not much cause to complain by. We must trust God for the future. He will surely do right.

Sunday, 30th April. Very dull morning. No wind scarcely. Have been expecting some 12 or 14 hours a gale of wind, not a very nice thing to expect. The glass is very low. It looks very dirty to leeward, I pray earnestly we may have no more like the last. It makes things very unpleasant for all. The glass is very low. But I hope we may be all mistaken. The bell just rang for church. Not going this morning. Not many to attend I fear. May the service be sincere and then it will be accepted.