

The Diary of Joshua Ward regarding his Passage to Australia July 1854

Transcribed by Briar Adams, 2017; revised by Rosemary Richards, 2018–19; private collection.

NB [in transcription]: The spine of the diary is indicated by the placement of tabs in the transcription.

The lines of writing on 'Spread 1' continue across two sheets of paper, on verso and recto pages opposite each other.

Words on 'Spread 1' which span the spine are indicated by [hy- -phens] on either side of the tab. A transcription of 'Spread 1' without breaks is also included.

Words on later spreads that are split by line or page are also indicated by [-].

Spelling and punctuation are all [sic].

NB 2 [in daily version]: Line breaks are indicated by [/]. Each day is marked [*]. The calculation of the number of days 'out' and the weeks at sea on the voyage are commented on.

Daily version

[Spread 1, verso and recto, given first, followed by another copy of Spread 1 without column breaks]]

A few Particulars of the
the Passage of Joshua Ward [/]
& Joseph Goodall & his Wi[-
John Knox of Liverpool
On the 5th of June J Ward,
Goodall
took the train to Liverpool to
to Australia and was in fa[-
her Berths being very good
Engaged
A Six Berth Room for Our[-
for 20 £ Each & 10 £ for my So[-
Maria
free we was to Sail on t[-
would not
give us any longer time we
there on

Engagement of Berths and
, his Wife and two Children
-]fe in the Frigate Ship
in July 1854
his Mother in Law & J

Look Over the Ships Bound
-]your with the John Knox
& nine foot high, we

-]selves in the Intermediate
-]n 2 year Old & hannah

-]he 23rd of June & they

Received A letter to be

the 28 or 29th June we left home without Wives & Children
and Paid
up the Remainder of our Passage money up and was told to
send
for our Wives & Family on th^e 7th of July when we was very
Glad that we had not Brough^t them with us as it was so
very
Expensive Costing us 4/~ Eac^h Per day Board &
Lodging &
only Received 1/~ Each as di^scretion Money Per day

[Spread 1: across both verso and recto pages with line breaks]

[Introduction]

A few Particulars of the [/] Engagement of Berths and [/]
the Passage of Joshua Ward [/], his Wife and two Children [/]
& Joseph Goodall & his Wif^e in the Frigate Ship [/]
John Knox of Liverpool [/] in July 1854 [/]

[*] [Monday 5 June – Wednesday 12 July 1854, i.e. 5½ weeks]

On the 5th of June J Ward, [/] his Mother in Law & J Goodall [/]
took the train to Liverpool to [/] Look Over the Ships Bound [/]
to Australia and was in fa^vour with the John Knox [/]
her Berths being very good [/] & nine foot high, we Engaged [/]
A Six Berth Room for Our^selves in the Intermediate [/]
for 20 £ Each & 10 £ for my Soⁿ 2 year Old & hannah Maria
[/] free we was to Sail on t^he 23rd of June & they would not [/]
give us any longer time we [/] Received A letter to be there on
[/] the 28 or 29th June we left home [/] without Wives & Children
and Paid [/] up the Remainder of our Passage [/]
money up and was told to send [/] for our Wives & Family on
th^e 7th of July when we was [/]

Glad that we had not Brough[-/]t them with us as it was so very
[/] Expensive Costing us 4/~ Eac[-/]h Per day Board & Lodging
& [/] only Received 1/~ Each as di[-/]scretion Money Per day

[Spread 2, verso]

Meat all very well & hearty

[Week 1 at sea, Wednesday 12 – Tuesday 18 July 1854, Days 1–7]

[*] [NB Sailed on Wednesday 12th July? Arrived Friday 3 November 1854? i.e. nearly four months later. See 'Shipping Intelligence', *Argus*, 4 November 1854, 4, <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/4799831> (accessed 26 January 2018).]

[*] Friday 14th July 2nd [3rd] day out

After A good nights rest
we all rose very well Still
Contrary wind on the Welsh
Coast A very Calm day

[*] Saturday 15th July 3rd [4th] day out

A very fine morning in sigh[-/]t
of Wicklow County Irland
going very slow all very well
and very hearty

[*] Sunday July 16th 4 [5th] day out

A very Boisterous morning
the Ship heaving much we had
Service About noon all begi[-]
[-]ning to be unwell Except
Children all in bed very

Sick Joe & Mary Could not
Vomit & very Poorly But we
did much Service in the

[Spread 2, recto]

Evening all too Sick to Attend
the Ship heaving & knocking
About very much

[*] Monday July 17th 6th day Out

A very fine morning all
A little Better Still Contrary
winds & making very little
headway see sawing About
in the Channel & likely to
be with these winds

[*] Tuesday July 18th 7 [7th] day out

A fine morning all very
well Except Wife who as
been Troubled all night
with the Ear & Tooth Ache
& we have neither Land or
Ought in sight this morning
Except water A Brisk

[Spread 3, verso]

wind Pitching & Tossing very
much all very sick and Poor[-]
[-]ly the Children still keep we[-]ll

[Week 2 at sea, Wednesday 19 – Tuesday 25 July 1854, Days 8–14]

[*] Wednesday July 19th 8 [8th] Day

A fine morning all Much
as Yesterday

[*] Thursday July 20th 9 [9th] Day Out

A fine morning Strong wind
towards night took in Far
Canvass Rolling & Pitching
very much

[*] Friday July 21st 10 [10th] Day Out

A fine Morning all Recruiting
in health & getting More
Reconciled to our Situation
we are very glad we have
fallen in with Such A

[Spread 3, recto]

Agreeable Party four Single
Men & the Ducth Family
of four making 12½ in our
Mess we get served on the
Friday with Vinegar Butter
Salt Treacle Mustard & Pep[-]
[-]per Saturday with Flour
Oatmeal Pottatoes (Preserved)
Split Pease Rice & Preserved
Meat for Sunday Biscuits
Every Morning Beef such as

it is Called 2 days Pork 2
Days Preserved Meat or Bolin
2 Days & Stinking Dried
fish 1 Day & Water Every mor[-]
[-]ning Tea Coffee or Coca nibs
& Sugar on Monday the
Beef is very Salt & hard Past
Eating we did not Eat 2 lb Each

[Spread 4, verso]

all the Voyage Pork is ra[-]
[-]ther Better But very Salt the
Preserved Meat Beef Good But
Boulin not very good the fish
we Cannot Eat & only Attempt[-]
[-]ed twice all the time we get
Sewet & Rasins on Saturdays
the Quantitis you will See
by the Card or Bills there is
Plenty of Most Articles flour
only $\frac{1}{4}$ Each A Day is the shortest
the Woman Made us A Ham Egg
& Pottaoes Pie And a Treat it
was so very good

[*] Saturday July 22nd 11 [11th] Day Out

A very fine Morning all well
we are Told we have got 1000
miles on our Journey & are in the
Bay of Biscay with A fair
wind after dinner the

[Spread 4, recto]

Sun Shining Beautiful
A Couple of Sharkes was seen
at our Stern Lines was
Immediatly got when I had
the Pleasure of hooking the
first & only one that was
Caught & drawing him on
deck A Young One Between
20 or 30 lb weight he bit the
Sail Makers hand Severly
when he got hold of him to
move him we had him
Dressed & Cook'd and very
good it was Something
Like fresh water fish

[*] Sunday July 23rd 12th day out

A very fine day all well Ser[-]
[-]vice on deck A good many Att[-]
[-]ending Spoke the first Ship

[Spread 5, verso]

usual very light wind

[Week 3 at sea, Wednesday 26 July – Tuesday 1 August 1854, Days 15–21]

[*] Saturday [July] 29th 16 [18th] day out

A very fine day all of us well
first Death Board A little
Child in the House on Deck
1¼ Year Old died About noon

& was Interd in the great
Deep About 7 O Clock in the
Evening the Captain read the
Service to be used at Sea the
Child was not well when
it Came on Board having A
Complaint in its head so
It was A happy release for
Both it & Parents it was put
into A Square Box & Some
holes Bored into it to allow
the water to make it Sink

[Spread 5, recto]

they Sent for Mary to assist
in Laying it out &c and she
went

[*] Sunday [July] 30th 17 [19th] day out

A very fine Morning all
well Service Morning & Even[-]
[-]ing on deck going Moderate

[*] Monday 31st July 18 [20th] day out

A fine day all well going
very Slow Near A Calm

[*] Teuesday Aug^t 1st/54 19 [21st] Day Out

A fine day all well But
Cannot Eat their Meat Beef
So Salt & hard Pork also But
we have had 2 or 3 Peices that was

not Cured & the Biscuits is
so very hard that they make
our teeth Ache to Eat them
I have made us water Cake

[Spread 6, verso]

2 or 3 times to Breakfast – But
the Cook will not Bake us any
More before Breakfast we
have Eat half of one of our hams
which is Realy Beautiful as
Mellow as Butter ham & Flour
is the main things Requir'd
on Ship & Every one Coming
here Should Bring before
Oaught Else as we Can Bake
A Cake Every day almost

[Week 4 at sea, Wednesday 2 – Tuesday 8 August 1854, Days 22–28]

[*] Wednesday Thursday & Friday [Wednesday 2 – Friday 4
Aug 1854, Days 22–24]

Nothing Particular very
little wind

[*] Saturday Augt 5th/54 23 [25th] day Out

A fine day all well going
Moderate we had a little
Merrment Caused by Some
of the Passenges & Crew

[Spread 6, recto]

Blacking their faces & Drol
Dressing making a Horse of
two men & Parading the docks
the rider giving a Lecture
on Teetotalism which Caused
much Laughter as the Captain
they have no Spirits to select
For the Porter & Ale they Charge
1/3 Per Bottle Soda Water & Lemo[-]
[-]nade 6 A Bottle the Ale & Porter
as been done A week and we
have had Coca Nibs Served
out Instead of Coffee Last
Week & this

[*] Saturday [Sunday] Aug^t 6th 24 [26th] day Out

Service twice as usual on
deck all well Beautiful
Weather going very slow

[Spread 7, verso]

[*] Monday Aug^t 7th 25th [27th] day Out

We have had a fine day And A
Scene A Welsh girl in No 6
was Charg'd with Stealing
Some Cheese the Remainder
was took to the Captain &
told him all About it and
he Recomend^d them to Set[-]
[-]tle it Among themselves
But the Girl would not

let it drop & Kept naming it

[*] Teusday Aug^t 8th 26th [28th] day out

A fine day all well good
Breeze we had A Regular Row
About the Cheese again for 2 or
3 hours and then we have A
Irish Girl (Fanny) who is Caus[-]
[-]ing Much Jack at Times

[Spread 7, recto]

And their Mates wants them
Both ~~both~~ Moving to Other berths

[Week 5 at sea, Wednesday 9 – Tuesday 15 August 1854, Days 29–35]

[*] Wedensday Aug^t 9th 28th [29th] Day out

A month to day since we Sail[-]
[-]ed all very well But A Bad
Months work we are Told that
we are not more than 2000
Miles on our way yet About 6 O
Clock A Ship Came in sight
very near we spoke her & found
her to be the Concertnial from Rot[-]
[-]terdam Bound to Batavia in
India with Cargo & 21 Passengers
we Cheer'd Each Other & she pass'd
us Smartly wishing us A good
Passage she was going 2 or 3 miles
an hour faster than us with
the Same wind

[*] Thursday Aug^t 10th 29 [30th] day Out

[Spread 8, verso]

A fine Morning little John
was very sick in the night &
Vomited Much Wife & Mary not
very well About 6 O Clock Even[-]
[-]ing Another Dutch Ship Close
to us Spoke her from Helsingor
Pass'd our Slow Coach soon
Bound to Algaba N^w Cape of
Good Hope Call'd Henry Christinaia

[*] Friday Aug^t 11th 30 [31st] day Out

Fine day all well Being very
busy made A first rate Pie
for Dinner Pounded our Coca
Nibs Made three Loaves Bread
of Grated Biscuits O Meal & Flour
going very slow & Steady John
Better About 10 O Clock P. M as
I was getting into Bed he was
very Sick & Vomited three times
much he had nothing to Eat

[Spread 8, recto]

Except A little Buscuit to disor[-]
[-]der him

[*] Saturday Aug^t 12 31st [32nd] day Out

John Better this Morning Eat
A Bit of Ham & Bread I have
got the Bowel Complaint Bad
& we have nothing with us to do
it any Good Neither Laudunum
nor Tincture of Rubarb I got A
drop of Brandy & BlkCurrant
which did me good we had
A Raffle to day for A Telescope
put up at 28/- Ive Bought A Chan[-]
[-]ce for (30) 2/6 & it won it for him

[*] Sunday Aug^t 13th 32 [33rd] day out

A very fine day John very
Poorly yet we are told that we
are Between 18 & 19 degrees North
of the Line and are Expecting
to be on the Line by Next

[Spread 9, verso]

Sunday if we Keep this win[-]d
going About 7 Knots an hour

[*] Monday Aug^t 14th 33rd [34th] day out

A fine Morning fair wind
John very bad in the night again
Wife Wash'd A few things for
John & Got Cold Pain in the face
very Bad Could not Sleep for Pain
fret all night nearly

[*] Teusday Aug^t 15th 34 [35th] day Out

Very fine morning wife face
much Swollen & Rather Easier
But Cannot Swallow ought but
Slap in bed all day Rather bet[-]
[-]ter towards night

[Week 6 at sea, Wednesday 16 – Tuesday 22 August 1854, Days 36–42]

[*] Wedensday Aug^t 16th 35 [36th] day out

A very Hot Morning wife

[Spread 9, recto]

A little better Eat A little Ham
And Soft Buscuits to Breakfast
we have to lie in Bed near Nak'd
it being so very Hot Lost our
favourable Wind going very Slow

[*] Thursday Aug^t 17th 36 [37th] day Out

Fine Morning Wife A little better
But John & is Sister Broke out with
A Rash with the Hot weather it is
Tremendous and bad to Bear &
will be Hotter soon they say
it makes us all fee very Sickly
Mary had A fall down the
Steps & hurt her Back Slightly
we spoke the Ship Borneo from
Greenock 26 days out Bound to
Callis in Persia with Merchan[-]

[-]tdise She Slipt by us soon
having Come above 200 Miles
further in 10 days less time than
US

[Spread 10, verso]

[*] Aug^t 18th Friday 37 [38th] day out

all well But very Stormy
Strong wind & Stormy nig[-]
[-]ht Children & Wife all Cover'd
with the rash damaging the
Sails & Rigging in the night

[*] Saturday Aug^t 19th 38 [39th] day out

All Pretty well after A Stormy
night Breaking A Tunstall
Boom & Otherwise Damaging
the Rigging

[*] Sunday 20th 39th [40th] Day Out

All well A head ache I have
as usual Latly Still Stormy
no Service Except two Lads
Fighting on deck it Came
on very wet A Party Amusing
themselves with throwing
Water on Each Other & any

[Spread 10, recto]

one that Came in their way

But we Kept Close Quarters and
got none A Notice was Posted on
the Main Mast Stating that we
Expecting to be at the Line on on Mon[-]
[-]day or Teusday & that King Neptune
with is Train of Followers
would be with us to Pay is
Respects & Shave us &c

[*] Monday 21st Aug^t 40 [41st] Day Out

Fine fair wind & weather all
well Except A little HeadAche

[*] Teusday Aug^t 22nd 41st [42nd] Day Out

Fine Day Contrary wind Mary
very Poorly all day Making
very little Progress all day

[Week 7 at sea, Wednesday 23 – Tuesday 29 August 1854, Days 43–49]

[*] Wedensday 23rd 42nd [43rd] Day Out

Fine Morning wind Still Con[-]
[-]trary we are yet About 300

[Spread 11, verso]

miles form the Line we had an
Increase in the night A Irish wo
man was Confin'd during the
Night A Irish Woman was Con
fin'd during the night of two Living
Children & one Still Born but one

of them died in the Afternoon &
at sunset was Cast into the sea

[*] Thursday 24th Aug 43rd [44th] day Out

fine Weather but Still Contrary
Wind Making little Progress all
very well we have had A good
Dinner to day Ham Shank Pork
& Pease Pudding & good Broth
we have had to Cut Joe Ham be[-]
[-]fore ours was done the Jumpers
having got into it But not done
Much Damage to it our Flour
is finish'd and sorry we are as
it is the Main thing we have

[Spread 11 recto]

& Ham we all are sory we did
not Bring A Barrel with us

[*] Friday Aug^t 25th 45 [45th] day out

A fine Morning But Still Con[-]
[-]trary wind all well Joe & Mary
heard A Ticking in the night
which they fancyd was the death
watch & would have me to Make
A Remark of it to see if there was
Any thing rong at home sweet
home when shall we have one
Again But we must not think
of it for Some time at Least
this ~~Afternoon~~ Afternoon After
A deal of Trouble we Succeeded

in getting at our Yellow Box
and had the Pleasure of look
at our Mothers & Sister face

[Spread 12, verso]

But only looking we had much
rather Seen & felt the Original

[*] Saturday Aug^t 26th 46 [46th] day Out

All well Still Contrary Wind
Making little Progress

[*] Sunday Aug^t 27th 47th Day Out

All Well fine Weather Still
Contrary Wind About 8 O Clock
A.M. we Signald the Ship
& found her to be the Portena
from Liverpool Bound to
Peru 37 days out Another
Proof of our Slow Coach hav[-]
[-]ing Come the Same Distance
as us in 12 days Less time

[*] Monday Aug^t 28th 48 [48th] day Out

A very fine morning all

[Spread 12, recto]

well my Jonny is asleep in
My Arm Laid on Deck betw[-]
[-]een two Small Boats & very

hot it is Light Winds

[*] Teusday Aug^t 29th 49th Day

All well Except Children
John Losing Flesh fast Mary
[G_ert?] A very Bad Cold Still
Adverse wind

[Week 8 at sea, Wednesday 30 August – Tuesday 5 September 1854, Days 50–56]

[*] Wedensday Aug^t 30th 50 [50th] Day Out

A fine Morning Better Wind
all Pretty well Plenty of
fun to day A Mock Wed[-]
[-]ing with Fanny I nam'd
before & A Person Nam'd
Crab in the Poop Cabin
between 40 & 50 years Old

[Spread 13, verso]

Some one began the Lark
with Posting A Notice on the
Main Mast yesterday Anoun[-]
[-]cing the Affair & Inviting
all to Attend About 10 O
Clock A Band of Music
yes Music such as you
Seldom hear A fife Con[-]
[-]certina & A Old Tin Can
for Drum Paraded the
Decks & the Service was
read by a Passenger

next to us & then there was
great Preparations for
A Tea Party But Amongst
all their was no Brown Cream
nor white Either But some

[Spread 13, recto]

they must have so M^r Crab
Put down 2/6 & they Subscribed
6/6 More & he said he Could
buy A Bottle of Rum of A
Fellow Passenger for 9/- and
went to fetch it But when it
Came to be used it Proved to
be Gin & it Came out that he
had being Playing them A Tri[-]
[-]ick having Pocketed the 9/-
& Brought them Part of A Bot[-]
[-]tle of gin of is own & filld it
up with water all Passd
of well being Rather An
Extra Tea &c until Morning

[*] Thursday Aug^t 31st 51st day Out

fine Morning all well

[Spread 14, verso]

Loud is the Talk About the
9/- & the Gin A Party went
& Asked him to Return the
Money But he said no then
they Posted A Notice Stating

that if it was not Returned
Immediatly 1/- Per Day
would be Charged for Every
day he Kept it Hannah
Maria No Better Jonny A bit
Better After 3 weeks Cross
winds Making little Head
way we have got A Change
for the Better

[*] Friday Sep^r 1st 52 [52nd] day Out

fine Morning Children
A little Better all well Else
fine day Fair wind But

[Spread 14, recto]

light we are Expecting Cross[-]
[-]ing the line in the night King
Neptune made is Appearance
to Night About 8 O Clock
P.M After great Preparations
& long looking for A Tar
Barrel was near filld with
Old rope Tar &c & Pitched Over
board Blazing as A Signal
& burnt in our sight About
an hour on the Serface of
the water and A few
Buckets of water was
thrown on the Crowd to
Disperse them I suppose
I got the Contents of the

[Spread 15, verso]

first Bucket thus Ended the
Beginning

[*] Saturday Sep^r 2nd 53rd day

A very Restless night with
the little girl no better this
Morning there is great Prepar[-]
[-]ations in getting Ready for
Neptune &c we having Crosd
the line About 4 O Clock A.M
About Eleven the Porformance
began with A Procession of
King Neptune is two Daughters
&c in A Carraige drawn by
by 6 Men Coulerd Red to the
After Part of the Ship A large
Sail was Slung between the
Poop & House on deck

[Spread 15, recto]

& near filld with water &
2 Men Disfigurd & Call'd
Bears was in the water to wash
those that Got Shaved &c A
Platform was Erected for
the work Besides Neptune
& is daughter there was the
Barber Clerk Doctor & about
A Score More Constables
Conductors &c the first Person
Shaved was the Sail Maker
no Passengers being Shaved

as we had a Collection for
a Sup of grog for the Sailors
& then the Captain would not
Sell them any A Description
of the Shaving the Lather
is made of Soot & Grease

[Spread 16, verso]

& Razor Made on purpose Cut
out 2 foot Long Blade A Peice
of Barrel Hooping quite Ruff
But he Lather'd them all over
the neck Back & front & Neptune
kept Asking them Questions of
Where did you Come from wher
going to &c &c &c and if the spoke
he dab'd to brush in their
mouth which made them
Shake their heads as it was
not very Palatable they was
all Blind folded before they
was lead up the Platform
& Seated with their back
to the Pool of Water & when
the Barber had done the
Surgeon if need handed

[Spread 16, recto]

them A Smell of is Boll[tt]le &
then they tumbled him head
formast Backwards Over into
the water & there he was Ruf[-]
[-]ly handled By the Bears

until he made his Escape
there was About A dozen
Operated upon belonging
the Ship and to finish
all there was A regular
Squander of Water But (no
grog) upon all within
Reach all Ended well

[*] Sunday Sep^r 3rd 54 [54th] day

Beautiful Morning our
little girl, very unwell we
had Service on deck and

[Spread 17, verso]

About A dozen of us had the
Church Service Read & A Beau[-]
[-]tiful Sermon out of the Volu[-]
[-]me of Millers late Vicar of
Hull Belonging to a Passe[-]
[-]nger the wind more in our
favour towards night

[*] Monday Sep^r 4th 55 [55th] day

Beautiful day fair wind
going about 6 Knots an hour
our little girl not so well
again we have Applied
Another Mustard Plaister
to her Chest which gave her
Ease it is Inflammation in the
Chest she is very much Steepd

[Spread 17, recto]

[*] Teusday Sep^r 5th 55 [56th] day

fine Morning good fair
Breeze & our dear girl much
Better

[Week 9 at sea, Wednesday 6 – Tuesday 12 September 1854, Days 57–63]

[*] Wednesday Sep 6th 56 [57th] day Out

fine Morning fair wind
Our dear Girl Continues better
A danish Brigg Came ACross
our boughs this Morning
But having no English on
Board we Could not Speak
to one Another But Shew'd
Each Longitude & Latitude
us 33 – 31 them 26 – 31
we having been greatly Abusd
with the Passengers Cook

[Spread 18, verso]

none Could Go to him without
being Cursed & Sworn at he
was A great Blackgaurd So
A Party got up A Petition
to the Captain Complaining
of is Abuse & dirtiness and
he Dismisd him and put
quite A reverse Carachter
in is Place and it was

as Pleasant to go now as it
was unpleasant before

[*] Thursday Sep^r 7th 57 [58th] day

A fine Morning fair Wind
going about 6 Knots

[*] Friday Sep^r 8th 58 [59th] day

fine Weather all well

[Spread 18, recto]

[*] Saturday Sep^r 9th [60th] day

fine Morning
all well doing about 8 Knots

[*] Sunday Sep^r 10th 60 [61st] day

A fine Morning Near A Calm
off St Helena the Place where
Napoleon Breath'd is Last
Saw 4 Ships at A distance
Supos'd to be N^{or} St Helena

[*] Monday Sep^r 11th 61st [62nd] day out

A Strong wind & very Ruf in the
night all well wind against
us

[*] Teusday Sep^r 12th 62nd [63rd] day

fine day all well wind fairer

[Week 10 at sea, Wednesday 13 – Tuesday 19 September 1854, Days 64–70]

[*] Wednesday Sep^r 13th 63rd [64th] day

A fine day all well fair
wind Making 6½ Knots

[*] Thursday Sep^r 14th 64th [65th] day

fine Morning all well

[Spread 19, verso]

we are told we shall be out
of the Tropics to day it is very
Hot & are 9300 from Melbourne
Yet

[*] Friday Sep^r 15th 65 [66th] day

A Strong Breeze very going
from 8 to 12 Knots during
the day & Night Rolling &
Pitching very Much & had to
Take in Part of the Sails
there is very little Sleep so
Much noise with the Pots &
Pans &c A wet dul day

[*] Saturday Sep^r 16th [67th] day]

Strong fair
wind all much as yesterday
all Bad head Aches for Sleep
going between 10 or 11 Knots

[*] Sunday [September 17th, 68th day]

A dead Calm
Rolling about Much with

[Spread 19, recto]

the Swell of the Sea all well

[*] Monday Sep^r 18th 68 [69th] day Out

fine Weather Calm until
about 4 OClock P. M going
between 6 & 7 Knots all well

[*] Teusday Sep^r 19th 69 [70th] day out

Rather wet much Rain A[-]
[-]bout 2 A. M all well

[Week 11 at sea, Wednesday 20 – Tuesday 26 September 1854, Days 71–77]

[*] Wedensday Sep^r 20th 70th [71st] day Out

A fine day all well no wind
Rolling about with the Troubl'd
Waters very much we are told
we are off the river Plate this
morning one of the Passengers
hook'd with a fish hook A
fine Cape Hern Bird as large
as A duck But wings three times
as Long But not fit to Eat
they say Rolling very Much

[Spread 20, verso]

[*] Thursday Sep^r 21st 71st [72nd] day

A fine Morning all well &
Strong fair wind wet at noon
& Making 10½ Knots an hour

[*] Friday Sep^r 22nd 72nd [73rd] day out

A fine Morning all well going
very well all day the same
Party Caught Another Larger
Bird Called Mollyhawk that
measured from Tip to Tip of
Each wing 7 foot as Large as our [/] goose

[*] Saturday Sep^r 23rd 73 [74th] day out

A fine Morning all well Ship
very Steady Light wind the same
Party Bob A Passenger next
berth to us Caught 2 or 3 Cape
Pegeons & gave us one & we had
A nice Pegeon Pie to Tea and

[Spread 20, recto]

Such A Treat we have not had since
we Left home (nor Perhaps wont have
again as they are only 10/- A Couple
here) going About 8 Knots during day

[*] Sunday Sep^r 24th 74 [75th] day Out

A fine Morning but very Cold
all day going about 7 or 8 Knots
But Towards night 10½ Knots

[*] Monday Sep^r 25th 75 [76th] day Out

A very fine Cold Morning
A Shout About 5 O Clock A. M.
of Land in Sight & I got up
to see it A Baren Island
Called (Goffs) Between South
America & Africa very small
Saw A Ship at A Distance

[*] Teusday Sep^r 26th 76th [77th] day Out

A very Boisterous night and

[Spread 21, verso]

very Strong wind not much
Sleep Knocking About so very
much the Waves dashing
Over us very much Several
Parties falling on deck A M^r
Davey Fell & Cut is face very
much & hurt him severly

[Week 12 at sea, Wednesday 27 September – Tuesday 3 October 1854, Days 78–84]

[*] Wedensday Sep^r 27th 77 [78th] day

A very Boisterous day worse
than Yesterday if that Can

be having to take in Most
of the Sails going About
8 or 9 Knots

[*] Thursday [28 September; 79th day]

same as yesterday
Rolling &c as Bad as Ever

[*] Friday 29th [September] 79th [80th] day Out

Same as Yesterday all well

[Spread 21, recto]

to day we have only 2 Oz of
Butter Served out to Each being
half of our Allowance and there
is no more on the Ship & we
have had no fish for two weeks
or ought in its Place But the
fish is Rotton we Cannot Eat it

[*] Saturday Sep^r 30th 80 [81st] Day

A fine morning all well, not
so Ruff Rolling much during
the day Light wind not doing
More than 4 Knots we have
made 1375 Miles this week
the Best weeks run by far

[*] Sunday Oct^r 1st 81st [82nd] day

A wet Morning all well
we are now Clear of the

Cape But some hundred
of Miles wide of it

[Spread 22, verso; possibly something omitted here?]

And anything is right tha[-]t
Comes first Thick Porridge
Greuel or ought Else she
Can Manage 1½ Buscuits as
hard as they are with A little
Dip or Ham the Hams as been
Realy Beautiful & good we
never Eat Better I am only
sorry we did not Bring A Barrel
of Flour with us as what they
allow is nothing only A ¼ lb
Each a day we have rice Pud[-]
[-]dings without Milk or sugar
we have Kept uncommon good
health Particularly Wife
& Children who are all getting
Quite fat wife never was
so Stout in her Live or

[Spread 22, recto]

so well she says

[Week 13 at sea, Wednesday 4 – Tuesday 10 October 1854, Days 85–91]

[*] Thursday Oct^r 5th 85 [86th] day Out

A fine day Sailing more
Steady and rather warmer A
Party went to the Captain to

day About the fish & Butter
& having Meat in its Place
& he Said we should have
Meat in Place of Each the Cap[-]
[-]tain says we are yet 4950
Miles of our Journeys End

[*] Friday Oct^r 6th 86 [87th] day Out

A fine Morning being
much Steadier in the night
all well we have got Pork
given in Place of fish but
nothing for Butter yet
going about 8 Knots

[Spread 23, verso]

Saturday Oct^r 7th 87 [88th] day Out

A wet hazey Morning Near
A Calm not making more tha[-]n
4 Knots Most of the Day but
Much Better to wards Night

[*] Sunday Oct^r 8th 88 [89th] day Out

A very Cold Snowing Morning
going about 8 or 9 Knots
all well No Service to day

[*] Monday Oct^r 9th — 89 [90th] day

A fine Cold morning I got up
as usual a little after 5 OC[-]
[-]lock at morning and

made us A Cake or two to
Breakfast Part Ground Rice Flour
& Suet & then a Pie of the
Preserved Meat & Cold Beef
But it was not half Baked

[Spread 23, recto]

we Often Talk of what nice
Comfortable dinners you will
have Roast Stuff'd Veal &c &c &c
while we have Hobsons Choice
all Salt & very Hard Beef & Pork
Besides being all Cook'd always
Boil'd in Salt Water

[*] Teusday Oct^r 9th [10th] 90 [91st] day Out

A Wet Stormy Morning going
9 to 10 Knots all very well

[Week 14 at sea, Wednesday 11 – Tuesday 17 October 1854, Days 92–98]

[*] Wedensday Oct^r 10th [11th] 91st [92nd] day

fine day fair wind 9 to 10
Knots all well the Lamp Oil
is all done & they have got
some Boulio Cans & are bur[-]
[-]ning the fat from the
Cooks Gally in them for
Lamps

[Spread 24, verso]

[*] Thursday Oct^r 11th [12th] 92nd [93rd] day

Same as Yesterday the same
Person Caught 5 Martin birds
like a Pegeon & we had a Couple
with some ham made into a
Pie for dinner Such a Din[-]
[-]ner as we have not had since
we Left home we are Told we
are Just Passing St Pauls
Island but not in Sight
Mr King Artist you June
& Mother will Remember him
Took a Sketch of the Shaving
Performance & as since made
A Large Oil Painting $\frac{3}{4}$ Size
& Just finish'd it & Put it
up by Lottery to day for £10"10

[Spread 24, recto]

Mate
and the 3rd \wedge Won it we had
nothing to do with it

[*] Friday Oct^r 12th [13th] 93rd [94th] day Out

fine day Sailing 9 or 10 Knots
all well very Cold we got dou[-]
[-]ble Allowance of Pork (1 lb Each)
for fish But nothing for butter
Toward night making 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ Knots
having Sald 500 Miles the Last
two days I am told we are now
75 Degrees of Longitude about

2900 Miles of Melbourne yet

[*] Saturday Oct^r 13th [14th] 94 [95th] day Out

After much Rolling & Tossing
about in the night we are all
well going same as Yesterday

[*] Sunday Oct^r 14th [15th] 95 [96th] day

A fine Calm day we had A

[Spread 25, verso]

Treat to Tea I made us A Couple
of Double Sweaters of Marmalade
& very nice they said they was
About ½ Past 6 OClock P. M the
Dutch Woman our Next Neighbour
was Confind of a fine Girl
Both doing well after which
we had Another treat of Rum
& Tea which was first rate after
being so long without

[*] Monday Oct^r 15 [16th] 97th day Out

A very wet day I have Just got
wet through with Calching rain
water Mrs Phillips & baby doing
very well all of us well going
from 12 to 13 in the night

[*] Teusday Oct^r 16 [17th] 98 day Out

A wet Morning all as Yesterday

[Spread 25, recto]

[Week 15 at sea, Wednesday 18 – Tuesday 24 October 1854,
Days 99–105]

[*] Wednesday Oct^r 17th [18th] 99 day Out

A very Cold Morning Snow &
hailing most of the day all well

[*] Thursday Oct^r 18th [19th] 100 day Out

A fine Cold Morning Going from
until About 5 OClock P. M when
the Wind Changed & Blew a Strong
Gale Rent the Main Sail in two
the Poor Sailors working hard
Captain & Mate both on the main
yard assisting to Reef the Split
Sail & Order'd the Men at the
weel (2 Lash'd) to let her go
with the wind Rolling much
& Waves Great Ones too Coming
Over us all night very Stormy

[*] Friday Oct^r 19th [20th] 101st day Out

Rather Better wind this Morning
got into her Course again all

[Spread 26, verso]

right we are all very Poorly for

want of Sleep

[*] Saturday Oct^r 20th [21st] 102nd day

Rather Calmer this Morning
very much Fatigued for want
of Sleep I Lashed myself in
Bed for several was Pitch'd
out the wet Comeing through
on our Beds But some is A
great deal worse our Neighbour
Poor woman as had to be up
with her Child Could not lay
in be bed for wet All in bed
Most of the day Mary had
A fall Last Night & hurt
herself & Joe fell on the deck
too to day & Stund is head

[Spread 26, recto]

& got wet all Over with A wave
& went to bed and was better
to wards night & Played with
A Party of 10 at Cards all
Night there is a very deal
of Card Playing &c

[*] Sunday Oct^r 21st [22nd] 103 day Out

A very wet Boisterous day
Broke A Chain & Rope of the
Main Mast Running 8 or 9 Knots
Boil'd the Last Shank of Ham
to Day & Made Pea Soup of it
the Captain & first Mate have

A Quarrel to day About the Sailors
the Purser Said that 14 or 16 them
was Sufficient to man the Ship
the Captain Came up hearing
them talking Loud Sided with
the Purser & the Mate said

[Spread 27, verso]

Something more to the Purser
who as been A Captain of A Yankee
Ship & the Captain Aimed A Blow
at the Mate But Miss'd him
But hit him the 2nd Time and
he Immediatly Claim'd is dis[-]
[-]charge & Certificate which I
was told he got which all the
Passengers are very sorry for
as he was A very Civil and
Attentive to his duties

[*] Monday 104 day Oct^r 22nd [23rd] / 54

A very wet Morning after a
Stormy night all well the
Sugar is done & we have got Coffee
in its Place to day for the week

[*] Teusday 106- [105th] day Oct 24th

A fine Morning dead Calm up
About 5 OClock as usual Roasting

[Spread 27, recto]

Coffee & Baking Cakes for the Breakfast
A good wind about 8 O'clock the
first mate on duty this Morning
they have Settled their Differences
Amicably we are told going 10 Knots

[Week 16 at sea, Wednesday 25 – Tuesday 31 October 1854, Days 106–112]

[*] Wednesday Oct^r 25th 106 day

A fine Morning after a Steady
night o Sailing all very well

[*] Thursday Oct^r 26th 107 day

A fine But very Cold Morning
all well But most of us get[-]
[-]ting very thin with the lean
fair Coffee or Tea without Either
Sugar or Cream. Buscuit without
Butter & Salt Hard Beef we Cannot
Eat it A Ship in sight

[*] Friday Oct^r 27th 108 day

A Beautiful Morning A dead

[Spread 28, verso]

Calm Since 2 O'clock in the
Morning all well wishing for
our Journey's End we are getting
Coarser Biscuits now Maggoty
we are About 730 Miles off

yet I am told we have no Treacle
or Vinegar M^{rs} Knockey had
A Cat with her that was near
dead & she asked someone to
drown it for her & some of
the Passengers say that as
Caus'd the wind to Cease &
I beleive some of them really
thinks so

[*] Saturday Oct^r 28th 109 day

A fine Morning all well
light wind only 3 or 4 Knots
No Seuet to day & Flour is

[Spread 28, recto]

very Sour good wind about
4 OClock 8 or 9 Knots

[*] Sunday Oct^r 29th 110 day

A very fine day good
wind Much Talk of our Jou[-]
[-]rneys End Part Speculation in
Betting getting the Anchor
Ready I have made 4 Bets
10/ to 12/6 that we are Not in
within 16 Weeks from Draw[-]
[-]ing Anchor to Casting Anchor
in Hobson's Bay Melbourne
I won all 12/6 & got it too

[*] Monday Oct^r 30th 111 day

A fine Morning all well Near
A Calm the Crew washing
the Ship &c a sign that
we are not far of our

[Spread 29, verso]

Journeys End four Ships in
Sight Spoke the Arabian from
Melbourne to India

[*] Teusday Oct^r 31st 112 day Out

After A Calm night we sight'd
the Promis'd Land About 30
Clock A. M N^r Calm all day

[Week 17 at sea, Wednesday 1 – Friday 3 November 1854, Days 113–115]

[*] Nov^r 1st Wedensday 112 day Out

A Nice But Contrary Breeze
Continually Banking the Ship
Passengers very Anxious to
be Ashore Pulling Backwards
& Forwards until Friday
one OClock in morning
~~Night~~ we had the Pleasure
of Shiping A Pilot A very
nice Man who Said he
would have us in by 8O
Oclock which he did and

[Spread 29, recto]

we Dropped Anchor in Hobsons
Bay About One O Clock in the
Afternoon Joe went on shore
to Look for Tom & Eliza as we
fully Expected them being Look[-]
[-]ing out for us or M^r Nichols But
we had neither & Joe had to find
Something out About them
he was Told they had gone to the
Diggings Tom & Eliza in Ser[-]
[-]vice with some Surveyors
at £150 for both of them A
Year & Rations & Lodging and
would not be down unitl
Christmas the Middle of
Summer 21st Dec^r being the
Longest Day & 21st June the
Shortest

[Spread 30, verso]

we got Orders be Ready in the
Morning by 6 O Clock for the
Steamer to Land us But firs[-]t
we got the Examining Doctor
& Emigrations Officers to
Examine us but they soon
Past us & the Ship as there
was no Particular Sickness
on board they Asked if we
had any Complaint to Make
when Several Parties said
yes & they took them dow[-]n

and our names that did
Complain of being Short
of Water & Provisions and in
the Afternoon Another Off[-]
icer Came and Eventuly

[Spread 30, recto]

we agreed to Settled it for A
Pound Each Person without
going to any Law we all got the
Pound Paid & Landed on Sat[-]
[-]urday Noon & met Joe who
was very down of the Place
as he Could not find neither
Toms Nor Nichols as he depend[-]
[-]ed on Both of them But he
found A friend from Leeds
who Put us into A house such
as it is free for a short
time the Country is very
good But in A very queer
way Trade is very Bad
And things very Disheartning
to New Commers

[Weeks 1–4 in Melbourne, i.e. Saturday 4 – Wednesday 29 November 1854, summarised in the following letter]

[Spread 31, verso]

Emerald Hill

Melbourne

Dear Mothers

November 30th/54

Sisters & Brothers for I hope
you will Shew this to all
and that you all are well
& hearty as we are Thank
God which Scarce Can be
Expected Considering what
we have had to go through.
Joe & Mary as not been so
Fortunate But Both been
very unwell with the
Dysentry A Complaint
that all are Subjected to
first Coming out here

[Spread 31, recto]

Joe was Confin'd to is bed
A Short time & had much
Pain Cramp &c me & wife
as had it Sometime but
not to be Laid up from our
work I begun Work on
the Saturday After we
Landed Just A week but
not at what I Expected
to get
Situations are as bad \wedge or
worse than at home if
they are worth ought for

when they are Advertised
they run in all Derections
to them I went after Sev[-]
[-]eral But was told they

[Spread 32, verso]

had got Suplied & had had
More than 100 Applicants
why where One of Thisthwaites
is they Advertis'd for A Store
Keeper & he told me they had
157 Applied for it I am
working on the Warfe at
Coles Bruce & Nortons for
8/- Per Day which will Just
About Keep us & thats all
But Intend to get A better
Job as soon as I Can as it
is very heavy work there is
nothing for Ease for A Work[-]
[-]ing Man no Cranes all to
lift by hand in the Burn[-]

[Spread 32, recto]

[-]ing Sun they take & throw
the goods out of the Vessels
Lighters from the Bay & Big
Ships on the Landing
Stage & if they are not ownd
by 4 O Clock they are put
into the Warehouse & Charg[-]
[-]ed rent they Call Storage
& heavy too they neither

Cart themselves nor Even
help to Load Others if
they ask us to give them
A lift the forman finds
fault with us it is very
hard work & it took me
Above An hour to walk

[Spread 33, verso]

night & Morning and I had
to be there by Six O Clock
Breakfast (Cold & Dinner too)
at Seven & Dinner at One
Tea or Supper when I got
home to Pahrn between
7 & 8 very ill Tired I was
But we got notice last
week that we was Either
to Pay 10/- Per week or Leave
within the week as for
Paying the rent we Could
not for Joe as not Earnd
A Penny Yet But has got
A Situation for both him
& wife About 6 Miles

[Spread 33, recto]

of to day at £100 A Year
for them both and found
all to go too on Saturday
So I have Took A bit of Land
at 4/- A week & I have to Pay
A 1/- A week for the ferry to

it And Pitched our Tent
Yesterday which with my
days wage & Removing 10/-
will last us £2-00 as much
As I Shall Earn this
week in the 5 days I got
Some wood which is very
dear here 3^d A foot ½ Inch
& About 7 Inch wide I got
Some Ruff Stuff and did
it \wedge as well as I Could I did
(borded the Teloor)

[Spread 34, verso]

my Pig Cotes at home better
& it Cost me 13/- in wood Alone
& it is only 8 foot Square the
Tent wife & Children are all
Asleep and it is Raining ver[-]y
fast but we are dry yet but
the Tent is wet Through all
Over But we are warm &
hope we shant get Cold I
do wish we had about 40 or
50 £ we Could get A nice
house Either wood or Iron
know they are so Cheap to
What they have Been we
are Jaming Land to Tom &
Jane Holroyd who are both
Very well But the Child
the youngest (& all for the

[Spread 34, recto]

Oldest is dead I understand
Some time since) as got the
Hooping Cough But is better
than it was Tom as been out
of work About A Month but
begun Yesterday again
we both like the Country
very well if we Could Save
any money But the time as
gone by wages are only half
what they was two years ago
then was the time to make
Money I wish we had been
here then But we are here
now & Can only do our best
Some People thinks things
will Mend soon I hope they

[Spread 35, verso]

will & very soon two with me
Joe as got A letter from Tom
& Eliza & they say they never
got our letter & did not know
we had Come until this week
A Man told them and they
wanted Joe & Mary to go
up to them if they had
not Engag'd this Place
But as they have Engag'd
it they will not see them
untill they Come home at
Christmas right Middle of
Summer here their time
will be up then what they

Agreed for I do not know
there is much more I Can

[Spread 35, recto]

Say to you at Present and
it is Midnight & I am very
Sleepy & must go to bed & be
up by 4 OClock to finish the
Other End of the Book Log
I think it very Shabby of
you all in not Either
writing or Even Sending
us A Paper & you might
have both written & Sent
2 or 3 letters & Papers as
there as been 3 or 4 Mails
Left you & got here Since
we left you but But as they
Say out of Sight out of
But thank God it is not
so with me or any of us

[Spread 36, verso]

we think of you Many
A time when we are Ruff[-]
[-]ing it making A Stick fire
And Blowing at it with
our Mouth to Make A
Pan Boil for A sup of
Tea or Coffee we Can not
Bake anything when we
Can Raise 4 or 5 £ we
Intend to buy A Cooking
Stove then we Can Bake

A Pie or Bread Tom gave
9 £ for is & my wife as
Bake'd me A Couple of
Pies to day to take for
my dinners they are only
half what they was and

[Spread 36, recto]

they are very nice handy
Things you Can Boil 3 or
4 Pans & Bake at once
I sent you all A Newspaper
(3) John & Both our Mothers
& A letter which you all
would see I hope & Copy
by the Mail that left here
the Saturday after we Land[-]
[-]ed (Calcutta Steamer) this
is Coming By Mr Breaz[-]
[-]ley late Inkeeper of Leeds
who is returning & will be
able to give you A Much
better discreption of the
Country than I Can at
Present But I must give

[Spread 37, verso]

as it is getting Morning
we Each send our Kind[-]
[-]est Loves to all Particular[-]
[-]ly to our Mothers (Each) &
Sisters & little Ellen too
& Jenny & Brothers and
all Farwell & think well

of your own Comfortable
Beds & Firesides our Tent
Looks Miserable now it
Still Raining & Thunder[-]
[-]ing also
 We Remain
 yours Ever
 Truly Son &
 Daughter & Brother
 And Sister
 Jos^a & Eliz^{bth} Ward

[Spread 37, recto]

I have found some friends
Thistlethwaits all but Edward
who is working with A dray
& Horse at the diggings and
Pickles & Tom Holroyd &
Shall find more in time
may be But People are very
bad to find here they do not
Even know their Next door
Neighbours I Cannot find
yet M^r Wallons Brother and
I was told he Lives on Emer[-]
[-]ald Hill where we do now
Nor M^{rs} Thackrays Sister
I Cannot find Joe as found
More than me being better
Acquainted with People
at home going more

[Spread 38, verso]

Amongst them I hope
John you will make A
Coppo of