

6. Norfolk to Pitcairn

19 Mar to 23 Apr 1856

19th March 1856

At 7pm we weighed anchor but made sail too quickly, the anchor caught in a rock and snapped the shank off.

We bid Adieu to the Garden of the World to go to Paradise, of course we have our usual luck, head winds and gales of wind until the 2nd of April which obliged us to go around New Zealand, a long way out of our way.

A gale of fierce wind commenced on the 3rd of April lasted until the 7th with Tremendous heavy squalls, we were running before it with close reef Fore and Mizzen and double reefed M. Topsails and reefed Foresail.

I was standing on the weather side (ed. side the wind is coming from) of the Poop, when one of these squalls came on, the Capt and Mr Gregorice was standing close to me, I was holding on to the sail vang when I thought the fury of it was over, I let go and away I went down against the man at the wheel. I couldn (ed. could not) keep myself up against it.

23rd April

We sighted the Pitcairn Island.