

13. Sydney to Norfolk 2

21 Sept to 30 Sept 1856

At 9am pilot came on board weighed anchor. The tug took us in tow and towed us out to sea. We now bid adieu to Sydney for a northern six months tossing about on the restless ocean. And thus passes this scene.

Acting on the stage of the world and now we commence another very different from those I have already played. In after years when I look over these pages perhaps memory will bring back the feeling but I don't think it a ---- and when I am an old married man I shall be able to tell this to my children to show them their father had to put up with to journey through this world of misery.

My conscience is free, I know I have done my best to do my duty and tried all in my power to please my superiors. God has not blest me with a good memory which goes a great deal against me. Still I will write it down as near as I can word for word then you will be able to judge for yourself.

We are keeping watch and watch. I am in the Chief Mates watch as kind of Boatswains. I have to make and take in all the sails. Set the men to work in the daytime and look after them. In fact I am just doing Boatswains work and hard work too I find it.

Its' Mr Cur here, Mr Cur there, Mr Cur everywhere and do everything. And with the ---- it is but I will give you an idea how he speaks to his officers here after.

Had fine weather and variable winds but generally fair until we arrived at Norfolk Isle. Of course we have no business here but the wind and our hearts acting together have driven us here to see our old friends once more.

Sighted Norfolk late on 30th of Sept this doing in 8 days, last time it took 30.