

lying in St. Katherins Docks and for which said berth I paid 35 guineas. Accordingly on Good Friday, 28th March, we left the City and were towed down the River by two steamers as far as the Hope where we cast anchor for the night.

We had rather boisterous and contrary winds for two days in passing the Downs, which helped to break me in a little for the sea, and I suffered in common with the rest of the passengers, the greater part never having been to sea before.

We touched at Portsmouth on the 31st and arrived at Plymouth in the evening of the same day. We stayed all night here and departed on the next day about 12, the wind being quite favorable.

About ten miles from land a little bird called the Titlark came flying around the ship. I saw a great many white gulls and several species of divers. On the 2nd April we met the *Lady Melville*, East Indiaman, returning home. We passed within a quarter of a mile of the Eddystone Lighthouse and the same evening after running by the Lizard at the rate of ten knots an hour we bade farewell to Old England, upon whose weather beaten cliffs I stood gazing with a last lingering look until they disappeared in the distance.

We now had for several days a most favorable breeze chiefly going at the rate of 9 or 10 knots an hour, which is considered very good sailing. On the 7th a couple of Martins came to the ship and settled on the rigging. They stayed some time with us and left during the night. They were evidently on their route to some northern clime. On the 9th we spoke the *Brig Merope*, of Poole, bound for Quebec.

On the 10th we met with three of those magnificent though dangerous pieces of ice called icebergs. Two we saw in the morning, one of which was very similar in shape to Westminster Abbey, though far exceeding it in magnitude. The other we passed about ten o'clock at night, Lat. 44-6, Lon. 44-28. They are beautiful in the extreme when the sun is shining on them giving them most splendid colors, such as would defy all the powers of art to imitate, tints of the richest blue and green contrasted with the purest white. I was much gratified at the sight. They have a very great influence on the atmosphere in their immediate neighborhood, causing a great degree of coldness, as was sufficiently proved in this instance by the thermometer falling 6°. It is from this fact that navigators are able to judge of their vicinity in thick cloudy or foggy weather.

Up to this time the wind was very favorable, so much so that if it had only continued for four days more we should have been at New York and should have made the quickest passage ever known. We should have made it in thirteen days. We were all now in the highest glee, looking forward to the speedy termination of our voyage and discomforts but alas! all our hopes and prospects were suddenly overturned. We were not destined to be so lucky as to make our way