

Scoresby's determination became known, the Liverpool and Australian Steam Navigation Company offered him a free passage, outward and homeward, on board their fine new iron screw-steamer of 3000 tons, the *Royal Charter*; and all extra expenses, including those of Mrs. Scoresby, who had resolved to accompany her husband, were defrayed by a subscription raised among the Liverpool merchant-princes. It was felt that Dr. Scoresby, in undertaking what was really a public service, ought not to do so at his private cost. The instruments necessary for his contemplated investigations were supplied by the Admiralty; and Dr. and Mrs. Scoresby embarked on Thursday, January 17, 1856, under the most encouraging auspices.

The *Royal Charter* put into Plymouth, to make some necessary repairs, on the 26th of January, and sailed from that port on the 16th of February. She arrived at Melbourne in the unprecedentedly short period of fifty-nine days. After a brief but pleasant sojourn in the Australian colonies, including a visit to the gold-diggings, Dr. Scoresby sailed from Melbourne, on his homeward voyage, on the 25th of May, and arrived in the Mersey on the 13th of August.