

passing through it daily. Shortly after we cross into North Wales, the scene is superbly grand; the sea on our right, the Welsh mountains on our left; through tunnels and over the stupendous Britannia bridge, that spans the Menai Straits, which divide the

ISLE OF ANGLESEY

from the main land. This sacred island of the ancient Druids looks comparatively poor, yet it is evident there is more equality among the people than in any part of England; there is a sameness and air of comfort about the houses, that is not to be seen in this country; besides, there appears to be a bit of land attached to each dwelling, either to support a cow or to cultivate, as the owner thinks fit.

We arrived in Holyhead at six o'clock in the evening, and had to wait there until twelve for the North Wall boat. The town is built on the projection of a mountain, and appears to be more or less dependent on the port and railway for its business; the houses are small, but all look neat and clean. At last we were on board of the boat, and at midnight were steaming out of the harbour; the night was very cold and

A DECK PASSAGE TO DUBLIN

was anything but pleasant. I am surprised that there has not been some legislation to regulate the passage between England and Ireland, as at present it is a disgrace. We have Acts of Parliament to protect steerage passengers on emigrant ships; we have Acts of Parliament protecting the very poorest of the people in common lodging-houses; we have an Act of Parliament regulating the labour of women and children in factories, and we have an Act of Parliament to prevent poisoning by adulteration; but an Act to compel the steamboat lines, between England and Ireland, to provide something like decent accommodation for steerage passengers is as necessary as any one of those measures. I have crossed the Channel by four different routes, and their arrangements for steerage passengers are all wretched, in fact, inhuman; women and children have to stow themselves away on deck among cows and pigs, as best they can. There are no female stewards for the