

Dumbarton Castle; their vessel, piloted through such a mass of shipping as filled them with amazement, dropped down to Greenock, where a new pilot was taken on for the Firth of Clyde. 'Night comes on before we reach the Irish Sea, and we go to sleep for the first time on the deep. The steamer leaves us during the night.'

The following morning they are up at five, and on the deck examining with keen interest all the details of their floating home. The only land in sight is Ailsa Craig, due south, just visible in the mist. Some hours later they get a glimpse of the Mull of Kintyre to the north, and soon the last of Scotland drops below the horizon. In the afternoon the wind freshens, all loose articles slide about the cabin, the trunks are made fast in the hold, and the women passengers retire to their berths. The entry in the diary under Saturday, April 26, is brief but eloquent, 'Very sick. In bed most part of the day, and eat very little.' Sunday, still very sick in the forenoon, but the wind moderates and the young travellers find life again worth living. 'In the evening we had a pleasant sail with the vessel rocking majestically, although before we really thought it was going down.' During the night a jar of treacle broke loose in the cabin, and the sticky contents was spread about the floor.

A day or two of fine weather brought most of the passengers on deck, but the respite was only brief. A stiff westerly wind sent them below again.

The last days of April found the ship again in the grip of the storm. 'Slept little or none all night,' reads the diary, 'and we thought sometimes we were like to be pitched out of our berths. It was my turn to see about breakfast. Up early therefore. Could not walk very well along the deck. Got nothing, as there was trouble with the cook. One of the sailors came to the rescue. Got back to the cabin wet. We were all sitting on the trunks when the vessel took a great heave, the fastenings were loosened, and the trunks all slid to the opposite side of the cabin, some on their sides and others topsy-turvy. Back they came with the ship, and to and from, some of us betwixt them and others on top. David