

day. He and I sought to do something for our Master in the *Great Britain*, as we had many opportunities. We were just 60 days from Pilot to Pilot. We sailed from Holyhead on Friday, 22nd December, 1871, and we came to anchor in Hobson's Bay, Melbourne, on the 22nd February, 1872. We were 30 in the saloon. There were 470 in the second and third cabins and steerage, and 140 of ship's company. Our Commander, Lieut. John Gray, in command for 30 years. His salary as Commander is £1,200 stg. He has carried over 6,000 passengers to Australia in the *Great Britain*. The Doctor read the Church of England prayers in the saloon on Sabbath mornings during the cold weather, and on deck during the warm weather. Mr. McKenzie and I preached on deck to all hands for three Sabbaths, and after that we both preached at the same hour (10½ A. M.) in different parts of the ship every Sabbath during the voyage. At 1.30 P. M. we had a large Sabbath School of children, and a Bible Class, numbering over 30, of young ladies and gentlemen at the same hour. When the weather grew too cold, we were obliged to give up the Sabbath School, as we had no place large enough for all the children; but in the second and third cabins, at 3 p. m. on Sabbath, Mr. McKenzie and I conducted a Bible Class, 60 young persons, 30 in each class, during the remainder of the voyage. During the warm weather, we held (by the Captain's kindness) a prayer meeting from 3 to 4 p. m. on the poopdeck, when some hundreds attended, and all work on ship was suspended, by the Captain's orders during that hour, and Bibles, Hymn books, and desk, placed for our use. The large ship's bell rung, and the Captain took his seat among the others. Soon the weather became too cold, and then Mr. McKenzie and I held a prayer meeting in the second and third cabins, at 3 p. m., on Wednesday, one of us at each place; and on Thursday we both went among the steerage passengers and held a prayer meeting, and after a time got no fewer than six young men to take a part at our long-to-be-remembered prayer meetings. A young merchant going out to Melbourne organized a fine choir, and we had fine singing at all our meetings. Captain Gray pressed me much to give two lectures on the poopdeck at night, during the fine weather, and asked particularly they should be on the South Sea Islands. I did so. I took a week to get up each lecture, and delivered them to a very large assembly on a Thursday evening of two weeks, commencing at 8 and closing at 9 p. m.

Subject of first Lecture:—*The South Sea*

Islands; and of the second:—*The South Sea Islanders, and the triumphs of the Gospel among them*. They seemed to be well received, many taking them down in short hand, though I knew it not till after. Besides this, I prepared carefully five sermons on the texts, "Escape for thy life," Gen. xix. : 17; (2) Heb. 12: 1, 2; (3) Is. 60: 1—"Arise, shine," &c.; (4) A sermon on prayer; text, "And when they prayed the place was shaken," &c. (5) Mary anointing Jesus' feet. I also read a lesson almost daily with Mr. McKenzie in Aneityumese, and wrote out a number of native words with their English meaning. These took up so much time that I had not time to read more than two books during the voyage. Our Bible class compelled us to study the lesson closely. There were good minds in our class. We took up the Acts of the Apostles, commencing with the first chapter, but only got over two chapters. I think God blessed the preaching of His word, the Bible classes, prayer meetings and Sabbath School, to many. We sought His direction in all we undertook.

We felt drawn to many of the young men; and on parting, an address from passengers, who waited on our instructions, was given to us, and a small sum of money, \$20, contributed to our mission. We enjoyed excellent health during all the voyage, and daily took *five* meals! The chief officer was a Mr. Robertson from Edinburgh. The second officer's name was Robertson Brown. There were several births and deaths on board. A sailor boy fell from the mizzen-royal yard to the deck and was instantly killed. One man wished me to baptize his infant, but we put him off till he would get on shore and go to one of his own church (English), as Mr. McKenzie and I knew nothing about the man.

Tuesday, 3 p. m., April 9th.—I must go on board the *Dayspring* in another hour, as all are on board except Mrs. Robertson and myself, so I must bring my letter to an abrupt close. I wrote to no person last mail except a note to Mr. McGregor, and I am not writing any one but you this time. We have been at the house of Mr. Smith for six weeks in Melbourne.

I wrote to many persons from England and Scotland, and have not received one letter since our arrival here, though four mails arrived bringing letters for the Murrays, McKenzies and Mrs. Robertson, and I did not receive any in Britain except from Mr. Bruce and Dr. McCulloch. Now this is too bad. None of my friends can say, "Oh, we did not know to whose care to forward letters to you, or we would have written," because I gave the name of our agent, Dr. Steel, in Sydney, more than once