

crossing the lines, the captain told us about the jealousy of Old Neptune, and the initiatory ceremony his children had to pass through before they crossed his boundaries. I have no time to describe the scene. In this region we saw abundance of flying-fish; one of these flew into the ship, and we had the pleasure of tasting it, and found it a great relish, after having lived so long on salt-meats.

We had, on the whole, a very pleasant voyage, until we came within 250 miles of Melbourne, when an east wind set in, and kept us for nearly a week making the journey of little more than one day. We arrived at our long-looked-for haven on Saturday the 11th of Feb., a distance of between 18 or 20,000 miles. We landed on Monday morning. The heat is very intense here Tuesday, 14th Feb., was the hottest day of the season; the thermometer in the shade was 110°. The north wind is hot and very dry, and may be well compared to the heat of a furnace. The heat, as far as I have experienced it, is not so oppressive as our moist and humid heat of the dog-days in Nova Scotia. We effected an introduction to society by means of a parcel and letter from Mrs. Rose of Scotch Hill, to her son, who is one of the Custom House officers. On making his acquaintance, he showed us much kindness, and put himself to some trouble and expense. He showed us all the principal places and houses in the city, and drove us up to Emerald Hill, to the Rev. D. McDonald's. He was from home on business connected with the *Dayspring*. We saw Mrs. McDonald, and endeavored to introduce ourselves under the plea that we had a package of Church Records from Mr. McGregor of Halifax for Mr. McDonald. Mrs. McDonald very kindly asked us to come and stop with them, to which request we most heartily agreed. Before we returned, on the following day, Mr. McDonald was home, and gave us a hearty welcome, and stated with some astonishment that he heard nothing of our coming except what he learned from some of the brethren in the South Seas. The Rev. D. McDonald is as noble a Highlander as can be met with anywhere. He is one of the most popular and influential men in the Church of Victoria. Dr. Geddie, who was somewhere in the neighbouring towns, seeing from the papers our arrival, dropt me a note, stating that he would be in Melbourne on Wednesday to attend a missionary meeting with the brethren of the London Missionary Society, who are holding meetings in aid of their funds. Dr. Geddie and Mr. McDonald had to leave on Thursday for Geelong, where the *Dayspring* had to remain until the first of March. They purposed that I should accompany them. They left by the train, and one of Mr. McDonald's sons, and Mrs. Goodwill and I, took the boat, and, after a sail of four hours, we arrived and were met at the wharf by Mr. McDonald, Mrs. Geddie and her two daughters, and one of the Rev. Mr. Campbell's daughters, who insisted that we should come with Mrs. Geddie and stop with them. We very heartily agreed to this proposal also, and were hospitably entertained until Saturday evening. Then we removed to Captain Ormond's, whose lady sent us a special invitation to come and stay with them. The Captain is a very wealthy gentleman, worth some hundreds of thousands sterling. Here we were perfectly at home, and were treated as if we belonged to the family. I have seldom met with a more refined and cultivated family. With these kind and good people we remained about a week. Miss and Mrs. Ormond gave Mrs. Goodwill some valuable gifts for her own personal use, and some for the heathen. On Sabbath morning I preached for my friend and college-fellow, the Rev. C. J. Cameron of India, in St. Andrew's, the first Presbyterian Church of Victoria. Mr. Cameron's health is much improved, and he is endeavouring to form the congregation again. It has passed through some ordeals, but I think that it shall yet prosper. At 4 P. M. I addressed Mr. Campbell's Sabbath School, and preached for him in the evening. On Monday morning I took the train, in order to join Dr. Geddie and Mr. McDonald at Ballarat, a distance of 70 miles. In the evening we had a meeting in behalf of