

Lying at anchor at the Head of Auckland

Friday March 8th 1856

The day has been pleasant and has passed pleasantly. Put the oil on the fire in the forenoon; worked on the new job and painted the hull boat. In the afternoon went ashore and, with scrabbles and dirtiness of an inch from the deck for with uncle Adrian would pay as well no doubt. So we are all ready to observe tomorrow as the Sabbath day. Our gentry returned last evening at 10⁴⁰ and the most of them had contributed too freely. *John B. Da Camara* was entirely helpless. I am sorry to write it but it is true. Several boys have visited us again this evening.

Saturday March 9th

Grand day! dawned beautifully and brought its usual liberty to me. I was especially the church going portion of the crew. I went immediately after breakfast and took a pleasant walk around to the burial ground all alone and there contemplating the end of mortality. Then I went to the barracks and saw the soldiers inspected and then followed them to the church of England and listened to the reading of their services, which was not in time for which I attend with more interest. They call themselves the Primitive Methodists and called the others the "Ranters" but I never listened to more soul stirring sermons. The last may be found in the first chapter of *Opposition* of the verse. In the evening the first service came off and I attended the same place and was again highly edified and benefited. I don't remember where the first was. I had the best time I have had for a great while though I had to make a dinner from peaches which coming off was very dirty. As the evening was drunk and noisy and in a fighting mood it was very much danger of repeating the last. To keep time still J. O. Charles had to pound him and I don't beat him freely with the sea water but we finally reached the ship a few minutes before 10. The Capt. spent a part of the day on board with with 8 or 9 shore people two of his females and it is said and again that they all partook rather freely of the spirit. I don't help much. It is common for ladies to go to a rum shop and call for their liquor like a rowdy though the majority are very quiet and church going people.

The steam engine is being fixed today

Sunday March 9th 1856

The Capt. has reported to his friends on shore that he had given his friends a party each Sunday. We have been here while we have not been favored with a party to get a dinner with. Such stories are common with him. Joseph J. Charles and Henry Smith took all their clothes as well as a few of theirs and took their leave in the morning it being too watch on deck of boat from another ship. These must have called for them though we had two boats stern. This hints the Capt. for that is what he came here for. The Capt. has been on board again with three beautiful looking ladies and as many gentlemen and stayed about 4 hours. The ladies looked too pure to be gazed at by the vulgar eyes of the sailors but we hope to have the handling of some quite as good in a few months. Oh hurry the time. Took off 2 loads of wood for which he payed 18 dollars; it came in a

Monday March 10th

It is board with on Liberty and I have tried to enjoy my freedom though the Capt. did not give us a cent of money. I happened to have enough to buy a few peaches and apples so I was not troubled with hunger and as I had some spirit to spare I made a number of little friends on shore amongst the children especially the little girls. Visited the steam flouring mill and Lake house connected and was shown about with great respect. Found things in good order and machinery much like that of home. One circumstance occurred to spoil the peace and quietude for a short time on board. A Barton one of the men that secreted himself on board at Manohala came on board for his things and the mate refused to let him have them and word soon turned to blows and Barton left as soon as he could get clear and when clear from the ship he called the mate everything but a gentleman. Now Barton is on shore and would like to come on board but dare not dare to do so in shore without friends and many poor fellow I pity him but cannot help him. Two more ladies have spent a part of the day on board. They take a great shine to the ship and it is thought some of us take a greater shine to them. One of the papers of the place give her the name of the ship and find that it is the first ship that ever entered the port of Auckland and that the pilot about the harbor has a reputation for being a good one. The weather is very pleasant and the sea is calm.