

The birds were not stirring earlier than us this morning. All hands piled on to the windlass, and we hove up our starboard anchor and hove short on the larboard one. The Amazon had her ensign flying and her topsails loosed. We hoisted the stuns and stripes at our mizzen peak and sheeted home our topsails. Just then the A. passed us with her three topgallant sails set, and eight boats towing her through the passage. After breakfast we hove up our anchor, and lowered a boat to get her head off, which being done we slipped our hawser and glided through the water, scarcely making a ripple. All eyes were on us. The boats that were returning from the Amazon ditched on to tow us, but they found we were going faster than they could pull, so they cast off. We were going 4 knots with a breeze that would not give some ships steerage way. The A. had dropped her anchor in the outer bay, waiting for a wind to go to sea. As soon as we got out of the bay a strong sea breeze struck us, when we set all our can-

vas, and in a few hours we were on blue water, with the land far behind us. We raised a sail on our weather beam in the afternoon, probably the Iris that sailed yesterday.

- 15th Fine weather, strong wind, steering N.E., bound for Sunday island. About 1/2 past 10 in the night we saw a large light ahead; on nearing it we saw it was a whaler trying out.
- 16th Fine weather, strong wind, steering N.E. by N., close hauled.
- 17th Fine weather. Painted the starboard boat.
- 18th Strong breeze, with symptoms of an approaching gale. Under reefed topsails and foresail, fore topmast staysail.
- 19th Blowing a gale, - the heaviest one we have had in New Zealand. Lay to all day under bare poles.
- 20th Laying to under bare poles. Blowing and raining heavy, with a tremendous sea on. About 5 P.M. a sea took our starboard boat off the crane, and unhooked the after davit fall, leaving the after part of the boat pounding against