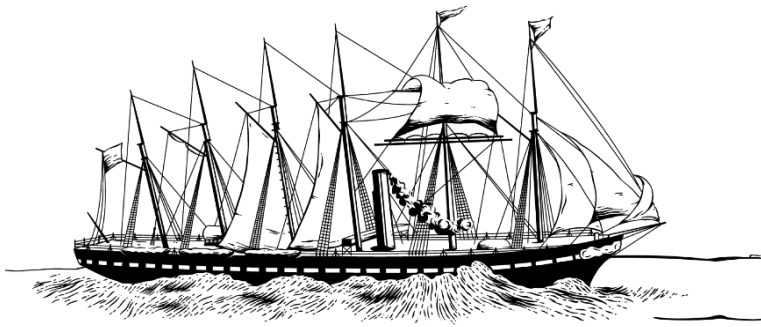


Passenger Diaries

Allan Gilmour



Departed: Liverpool, United Kingdom on 21 August 1852

Arrived: Melbourne, Australia on 12 November 1852

Allan Gilmour, his brother Matthew, and their father travelled together to Australia in a steerage cabin on board the *SS Great Britain*. They left the rest of their family behind in Glasgow, in the hope that they would follow at a later point. The Gilmours hoped to set up a business in Melbourne selling provisions to people digging for gold. Allan kept a detailed diary of their journey. When the Gilmours arrived in Melbourne they lived in tents but their time in Australia was short lived as Allan and Matthew's father died only a few months after arriving in Australia. The brothers then returned to Scotland to re-join the rest of the family.

Learn more about Allan and his journey using Global Stories:

<https://globalstories.ssgreatbritain.org/traveller/868>



27th August 1852

We are all enjoying the voyage a great deal better now, the chief thing we dislike is the washing and dressing in the morning having to go up 2 stairs to the deck to wash, then standing there for five or less minutes in nearly an inch deep of water before we can get a basin to wash in and then dressing as we best can in the very small space allowed for that purpose which is not nearby enough for one person to dress in. The passengers are talking of forming a committee to send home a statement from the Cape of their accommodation, attendance, prices of spirits and other liquors, which I think will have a good effect of sharpening them up for the next voyage as they will not likely get so well filled again, unless they fit things up in a very superior manner to what they have done for this voyage. We find the jam and jelly a very great luxury, as we have nothing else to take to our biscuits at tea but salt butter which is very soft and not of the best quality.

8th September 1852

As a number of articles are constantly being lost and stolen, there is a proclamation posted on the main mast stating that all persons having found or detained in their possession articles not belonging to them, shall (on the articles being found) be subjected to the punishment of a public shave with Neptune's soap and a large razor.

9th September 1852

As the articles missing have not been returned yet, there is a notice posted up today, to the effect that the persons on whom any of the articles are found, will be immediately exempted from partaking with the rest at meal times, and will upon arrival at the Cape be subjected to such punishment as is thought necessary.

