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**Passenger Diaries** Samuel Archer



## Voyage 1

Out - Departed: Liverpool, United Kingdom on 16 February 1857 Arrived: Melbourne, Australia on 19 April 1857

Return - Departed: Melbourne, Australia on 22 May 1857 Arrived: Liverpool, United Kingdom on 22 August 1857 **Voyage 2** Out - Departed: Cork, Ireland on 24 September 1857 Arrived: Mumbai, India on 17 December 1857

Return - Departed: Mumbai, India on 22 January 1858 Arrived: Cork, Ireland on 10 April 1858

Samuel Archer was the *SS Great Britain's* surgeon for two voyages. Due to his important roll on the ship, Samuel had a first-class cabin where he both slept and worked. During the voyages he was responsible for treating sick and injured passengers and crew. When he had time to himself, he liked to go on deck to observe nature and enjoyed looking for birds and sea creatures.

Learn more about Samuel and his journey using Global Stories: <u>https://globalstories.ssgreatbritain.org//traveller/34664/</u>





Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 1857 This morning I was called to see Mrs. M's child whose tooth I extracted last night. It seems that she had bled a good deal during the night and that it still continued to ooze from the cavity where the tooth had been. After being with her about an hour I succeeded in stopping it by means of sp. Ferri & pressure.

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February 1857

I was called up this morning at five to see Mrs. M's child again who was threatened with convulsions to which she is occasionally subject. However she got better in a few hours much to my satisfaction and that of her mother. I was kept very busy up to half past three o'clock making physic, seeing patients & one thing and another so that I missed the best view of Madeira which we passed during the day. Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March 1857 Today one of the passengers died of Inflammation of the Lungs and he was buried in the afternoon. The body was sown up in a piece of canvas with some lumps of iron to sink it and then covered with the union jack was carried by six sailors in their best dress to the lee gangway and the burial service having been read by Mr. Taylor the board on which the body was placed was tilted up on one end and plunged into the sea.

## Friday 24th April 1857

I got a shake down on the sofa and rose early the following morning without having been bitten by the mosquitoes (at which I was rather disappointed). All the others suffered very much from them many of the bites raising considerable lumps on the skin.