



Mr. Wm. H. Miller

Sunday Oct 22 / 52

Dear Father, Mother, Brother, and Sister,

I now have the pleasure to inform you that we have arrived safe in Hobson's Bay on the 18th of October being 77 days from Plymouth - Beating every other ship that started about the same time with the exception of the Calcutta steamer and she arrived the day before us. The Maipo polo has not arrived yet - We had some very rough weather but I will give you a description below.

I have also the pleasure to inform you that Mary was confined on the 15th of September being a fine boy and his name is Thomas Kent - he was born about eleven o'clock at night being a dead calm and the ship was as still as in a house Mary was taken ill and before we could get the Doctor or the woman that attended her the child was born and as fine a child as ever you saw and thrives and gets on wonderfully and I am happy to say that we had no deaths on board - There were two more children born and the mothers and the children are doing well - I wish that Sarah Ann had been confined on the ship it would have saved a great expense for a Doctor will not attend under 6 guineas and a midwife 3. and she expects every day - I hope the next letter ~~that~~

The first thing I noticed when I stepped out of the car was the cold. It was a sharp contrast to the warm blanket I had been sitting under. I looked up at the sky, which was a pale, overcast grey. The air felt heavy, like it was holding its breath. I took a deep breath, trying to get used to the temperature. The ground beneath my feet was wet and slick, reflecting the light from the street lamps. I walked slowly, my boots making soft, muffled sounds on the pavement. The city around me was quiet, almost eerily so. The only sounds I could hear were the distant hum of traffic and the occasional rustle of leaves. I felt a sense of solitude, a feeling that I was alone in a vast, open space. The streets were empty, the windows of the buildings were dark, and the only light came from the street lamps, casting long, soft shadows. I continued to walk, my mind wandering to the thoughts that had been plaguing me for days. The cold air seemed to clear my mind, making the thoughts more tangible. I thought about the people I had met, the things I had seen, and the feelings I had experienced. It all seemed so distant now, like a dream I had just awakened from. I stopped for a moment, looking back over my shoulder. The city was still there, but it felt like it was a different place. The cold had changed everything, making the world feel more real, more solid. I took another deep breath, feeling the cold air fill my lungs. I knew I had to keep going, to keep walking until I found what I was looking for. The cold was a challenge, but it was also a gift. It was a reminder that I was alive, that I was here, in this world. I started walking again, my steps more confident now. The cold was no longer a barrier, it was a companion. It was with me, every step of the way. I walked until the sun came out, and the world was bathed in a warm, golden light. The cold was still there, but it was no longer the main focus. It was just a part of the world, a part of the experience. I had found what I was looking for, and it was right there in front of me. The cold had led me to it, and I was grateful for the journey. I took one last look back at the city, and then I turned away, walking towards the horizon. The cold was still with me, but it was no longer a burden. It was a part of me, a part of the story I was living. I walked on, feeling a sense of peace and purpose. The cold was my friend, and I was going to stay with it for the rest of my life.

that she will be safe over her trouble - I have put you a bit of Tom's hair in the letter for he has a famous head of hair - We had beautiful ~~at~~ weather till we got to the line and after that we had very bad weather and almost every one in the ship were sea sick and poor Sarah Ann poor girl was dreadful for nearly a month and used to throw up every thing she took with large clots of blood and the Doctor and all thought she was going to miscarry But she got over it - But after the cocoa was gone she never lodged anything to drink till we landed - but I hope please God we shall have our health and strength there is no fear of getting on - But before we got on shore we were dreadfully down for people that came on board gave us such bad accounts that trade was so bad -

Well we got on shore with our luggage for 16/- and we left Mary and Sarah Ann and the children on the jetty and George and I went to look for a house - the first we looked at the man wanted 30/- per week and it was nothing more than 2 small rooms on one floor - Then we went nearer Melbourne and after searching for 2 hours the cheapest we could get was a 2 Roomed cottage for £1 per week payable

in advance —

Then we travelled back to the Beech and hired a dray for 7/- to take them to the house. It being Friday afternoon we could not look out for anything to do — We had to pay 1/6 for a 4 lbs loaf — On the Saturday morning we started for Melbourne and we called at Mr Hyams Store to see if there were any letters for us and Mr Pirnie asked us if we had anything to do and we told him we had not — He said he could give one of us work at present and that no doubt in the course of a week he could give the other work, and he asked which it was to be at present, and George said me — Mr Pirnie said he thought as much — he said he would give me £3 - 10/- per week for the present and I am going tomorrow (Monday) — It is at the selling store in Bourke Street —

Now I will give you a short description of the place where we live — It is called — Emerald Hill it is about one mile from Melbourne — The place is laid out in nice wide streets but the houses are of all descriptions from a Canvas Tent up to Brick — Here, ^{perhaps} you will see even houses & stores — Then a weather boarded cottage or store — Then you will come to a Canvas public house with a great

flag and a flaming sign with "Board & Lodgings" in fact you would think you were at some fair or races on a very large scale for I dare say there are 500 houses scattered over some miles - It shows you how this place grows for when George left there were not above a dozen houses - From what I have seen of Melbourne it is a very nice place the streets are wide and the houses well built of Brick and stone - Now I will give you a short description of the trade of Melbourne, every other shop is either a Gold Brokers or an Auction Mart and there you can buy every thing and I think cheaper than in England -

Wednesday Oct 25th

I have the pleasure to inform you that I have got a place at Mr Hyams store at £3-10/- per week from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. The hours are short - but the work is hard, but I do not mind that - George has nothing to do yet for trade is quite at a stand still, but those who have work the wages are good - There are a very deal out of work, but they start to the diggings or up into the Bush - George went to a land sale and bought about 3 acres of ground at a place

(5.)

called about 4 miles from Melbourne
for £50 no doubt in a few months it will treble
its value when the trade turns again —

— Mr Pirane has promised George a job —
in the course of a week or two at the warehouse

Now I will give you a few remarks on
the voyage — At 2 a.m. 26 July we left
The East India Docks and anchored at —
Gravesend — At 4 a.m. 28 July left Gravesend

At 4 a.m. 30 July sighted Plymouth and
anchored the same evening — On the next
day the Panama sailed for Australia —
August 1st ship with Troops came to Plymouth
with Cholera on board — lost 4 while we —
stoped and laid ill —

August 2nd Left Plymouth 1.30 a.m. —

August 7th being Sunday we had prayers on
the quarter deck the Captain being parson +
reading prayers from the poop having the
Union Jack laid over the rail to represent
the pulpit —

August 9th Saw lots of Flying Fish some
of them flew on board —

August 12th at noon were a 1000 miles
from Plymouth —

Aug - 13th passed by Madeira and it
was a very fine sight — same day one of the

Sailor Boys flogged by the Boatswain's Mate -

Aug: 14 - saw some sharks -

Aug: 15 - Becalmed at 7 o'clock in the morning caught one of them measuring $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet long, but what was the most curious (you remember giving me 2 Books one of them the "Wide World" this one I lent and the person dropped it over board for which I got 1/-) - when the shark was cut open one of the leaves was in his belly

Aug: 18 Had rough weather lost 2 sails

Aug: 19 lost another -

Aug: 21 another Boy flogged - same day butcher got drunk and was going to jump over board

Aug: 23 - Neptune's secretary came on board that was one of the sailors dressed up to represent him being dark they had flaming taches and drew him up from over the side -

Aug 24 - We crossed the equator & the sailors had a holiday they got the cannon & decorated it & the sailors dressed themselves in all kinds of ways and blackened their faces one was Neptune and one was Neptune's wife they sat on the Cannon Wagon & were drawn by six of the sailors round the ship then they got some grog from the Captain - they then went onto the fore-castle

and the shaving commenced - and such a sight
 you never beheld. They were not allowed to
 shave the passengers, but there were 5 sailors
 2 midshipmen, The Doctor and the Cabin servants
 those they all shaved - after that was over they
 had singing and dancing and by that time
 they were all drunk - it being very near a calm
 there was not much danger - we had all
 sail set at 5 o'clock I was gone down to
 get Tea ready - George was gone up the rigging
 to take some clothes in he had washed - there
 came on a squall, turned the ship right
 on her side - wrecked Mary and Sarah Ann
 down - I was between decks - It made all
 the things come off the shelves - and the
 women and children began to cry out, but
 what was the worst the sailors could -
 hardly get in the sails but they did manage
 at last and that was the worst squall we
 had - We had plenty but they were
 prepared for them -

Sept 2 - Heavy storm very cold and -
 cheerless -

Sept 15 - Mary was confined

Sept 16 - Caught another shark -

Sept 18 - Very rough took 3 men to
 steer the ship -

and the shipping companies. And such is the
your own letter. They were not aware of
where the passengers were. The same
2 passengers. The Captain and the other
there by all means. After that was over they
the shipping and company and by that time
they were all returned. It being very near a calm
this was not much danger. The ship was
left at 10 o'clock. I was gone from the
get a new ship. George was gone up the ship
to the new station in the last week. The
came in a square. The ship was
in the air. The ship was
there. I was not there. I was not
the ship came off the water. And it
was not. The ship was not. The ship was
what was the matter. The matter was
hardly got in the water. The ship was
in fact and that was the matter. I was not
fact. The ship was not. The ship was
prepared for them.

Sept 2 - Many other very cold and -

chances -

Sept 15 - Very much improved

Sept 16 - Completely recovered

Sept 18 - Very much improved

After the ship -

Sept 19. Still very rough a wave came over stove in one of the boats and split one of the Boards on the Forecastle and broke the top off the fore mast and the mastingale.

Sept 20. 21. 22. - still very rough -

Sept 23. The main chain fell -

Sept 26. Heavy mist -

Sept 30. Lost 2 sails -

Sept. 1. Very squally with heavy hail storm

Oct. 8 The main chain broke -

Oct. 10. 11. 12. Very fine - another child born ran 260 miles that day being the greatest distance we went during the voyage -

Oct 14. Another child born -

Oct - 17. Every person on the look out for land at 7-30 we sighted the land and then there was such confusion as you never saw for it was quite a novelty after being so long without seeing anything for it was a month since we had seen a ship at 5 p. m. the pilot came on board and at 10 we anchored in Hobson's Bay -

During the next day every body was packing up their things and one by one went off the ship - We did not go till next morning we had 2 cats kitten'd and one Bitch pupped during the voyage -

Oct 19. The very rough a more common
over stone in one of the boats and with me
of the boards on the deck and the
the top of the low ground and the mountains
Oct 20. 21. 22. - some very rough -
Oct 23. The ground then fell -
Oct 24. - very much -
Oct 25. - Oct 26. -
Oct 27. - very rough with heavy rain
Oct 28. - the ground then fell -
Oct 29. 30. 31. - very rough with heavy rain
can 250 miles that day being the greatest
distance we ever traveled in a day -
Oct 32. - Another day more -
Oct 33. - Very rough on the land and for
land at 7.30 we sighted the land and the
there were some mountains as you know there
for it was quite a small island being so far
without seeing anything for it was a small
island we had seen a ship at 7.30. the
the first came on board at 10. we anchored
in the bay -
During the last day everybody was happy
and their spirits and one of our men off
the ship - I think we go for next morning
we had a good dinner and one of the
highest through the valley -

Since I commenced this letter the Maice polo has arrived —

Will you be kind enough to let Mr & Mrs. Briggs see this letter and thank them for the kindness they shewed towards us and tell them that I would have written but the Great Britain starts tomorrow and I have been three nights at this already — for when I get home from work I am very tired — but I will write to them by the next mail. Tell him also that you can get your likeness taken for in frame for 5/- — After this letter is read in Leeds send it to Oxford and then to Mr Holloway in London and we all thank them for the kindness and the trouble that they took in our welfare —

George bid me say the money was all right and likewise the letter — But he will write to Mr Holloway in a short time.

Tell uncle Walton that we have no tidings of Evans — give my best respects to all my old shop mates and I hope they are all well.

So now my Dear Father, Mother, Sister & Brother and all relations and Friends I must conclude hoping it will find you all in good health as thank God it leaves us all here at present —

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I have a command that I give you

and receive

Will you be kind enough to let me know

whether you will be able to do this for me

and if you can, please let me know

how soon you can do it

I am very much obliged to you

for your kind offer

and I am sure you will do it

very soon

I am, Sir, your obedient servant

John Smith

and I am sure you will do it

very soon

I am, Sir, your obedient servant

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John Smith

(10.)

I remain, Yours till death -

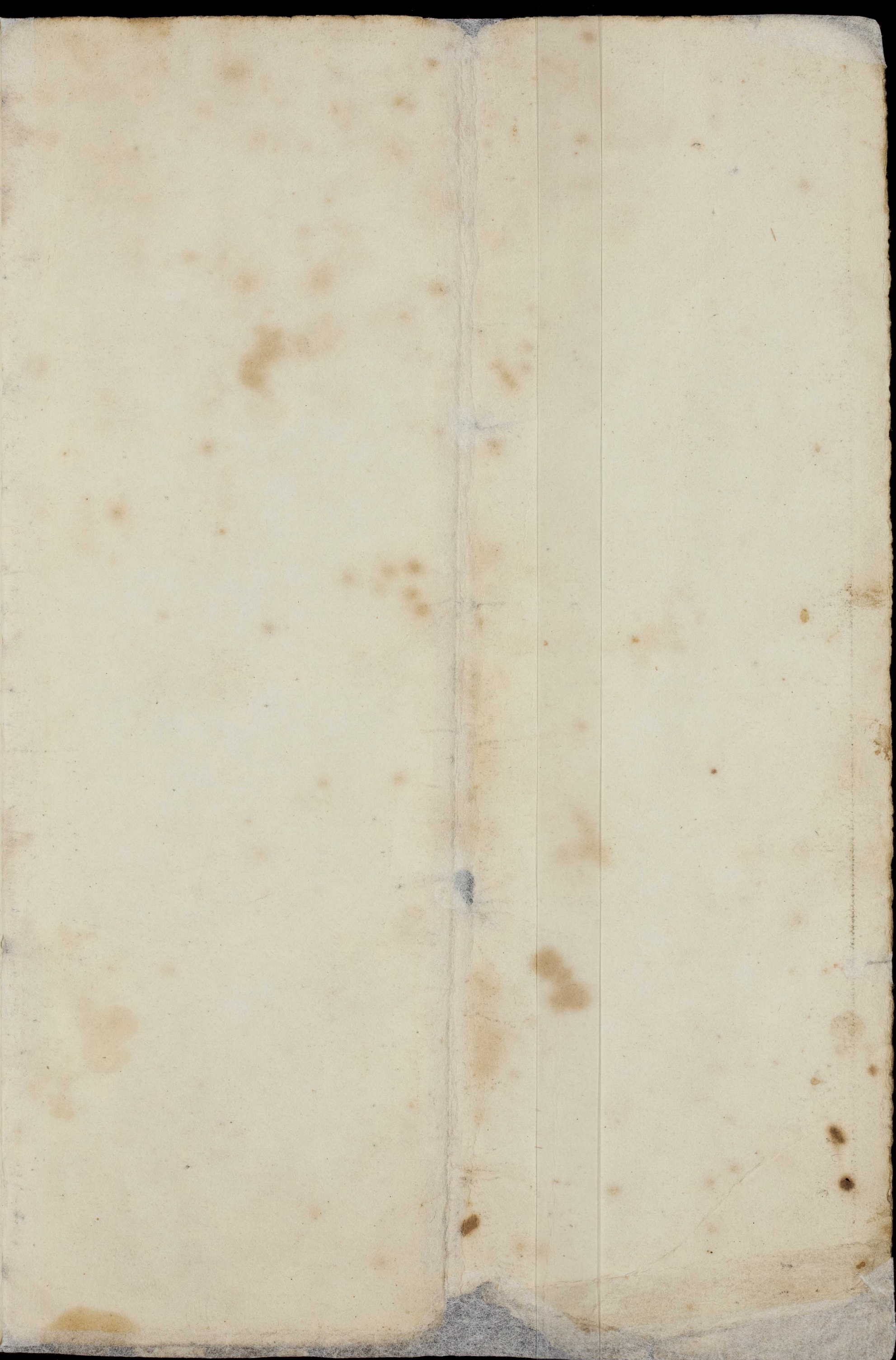
John Holloway -

for George, Sarah Ann
+ Mary -

Ellen Gifford's sister's husband.

James M. Smith
John Smith
for the purpose of
study

Eliza Smith



12. Hollenway

5081 *humif*