

# 21. Norfolk to Manila 2

6<sup>th</sup> May - 3<sup>rd</sup> Aug 1857

**6 May** About 10pm we lost sight of the island never perhaps to see it again.

**10 May** Sighted Anatine.

**11 May** Sighted the Island of Erromango, steering through the New Hebrides.

**15 May** Sighted the Isle San Christroal.

## 16 May

Sighted Santa Anrara, strong breeze and heavy squalls with very heavy thunder and rain and lightening, very vivid and dark pitch. I was on the main deck looking up at the Poop when a flash came on. I shut my eyes as quick as I could but even then, I saw ----- of the flash. I could see a far amount after with my eyes shut as plain as I could in daylight without my eyes open. Passed Queen Charlottle Isles saw no more land until 21 june. After we left Queen Charlottle Isle we passed north of New Georgia, New Ireland and Louthro Kama Isles which are some of the Carvline Islands.

**21 June** When sighted Pelaw Island.

**26 June** lat 8.43 long 129.35

**2 July** Sighted Evenings Island.

**6 July** Sighted Mortay Isle.

## 16 July

Sighted Elvlo Island. These are many magnificent islands I can't describe them, but they are covered in verdure from the top of the mountains to the waters edge, every now and then you can see little huts among the shrubs, they almost put Norfolk and other isles I have seen in the shade and there are all inhabited by savages but their ----- coming the girrnanie tribe no doubt will supplement them in their march to the east and they will go where the aborigines of America and Australia are going and these beautiful islands will be inhabited by a nobler and a better race of men who can appreciate this goodness.

**13 July** Entered Tagolanda Passage fair wind coming up to it we saw a heavy tide ripple extending right across the passageway. Sent the 2<sup>nd</sup> mate aloft to see what it was, he reported breakers, we could see no difference between ---- - and it still the Capt. ----- but was on the point of turning back when saw it move and other indications of a ripple and as we neared it we could see more plainly. It was a very strong tide ripple with the fair winds we had we could just make headway against it.

Passed the Islands Tagoland and Paran. Begasen and Siao also Bainca and the main Canal of Celebar.

There is a volcano the island of Roan and also on Tagoland burning and another on the peak of Liao not burning.

We passed close to the Isle of Roan and could look right in the crater and see it was smoking. That of Tagoland we did not see smoking. The peak of Liao we saw 60 miles away off, we passed it within 20 or 30 miles and could see the peak from above the clouds.

These islands are just like Mordtay and Jelolo.

### **16 July**

In center of the Looloo sea, passing large quantities of seaweed and driftwood and large trees with roots attached at a distance they looked like boats. One day the 2<sup>nd</sup> mate called the Capt. and said there was a boat in sight with three men in her. The Capt. came on deck kept the ship away to pick her up. When we came up with her, lo and behold it was a large tree with three seagulls on it. So we cursed all gulled and spoilt the Capt. afternoon sleep which put him in no good humour I can tell you.

### **17 July**

Passed a brig, this is the first ship seen for 73 days. Sighted Looloo Island. Watch employed cleaning the guns and getting things ready for use also getting up anchors and cables.

I have been employed for this last week making musket and pistol cartridges for the pirates if they try any of their games on, with us they will have rather a warm reception, I should like to knock over half a dozen of them with a cutlass.

### **18 July**

Entered the Morayshire Passage, this is where I saw that large tide ripple between Pata and Looloo. These are magnificent islands indeed. On Pata I saw two large towns, ----- built of bamboo and numbers built on the water on stakes about 12 feet high and from a distance it looks very ----- . A great number of fishing boats and passage boats sailing about between the two isle, two or three of them came near enough to see them with a glass. The men in one or two of them had straw hats and shirts on, the others had nothing of that I could see.

I like Looloo better than any island I have seen to looked at it. At distance it is a beautifully diversified with hills and dales. Tracks of woods and clear spaces as green as the fields of dear old England.

I've particularly took my fancy at was a long clear space besprinkled with ---- shrubs and single trees presently of immense size.

It looked as if it was designedly laid out for a Gentlemans Domain.

I think I looked into every hole and corner I could, they tried to laugh me out of it, said I should hurt my eyes looking through the glasses so much but it was no go. (ed. as) I would be looking through glasses I would say. There is a beautiful little hut under that large tree, oh there, three close down to the

water under those shrubs, there is a little boat hauled up on the beach and all such ---- ---- until darkness covered the face of the earth.

To finish the days amusement, we had a fierce squall in all sails but the topsail and layed too for the morning. We put all the lights out ----- all those we were obliged to have, stuck no bells for fear the pirates should hear or see us and take us by surprise in the night. However, the darkness disappeared and the sun arose and blessed us with his light and heat, we again made all sail and with a fair light breeze strode on among the number of small islands off the Looloo Archipelago. Most of them low sandy and trees on them, look as if they were growing out of the water.

Passing dozens of large snakes, they lay asleep in the water when they see they ships, they take a good look at her, with head erect, they make a dive below.

Dozens of boats sailing about but they all keep their distance thinking we are the dreaded pale faces.

The Capt. told me in 1849, two brothers of his were wrecked on the Island of Taweei Tawee and whilst the crew were trying to get her off again they were attacked by the natives and taken prisoners and conveyed to the Looloo where they were made to work as slaves on the rice fields.

One boat and six men (the Capt. brother one of them) escaped and were picked up by a ship bound for Singapore, when they arrived there they reported it and the Rajah sent a steamer and a brig (man-o-war) with marines to the Rajah of Looloo but he know nothing of them, however he accompanied them to where they were taken when they arrived he sent to demand them but the natives would not let them go. The Rajah then sent word to say if they were not delivered up by the next day at noon, he would burn their villages and destroy their properties. The time came and no prisoners, during the night the marines landed and burnt three or four villages and took the chiefs two sons prisoners and brought them on board and sent word again to say that if they did not deliver them up, they would take his two sons ashore and hang them on the first (ed. tree) they meet.

So they delivered them up except for the two who they said were dead. They were on the island 6 months and the Capt. youngest brother died when he arrived home from the effects of bad treatment.

And very curious, our Capt. was wrecked the same day in Gasper Straights. We are now in the Mindoro Sea, nothing particularly happened until

### **27<sup>th</sup> July.**

In the morning we lay too for daylight to pass the Colronda Strait. Sighted a barque and sighted the Island of Panay.

**28 July** Lombrero Rock Cuyo Isle.

**29 July** Sandy Isle, Lainiluber Isle and two vessels

### **30 July**

Saw a ship on shore with all his sails set. Stopped by her during the night, next morning, bore down on here, saw she had ensign hoisted with union down.

Sent the gig and from hands and the mate on board. Her name is Coringa of Boston from Manila to Boston. She is on a coral reef, only half of her is on the reef. The men can walk on the coral under her bow but cant find the bottom over her stern. They wanted no assistance, but sent a passenger for us to take to Manila. We then left her and the same night she was blown off and anchored in Manila about four hours after us.

**1st Aug** sighted Luban and Luconia

## **2nd Aug**

Sighted the cottage door. (carregi door) 7pm took 1<sup>st</sup> reef in Topsails M.Gall<sup>t</sup> sailsheet. About 10:30 it moderated and shifted so that if we went about we should head right in. I called the Capt. two or three times but could not make him understand. At last I gave him a tremendous rouse and asked him if we should go about as it was a fair wind, he said, oh yes if you like, so out I went and put her about in grand style and slapped every stick of sail on her. He came up about half an hour afterwards and was quite astonished to see the ship under full sail and heading right in for the harbour. He did not say anything, this was the first I have stayed on a ship in this ----- way. A lee. Yasksad sheets. Mainsale handle, Fore Bolien let go and hauled, I have wore her a hundreds of times just as we got up to the cottage door it fell calm and did not anchor in Manila

until 10:30pm on the **3<sup>rd</sup> August** thus doing 5000 miles in 102 days. We were from 16<sup>th</sup> may to 27<sup>th</sup> July within 100 of the lie. (N & S ) ie 72 days also 73 days without seeing a sail. Also from 23<sup>rd</sup> May to 3<sup>rd</sup> August 72 days we had 47 days with calms in them sometimes the whole day.