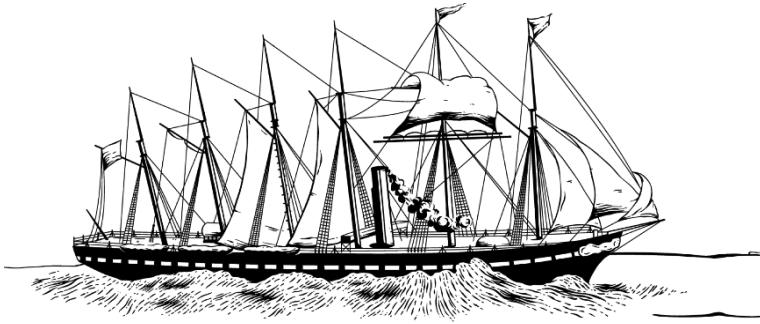


Passenger Diaries

Sister Mary Paul Mulquin



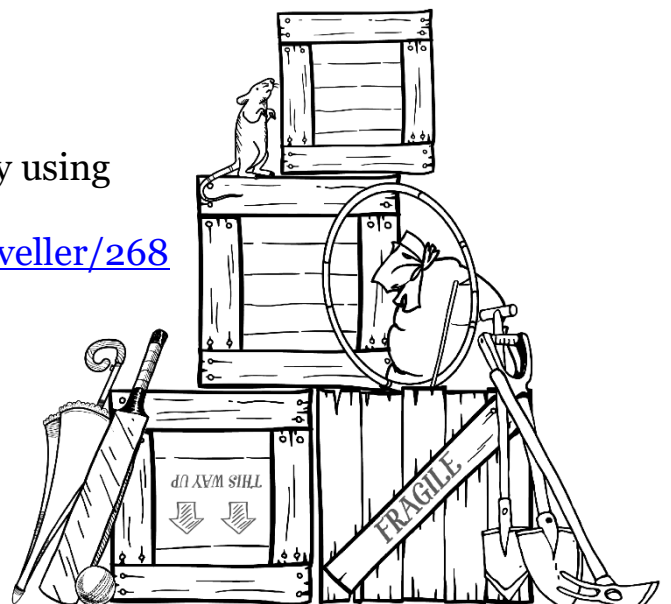
Departed: Liverpool,
United Kingdom on 25
October 1873

Arrived: Melbourne,
Australia on 21 December
1873

Sister Mary Paul Mulquin shared her journey to Australia with fellow nuns from a convent in Ireland. They were going to teach in a school for Catholic girls near Melbourne. The nuns tried to be very self-disciplined on board, saying prayers and studying every day. They found it was sometimes difficult to maintain their strict routine, because life at sea could be so unpredictable, especially when the weather was bad. Mary was optimistic and very interested in all the new things she saw and experienced on board ship, so she managed to enjoy the voyage despite being seasick and homesick.

Learn more about Sister Mary and her journey using
Global Stories:

https://globalstories.ssgreatbritain.org/_traveller/26805



24th October 1873

The bell rang for dinner and we sallied through passages, ascended steep flights of stairs to the saloon a beautiful, lighted apartment, with mirrors all around and tables laden with every variety of viands - a range of every colour glasses suspended from the ceiling, the seats covered with crimson velvet, and everything that luxury could invent to make the meal agreeable. Imagine our sensations at the sight of so many strange faces, all turned on us, the greatest novelty ever seen there for some time; the mortification of that Friday dinner I can never forget... in the next berth to ours is a nurse and children who keep up an incessant chatter and crying for a good part of the night, so we can hear 'Charlie' and 'Bobby' and 'Sonny' often reiterated by nurse, they seem to think the week we have passed a very short one, while we feel it a month...

3rd November 1873

It is delightful after tea to walk on deck - then the sound of several musical instruments breaks forth. Dancing is gone through by saloon people, or on quarter deck and by other classes in their respective localities - the protestant portion seem very religiously inclined breaking forth into hymns etc.

6th November 1873

After a night of almost unbearable heat with no bedclothes, we went through our accustomed acts, and of this day I can only say we are in tropical heat... guimpes and bandeaus they are dripping wet after an hour or even a quarter of an hour so we amuse ourselves by taking stock of each sister's dilapidated state.

