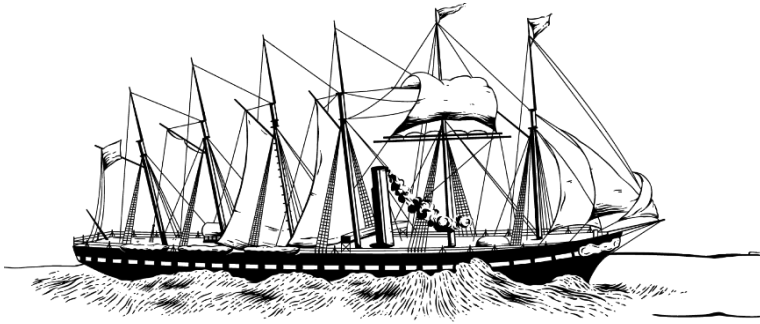


Passenger Diaries

Eugène Mallet



Departed: Liverpool, United Kingdom on 25 January 1863

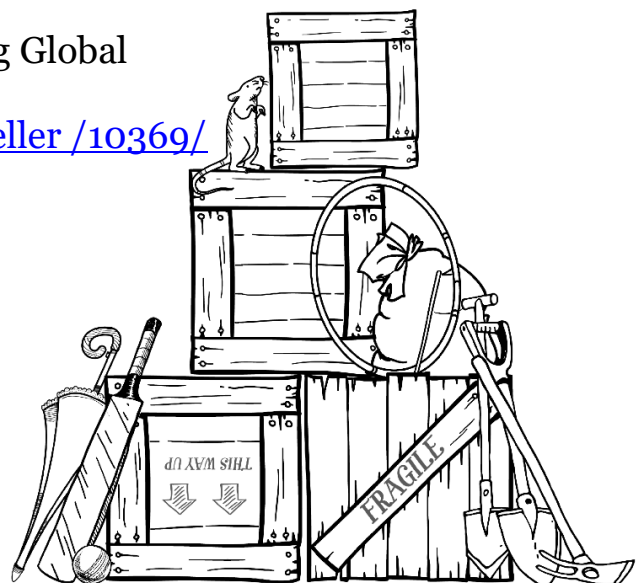
Arrived: Melbourne, Australia on 4 April 1863

Eugène Mallet travelled in first class to Australia on the SS Great Britain and kept a detailed diary in French, his first language. In it he describes the challenges of dealing with the constant motion of the ship, with the rolling causing some sea sickness early in the voyage. Eugène also describes the ocean and weather, painting a vivid picture of life at sea.

After arriving in Australia, he travelled on to New Zealand and lived there for several years before returning to France.

Learn more about Eugène and his journey using Global Stories:

https://globalstories.ssgreatbritain.org/_traveller/10369/



Rien ne saurait pa peindre la couleur, l'éclat métallique du vaste horizon qui nous entoure, il se transforme devant nos yeux en collines en vallées aux formes sans cesse changeantes. Du sommet des grandes lames, le vent fait jaillir des gerbes d'écume dont les blancs flocons nagent sur toute la surface des eaux. Placés sur le pont du navire on se sent un moment descendre comme l'éclair, on est au fond d'un vaste bassin liquide dont les bords semblent s'élever bien au dessus de nos têtes.



It would be impossible to depict the colour, the metallic brilliance of the vast horizon which surrounds us, it transforms itself before our eyes into hills and valleys of forever changing forms. From the crest of the large waves the wind causes bursts of foamy spray whose white flakes swim across the whole surface of the waters. Positioned on the deck of the ship, one feels oneself for a moment dropping like lightning to the bottom of a vast liquid basin, of which the sides seem to rise up above our heads.

Le soir venu, il s'agit de s'arrimer dans ses couchettes de de manière que le roulis ne nous fasse pas jouer le rôle du volant entre les deux raquettes contre les parois du tiroir où vous vous posez le problème de passer une nuit confortablement. Quelques traversins ou couvertures habilement disposés le matelas scientifiquement relevé nous épargnent cet inconvéniént et si l'on n'a pas le bruit de la machine on dors mieux qu'à terre vu qu'on est bercé par dessus le marché.



Once evening comes, all that's left is to secure ourselves in our bunks in such a way as to prevent the rolling from causing us to be like shuttlecocks between two rackets thrown against the sides of the compartment where you face the problem of passing a comfortable night. A few bolsters or blankets skilfully arranged and the mattress scientifically raised spares us this inconvenience and without the noise of the engine we sleep better than we would on land, seeing that we are rocked into the bargain.

