

Decr 23/13

22 to speak in public. The idea also that I am not a regular ordained Minister often damps my spirits. But in the case above mentioned, when I saw so much misery and affliction, I was constrained to speak. As the people appeared to desire it I considered it my duty to set before them the great Truths of our Holy Religion according to the best of my ability. When sick, dying men cry out under a sense of their own ignorance and wretchedness for spiritual advice it would be criminal to withhold it from them. Under whatever circumstances the enquiry is excited it ought to be encouraged. Bonds and Fetters and even the Prospect of Death may possibly be the means by which some suffering sinners are led truly to repent of their sins, and to seek and obtain Christ the precious remedy. But ah! how awful to neglect until the last hour the important concerns of the Soul! -

The Children whom I rewarded by your liberality continued during our passage to assemble in my Berth with their Parents and took great delight in singing the praises of their Maker. They learned the card of Prayer, the card for Sunday Schools, the Introduction to the Church Catechism. The Rev. Mr Cooper began me to express the pleasure he feels in being enabled to introduce your various plans of Religious Instruction among the children of thirteen Schools which he visits at Sydney. I have furnished him with as many copies of each as I can spare until I get a fresh supply.

I must refer you to my letter to Capt. Close respecting my visit to the Schools at Funchal.