

1823

Sept
Sunday 7
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This morning, the Captain gave orders to weigh the anchors, and proceed to Sea. I went into the Rev^d S Leighs cabin, and read the 1st chapter of Romans making a few remarks upon it and observed that it was my intention to read with him the whole Epistle on our passage to Port Jackson. we had a comfortable little meeting while the Sailors were preparing for Sea -

The weather was very threatening and stormy, the wind blew very strong from the East directly into the mouth of the Harbour - We lay in Thorarika Bay on the South side of the Harbour, and had to sail along a lee rocky shore in working out with the wind dead on the land.

The Ship being light and high out of the water, she would not answer her Helm, and twice missed stays - The lead was kept continually sounding, and we soon found ourselves a little more than three fathom water with a rocky bottom, and a shoal of rocks on our lee, and it was then near high water - When the Captain found the situation we were in, he immediately ordered to let go the anchor which was done - when the tide began to turn the Ship began to strike - The Gale increased and the Sea with it - I was convinced the Ship would be wrecked, there appeared to me no possible way to prevent it - The Rev^d S Leigh was very ill and unable to bear the noise and anxiety.