

1823

Sep. 7

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Sunday 7th. This morning the Captain gave orders to weigh the Anchor, and proceed to sea - I went into the Rev. S. Leigh's Cabin, and read the 1st Chapter of Job, 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 Korarika 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 Helms, and twice wiped Stays - The Lead was kept continually sounding, and we soon found ourselves in little more than three fathoms water with a rocky bottom, and a shout of kooks 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. S. Leigh was very ill and unable to bear the noise & anxiety occasioned by such an awful occurrence. Mr. Leigh was also much

Departure

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