

42 Besides them there were 14 children, who with nurses and a Miss Jones, a girl of about 14 going back to her mother in Victoria, had their meals at certain hours before us. Our hours were Breakfast 8.30 a.m. lunch 12 noon - Dinner 4 p.m. tea 7 p.m. Then you can imagine how we sat at those important functions of the day, at 2 long tables not quite in the centre of the saloon, as you can see from the diagram of our end with the position of the Mizen Mast in it. Down the portside ran a narrow parallel side table, useful for whisk + other purposes - The prevailing tone of ornaments, the usual sham maple + gold - with green curtains hiding the entries to the cabins, 2 glass doors opening on the quarterdeck forward,

+ one in the after end, leading to the bath rooms, ladies cabins 43 &c and a broad companion ladder, leading upwards to the poop + downwards to our diggings on the lower deck. Then you will have seen that by far the largest part of us were old colonists: but still who were not very sociable the first 2 days - the Parson being the only exception, going straight bang at every one, howking after every one's previous life + destination, + bidding fair to drive the officers wild with his unreasonableness questions about the working of the ship. I found out that he was a leadham man + had been once in Scotland, usher to old Belis at Peebles, + declared he remembered Colin Mackenzie. These 2 days the weather is