

48  
ing. Possibly the failure makes some ladies open the piano after  
wards to try to elicit talent: but apparently in vain, as none  
could be seduced from the modest retirement which rules still  
on board of every thing which may lead to general edification.  
Those few who attempt it this evening are only conspicuous for  
the want of any voice at all, or gifted with such harsh ones  
that the possessor evidently can't know how much other people's  
ears may suffer. M<sup>rs</sup> Davis is the chief offender, but one is  
not astonished that such a woman, whose appearance & voice &  
voice in ordinary conversation are all so inharmonious & unsym-  
pathetic, should <sup>not</sup> be able to sing in any way that could please.  
If she, as Panson's wife, thinks she must ex officio be choir-

49  
mistress, we shall evidently have no singing - her voice would  
only spoil the attempts of others; besides she is sure before a  
week is out to have disgusted and offended every one she has  
to do with. The Wavies are to be pitied for the circumstances  
which makes them fellow passengers of ours - that is charita-  
ble at all events - so perhaps I may add other people's op-  
inion that we are also to be pitied for the same accident.  
T. wit - He & his family, not better off than most clergy-  
men's families who emigrate, left Gravesend in the last ship  
of Mary Wigram's about two weeks ago for Brisbane via  
Melbourne, he having promise of a curacy from the Bp. of  
Brisbane. Between Gravesend & Plymouth 1 of his children