

lost a wife. But never will assist at anything for the public good any more than he can help & then only passively; & at other times rather avoids us. He & his brother are a wonderfully attached pair. They always are chatting & I hear them the first thing at night & first in the morning laughing away as if they always had a joke. On Saturday, the 4<sup>th</sup> number of the paper was read - mainly an amusing résumé of our week's fun; but it has ingeniously utilized the strange likeness which Grant possesses to the French Emperor & his French acquirements by the invention of an absurd telegram. An important announcement was also made that McDermott undertakes to print the paper at his office in Melbourne & generously adds, *free gratis*: So you will have a copy.

Sunday - Saturday August 8-14.

Still better progress this week to record, better runs, & more certain winds; and on Tuesday the 10<sup>th</sup> the board actually displayed the large figures 318. The only ones who looked blue were the sporting men who had bet against the ship, though they had the consolation of declaring that it was only dead reckoning for that day the weather had prevented us getting an observation, & that it was a decided case of overlogging. They even gave odds that we would do as much again; but now we've rounded. There are also all sorts of bets going as to our accomplishing our long journey within the 60 days: & it is just an open question now, as one or two bad day's work will make it almost