

5<sup>th</sup> Sept 1862 Monday  
 at day break sighted Banks peninsula  
 at 10 am pilot came on board

British Empire not in nor yet the  
 May Queen which left a month before  
 us. Port Cooper is a beautiful harbor  
 and the hills are grand, the tops  
 covered with snow. Landed at  
 3 P.M. and Mac, Morley and I  
 walked over the hills together, to Heather  
 ferry, at the top we met Morley's two  
 brothers, went by train to Christchurch  
 a large scattered town with some stone  
 buildings but more wood. Saw for the first  
 got letters glad to find all well. Mac & I  
 took a walk into the country, lost our  
 way, met a gold digger who had come  
 down here for winter he brought  
 us to his hut gave us supper, and  
 our friend and his chum & Mac & I  
 slept heads and points on heaps of straw  
 with sacks over us

Here we all thank God safe after

being out 122 days from Docks, only  
 1 day short of 4 months -