17th May 1864 Tuesday.

another fine day. before dinner Macnaughton and I read for a couple of hours on the poop. I clipped Welch after dinner Mr Last made a set of boxing gloves, and we had several rounds on the main deck.

We opened the Port in our cabin and lay reading in our hammocks till tea time. I find a hammock much more comfortable than a cot. it does not swing so much.

18th May 1864 Wednesday.

another fine calm day. McNaughton and I spent most of the day making and fixing shelves in our sleeping cabin. There were some good boxing matches on the main deck after tea, of course with gloves.

Mr Brown is quite delighted with this fine weather and thinks 2½ knots an hour quite fast enough. When talking of the barque we had coming down Channel he says it was a frightful storm, our account of what he may expect when rounding the Cape of good hope do not seem to please him. McN. & I went to bed, (or rather to hammock) at 10 & and read for some time before going to sleep. we have the lamp placed between the heads of our two hammocks so as to throw the light on our books but not on our faces—