

Diary of H. McNeish Carpenter with Shackleton's expedition, 1914 - 1916

Source: Microfilm G512, National Library of Australia, Canberra,
with Alexander Turnbull Library watermark.

Positive microfilm of original document.

Transcribed by Shane Murphy.

Before the loss of the *Endurance*, this diary appears to be recorded in black ink; thereafter it seems to be in pencil.

I have tried to recreate this document as accurately as possible but, certainly, I've made mistakes. Spelling (never constant), grammar & punctuation are presented as supposedly found. Letters or words in brackets or spaces with question marks opines that I'm not sure what the lettering represents. I have made typing errors although they're not intended.

Occasional entries by other diarists relative to interest are sometimes included here.

Orde-Lees—some notes on Harry McNeish

Outbound from England to Buenos Aires: "There are 4 tables. I chose to sit at the same table as Cheetham and McNeish because I thought a little unrefined company would be good training for hut life, but I must say that McNeish is a tough proposition. First he sucks his teeth loudly then he produces a match, carefully sharpens it and proceeds to perform various dental operations, occasionally he expectorates through the window and at scooping up peas with a knife he is a perfect juggler. His conversation ----- any way we get on pretty well but - I feel sure I 'get on his nerves' as much as he does on mine."

Diary entry 8-17-14: "... In the saloon we have 4 little separate tables, as you know, and I have made a point of sitting at the same table as the 4th Officer who was a sailor on Scott's Expedition and the carpenter who is a perfect pig in every way..."

...

[1 page of sketches of Ocean Camp]

[1914]

oWednesday [December] 9th under sail course SE¹/₂S very light wind sighted a stream of ice 7-AM started engines 11-15 course SE made fast all sail & set them again at 2 PM sighted the pack 4-15 entered pack 5 PM went about 2 miles & found it too heavy come clear again 9.PM run 91[?] miles steering ENE heavy snow

Thursday 10th entered pack at 7⁴⁵ AM run 129 miles all hands stand by set fore topsail 9-30 AM I am repairing pram began to snow 3 PM stopped work concert to be held in the rookery tonight the skipper had his hand bitten by one of the dogs Mac

Friday 11th Grand concert last night but heavy snow today all square sails set hard NE breeze done 5[3?] miles through very heavy pack ice passed a sea leopard & crab eating seal on floe I fitted up a weather screen on the bridge had tea turned in 9 PM Temperature 27

Saturday 12th Lat 60-52 S Long 14-2 W Run 33 miles through heavy ice & snow showers ... turned out 7-30 had breakfast & oiled all round & cleaned tools & made semaphore signal for bridge had a sleep from 2 PM then was hed[?] a suit of under clothes. had Sweethearts & Wives at 8 followed by songs turned in at 9 PM

Sunday 13th Lat 61-21 Long 14-50 W 53 miles course ³/₄W fine morning temperature 30: 2 points below freezing turned out 7.30 am & sounded bilges 10 in reported same to

30: 2 points below freezing turned out 7.30 am & sounded bilges 10 in reported same to the Boss had breakfast at 8 AM done a bit of washing & put pockets on oilskin coat had lunch slept 2 hours we got a ross seal at 3-PM which Mr. Wild shot got him on board & skinned the same all ready for cooking still going through heavy pack ice but loose I hope we get out of it soon to get to our destination turned in 10 PM

Monday 14th Lat 61-36S 17-54 W Long run 18 miles course S by E heavy pack turned out 5-30 had cocoa then rounded ship smoked until breakfast which consisted of seal liver & bacon started making togals for sledges seal meat for dinner put up Loker in Boss's cabin in the afternoon stoped work 3-15 had sardines for tea had my usual smoke & walk round turned in 8-30

Tuesday 15th Lat 61-31S Lon 18-8 Lost six miles gamed in pack blowing hard from SW engines going slow ahead to keep the rudder clear turned out 6-30 sounded 10 inches in bilges had breakfast curried salmon made a pig pen for the two pigs both of which belongs to myself one I got at Leith the other at Great Vicken had lunch put a door on the storeroom captured a young Weddel & Penguin at 5-15 PM so we will have fresh beef tomorrow

Wednesday 16th Lat 61-41 S Lon 18-6 W started this morning 7-AM fitted key for lock in store room door then sounded bilges 1' 6" got pumps started then started on pram fitted in two planks & cinched the same stoped work at 5 PM sounded bilges again at 7 PM 10" the days run 11 miles but going very well since noon there has been heavy snow squalls all day but the pack looks much opener now it looks more like bay ice turned in at 9 PM

Thursday 17th Lat 62-13 Lon 18-52 run 39 miles turned out 7-30 fine day but cold temperature 23 sounded bilges 1' 1" started on pram after breakfast stoped in floe at 9-30 all hands on ice after penguins got 9 got ship clear again 3-10 made very good headway until 6-0 then we had to break a passage through ice 12 to 14 ft thick we are in open patch now for about 3 miles but it looks very heavy ahead turned in 8-0

Friday 18th Lat 62-42 Lon 18-11 run 39 miles turned out 7-0 a fine morning but cold temperature 24 I resounded as usual 1 ft & pram after breakfast which consisted of Seal steaks & **onions** ship jamed in ice since 11-5 AM we shot 3 seals & got them on board three penguins visited us this evening Mr Hussey gave them a selection of musics but when he started a scotch selection they got disgusted and walked away 6-30 ice opening up ship started on our way again the ice is open now about 1¹/₂ miles & by the time we get there it may better turned in 8-0

Saturday 19th turned out 7-0 sounded bilges making about 7" in 8 hours but I expect she will take up when we get clear of the pack we are in Lat 62-47S 17-58W done 6 miles temperature 20 very cold I done nothing after breakfast but stand by aft to keep stern clear of ice shim jamed in floe when we stoped at noon had Sweethearts & Wifes as usual at 8-PM with songs turned in 9-0

Sunday 20th a fine morning but cold temperture 19 turned out 4-AM & started washing clothes had breakfast & got finished at 9 AM washed out cabin & done a bit of mending had dinner seal heart & **potatoo** deep sea soundings 2800 fathoms our position today is 5 miles worse than yesterday as we are drifting back with the floe

position today is 5 miles worse than yesterday as we are drifting back with the floe we had a game of football on the floe this evening with the boss in goal we beat the shore party by 2-0 I am going away for a walk on Skies after tea had a fine run came back & turned in 9-0

Monday 21st Lat 62-41 S Lon 17-32 W turned out 7-0 AM started on Pram after breakfast ship got clear of the floe about 3-AM making very good headway up till now it has been an ideal day but has turned very cold temperture 22 — we got another ross seal today so we will have more fresh meat tomorrow I am about finished repairing the pram

Tuesday 22nd Lat 63-33 S Long 16-49 W run 30 miles hard NE breeze ship lying too in floe started under way again 6-30 PM turned out 7 AM started making iron knees for pram & finished the same & christened her Nancy Endurance then I put handle in ice chisle stoped work 4-PM bad with piles turned in after tea

Wednesday 23rd Lat 63-52 S Long 17-27 W lovely morning turned out 7-30 sounded the bilges 11" then stood by aft to keep stern clear of ice made handle for wheel after dinner still bad with piles we are in a sheet of fine open water just now doing about 8 knots temperture 23 below freezing turned in 7-0 PM

Thursday 24th Lat 64-32 Lon 17-2 Temperture 30 run 40 miles turned out 7-30 sounded bilges 10" stood by telegraph till noon made platform for bridge & a new house for sally had my usual evening walk & smoke as I am better of the piles but I have been thinking of My Loved Ones all day I hope there is nothing wrong & that You will enjoy Yourselves tomorrow X Mass I think we are drawing nearer the end of the pack as it is fine & open now we are doing about 7 knots all afternoon I am going to turn in now 9-0 PM so good night Sweet Ones

Friday 25th X Mass Lat 65-43 S Lon 14-20 W 71 miles sounded 10" had breakfast sat & read Marcelia had dinner which was very good & I hope You & Life has had as good I had one drop of rum at 1-15 AM from the Skipper who came & wished me a merry X Mass but I have had nothing since then we are jamed in the floe since noon & it is blowing hard but I think it will take off as the sky is a bit better looking we should have seen the midnight sun tonight but if all goes well I hope tomorrow night as we will be inside the circle we are going to have a concert at 8-0 we had a few songs & then turned in after a bottle of stout

xxSaturday 26th Lat 65-43 S Long 17-30 W run 3 miles temperture 20 turned out 7-0 AM ship still fast in floe made stage for the look out over the stern to keep ice clear propeller started to make a modle of the ship as I want to have something to pass the time away we took deep sea soundings 2857 fathoms we drank the health of our Sweethearts & Wifes tonight & I hope you are well Love

Sunday 27th Ship still fast in floe I am working on a modle

Monday 28th turned out 7-0 AM sounded bilges started after breakfast which consisted of seal steaks & put up stove in the wardroom & finished the same we have drifted back 14 miles & still fast all hands bagging coal for the base when we get there

there

Tuesday 29th Lat 65-32 S Long 17-40 W run seven miles turned out 7-45 AM had breakfast repaired poop deck where ventilator was torn away this morning made grateing for saloon door finished 4-0 turned in at 8-PM

Wednesday 30th Lat 66-2 S Long 16-47 W run 38 miles temperture 23 - turned out 7 AM rounded ship hard SW wind ice very heavy but some good leads so we are getting along not so bad we have sunrise at 11-45 PM we are in side the Antarctic Circle now turned in 9-0 read untill 3 AM

Thursday 31st Lat 66-47 S Lon 15-45 W run 51 miles temperture 25 turned out 7-0 sounded had breakfast made grateing for wheel we cought 5 penguins today 1 emperor & 4 adeloes we are still getting along but slow as the ice is a bit heavy & close we are about 149 miles from Coats land tomorrow is New Year's day & I hope You & Tips will have a Happy New Year & all the Years to come

From Daddy

[January, 1915]

Friday Jan 1st 1915 Lat 67-45 S Long 15-18 W run 6-9 miles temperture 26 I was first fested[?] by the skipper at 12-20 AM & turned out at 6-AM & sounded the bilges then shaved clean as I have not shaved since we left BA I feel wont of my whiskers but I wont do it again until next Hogmany & then we will turning towards Home & those we Love Best I got the day over with sleeping and reading and turned in 9-0 PM

Sat Jan 2nd Lat 69-49 S Lon 15-85 W run 124 miles temperture 26 turned out 7-0 had breakfast oiled all round then cleaned tools we had a good deal open water up till noon today but we have got into a lot of very heavy ice so we are hanging on waiting for an opening but it is started to blow now had Sweethearts & Wifes at 8PM & Turned in

Sunday 3rd Lat 69-59 S Lon 14-23 W run 39 miles temperture 24 blowing very hard we are lying to under the lee of a berg we caught a Ross seal today so we have fresh meat again tomorrow

Monday 4th Lat 69-59 S 17-4 W we are jamed in floe temperture 20

Tuesday 5th still in the floe

Wednesday 6th still in the floe

Thursday 7th still in the floe & drifting north

Friday 8th still in the floe we landed today & let all the dogs loose & we had great sport in getting them out of the water where they fell through the thin parts

Saturday 9th this the aniversary of Shackleton's farthest South & every thing looks much better as the floe opened up alround and we are under way again we had Sweethearts & Wifes as usual & turned in 9-0

much better as the floe opened up around and we are under way again we had Sweethearts & Wives as usual & turned in 9-0

Sunday 10th Lat 72-25 S Lon 15-57 W Temperature 25 but wind very cold we have sighted Coats Land this afternoon 4-15 & hundreds of seals floating on ice all round us so we are going farther south our run today 136 miles

Monday 11th Lat 73-20 S Lon 20-33 W Temperature 23 run 109 miles we are getting around Coats land - soundings at noon 155 fathoms close to barrier ice I started making a small chest of drawers for the Boss to use in the hut we are stopped at present as it is very thick and snowing very heavy but I think we will get under way again before morning & if all well we will be at the end of Coats land tomorrow which was Bruce's furthest south

Tuesday 12th Lat 74-4 S Lon 22-33 W temperature 25 degs we are fast in floe I am still at the drawers for the Boss we passed a great many seals & penguins to day

Wednesday 13th Lat 74-14 S Lon 26-59 W Temperature 28 we are drifting with the floe but not much chance of it opening up

Thursday 14th Lat 74-11 S Long 26-20 W Temp 25 still in the floe

Fri 15th Lat 74-28 S Lon 26-10 W Temp 20 run 30 miles we got out of the floe at 5-45 last night & are dodging amongst it up till 4-0 this evening but it looks fine clear water ahead

Sat 16th Lat 76-11 S Lon 27-12 W run 124 miles but it is blowing very hard we went into the ice at the foot of a glacier & got some collections of granite we are hove to now under the lee of a berg

Sunday 17th Lat 76-22 S Lon 28-27 W run or drift 11 miles temperature 24 still hove to

Monday 18th Lat 76-27 S Long 29-46 W we have done 23 miles but we have come to a full stop again I think we will have to wait until it opens up a bit as it is very heavy ice we had soundings to day 1080 fathoms I finished the drawers

Tuesday 19th Lat 76-37 S Long 31-18 W Temperature 23 still fast in the pack I am making tuggles for the sledges soundings 3?? fathoms still fast in the floe

Wednesday 20th Lat 76-30 Lon 31-16 W Temperature 28 we have only 85 miles to go but the wind is still from NE & keeping the ice hard against the barrier we had a seal today the first for a while so we have fresh meat tomorrow.

Thursday 21st Lat 76-59 S Lon 33-20 W Temperature 25 we are still fast in the ice but have drifted about 28 miles SW we have had a big day getting the ice clear of the rudder as there has been a big pressure on the pintles all day as the ice is pressing us astern all the time

Friday 22nd still in the same predicament with no signs of any change we have made a hole in the ice for the rudder it has been a hard job as the ice is about 12 feet thick

Saturday 23rd still fast but the land is quiet visible so if we have to stop here later than the middle of next month we will have to make a landing

Sunday 24th still fast & no signs of any opening pressure is still a serious business & if we don't get out of it soon I would not give much for our chances of ever getting away from here as we seem to be wedged into a bay & there is only one chance for us that is a breeze of SE wind

Monday 25th Still fast we tried today to cut away the ice to relieve the ship but it was not use as there is a piece about 70 feet square under our keel forward

Tuesday 26th still fast the water has opened out a bit ahead of us but the floe we are in is still as sound as ever we caught a young emperor penguin today

Wednesday 27th still fast we had another trail to break the ice around our stern & after getting through a piece it came up & jammed the stage & almost the men so we gave it up

Thursday 28th temperature 6 very cold still fast and no signs of any change Lat 76-50 S Long 40 W we are drifting NW & our seal meat is finished the dogs are on short rations & we have only tinned meats ourselves so things don't look so well we saw two seals this evening but there was water between us and them we took soundings today through a hole in the ice depth 320 fathoms

Friday 29th still fast temperature 14 wind NNW & no signs of any change

Saturday 30th still fast temperature 22 wind NW took soundings today 412 fathoms so we are drifting some way
[Hurley: Had a musical evening in the wardroom. As is customary, this being Saturday, we toasted sweethearts and wives. Chips, the carpenter, rather over did the toast, with the result that he became very quarrelsome and, going to the fo'c'sle, created a disturbance, which, fortunately, was quelled before any serious harm eventuated.]

Sunday 31st still fast temperature 16 wind N we started getting ice on board today to melt down for fresh water as we are getting short

[February, 1915]

Monday Feb 1st still fast temperature 20 got more ice on board today wind NE with no change in the floe

Tuesday 2nd still fast temperature 25 we caught 7 seals today so we are a bit better off now I am writing this under difficulties as I have a bad finger

Wednesday 3rd Still fast temperature 19 & we had two more seals today

Wednesday 3rd Still fast temperture 19 & we had two more seals today

Thursday 4th Still fast temperture 7 & two more seals & the ice is cracked both ahead & astern of us so it looks a bit better

Friday 5th we are afloat once more the floe we were in opened up at noon today but we had no steam up so we lost our chance of getting out but the wind has changed with heavy snow & the temperture rising 16+ so we may get a passage through soon

Saturday 6th we are in a pool of water but the ice has closed all round us again

Sunday 7th no change

Monday 8th Temperture Minus 2 very cold & no change but looking better tonight my finger is still bad

oTuesday 9th Still fast Tem Minus 3

Wednesday 10th Still in the same place we turned the engines today the first time for three weeks there is a large crack in the ice about half a mile from us but we cant get near it we landed one of the motors today & tried it on the ice & it done very well
Temperture +3

Thursday 11th Still fast Temp -11

Friday 12th Still fast Temp +2

[Lees: The carpenter has been unusually troublesome today. He is in charge of the water tanks and these are accessible only through hatches fitted in the deck of the hold. As soon as I have made a good stow he finds that he must have it all shifted to get at some other tank. He has an exceptionally offensive manner and it is very hard to be patient with him.]

Saturday 13th Still fast Temp -1 caught a seal today & put up the tents on the floe

Sunday 14th started the engines & began to break up the pool we got through 300 ft & stoped at midnight

Monday 15th Turned out 7-30 had breakfast started to break away the ice ahead but found it getting to thick so we gave it up a noon for it runs from 12 to 18 ft thick so we will have to wait Gods will to get out temperture +2

Tuesday 16th temperture -1 Turned out at 7-30 had breakfast made a small table for the Boss & laid out a football pitch as we had a game this afternoon there is open water about 5 miles NE of us so we may get out before the winter sets in but our chance is small

Wednesday 17th Turned out 7-30 finished table started making a cribb board we caught 3 seals today Temperture -2 still fast

Wednesday 17th Turned out 7-30 finished table started making a cribb board we caught 3 seals today Temperature -2 still fast

Thursday 18th turned out 7-30 & finished cribb board we caught another seal today blowing hard with heavy snow from NE temperature +10 Lat 77-9 S

Friday 19th Turned out 7-30 very cold temperature -2 hard NE wind caught 4 seals today done no other work

Saturday 20th Turned out 7-30 started to build WC over the stern finished at noon caught 2 seals

Sunday 21st Turned out 7-30 had breakfast & started washing & finished everything bar what I stood in

Monday 22nd Turned out 7-30 cut hole around the rudder & propellor

Tuesday 23rd Turned out 7-30 cut three seal holes & cleared hole at stern

Wednesday 24th Turned out 7-30 made a pair of ice tongs & cleared seal holes & cut slabs to build dog kennels

Thursday 25th Turned out 7-30 very cold temperature -10 cleared seal holes & cut two more caught two seals

Friday 26th Turned out 7-30 made another pair of ice tongs cut a lot of slabs for dog kennels & cleared the stern

Saturday 27th Turned out 7-30 cleared away kennels of the deck got part of the hut timber up for to close ship in for winter temperature -8

Sunday 28th turned out 7-30 cleared ice holes had a walk along the new ice for about 3 miles & caught an emperor penguin

[March, 1915]

Monday 1st March Turned out 7-30 snowing Temperature -8 started to cover in the after part of the ship for the winter we shot 9 seals but only got 4 alongside as there is a Blizard blowing at present from the NW all hands are at present building egloes for the dogs we had two of our sledges smashed to day as the floes are so rough

Tuesday 2nd Turned out 7-30 still the blizard continues I am getting the hold ready for winter quarters as our cabins are in a very bad state the temperature in my cabin last night was -2 & tonight it is +1

Wednesday 3rd Turned out 7-30 a fine morning but cold I started again on the after end to close it in we had one of our best dogs died today of stoppage in bowels & we had 4 more shot as they were dying with worms

had 4 more shot as they were dying with worms

Thursday 4th this is my Loved One's Birthday I trust in God She is well also Wee Tips, it is very cold temperture -15 I have been trying today to finish the construction aft but I had to give it up after having the little finger of my left hand bitten

Friday 5th a lovely morning but temperture lower -18 I had another day at house aft but I did not finish it we had 4 more seals today & another dog died last night

Saturday 6th a dull morning & cold temperture -12 I finished the building aft & put up the Meterologist gear on top & started after lunch to fit up cubicles in the tween decks for our winter quarters as we can't live in the cabins

Sunday 7th a nice morning but cold temperture -21 I have been working at the cubicles down below untill 4-PM we had another seal today

Monday 8th a nice morning cold with hard SE wind temperture -18 I have been insulating the boss's cabin as he is going to stay in it during the winter we are drifting away from the land so I don't think there will be any chance of a landing next spring

oTuesday 9th cold morning temperture -20 light SSW wind working down below at the cubicles we had two seals today the hands are busy with the egloes for the dogs

Wednesday 10th a fine morning temp +5 NE wind I am still down below I have 4 cabins finished with 8 more to do

Thursday 11th hard NE wind temp +10 I have finished all the cabins so I have the stair case & other things tomorrow

Friday 12th blowing a gale of NE wind no outside work but I have been busy enough below

Saturday 13th a fine day temp +15 wind NW light put up the stove down below & all hands migrated this evening we had our usual Sweethearts & Wifes turned in my new cabin Me & Mr Cheatham [directly beneath "Mr Cheatham" enclosed in a semi-circle: "second mate"] are cabin mates

Sunday 14th a fine morning temp -5 no wind I have had a day off it is the first sunday I have had since we have been stuck here on Jan 18th we are celebrating our new digs tonight

Monday 15th Temp Minus 4 We started our winter routine today no work after 1 PM the shore party are exercising the dogs I am on the sick list with a poisoned finger we had one seal today

Tuesday 16th Temp plus 13 A strong blizard from NE no outside work only arguments about the war we are getting very anchious to get news of some kind we had a

about the war we are getting very anxious to get news of some kind we had a wireless receiver installed before we left B.A. but we have not received nothing since Nov 1st 1914. 600 miles south of B.A.

Wednesday Mar 17th Temp plus 7 8 AM Minus 10 at noon had one seal today ice cracking alround making preperations for bringing dogs onboard the Blizzard still continues no one allowed to leave the ship untill further orders started scaling boiler today

Thursday Mar 18th Temp Minus 11 a lot of open water around but to late to be of any good every one in the best of Health but McLeod & My Self he has one finger bitten & mine looks a bit better.

Friday Mar 19th Lat 77-8 Temp Zero drifting to the westward we had 7 seals today it is Marstons birthday so there was a drink allowed

Sat Mar 20th Temp Minus 2 The ice has opened a lot more today we have had all dog food & seal meat brought on board & every thing ready to bring the dogs in a hurry Sweethearts & Wifes as usual we had a lantern lecture from Hurley through Australia & Java it was very good we are having one every month

Sunday Mar 21st Temp Minus 4 exercizing dogs one man on the look out for any aperance of seals no other work

Monday Mar 22nd Crew building a large Igloe for sick dogs I & D^r Macklin were watchmen last night & I went to have a look at the dogs & found Susie had pups which we took on board we had a busy night

Tuesday Mar 23rd Temp plus 3 Took a soundings today 443 fathoms & had a small dredge & got of a few very good specimens Lat 76-50 S drifting to the NW there are plenty of seals about but the open water prevents us from getting them & we require all we can get

Wednesday Mar 24th Lat 76-26 S temp Minus 9. 2 dogs shot today we had the dredge down today & got some Antipodes & stone

Thursday Mar 25th Lat 76-25 S temp Minus 3 Soundings 400 fathoms the crew are still on with the snow house for the sick dogs

Friday Mar 26th Lat 76-15 S temp plus 6 drifting about 10 miles per day the usual routine looking after & exercizing dogs

Saturday Mar 27th Lat 76-22 S temp Minus 10 the shore party busy repairing dog kennels & the crew covering the large Igloe with canvas we had a gramophone concert & our usual Sweethearts & Wifes

Sunday Mar 28th My Wee Loves Birthday & I hope both Her & My Big Love are well & God Bless them Lat 76-26 S drifting south again temp Minus 9 on Sundays there is no

God Bless them Lat 76-26 S drifting south again temp Minus 9 on Sundays there is no work on dogs exercise & the crew get [directly over: "fetch" in fine line pencil] ice on board for cooking and drinking purposes

Monday Mar 29th Lat 76-24 Lon 33-12 Temp Minus 6 I started work today Making a tide vane it is for going about 30 fathoms under the ice with a compass attached to indicate the under current the crew have been put on their allowance of butter as we are getting short of that there is only about 60 lbs left we have butter on the table for breakfast only **all our potatoes have gone wrong** but we have plenty preserved ones soundings today 385 fathoms

Tuesday Mar 30th Lat 76-20 S Temp Minus 10 I am still at vane the crew are raising the wireless higher to try & get a message but I don't think it will be of much good as wires are heavily coated with snow rind exercising dogs in teams the teamsters are D^r Macklin D^r McIlroy Wild Hurley Marsten

Wednesday Mar 31st Temp plus 3¹/₂ just the usual routine exercising dogs we are drifting NW but we got no position today

[April, 1915]

Thursday April 1st Temp plus 10 no observation usual routine

Friday April 2nd Temp Minus 7¹/₂ we tried current vane & it worked well making one for the surface Killed a pig today

Saturday 3rd Temp Minus 13 no Observation we have been weary waiting for a wireless message every month but it has not arrived yet we had our usual Sweethearts & Wives

Sunday April 4th Temp Minus 22 54 Degrees of frost pig fry & bacon for Breakfast the usual routine ice ship

Monday April 5th Lat 76-10 S Temp Minus 9¹/₂ I am making a skylight for the hatch which I laid coming down sounding 240 fathom by Kelvin the usual routine

Tuesday April 6th Temp Minus 8¹/₂ on Observation blowing a Blizzard no outside work soundings 245 fathoms

Wednesday April 7th Temp plus 18 Still Blowing clearing drift of the dogs & building an Igloo for Susie & her pups ice in rudder hole making 7 inches in 24 hours

Thursday April 8th Temp plus 10 Still from NNE all hands busy digging out dogs & sledging snow away from the ship as the weight is sinking the floe which means thicker ice to get out of we held Wordie's birthday tonight

Friday April 9th Temp plus 2¹/₂ & falling fast the crew & teamsters busy rebuilding Igloos as they have been nearly all buried we caught a fine emperor penguin today

Igloes as they have been nearly all buried we caught a fine emperor penguin today he came up the rudder hole & we had a few specimens in the dredge

Saturday April 10th Temp Minus 12 shortened up the wire around the ship no one allowed over the side until further orders as it is snowing & blowing hard we had Sweethearts & Wives & Health to the Army & Navy we are all in the pink of condition only anxious for the war news but we unanimously hope that the war God has been crushed without any further loss of life & we are all sorry we have no hand in the hanging of Him but we all sincerely hope the Russians will capture him for if Briton do they will set him up in a palace for the rate payers to keep

Sunday April 11th Lat 76-18 S Temp plus 10 usual routine ice ship I had a walk along the young ice with M^CLeod for about 4 miles it was a treat & good going had penguin for dinner it was a treat after being so long on seal meat

Monday April 12th Lat 76-19 S we are drifting SW Temp plus 18 I finished the companion way I was making & we got the same fitted there is no one would take for the same ship as left London Peggie Lees Motor has broke down so there has been no dredging & he is wishing himself at Home he is the only unfortunate as he has no practice experience of motors so Hurley is doing his repairs

Tuesday April 13th Lat 76 S Temp Minus 15 a change from yesterday exercising dogs started feeding them on pemican & they are looking a lot better there are about 8 on the sick list still

Wednesday 14th Lat 76-1 S Temp Minus 22 we had another dog died today Hudson the Navigator had his nose bitten today the crew are fitting up a gangway

Thursday 15th Lat 75-53 S Temp Minus 8 the usual routine I am making a card table for the Boss I will have one for myself too if all goes well there is a large berg coming pretty close it is only 1¹/₂ miles to the SW of us now

Friday 16th Lat 75-54 Temp plus 8 we had rather a narrow squeak with a berg this morning it passed us about half a mile away going NE it caused a lot of pressure but it is well away now

Saturday April 17th Lat 75-55 S temp plus 3 soundings 174 fathoms the usual routine among the dogs we had a lantern lecture by Hurley of Sir Douglas Mawsons Expedition of which He Hurley was a member finished with Sweethearts & Wives

Sunday April 18th Wild's Birthday Lat 75-55 S Temp plus 8 the usual routine ice ship I had a fine ramble with M^CLeod

Monday April 19th No Observation Temp plus 4 one of the foreward hands birthday Stephenson which they held with a bottle of rum

Tuesday 20th No Observation Temp plus 8 a strong Blizzard on at present velocity 57 no outside work I am making a base[?] to hold some Magnetic generators for James

no outside work I am making a base[?] to hold some Magnetic generators for James

Wednesday 21st Temp plus 2 all hands clearing snow away from around the Ship & dog Igloes

Thursday 22nd Lat 76-3 Temp Minus 11 still clearing away drift soundings 179 we have been blown back but with Gods will we are all Happy & looking forward to getting to civilisation some time about the end of the year

Friday 23rd no sight temp Minus 15 getting all heavy gear on board as the floe is still sinking it is very wet under foot soundings 178 fathoms

Saturday April 24th No observation as in good weather the sun only rises one degree & we loose it altogether for three months very soon Temp Minus 22 the usual routine Sweethearts & Wives

Sunday April 25th Temp Minus 11 Teams exercising dogs we had the motor crawler going today sounding 177 fathoms

Monday April 26th Lat 76-51 S bitten today I myself my left ear & cheek

oTuesday 27th lat 75-40 S Temp Minus 24 we had our first Hush made from pemican & it is a treat they are busy boiling down Blubber for to mix with our pemican

Wednesday 28th Lat 75-33 S Temp Minus 14 sounding 145 fathoms M^CLeod's finger is much worse he wants the doctor to take it off but they wont do it as wonds take a long time to get well in this climate

Friday 30th Temp Plus 11 the usual I have started a cabinet for Hussey for his meterologist reports

[May, 1915]

Saturday May 1st Lat 75-28 South Temp plus 2 the usual routine crew clearing the decks Teamsters excercising dogs I have finished Husseys cabinet we had Sweethearts & Wives & a boxe of our winter chocolates & sports after every one is well & Happy we are listening for a message on the wireless but there is no news up till the present

Sunday May 2nd Temp plus 19 Sounding 179 fathoms we caught a fine weddel seal today there is a large patch of open water about 100 yards from us this is our first day without the sun & it will be 107 days before we see it again

Monday May 3rd Temp Plus 11 Soundings 175 fathoms Wordie & the skipper was out for a walk & brought in 3 emperor penguns Hurley is fittingup a small generator to light up the Animometor Screen M^CLeods finger is progressing very well

Tuesday May 4th Temp Minus 2 I am closing in the space on the port side forward the usual routine with the dogs we had another penguin today there is a lot of open water about now me & M^CLeod had a walk along the leed but the light was very bad so we did

about now me & M^CLeod had a walk along the leed but the light was very bad so we did not loose sight of the ship

Wednesday May 5th Temp Minus 12 Lat 75-20 I finished outside the galley today we got two more penguins today the usual routine with dogs men skining penguins for specimens

Thursday May 6th This is my Cabin Mate & Husseys Birthday Temp Minus 12 lat 75-17 S 41-37 W the usual routine amongst the dogs we got 9 penguins to day one party was shooting while another party was sledging them back to the ship Peggie motor has gone on the sick list again they had to haul the trowel by hand but they got some very good specimens I am making a heavy wooden frame for a sledge to put the small 3¹/₂ horse power motor for dredging operations

Friday May 7th Lat 75-6 S Temp Minus 15 the usual routine we had to haul the trowel by hand the day again & got nothing but mud for our trouble sounding 196 fathoms I am still on the sledge frame

Saturday May 8th Lat 75-3¹/₂ Temp Minus 18 the usual routine with dogs we got 2 penguins today cleared up everything for the week end we had sweethearts & wives with songs as usual

Sunday May 9th Lat 74-54 South Temp Minus 12 They had a long run with the dogs today 24¹/₂ miles & the dogs came home all in good condition four of us set out & done 12 miles in 4 hours over sea ice

Monday May 10th Lat 75 South Temp Minus 17 the same routine with the dogs we had another penguin today I am still on the frame

Tuesday May 11th Lat 75-89 Temp Minus 7 teams being exercise as usual Sadie had 7 pups this morning 1 more penguin today I have finished the frame M^CLeods finger is doing well but our cook is a bit off the D^r has ordered him the take more exercise so he goes for a run in the afternoon but as it is dark now he cant go far from the ship

Wednesday May 12th Temp Plus 9 it is Blowing a blizzard now no teams out today 6 of 7 of Sadies Pups died this morning I have started to take the wheels of the airoplane sledge & to put them on to the small frame I made no outside work

xThursday May 13th Temp Plus 11 Still blowing now work outside all the dogs have been weighed today as they are every thursday [Hurley's diary seems to indicate the dogs were only weighed two times—SEE: Worsley; the men were weighed once a month, which Hurley never mentions] & they have mostly all gained as I cant say about myself although I feel well only the piles keep troubling me a lot now this is my watch tonight

Friday May 14th Lat 75-24 S Temp Minus 9 Still blowing we have drifted back 24 miles since Sunday which will take us another week or more to recover the teams were out for a run today we got the motor crawler on board I had rather a turn last night last

for a run today we got the motor crawler on board I had rather a turn last night last night on watch in the ritz when I smell some thing burning & when I went to see what it was I found in the forecandle the stove covered in dough as the cook had hung his kit over the stove to raise it for his bread

Saturday May 15th Temp Minus 5 A very good day after the Blizzard the Teams have been exercising today we had a penguin visit us but he has come to stop I have been putting up shelves in the biologists room & we went on a penguin hunt after Houch but came back after a good walk with nothing there is a lot of open water around

Sunday May 16th Temp Minus 18 Soundings 159 fathoms ~~we have~~ It is blowing b=very hard & I believe there is a lot of ice has broken of the floe we are in as the ship has almost turned round we are heading SW by S & now NNE so there is a big drift going on we have went a lot W by S we had a Lantern Lecture Last night [15th] from Hurley on New South Wales & finished up with Sweethearts & Wifes God Bless Them no one allowed of the ship as it is to dark

Monday May 17th Temp Minus 12 Still Blowing hard from the NNE we got 3 penguins today no outside work I am still at the motor sledge

Tuesday May 18th Lat 75-23¹/₂ South Long 42-8 West Temp Minus 18 It is a better day so the usual routine among the dogs was carried out the first exercise since Saturday the crew are clearing away snow of the dog igloes I am still at the motor sledge Soundings today 155 fathoms

Wednesday May 19th Temp Minus 20 Blowing a Blizzard the crew ice ship & Teamsters atend dogs no other outside work I am making handles for the dog whips I finished the motor sledge & peggie Lees is busy at the wheels Soundings 159 fathoms

-Thursday May 20th Temp Plus 2 Blowing hard from ESE no dogs out today as it is to dark crew ice ship we all had our hair cut to the scalp & then had our fotograph taken after in the Ritz we look a lot of convicts & we are not much short of that life at present but still hoping to get to civilisation some day

Friday May 21st Temp Plus 7 Snowing & Blowing wind SE soundings 155 fathoms the teams had a short run today Hurley is busy fitting up 3 cluster lights to give us light to get the dogs on board if the ice should break up I am making a form for the forecandle

Saturday May 22nd Temp Plus 10 A fine day the Teams were all out & the men iced ship & then went for a walk as there was good light & no wind Myself & Dr McIlroy & the Chief Engineer scrubed out the ritz as three of us do it in turns every Wednesday & Saturday then we went for a walk & got back in time for Hush as it was getting a bit dark I cut Cheetham's hair as he was the only one that escaped on Thurs as he was asleep being night watchman then we had Sweethearts & Wifes with song which lasted to 12-30 AM

Sunday 23rd May Temp Minus 8 Nothing doing today only crew ice ship as it is to dark

dark

Tuesday May 25th Lat 75-12 South Temp Minus 12 Southerly wind & blowing hard Soundings 164 the crew cut out a new hole for dredging purposes

Wednesday May 26th Temp Minus 18 Soundings 178 fathoms all hands haul up dredge by hand as we can't depend on peggies motor we got a few good specimens strong S breeze

Thursday May 27th Lat 75-6 Temp Minus 20 Soundings 188 fathoms dogs out for a short run the first time this week we had a **raw onion** & Welsh rabbit for lunch with lime juice it was like christmas day with us as we have not to plenty to eat but we are all well & happy M^cLeod is still on the sick list

Friday May 28th Lat 74-59S Temp Minus 10 Soundings 194 fathoms dogs exercising do usual in the one hour of twilight we get during the day I have started to make an ice saw

Saturday May 29th Lat 74-55 S Temp Minus 20 Clark Greenstreet & Hurley scrub out the ritz & all hands haul up the dredge we got two spiders & several other specimens Soundings 205 fathoms & finished up with Sweethearts & Wifes

Sunday May 30th lat 74-59 South Temp Minus 22 Soundings 253 fathoms we have had a change of wind it only lasted about 6 hours & in that short [t]ime we lost 6 miles there is nothing doing today only ice ship

Monday May 31st Position the same as Yesterday Nothing doing Blowing & Snowing they are all sitting here arguing & some mending mittens Hurley is busy preparing a flash for photographic purposes I reaire the panty door

[June, 1915]

Tuesday June 1st Temp Minus 12 No Observations & no outside work as there is no light

Wednesday June 2nd Temp Minus 18 Still Blowing from NE Nothing doing there is a lot of pressure going on all round us

Thursday June 3rd Temp Minus 15 we celebrate the Kings Birthday with bread & cheese & butter for Lunch & grog in the evening of which I have not tasted since Jan 19th

Friday June 4th Temp Minus 16 but no wind so the teams have all been taking exercise as we had a little light

Saturday June 5th Temp Minus 18 the floe has broken up all round us so we are only in the middle of a small piece but it seems to me to be holding good as yet

Sunday June 6th Temp Minus 26 the lowest we have had yet no one allowed out as it

Sunday June 6th Temp Minus 26 the lowest we have had yet no one allowed out as it has been to dark

Monday June 7th Temp Minus 20 there is no run for the dogs as the floe has become much smaller Lat 74-40 soundings 258 fathoms there is good breeze of SW wind so I expect we are drifting to the Northward we had a gramophone selection last night it passed away a couple of hours as the night is so long now it takes something to break the monotony

Tuesday June 8th Temp Minus 19 Lat 74-27 Soundings 288 fathoms we have drifted 12 miles nearer Home & the Lord be thanked for that much as I am about sick of the whole thing as we cant growl about being over fed just what keeps us alive we have all lost weight I have lost 2 stone since B.A. 8 pounds last month as we weigh in every month I made a pair of doors for the companionway the teams had a short run

Wednesday June 9th Temp Minus 24 Lat 74-26 Soundings 290 fathoms it has been a fine day what was of it one hour from 11-30 to 1-30 that was only twilight they had a short run with the dogs I am making a wash tub & it will be number 7 since we left Plymouth Hurley has been taking flashlight pictures he has secured some of the best Peggie Lees went for an exercise on an old bike & he had it all right a search party found him at 4-PM but minus the bike he left it behind somewhere but dont know where so he is not to leave the ship again poor fellow he is only Mad

Thursday June 10th Temp Minus 27 The usual routine I finished my wash tub the crew getting the gear ready for dredging tomorrow

Friday June 11th Temp Minus 20 No dogs exercised today there has been no light we had the dredge down & got one shell as it came up upside down

Saturday June 12th Temp Minus 7 No one allowed out as it is very dark we had our usual Sweethearts & Wives with songs

Sunday June 13th Temp Plus 4 it has been a fine day the dogs were all out for a run & we got a sight which gives our position Lat 74-29 S Long 45-19 West we have drifted back three miles since we last got an Observation I & M^CLeod had a fine walk he is still on the sick list with his hand

Monday June 14th Temp Minus 12 The usual routine today the dogs had a short run we are going to have a race tomorrow if there is any light

Tuesday June 15th Temp Minus 9 The light is bad with fog but the race was run 700 yards five teams 700 lbs about 100 lb perdog the favorite won by 10 seconds

Wilds Team	2	Minutes	16	Seconds
Hurley "	2	"	26	"
Crean "	2	"	37	"
Macklin "	3	"	7	"
McIlroy "	3	"	12	"

Wednesday June 16th Temp Minus 17 Blowing hard from NE no dogs out today no

Wednesday June 16th Temp Minus 17 Blowing hard from NE no dogs out today no light I have my left thumb dislocated but it is doing very well

Thursday June 17th Temp Minus 20 Soundings 258 fathoms Still blowing hard from NNE & very dark no dogs out put the dredge down this afternoon to give it a chance as we are not moving much at present as I expect the ice to the NW of us is up against land so in that case we wont get much further unless it is to the NE & that is not very probable as the current on the other side of this sea sets down to the SW

Friday June 18th Temp Minus 12 Soundings 270 fathoms it is a fine day or night or whatever you like to call it there is no light we hauled up the dredge & got a small fish some sponges & a few stones all very good specimens it is my night watch tonight

Saturday June 19th Lat 74[?]-22 West Soundings 257 fathoms Temp Minus 20 The usual routine crew clearing up for the week end teams being exercised we had our usual Sweethearts & Wifes

Sunday June 20th Lat 74-35¹/₂ South Long 46-12 West Temp Minus 6 We have a half a mile north with 1600 to go to South Georgia so if we go on as we are doing at present we wont be long but with the drift being all westerly it makes us believe there is a channel between Graham Land & the Antarctic Continent

Monday June 21st Lat 74-30 S Long 46-39 West Temp zero & Blowing hard from the SW we have done 5¹/₂ miles nearer Home since yesterday & we are feeling a bit better over it now All hands are preparing for the fete tomorrow night as it is mid-winter day we will be having the sun back again in another six weeks so that itself is something to look forward too we had the usual routine today M^CLeod brought in a penguin with him this afternoon so there must be open water about somewhere

Tuesday June 22nd Midwinter Day A lovely morning Lat 74-21 S Temp Minus 14 we had ~~sausages~~ sausages & onions fried for Breakfast & it was a treat after being so long on seal & penguin meat no work only ice the ship & a run for the dogs M^CLeod & Myself done about 7 miles walking around the ship my finger is getting on alright now we had another treat for lunch Bovril for the first time cheese Lase & bread & a cup of tea after them tea & cake a 4-0 a. present from some one at Home dinner at 6-0 Roast Pork stewed apples & preserved peas with plum pudding & ?????? then we had a concert which started at 8-0 & finished at 12 PM with **fried onions** & break[?] then we drank the health of our Loved Ones at Home

Wednesday 23rd June lat 74-3¹/₃ South Temp Minus 16 it was Blowing hard this morning but it has turned out fine now there is still a light Southerly Breeze

Friday 25th June lat 73-56 S long 46-18 West Temp Minus 20 Sounding 236 fathoms a light Northerly Breeze we had the trowl down today & only got a few stones I cut a hole through the ice to measure the thickness from Feb 18 untill now it has made 4 ft 3 inches we had a race between Wild & Hurleys teams today which Wild won the distance as last time 700 yards

2 minutes 9 seconds

2 minutes 18 seconds

2 minutes 9 seconds
Wilds
Dogs

2 minutes 18 seconds
Hurleys
Dogs

Saturday June 26th Temp Minus 14 very bad light with haze the usual routine I had a good hour walk but I had a dog with me as it is hard to find the way back to the ship without one we had our usual sweethearts & wives

Sunday June 27th Lat 74-0 Long 47-22 W Temp Minus 18 Light Northerly wind we are drifting back again & more westerly

Monday June 28th Lat 74-2 S Long 47-23 West Soundings 256 fathoms Temp Minus 22 wind still northerly the usual routine my hand is all right again there is no much todo as regards work taking exercise is the main thing

Tuesday June 29th Temp Minus 16 Blowing hard from the NE there is heavy pressure going on to the Norard of us every one ~~tha~~ taking our usual exercise's no dogs out today

Wednesday June 30th Temp Minus 12 Still Blowing hard & snowing I expect we are drifting South again we have had no observation this last two days as it has been too thick & dark we are 240 miles south of where Filsener the german was at this time & he did not get out before Dec 11th so I expect it will be too late to come back to the Barrier next year

[July, 1915]

Thursday July 1st Temp Minus 12 Still Blowing hard with snow very thick we put down the dredge last night & hauled it up at 1-PM today with a poor result for our trouble

oFriday July 2nd Temp Minus 20 soundings 285 fathoms very dark we had a mishap with our water the hummucks we have been getting our ice from have all been leveled up with snow so they went to some pressure that took place about 2 months ago & got some from there but when it was melted down it turned out as salt as brine the tea & coffee & every thing else was not fit to eat so they have to go about 700 yards from the ship to a small berg to get it now

Saturday July 3rd Temp Minus 16 Soundings 236 fathoms the wind has changed from NE to ESE but light so we are still bound west we have not had an Observation since Monday last [June 28th] the usual routine Sweethearts & Wives

Sunday July 4th Lat 74-9 S long 48-22 W Soundings 203 Temp Minus 22 & Blowing hard from the South by West we are still drifting west but it looks as if we were getting close to land as the soundings is getting less every day we had a fine blaze of light to day but the low tempreture & wind spoiled it for going out but if all goes well we will have the sun back about the end of the month

Monday July 5th Temp Minus 18 Soundings 193 fathoms Wind NE light the crew have

Monday July 5th Temp Minus 18 Soundings 193 fathoms Wind NE light the crew have started to widen the rudder hole as it has grown in & the ice is 4 ft 6 inches thick

Tuesday July 6th Temp Minus 16 lat 74-6 S Long 49-15 West we had the dredge down today but got nothing but mud I am repairing a sledge metor which was broken the day the teams had the run of 20 miles

Wednesday July 7th No observation today as it is very thick no dogs out either

Thursday July 8th No observation still thick & blowing hard from SE we are well in over the top of what is supposed to be Morrel land but no signs of it as yet

Friday July 9th Temp minus 24 Still blowing hard Lat 74-6 South Long 49-30 West the dogs had a short run today the ice has cracked in many places around us but we hope it wont open up much befor the day light comes back again & higher Tempretures

Saturday July 10th Temp Minus 27 No wind & a good surface for walking I was one of the scrubbers of the ritz today and had ~~of~~ a fine walk afterwards there is a lot of pressure & open water about 300 yards on our Starboard beam but far enough off to keep us safe from harm we had a lantern lecture on New Zealand last night from the skipper he is a native of New Zealand & we finished up drinking the health of our Loved ones at Home

[Hurley: Give a lantern lecture on New Zealand. Worsley I allowed to do the lecturing, he being a native born New Zealander. He spoke very uneloquently, his descriptions being confined to "It is - er - er - so and so." He, however, retreived himself by executing a Maori war-dance.]

Sunday July 11th Temp Minus 23 a fine day & good light it puts one in mind of a night in June at Home about 9-oclock just the red blaze of the sun on the horisone I had a walk with M^cLeod his finger is getting on very well but it will be a long time before he will be fit to do anything as he can't put it in water but we are all well otherwise

Monday July 12th Temp Minus 20[?] ~~no obser~~ No observation Light NW wind the usual routine among the dogs we built a line of ice pillars around the ship when we came here to keep a road around the ship with a wire from pole to pole so they are busy taking the poles out and rolling up the wire as we never know now when we may break adrift but we all hope it wont happen untill the light comes back again the floe we are in has ~~ep~~ cracked in many places around us

Tuesday July 13th 74-12 South Long 48-50 West Temp Minus 30 wind W by N very little outside work only ice ship we had another dog died this morning a fine big dog Ruffus by name

Wednesday July 14th Temp Minus 30 there is a Blizzard on at present with snow wind S by W & long may it continue as we will have a chance of getting a bit further north there has been no work today all hands is standing bye we had a slight shock last night or this morning early at least there was a noise under the bottom aft the same as if the ice had broken up I jumped on deck but we could not find out what it was the

as if the ice had broken up I jumped on deck but we could not find out what it was the Boss thinks it was a whale but I think different

Thursday July 15th Temp Minus 13 The Blizzard still continues so we are getting a little bit further North at least we hope so all hands digging out dogs no other work the drift around the ship is about 12-to 14 ft high on our Starboard side it is level with the top of our bulwarks the ship has taking a slight list to Starboard my theory of the Bump has turned out correct for when we froze in here we had 15 tons of coal on deck & all the hut timber on the Port side & since we have been here we have used up all the coal & the timber is all up on the poop deck on the starboard side & all the stores we have used has been taken from the Port side & thats what has caused the ice to surge up to Starboard

Friday 16th July Lat 73-36 South Long 48-53 West Temp Minus 27 Still blowing but wind not so strong & we are all in the hope of having Christmas in civilisation yet we had a busy day getting all the timber of the poop & stowing it down below the dog & man pemmican & dog biscuits have also to come down to make room for the dogs to come aboard at any moment now no one has been any distance from the ship since Tuesday so we have no idea what state the ice is in at present but the small berge we got our ice for fresh water has disapeared & we are using snow untill the weather gets a bit better

Saturday July 17th Temp Minus 21 All hands busy clearing the decks I put up skills[?] along side the house for the timber & sledges M^cLeod has a job by himself now getting the ice for general use Lees is Laid up with a sprained back he was shoveling snow yesterday the first work he has done since we left London we are all having our turn of being Peggie untill he recovers we had our usual Sweethearts & Wifes with songs the observation we got today makes us two miles further south than yesterday we put it down to the pressure coming of the ice as the wind is still SW but light the dog men are busy building kennels on top of the drift snow

xSunday 18 July Temp Minus 18 a fine morning a lovely blaze of red light on the horisone which had a peculiar effect on the floe making every thing look red we had a walk about 2 miles untill stoped by open water the dogs had plenty of exercise we have been drifting back South this last two days but it has started to blow again from the SW so we are Homeward bound again we have the Gramaphone going with all the latest songs before we left we have never had a religious service since the second out from Plymouth but plenty of filthy remarks as there are a few who cant speak of anything else & of course they think it makes them manly instead of Blagards I don't see how we could have better luck than we have had & if we are spared to get out of it I dont think there will be many volinteers for to come back

Monday 19th July Lat 73-2[?] South Long 48-18 West Temp Minus 19 Soundings 197 fathoms still a hard SW breeze no one allowed away from the ship until further orders as the light is very bad Lees is still confined to his bunk

xTuesday 20th July Lat 73-26 South Long 48-16 West Temp Minus 20 Light Southerly wind a fine day every one had a stroll today we got 4 penguins which will help to fatten our larder a bit

Wednesday 21st July No Observation Temp Minus 8 Soundings 190 fathoms we had the dredge down & got a few sponges & pieces of rock we also got 4 penguins another of Susies pups died last night it got worried by another bitch called Sallie & never recovered Stevenson one of the crew got his hand badly bitten by one of the penguins the wind has been light from the NE since noon yesterday But it is blowing hard from the SW at Present

Thursday 22nd July No Observation today as it has been to thick it is still blowing as hard there was a bit of excitement after housh we were all sitting having our smoke when the skipper came into the Ritz & reported that the floe had cracked about 80 yards from the ship then there was a rush for Burberrys & Helmets to get on deck but there was nothing to be alarmed about so it was a case of get all the sledges on board the Boss Wild & the Skipper had four hour watches we had 1 hour each during the night Tempreture Minus 28

Friday 23rd July Lat 73-14 South Long 49 West Still blowing hard wind still SW All the shore Party getting the sledging rashings passed on deck ready for an emergencie for if the floe breaks in the wake of the ship she would not last one hour I am fitting one of the whale boats on the runners of the motor sledge ready for crossing the ice to the nearest known land 170 miles as near as we can judge from here

Saturday 24 July Lat 73-4 South Soundings 185 fathoms no dogs or any one allowed away from the ship as the floewe has cracked all over & there is a lot of heavy pressure going on about 400 yards from us but we have every thing prepared for leaving the ship we had our usual Sweethearts & Wifes pressure or not

Sunday 25th July Temp Minus 20 We have had no observation today but we recon on being north of 73 Latitude as it has been blowing very hard since 2 am this morning I was watchman last night & I had a busy time walking round the ship to see if there was any movement in the ice & report the same every half hour to the Boss but everything went well untill this afternoon when another large piece split of our floe some of the pressure ahead of us is 12 feet thick so You can form an Idea of what it would do With a ship all hands has been standing bye since housh time this is the hardest gale we have had since we left Plymouth

Monday 26th July Lat 72-52 South Temp Minus 16 Soundings 189 fathoms A Lovly morning Light WSW breeze we had an anchious time of it last night as the ice pressure was bad all round us & we were turned in with our Burberrys & Finscos on ready to jump at a call but everything went off alright during the night the pressure is within 20 yards of our stern & it is to be hoped it will stay there the dogs had a run round the ship & all hands have had their usual exercise we saw the sun for the first time for 86 days & that means a lot to us now as we will have more day light as we go along & we are looking for higher Tempretures now but we dont want this floe to break up untill there is some open water for it would mean the ship being crushed if we got adrift at present

Tuesday 27th July Temp Minus 7 Soundings 187 fathoms wind SE we had no observation as it is very hazie ther is still pressure going on but about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile from us so we are safe enough for another spell

Wednesday 28th July Temp Plus 4 Soundings 189 fathoms wind WSW light this has been the best day we have had for a long time but it would be better for us otherwise as we want low Temperatures now to freeze up the open cracks the thin ice that would form would act as a buffer for the floe we are in there was a fine water sky to the NE of us this morning so it looks a bit brighter for us now

Thursday July 29th Temp Minus 4 No sight Light N SE wind all hands busy building dog kennels there is still a lot of cracks about

[Friday] July 30th Temp Plus 1 No sight the Dog men are still busy at their kennels the crew are shifting drift I have been busy with the Boss's Cabin trying to stop the condensation

Saturday [31st] Lat 72-36 South Long 47-50 West wind Light SW the teams have been exercising today I have been cleaning the rest of my tools which has been caused by the high Temperatures we had our usual Sweethearts & Wives

[August, 1915]

Sunday August 1st Temp Minus 7 Blowing a gale of Southerly wind & the floe we were in has all broken up we got the dogs on board at 10-30 & every one got our warm clothers put up in as small a bundle as possible ready to get on to the floe it was noon before we had the boats & everything ready we have had a start out of our monotony if ever any one had one for the ice has all broken up & the worst part of it was broke right through the middle of the ship

[small diagram; overhead perspective with two wavy lines; drawing could be a bird flying but for a single third line to the lower right of the ship]
one half going one way & one the other it almost broke us in two halves this hung on for about 20 minutes when the piece that was catching our bows split the other way one piece going under our bows which releifed us for a time but we are still in a precarious position it is 7 PM & there is no sign of a lull but the pressure has stoped as all the ice seems to be jamed up solid as there will be a lot of pressure when the gale subsieds I have placed My Loved ones fotos inside Bible we got presented with from Queen Alexandra & put them in my bag

[large diagram with ship heeled to starboard with a huge block of pressure approaching from right; titled below in large letters: Position of the ship Sunday August 1st 1915 7-0 PM very thick & dark]

Monday August 2nd Temp Zero Still Blowing hard all hands getting things in order on deck the pressure has stoped now for a bit but we dont know the minute it is going to start again

Tuesday 3rd Temp Minus 7 Still Blowing all hands are still busy with the dogs on deck

Wednesday August 4th Temp Minus 9 Still Blowing hard but no pressure as the ice seams to be all moving out in a body the water is much deeper now which is a good sign There was no bottom at 850 fathoms

Thursday August 5th Temp Minus 9 Lat 71-51 South we ~~g~~ are getting along very well now it has been a beautiful day & we had real sun shine for about 4 hours I am busy building new kennels for the dogs so we are using up the last of the hut timber as the

building new kennels for the dogs so we are using up the last of the hut timber as the means to get more at either South Georgia or the Facklands the soundings today was 1143 fathoms a big difference from last week there was four dogs shot today as they were only eating food and no good & we are short of dog food now we got a penguin this afternoon

Friday August 6th Temp Minus 12 lat 71-34 South Long 50-0 West there is a good breeze of Southerly wind since 5 AM we got 2 penguins today I am still busy with the dog kennels Creen had his pups in harness for the first time but they never pulled a pound & he almost killed the four of them they are 8 months old & heavier than most of the other dogs

Sunday August 8th Tempreture Minus 9 I started & finished the kennels today I am going to make a lot of single ones after ready for putting ashore on the flow when it gets properly hardened up again we have had the gramophone going this evening we have it every Sunday night now

Monday 9th Lat 71-15 S Long 49-37 W Temp Minus 13 the dog teams were all out for 2 hours so they are a bit quieter now

Tuesday August 10th Temp Minus 9 the dogs were out for exercise & we got every thing squared up on deck I have been busy making more kennels so there is very little of the hut timber left we took a soundings with the Lucas machine we got no bottom at 3000 fathoms & while heaving it in the wire carried away after 1600 fathoms had been hove in so we lost half the wire and the snapper

Wednesday August 11th Temp Minus 7 No dogs out today I have been at the kennels & got finished it is blowing hard from the SW now we have had no position for the last three days Lees has been out for a walk he is a bit weak yet but the day light helps one a lot in these latitudes

Thursday 12th Temp Minus 9 the dogs had a run today it is a fine day today there is no wind but light snow falling we had a real bon fire of 500 ~~hs~~ gallons of petrill which we had on the floe as the motors has turned out useless in those climates we are going to land them at our first port along with the [?]in

Friday August 13th Temp Minus 1 Sounding 1550 fathoms no dogs out as there are a few open craks around the ship & we dont know what is going to turn out of it no one is allowed over the side

Saturday 14th Temp Minus 7 The Teams had their ususal exercise today we have had no observation since Monday last as it has been to thick but I expect we are in the 70's now & the wind is still holding SSW Lees is up now & having exercise every day he is a bit thin on it we had our usual round Sweethearts & Wifes with Carson's Chocolates

Sunday 15th Temp Minus 9 Light SW wind to thick to get an observation no dogs out only work today is ice for cooking purposes

Monday August 16th Lat 70-38 South 50 - West Temp Plus 4 a beautiful day with the first real sunshine we have had since february last the dogs are all out & I am over the side fitting glass parts round the part I closed in coming down here

Tuesday August 17th Temp Minus 20 The dogs started away to go to a berg about 7 miles of but had to return after going about 4 miles as the surface was to rough & the temperture went down to Minus 30

Wednesday August 18th Temp Minus 30 No dogs out the crew are getting a gangway fitted up on the Starboard side for the dogs going on the floe I am making a screen to shelter the skipper while taking observations we got two penguins today

Thursday August 19th Lat 70-22 South Long 49-37 west Temp Minus 27 the dogs were all out for Cinematograph purposes we got 10 penguins today we cant find out where they are coming from as there is no open water about they seem to be migrating SE

Friday August 20th Temp Minus 9 Soundings 1700 fathoms three of our party went to a berg about 9 miles from the ship but they could not get on to the breg as there was open water around it & there was a killer whale there as well the first we have seen since March last

Saturday August 21st Temp Minus 10 Lat 70-15 S All the dogs were out & had a good run -the crew are busy leveling down the pressure around the ship as it has all the apperance of holding now we had Sweethearts & Wifes at 9-oclock

Sunday August 22nd Temp Plus 6 Wind NNE it blew hard all night from that direction so it is likely we have gone back a bit we did not get an observation as it is very dull the wind has gone down a lot & it has every apperance of coming away from the South again I have been laid up this last two days with the old complaint

Monday August 23rd Lat 70-12 South Long 50-15 West Temp Minus 9 wind NNW all the dogs have had a run today but the wind is to cold for any outside work

Tuesday August 24th Temp Minus 10 wind SSW we had a procession of the dogs before the Cinema the crew are clearing up the fore part of the ship

Wednesday August 25th Temp Minus 9 Soundings 1907 fathoms Lat 70-9 S Long 50-12 W we had the dog drivers & their leaders fotoed today

Thursday 26th Temp Minus 15 wind South light there is a lot of pressure going on about 500 yards on the port bow Hurley has been busy taking fotos all round as there is fine sun light I am making stools for the ritz

Friday 27th Temp Minus 21 a fine day we were all turned out last night or this morning early as the floe cracked right across the ship at 2 AM we had all the sledges to get on board which did not take us long but the ship was in a perilous position if the floe had twisted any way

[a 3-D diagram: ship at appx 45° to a double line on either side, amidships]

Saturday August 28th Lat 69-57 Temp Minus 22 but a splendid day as there is no wind we had another bang last night under the bottom but as the ice was pressed under our keel I think with the temperature of the water rising it was a piece broke off and came up under the bottom we had our usual Sweethearts & Wives

Sunday August 29th Temp Minus 22 a dull day wind SE there has been no one out today

Monday August 30th Temp Minus 18 dull & hazie we had another shock last night at midnight the flow opened up about 30 ft from the ship it opened up 15 ft but it is frozen over today there is another cracked started from our rudder leading out aft

[September]

Saturday ~~August~~ September 4th Lat 69-54 Long 50-20 West We have had a lot of very hard pressure during the week there were times when we thought it was not possible the ship would stand it she it sprung in many places one of the stckhold[?] plates 3ft square was buckled up 1¹/₂ inches in the middle at that time she was hanging on from the main mast aft & nothing forward the keel is jamed & there is no way in clearing it but at present every thing is quiet & we are freezing in again but there is a lot of craks alround the floe Hurley took a groupe of all hands on wednesday [September 1st] [directly over the "w" is a small "x"]

Sunday September 12th Lat 69-55 S Temp Minus 22 we have had a fine week with light winds from the NE which set us back a bit but it is SSE now & we have started to drift north again it was Clarks birthday yesterday [Saturday, 11th] & we celebrated it in good stile we had a very big rise in the temperture on Wednesday [8th] it was Plus 22 with the change of wind it droped to Minus 25 there is very little work to do for the men now only keeping the decks clear of snow I have started to build a wheelhouse on the poop it will be a good thing for the steersman & it is also using up the timber we have left which is only being wasted lying about the decks & it is passing away the time for me

Monday September 13th Lat 69-54 South Long 50-20 West Temp Minus 18 The usual routine dog exercise

Tuesday Sept 14th No Observation Temp Minus 20 I have taken the hatch of the poop & started to close in the same

Wednesday Sept 15th Lat 69-39 S Long 50-19 W Temp Minus 17 Soundings 1950 fathoms there is a good hard breeze from SSW & long may it last I have filled in the hatch on the poop & caulked the same so I will get started to build the wheelhouse tomorrow I had a horrid dream of Y & Tait's & no world[?]

Thursday Sept 16th No observation Temp Minus 27 wind SE I am still on with the wheelhouse the usual routine with all hands

Friday September 17th Lat 69-28 Long 50-47 West we are going south & west again it is blowing hard from NE there must be plenty open water about as there is no

is blowing hard from NE there must be plenty open water about as there is no pressure but there is over 1000 miles of ice between us & the edge of the pack we had Sweethearts & Wives as usual ["Sweethearts & Wives" was celebrated on Saturday evenings]

Sunday Spetember 19th No observation as it is to hazy the dogs have been out today & they reported open water about 7 miles from the ship I have had a day off it is about the third since we left BA

Monday September 20th No observation the skipper is getting the Lucas sounding machine ready for tomorrow I am still busy at the wheelhouse

Tuesday Sept 21st Temp Minus 19 we did not get a soundings as there is a big motion going on amongst the floe & we are expecting the pressure to start at any moment

Wednesday Sept 22nd Lat 69=32 S Long 50-34 W Temp Minus 12 all is well at present there is no signs of any more movement with the floe the wind has changed to ESE it was NE for the last 2 days

Thursday September 23rd no observation today the dog teams had a run & Hurley took a few more feet of cinema film of the dogs being taking of the ship & coming back while coming back Wilds team caught a penguin it had a hurried dispatch

Friday September 24th Friday Lat 69-30 S Long 6-37 West there was four Teams went out to an iceberg about 8 miles from the ship & Hurley intended getting some fotos but it got dull while they were there & he did not get any on the way back Wild shot a seal but they did not bring it in the carcass leaving it for tomorrow

Saturday Sept 25th Lat 69-31 S Long 50-39 West Temp Minus 9 it has been blowing hard from the NE since 5-30 last night with heavy snow Wild & Crean made an attempt to go for the seal this morning but they had to return as it was too thick I hope we will get it tomorrow as we are getting pretty short of dog food it is about 5 months since we had a seal we had Sweethearts & Wives as usual & a selection on the gramophone

Sunday Sept 26th Lat 69-33 South Long 51-4 West Temp Plus 9 a Lovely day Wild & M^CIlroy went out for the seal & got another so we are all a bit happy we are having fresh meat for dinner tonight

Monday Sept 27th No observation today Temp Minus 15 a change from yesterday it is blowing hard from ENE there is not much chance of us getting much further north but we still hope the floe will open up by the end of october

Tuesday Sept 28th Temp Plus 2 what wind is is light & seems to be going round to the south we have started the day light saving scheme by putting the clock back an hour it gives us longer evenings I am still working at the wheelhouse but only three hours a day that is the hours of work all through the winter is merly exercise

Wednesday Sept 29th My Birthday & I sincerely hope to spend my next one at Home

Wednesday Sept 29th My Birthday & I sincerely hope to spend my next one at Home there is a fine breeze a Southerly wind at present & there is a crack in the floe about 10 yards ahead of the ship if the wind holds in this direction for a while it will open the ice up the Temp is still Plus 4 which shows there must be open water south of us & the floe opening up shows the ice is clear north we had a gramophone selection to celebrate my birthday with cake & grog

Thursday Sept 30th Lat 69-29 South 51-6 West we had a lively day the dogs were out & brought in 2 penguins & the skipper sighted a seal the crew went with the Boss & shot it & brought it in then we saw four more seals & creen & Wild went & brought two in & left the other two untill tomorrow. M^CLeod & I went for a stroll out to the open water but we had to run back for the crack opened up along side the ship the sledges had to be brought on board & while we were busy the ice closed again but not in the same position & one corner caught our side abreast of the fore rigging & buckled the tween deck & bent beams like a piece of cane we realy thought she was going to pieces when the pressure stoped everything is well at present the wind has died away but there is every sign of a blow coming from SW

[October, 1915]

Friday Oct 1st Lat 69-23 South Long 51-4 West Temp Minus 12 we had two seals today & made a trench in the floe so that if we get any more pressure it will releive our stern post which is badly caught at present we took soundings 1800 fathoms the wind has been going round to the east all day it is now due east & the floe has closed up all around us

Saturday Oct 2nd Lat 69-20 South 51-16 West Temp Plus 1 it was a dull morning with snow from SE but turned ~~of~~ out fine after breakfast the dogs had a run on the floe the leads are still closed but we expect there will be plenty open water tomorrow as the wind has gone south we got 3 seals this afternoon close ~~the~~ to the ship there are plenty of them about now we had our usual Sweethearts & Wives

Sunday Oct 3rd very thick Temp Plus 2 we got one seal today there has been a bit of pressure going on during the night but it did not do us any harm as it glanced along our side the wind is still SW

Monday Oct 4th Lat 69-12 South Long 51-10 West Temp Minus 27 the temperture has dropped very rapidly since yesterday the dogs were out for a run we got one penguin but no seals there are plenty seals about but there is water between them and the hands have been putting all the seal blubber down the bunker as it will mix with the ashes & small coal & help to get us out the ice we have about 30 Tons of coal left & that wont go far we put the clock on 1 hour during the night so that makes 2 hours longer light in the evenings

Tuesday Oct 5th Lat 69-9 South Long 51-7 West Temp Minus 22 Hurley has been busy fotografhing around the ship I am still amusing my self at the wheelhouse just passing the time as I have nothing else to do the crew get ice for cooking every day there is realy no work to keep them in exercise the wind has falled light but still from the SW

Wed Oct 6th Lat 69-11 Temp Minus 10 There is plenty open water about now but the

Wed Oct 6th Lat 69-11 Temp Minus 10 There is plenty open water about now but the wind has changed to the NW so we expect it to close everything up again but as long as there is no pressure we will get out the first breeze of southerly wind at least we expect to be under way but not clear of the ice I dont suppose we will be clear much before XMass we got a seal & there was a whale in one of the open leads today which looks well for us for if there was no water about he would not come into the Middle of the Frozen Sea's

Thursday Oct 7th Lat 69-15 South Long ---- West Temp Plus 8 The wind still blowing from NW the usual routine clearing the snow of the decks & etc I have started to hurry up & finish the wheelhouse as we are going to take down the construction aft as soon as the house is finished Hussey has started to take down his Animometer in the rookery & I have bunks to fit up in it as they have all been taken down

Frid Oct 8th Lat 69-21 S Long ---- West the dogs had a run Hussey has got his Animometer down & the deck is a bit clearer now we got a seal this afternoon it is still blowing & we are going SE Temp Plus 18 I was working today with bare hands & they are a bit soft with wearing mittens so long

Saturday Oct 9th Lat 69-24 South Temp Plus 18 A lovely day every one has been out walking we saw a snow petril & an Antarctic petril which looks well for us getting out in the near future we had our usual Sweethearts & Wives & songs

Sunday Oct 10th Temp Plus 29 Blowing hard with heavy snow from NE it is very thick I have been working all day getting the wheelhouse finished for we may brak out at any time now as there is open water every where & within 12 foot from our bow but it may open round the ship the first time the wind goes south we are having a selection on the Gramphone at present I slept for the first time in my own cabin last night & I have shifted there for good this evening

Thurs Oct 14th Temp Plus 15 We have not had an observation since last saturday [9th] as it has been to thick we have had 3 seals & 1 penguin since yesterday I have been busy since monday [11th] putting up bunks for all hands we have all shifted to our own quarters the ship has broke out this evening at 6-35 # we are lying in a pool now & it is blowing hard from WSW so if it dont close up again we will get a bit nearer Home when the wind dies away

Tuesday Oct 19th We have had a exciting time of it since Friday last [15th] the Pool we were in closed up with a hard breeze from the NW & we had very heavy pressure all day on Saturday [16th] & Sunday [17th] then on Sunday night [17th] the floe on our Starboard side started to twist forward while the one on our Port side held us under the bow then something had to go ~~as we~~ it pushed the ship up 4 ft aft & 1 ft 6 in forward which gave us a list of twenty degrees which left all the weight of the ship on the floe on our port side the .at 4-30 yesterday [Monday, 18th] the floe on our port side give way & the ship fell over on her beam ends her keel was visible on the Starboard side we were in a very criticle position untill 7 oclock [Monday, 18th] when the floe on our port side cracked across abrest of our main rigging & went aft which freed us & we got her up right then we started to fill the boiler which we had done on Saturday [16th] but owing to one of the doors leaking it had to be pumpedout again we have got the fires underway now so if there is any movement or opening we will be

ready for it there has been a killer whale playing around the ship all evening all hands are busy cutting up all kinds of timber for the boilers I cut up the pram this afternoon then I am starting to build a 10 ft punt

Thursday Oct 21st Lat 69-20 South Long 51-6 West The watches have been set again below & on deck I am on all day as usual I am busy now at the punt we lay all day yesterday very quiet but tonight there looks as if there was going to be a bit of pressure as the wind had changed from SW to NE & the temp ~~is~~ is rising fast

Friday Oct 22nd Lat 69-15 South Long 51-10 West We landed the dogs today & they had a run for a hour & brought back 3 seals I am still busy at the punt

[The following entries appear to be in pencil.]

~~Sat~~ Sunday 23rd [the 23rd was a Saturday] Lat 69-8 South Long 51-20 West we had a fine night last night we drank the health of our Sweethearts & Wives but I am afraid we wont do so much longer as we have sprung a leak I am working all night trying to stop it the pressure is getting worse [written on Monday?]

Monday 24th [the 24th was a Sunday] I dont know what Lat we are in at present but things looks a bit serious now I have built a coffer dam in the engine room & we are still managing to keep the water down with the pumps Sir Ernest & most of the hands are packing sledges I am afraid it is all up with the ship

[Monday October 25th—Lees: The carpenter turned to like a trojan & has worked continuously for 48 hrs building a coffer dam across the inside of the stern of the ship with a view to minimise the leakage & with so much success already that it has at any rate considerably reduced it...]

Wed Oct 26th [the 26th was a Tuesday; the ship was abandoned on Wednesday the 27th] We have left the ship this afternoon as she is going to pieces fast the stern post broke this evening & then the keel was torn out of her then she filled rapidly [28th] We have passed our first night on the floe & we had to shift our camp about 1 am this morning as the ice split about 1 yard from our tent I am in a tent with with Mr Wild Dr McIlroy & Mr Wordie it is Thursday night [28th] now & we have shifted our camp 3 times we got a seal today I am busy getting the two boats fixed on sledges we have all been fitted out with a new rig out of warm clothing & 1 pound of tobacco & sleeping bags there was only 18 skin bags & we cast lots for them & I was lucky for the first time in my life for I drew one

Friday Oct 28th [Friday was the 29th] we have everything about ready for the march which is 270 miles to the nearest known land over very rough floes as it is all knocked up with the pressure the ice has cut clean through the ship so she has had a short career

Saturday 30th we got everything ready & started on our first sledging journey but we only managed 1 mile it is very hard going & we have a relay with the boats which means ~~it~~ one for a bit & then going back for the other

~~Sund~~

~~Sund~~

Sunday Oct 31st we have done $\frac{3}{4}$ a mile today to a fine borge floe & as far as things went today it was very well only the dogs done exelent they took one boat & the men the other which meant a lot less labour

[November, 1915]

Monday Nov 1st we got two seals yesterday & we had a fine feed as we are on half sledging rachions which is good but we have only as much as keeps us for 70 days & God only knows when we will get to the land & even when there it may be another year after that befor we get to civilisation we have made up our minds to stop on this floe untill the f ice opens up than take to the boats & if all goes well I hope we well get out as fast as we would have got out in the ship

Thursday Nov 4th Lat 69-1 South Long 51-57 West Temp Plus 10 We have been busy at the ship getting all the wood & stores that is possible to get I have cut 2 holes through the deck which is 2 ft 9 inches under water above the store room we got 3 tons of stores out today I am cutting another hole tomorrow & we expect to get all that is in the store but there is another store that we cant get at as there is 12 ft of water over it we are hoping now that this floe wont break up for a month at least untill we have gorged ourselves properly

Friday November 5th We have had another good day at the stores we got about 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons today & now we are quiet satisfied with the result as we have 6 months provisions now which I hope we will never eat here & it leaves us our sledging food intact for to go in the boats as soon as the ice opens up

Saturday November 6th There is a blizard on at Present so we are not doing anything only keeping ourselves warm which is a hard job in such low f Tempretures

Sunday Nov 7th Lat 68-50 South Long 52-10 West The Blizard Still continues but we all hope it lasts for a month as we have done 16 miles NW since our last observation there has been nothing done today only a few have been rigging up a range for cooking out of the ash shoot it has turned out very well we had a fine hush tonight of corned meat preserved **potatoes** it was a treat now we are lying smoking in our bags

Monday Nov 8th Lat 68-39 South long 62[?]- 20[?] West it was blowing hard from SE untill now but it has died away till a light breeze now we still hope it will last as we are going in the right direction I have started to make a sledge for the boats all hands have been busy clearing away drift

Tuesday Nov 9th Lat 68-35 $\frac{1}{2}$ South Long 52-18 West There was four teams away seal hunting & brough back 3 penguins & the seal meat we had in the ship which was lying on the floe along side where we had thrown it the day we left her she is down level with the decks now but there is a lot of ice under her & when the floe opens we expect she will sink as she is broken in two halves I am still busy at the sledge

Wednesday Nov 10th Lat 68-38 South Long ---- West We had a sealing party out today & they brought in 5 seals so we are pretty well of for food now we had under done steaks for dinner & they were a treat I & M^cLeod went to the ship to find some nails

steaks for dinner & they were a treat I & M^cLeod went to the ship to find some nails this evening & found her all but gone so we were back without

Thursday [11th] Lat 68-35 South Long 52-17 West it has been hazie all day the wind has been NE so it has driven us back 3 miles but the wind has changed now a bit south of east so we may make a bit north tomorrow there has been nothing doing in the camp today I am still busy with the sledge there is a lot of open water around at present & we are hoping it won't be long until we have nothing else but open water

Friday Nov 12th It has been another dull day but very warm the temperature has been 33 plus at noon I am still at the sledge

Tuesday Nov 16th Lat 68-30 South Long 52-23 West Temp Plus 20 I have been busy since Saturday finishing the sledge for the boat & now I am building the boat up 1 foot higher and decking her in halfway making her fit to carry the whole party in case we have to make a longer journey than we now anticipate at present we had 1 seal on Saturday but none since the wind has been NE this last 3 days but we have held our own against it as yet which looks as if there was a current setting north

Thursday Nov 18 Lat 68-38 South Long 52-23 West Temp Plus 15 we had all hands Bar myself & my mate on a seal hunt today they only got 3 penguins but we had a seal this morning which came almost up to the tents I & McLeod are busy at the boat & everybody is very well pleased to see how it is progressing I have only a saw hammer & chisel & adze but we are managing all right

Sunday Nov 21st We have got a fine fair wind at last although it is our unlucky day for all our disasters happen on a Sunday the ship sank this evening at 5-20 PM so we have seen the last of her I have been busy all day with the boats there was a seal came into the camp this morning & the party ~~w~~ went back to the first camp to bring me some more wood killed another seal there is a whole string of bergs to the SW of us & going N of us the whole floe has become loose now it only means a few days of this wind to give us an opening
[Worsley: The carpenter and his assistants work all day to complete the whaler. The work on her must not be interrupted for fear that the floes might break up before she is quite ready to take the water.]

[Monday Nov 22nd—Worsley: Carpenter finishes building topsides, forward and after whalebacks on whaler and fits pump, made by Hurley, into her. All that now remains is to calk her topsides. She could now, at a pinch carry 29 men. She can carry 6¹/₂ tons measurement of 3¹/₂ tons deadweight besides her gear.]

Tuesday 23rd Lat 68-34 South Long 52-29 West Temp Plus 15 we got 4 seals today I am still busy at the boats
[Worsley: Carpenter calking topsides of whaler with cotton threadwick. We have not been able to secure pitch, putty or ship's paints, but Marston's oil colours come in handy for covering and filling up seams, possibly the first time that artist's colours have been used for 'paying' the seams of a ship's boat. Rickenson makes a rudder for the whaler.]

Wednesday Nov 24th Lat 68-27 South we have drifted 7 miles North since Yesterday noon but I expect we have done a lot of easting as it is blowing hard from SW the ice is getting more loose every day we are only waiting for a lead to open close to our floe then we start west for Robinson Island & if all goes well there is a party of 4 to cross Graham Land to Deception Harbour to find a relief vessel as there are a lot of whalers around that district during the summer I have finished the whale boat only a few ods & ends which can be done any time I am putting thwarts in another one to tow after us with stores

[Worsley: Carpenter finishes off the whaler and starts to calk the second cutter
[Stancomb-Wills.]

[Thursday November 25th—Worsley: Cut down the second cutter's lugsail into a mizen for the whaler, for which the carpr fits her with a small mizzen mast, cut down from second cutter's mast. The whaler is already fitted with a standing lug and jib, the first whaler with a dipping lug.]

Saturday Nov 27th Lat 68-18 Long 52-24 West I have been busy finishing up the boats & now I have got all three ready for the water I have started to raise the Dudley Docker a strake higher at my leisure it is pass time for me & at makes the boat carry more & more seaworthy we have had 4 seals since Wednesday [24th] so we are living like fighting cocks now plenty of good seal steaks & seal stews we never fared better & we are still drifting North which makes us all happy & if all goes well we are looking to be civilisation about April & if not we will spend the winter most likely at Paulet Island or Snow Hill we know there is a hut at Snow Hill & a stone hut & stores at Paulet Island

Sunday Nov 28th Lat 68-11 South Long 52-24 West Temp Plus 20 We got 3 seals today I am not working today as I feel a bit off with my old troubles the piles they have been exercising the dogs round the floe I expect we will have to part with the dogs one of those days as we cant take them with us in the boats it will be a sad day as we all have taking to the dogs I had to part with my pet Misses Chippie the day after we left the ship I was hurt but I knew it was impossible to take her with us

Monday Nov 29th Lat 68-7 South Long 52-23 West Temp Plus 23 I have been busy at the Dudley Docker & the teams have been exerciseing round the floe

[December, 1915]

Friday Dec 3rd Lat 67-56 South Long not known we have had 12 seals since I last wrote I have been busy at the boats I finisheed the Dudley Docker on Wednesday & I have started to make pumps for the three of them as it is much handier than bouling with a dish & there are sundrie small jobs to finish them ready for the water we shifted our camp to a higher position yesterday as we were geting pretty near the water through the snow melting we are still drifting N & there is a fine breeze of SE wind at present & the ice is much ~~b~~ more loose than it was three teams went to our first camp & brough back all the blankets & clothing they could get as we will ~~in a~~ probably have to winter on some part of Graham land but if there is a possible chance of getting to civilisation in the boats we intend to make a bold attempt

Saturday Dec 4th Lat 67-54 South Long 52-29 West They have been exercising the dogs round the floe while some have been clearing up around the camp I have been

working at the James Caird getting all in order for the water the Boss is laid up with Siaticia

Sunday Dec 5th Lat 67- South Long West This is a holiday in the Ocean Camp There are a few taking exercise round the floe I am reading M^CClintock [in a semi-circle directly beneath: "Clintock's"] voyage in the f??se in search of Franklin sent by Lady Franklin when the British goverment [directly underneath both words in a semi-circle: "curse them"] refused her appeal to send a ship it is a Year today since we left South Georgia

Monday Dec 6th Lat 67-46¹/₂ S Long 52-16 West The usual routine We got 3 seals & 1 penguin today We had a visit from 8 bottle nose whales which was rather a good sight as they lay & breathed on the surface for a good 5 minutes they were about 20 ft in length

Tuesday Dec 7th Lat 67-45¹/₂ Long West Temp Plus 12 the usual routine in Camp I made a mast & finished a pump for the Stancomb Wills Rickenson & M^CLeod are my assistants the wind now is NW but light we have drifted back a bit but I think it will be for our good as it will give the ice between us & the Land a chance to get out & us a chance in

Wednesday Dec 8th Lat 67-44¹/₂ S Long 52-5 West Temp Plus 18 We launched the James Caird today & Loaded her with six sledges loads & 11 men about 3 tons but she will take another ton handy & be in better sailing trim

Thursday Dec 9th no Observation as it has been very thick & it has started to blow hard from NE but it has veered round to E by S with heavy snow it is the hardest breeze we have had since August 1st we are all in our bags with everything in ready for a call but the floe seem to be a good one as there is pressure all round us & the edges of it is only chiped I cut the motor sledge in two & it makes a sledge for the Dudley Docker & the Stancomb Wills so we have all three boats on sledges now

Saturday Dec 11th Temp Plus 12 It has been blowing a blizzard since Thursday [9th] night it started from the NE with snow & it has wore round to SW by W with hard drift there has been nothing done in camp this last two days this is my forth day off since we came ashore 2 Sundays included in 6 weeks

Sunday Dec 12 Lat 67-30 South Long 51-34 West Temp Plus 12 The Blizzard has continued with heavy drift till noon today since then the wind has veered more east it is still blowing but not so hard & there is no drift we have drifted about 15 miles further North but we have drifted a good bit East which is not so good as we will have to make up our westing in the boats we saw two seals & when the party went to fetch them several of them got a cold bath as most of the craks are covered with drift so they returned to camp we had a visit from 3 Adelaid penguins which is a good sign of open water

Monday Dec 13th Temp Plus 21 It is still blowing hard but still favorable so we dont care how long it last the longer the better for us. We got a penguin this afternoon I made wooden tops & Bottoms for canvas cases for our cookers as they will stow in the

made wooden tops & Bottoms for canvas cases for our cookers as they will stow in the boats better

Wednesday Dec 15th Lat 67-8¹/₂ S Long 52-6 West Temp Plus 9 We have done well in our drifting as we have done on a average of 8 miles a far the last three days we had three seals yesterday & one penguin the dogs have been exercising today so they are not so restless tonight I have been making Dure[?] Hide cases for the primus lamps to take with us in the boats & we hope it wont be long

Thursday Dec 16th Lat 67-4 South Long 52 West Temp Plus 8 Wind SW We have gone 4¹/₂ miles & 6 West since yesterday we got 2 seals today I am still reducing the weight of cases for smaller stowage in the boats

Friday Dec 17th Lat 67-South Long ----- West Temp Plus 16 There is nothing doing in Camp today I am putting chafing battens on the bow of the James Caird to keep the young ice from cutting through as she is build of white pine which wont last long in the ice the wind now is NE but light Wordie & Worsley went out to a berg that has been with us all winter the last time they went to it it was 7 miles from the ship it is only 2³/₄ miles from us now they mesured the height 120 ft by aneroid [this would seem to be Rampart Berg]

Saturday Dec 18th Lat 67-3 South Temp Plus 21 It is blowing hard from ENE we have drifted 3 miles south since yesterday but I ~~have~~ think we have went a good bit West we did not get an alitude we got a penguin last night there has been nothing doing this last two days only reading & playing cards one would imadgen in Ratcliff Highway or some other den by the langue that is being used I have been shipmates with all sorts of men both in sail and steam but never nothing like some of our shore party as the most filthy langue is used as terms of endearment & worse than all is tolerated

Sunday Dec 19th Lat 67-10 South Long 52-15 West Temp Plus 20 Still blowing from ENE We got 4 seals today We are drifting SW again we want to go a good bit West so it is doing us good in a way as the prevailing wind futher north are SW ~~Longitude 52-15~~

Monday Dec 20th Lat 67-11 South Long 52-22 West Temp Plus 23 Still Blowing hard from E by S there was a party went out to the berg today again but there was nothing to be seen but if it is a fine ~~day~~ tomorrow there is a party of 4 going away with 2 dog teams as far as they can to see if there is any open water west of us we had 3 seals today

Tuesday Dec 21st Lat 67-10 South Long 52-33 West We got 3 seals today The Boss, Wild Creen & Hurley went out 6 miles from here & returned with good news there is plenty big floes about a mile from here & the surface is very good so we are going to make a start west as soon as I get the second sledge ready as we are only taking 2 boats I cut a sledge in two but I will have it all right by tomorrow night we are holding XMass tomorrow as we want to eat up the best of our stores before leaving them then **we leave here with 90 days rachions [SEE Lees {40 days} on 12/19]**

Wednesday Dec 22nd XMass Day with us & I hope You are All having a good XMass at

Home I have been busy today but I managed to get the sledge ready & as well as we start at 4 AM tomorrow there has been no scarcity of food as we can lift & eat any thing we want today as we have to leave a lot behind

Thursday Dec 23rd We Started this morning at 5 AM & relayed the boats for 1¹/₄ miles & shifted camp to the same floe & finished at 1 PM & turned in

Friday Dec 24th We Started Last night at 8 PM & done a mile & had to stop as we have come up to open cracks as there is a movement on among the floes we put up the tents & turned in at 1 AM 8 PM we have done nothing today as there has been a lot of cracks open but they have closed now & we are starting at 2 AM we got 2 seals today

Saturday Dec 25th XMass Day Lat 67-4 S Temp Plus 20 We started this morning at 2 AM & finished at 1 PM after doing 3 miles 9 miles with relay it has been snowing most of the time

Sunday Dec 26th We Started at Midnight last night & relayed the boats & stores 1³/₄ miles & stoped at 4 AM with open ~~ek~~ cracks & not open enough for the boats & to open for sledging but a sign of open water near at hand as we had two cape pigeons & a stormy Petril which looks well they are out scouting now to find a way over 8-30 AM the party has returned & reports a [?] WNW with half a mile rough going then some floes 2 miles broad we start again at Midnight as the surface is to soft now

Monday Dec 27th We Started at 9 Oclock Last night & done 2 miles & camped at 5 AM along side a small berg about 50 ft high 100 ft long we passed between 2 Yesterday 1 we christened Ailsa Craig 270 ft high & the other was 100 ft high & about half a mile long tabular we have had very rough going today

Tuesday Dec 28th We Started at 8-30 PM & Done 2¹/₂ miles the going was very bad & we had to bridge a good many cracks we camped down at six [above portion of this entry in smaller than normal script] AM ~~w~~ 7 PM made a retreat for ¹/₂ a mile to a solid floe as the one we were on was new ice & the wind has changed to E & blowing hard we camped down at 11-30 PM we had a visit from a wilson petril yesterday

Wednesday 29th We turned out at 6-45 had hush & turned to at general work around the camp the Boss went out scouting to find a road west but came back early as He found the floe we were on was open & cracks all round so we got in harness & started to shift the boats & sledges on to a better floe we had to come back ³/₄ a mile there is a fine breeze of SE wind at present & there is a better apperance of open water tonight than we have had yet we have done 8 miles in a week sledging which is good for the amount of bridges & pressure ridges we have had to contend with

Thursday 30th Lat 67 South Long 52-46 West Temp Plus 29 We had to shift camp again this morning at 6-30 AM as the floe cracked between the tents so we went back 200 yards on to a more solid piece we got 5 seals & 1 Adelie penguin I have been refasting & caulking the Dudley Docker as she has all opened up going over the hummics of ice we had a breeze of Southerly wind but it is flat calm now but a good water sky to the westward so we still hope to clear before the winter sets in
[Lees: This abrupt termination to our march, begun under such propitious

[Lees: This abrupt termination to our march, begun under such propitious circumstances, has had a distinctly depressing moral effect on our party, especially the sailors, but it has also brought out the best in all though it has shewn up one or two in their true colours, notably the objectionable cantankerous carpenter who was so grossly insubordinate to Capt. Worsley on the march when hauling the boats that Sir Ernest found it expedient to call a muster & read over the ship's articles & remind us that ----- disciplinary purposes.]

Friday Dec 31st Hogmany & a bitter one to being adrift on the ice instead of enjoying the pleasures of life like rich people but as the saying is ther must be some fools in this world we had 2 seals today I have finished the Dudley Docker we are going to put her in a pool tomorrow to see how much weight she carries as we have only the two boats now having left the Stancomb Wills at the Ocean Camp it has been snowing all day but the wind holds southerly the temp being Plus 30 shows ther is a lot of open water south of us

[1916]

Saturday Jan 1st New Years Day which we celebrate in Scotland with cake & wine while we are celebrating it here afloat on the Antarctic ice floes not knowing what way we will drift next or be frozen in for another winter I am thinking on the tuck [luck?] ~~in~~ so many at Home are having today while we had for Breakfast a seal steak & a cup of tea dinner 1 pancake made from flour & water fried in seal blubber supper stewed seal meat & cocoa then we turn into our sleeping bags on the snow & dream of the Loved Ones at Home & Happy days to come it has been snowing heavily all day yet we got 6 seals 1 sea leopard & 1 emperor penguin

Sunday Jan 2nd Lat 66-57 South Long 52-48 West 186 miles from the known land which we could do in 4 days had we open water there has been distinct movement in the ice all round our camp but it is very slow we had 4 seals today I was caulking the keel seam & setting up the rest of the James Caird & I expect to finish it tomorrow of course Sunday has never been reconised amongst us since we left BA

Monday Jan 3rd Lat 66-55 South Long 52-42 West We got 3 more seals which leaves us a months food for man & dogs in hand I finished the caulking of the James Caird I am trying seal blood & flour mixed for putty which we hope will turn out all right as we want something to keep the caulking in when the boats begin to work

Tuesday Jan 4th There has been a strong breeze a northerly wind all day with heavy sleet squalls nothing doing in Camp we shifted our tent as the snow under us had melted & our sleeping bags getting wet made things a bit uncomfortable we had a visit from a Skua Gull he came this morning & stopped with us most of the day feeding of the numerous heaps of seal bones around the camp

Wednesday Jan 5th Lat 67-2 South Long 52-32 West Temp Plus 34 We have drifted back 7 miles south & 2 miles east in the last two days but the wind has shifted to ENE but light we got 1 seal today the ice is melting rapidly under foot but unless we get leeds soon I am afraid it means another winter in worse circumstance than we had last winter & it was bad enough

Thursday Jan 6th We have a large movement in the ice around us today the piece we

Thursday Jan 6th We have a large movement in the ice around us today the piece we are on is about 5 ~~aer~~ acres across there was water all round it some places 50 ft wide but it led to nothing we had a visit from a silver or fulmar petril also 2 Wilson petrils 1 emperor penguin which we got & a Adelie penguin the wind is W by S we have all been making up our 10 lbs of personal gear socks tobacco & etc which we allowed to take with us in the boats

Friday Jan 7th Temp Plus 28 Wind SE light we got 1 seal & Lees was skinning & reports having saw a Leopard & we had a whale blowing in the lead along side us but there has been no birds of any kind

Saturday Jan 8th It has been a beautiful day the best we have had since we left the ship the Temperature Plus 37 the highest we have had in 13 months but we cant get about the snow is soft we sink over the knees in getting of the pad we have been loosing a large piece of our floe during the night the piece we are on now is about 100 yards square still a good ~~size~~ size yet if it was all solid but the water is showing in many places but we hope to be away in the boats before it gets much smaller we have been visited by a lot of Adelie Penguin which gave us a lot of trouble with dogs & those we could not chase away had to be killed to make peace there has been two Finner Whales in the Leeds & a snow Petril was flying this afternoon we got 1 seal & 7 penguins Hussey is at present tormenting with his size [six?] known tunes on his banjoe

Sunday Jan 9th Lat 66-58 South Long 52-26 West Temp Plus 30 the wind has set down now NE fresh breeze & we want SE there has been nothing doing only building snow around the tents

Monday Jan 10th Lat 67-1¹/₂ South Long 52-16 West Temp Plus 31 We have drifted back 5¹/₂ miles SE the wind has been N E untill 4-PM when it shifted to SE by E if we only had a blizzard for a week it would do us all the good in the world 1 penguin Lees killed a seal about 2 miles from the camp but it was not possible to get it as there was a lot of brash & no road for a sledge or men on foot of course he was on ski's

Tuesday Jan 11th lat 66-58 South no Longitude we got 3 penguins 2 Emperors & 1 Adelie wind SE untill noon & now it is dead calm we got 5 more penguins this evening

Wed Jan 12th Lat 66-57 South There was a flock of penguins & we got 13 of them & 2 more this evening we had ~~beau~~ beauvais pemmican & dog minced for breakfast penguin steaks & cocoa for supper there is a fine breeze at present from E by South N^o. 5 Tent had a feild day

Thursday Jan 13th There is no great change in the pack this last three days & things dont look as well as they did a week ago we have not seen a seal for 4 days now which is a bad look out for us as we will have to part with the dogs & that means it will be man hauling boats & sledges if we dont get leeds we got 1 emperor penguin today all hands were making a pad along the tents as we are through the snow on to the ice & there is water on top of the ice it is a case of being wet footed every day now untill we get into the boats we had very heavy soft snow squalls during the day & the wind wore round to NE at present it is ESE. parted

Friday Jan 14th Lat 66-56 South Long 52-35 West We shifted camp back on to another floe today as we had a lot of pressure on the piece we were on last night then we had one of the saddest events since we left Home happen there was 27 of our faithful dogs shot to save our food supplies Hurley & Macklin have gone on a sledge journey to Ocean camp to bring what food stuffs we left there & their dogs have to go the same way when the dog food we have left of the seals we got a fortnight ago is finished we got a Weddel seal this morning but not fit for Human food there is still a good SE breeze

Saturday Jan 15th Lat 66-55¹/₂ South Long 52-42 West Temp Plus 37 The hottest day we have had Hurley & Macklin arrived at camp at 12-45 PM with all the stores they could get at Ocean camp they did not get there until 4 o'clock this morning as the floes are all crushed up in many places & around the shed where the most of the stores were there was 3 ft of water so there was nothing for it but gather up what was lying around & come on they report 4 seals & 31 penguins at ocean camp & there is none about here we have had no game of any kind today, All hands have been making a road & a snow house for the seal or penguin meat as the sun is getting too strong for keeping it out in the open now I have been coating the seams of the boats with seal blood to hold in the caulking it has been very calm all day no wind of any kind we are still in hope of a SW breeze to relieve us before the winter sets in

Sunday Jan 16th Lat 66-55 South I has been a dull day Temp Plus 29 Wind SE by S & at present there is a fine breeze S by W what we have long waited for we got 3 seals & 4 penguins which makes things feel a bit more pleasant there was 7 dogs shot this afternoon ~~which~~ that leaves us with 15 but I think we are going to keep 6 in case we have to march if we don't get leads for the boats

Monday Jan 17th No Observation as it has been overcast all day Temp Minus 2. We got 4 seals this forenoon but we are not getting as much to eat as some of our Pessimists has been running around the camp saying we can't get off the ice this summer there was 2 dogs shot & we had a visit from a giant petrel which shows there must be open water close too. There is a fine breeze of SW wind

Tuesday Jan 18th No Observation Temp Plus 10 There is a gale of SW wind velocity 50 miles per hour but it is welcome & as much more as long as the tents stand for we expect leads of open water when it dies down it is blowing us off the land but we don't mind that for we can easily make it up in the boats we are longing to get into them as it is hard lying down every night cold & hungry. 2 giant petrels carried 22 penguin skins about 400 yards to an open crack & dropped them into the water their actions for doing so we can't account for it unless it was to thaw them for food. It is a Year today since we were beset in the ice

Wed Jan 19th No Observation As the ~~gale~~ gale continues from the SW with heavy drift snow, we got a seal today, so we are maintaining to keep the larder up

Thurs Jan 20th The blizzard still continues But we are getting along very well under the conditions Greenstreet is laid up with rum???ctie & Creen was a bit of colour yesterday but he is much better today. with the drift we can't get our Sleeping bags dried as they are soaking wet as the heat of our body causes the snow under us melt &

we are in the habit of drying our bags every morning but this has continued for 4 days now & not much signs of it taking off we only want 1 hour without snow & then it can continue for another week

Frid Jan 21st Lat 65-34 1/2 South we had no longitude but well pleased with our drift north 72 miles we want 2 days more & then a calm & open leads & we will be Home by May if all goes well but we are very uncomfortable at present with every thing being wet there has been a number of birds sailing around today the Blizard still continues

Sat Jan 22nd Lat 65-32 1/2 Long 52-22 West We have done 11 miles today but the SW wind has finished & there is a light northerly breeze at present our camp was a great sight today with masts & oars standing up in the snow & clothes beds boats & fiscoes & blankets all out to dry any one would have thought it was our washing day. & it was far from that as we have not had our faces washed since we left the ship the only wash we have now is a rub with soft snow but it wont be long now as it is only 153 miles to Paulet Island where we know there is plenty of food & I expect soap to if we only had water for the boats

Sunday Jan 23rd Lat 65-35 Lon 52-12 West There is a Strong NE breeze on at present, & we have drifted back SW 4 miles. but we dont expect it to last long. we got a seal today there has been nothing doing around the camp. The men built up the galey floor with fresh snow every morning as it melts away with the heat of the fire which is a point drum with a few holes round it & a canvas screen on 4 oars is the galley

Monday Jan 24th Lat 65-32 1/2 South Ther has been another fine SW breeze today but it is dead calm at Present & the ice seems to be opening up a bit now. There is a pool along side of our floe 200 ft by 50 & yesterday it was closed up every where so we may get a start in the boats any day now. We got 2 seals today

Tues Jan 25th Burn's Anniversary & We hi ne'er Haggis or brose Lat 65-32 South There was a light breeze of NW wind in the forenoon & since then it has been calm with proper sea fog. there is large pools alround but running nowhere. The ice has loosened a lot this last 2 days. We only want another breeze from the SW

Wed Jan 26th The wind has been NW light but at present it is S. We have gone NE 1 1/2 miles in the last 24 hours we got a seal this evening. it is very welcome as we are very short of blubber for cooking purposes

Thur Jan 27th Lat 65-31 1/2 South Long 51-42 West The Wind has been light SE all day. but the ice seems to be the same all round with pools here & there but no leads We may get a faverable breeze one of these days. but it is getting a bit monotonous now. We are 92 days adrift on the ice now & it only seems a few days since the ship was crushed. We got 2 seals 1 ross & a crab eater & two penguins

Friday Jan 28th Lat 65-23 We have drifted N 8 1/2 miles since yesterday but there are no openings yet I put a handle in an ice axe the first work I have done with tools for some time. We got 5 seals which leaves us very well off for a time.

Sat Jan 29th Lat 65-17 South Temp Plus 28 Fine breeze of SSW wind which seems to be increesing. There is still no signs of much water. We got 3 penguins I made a pair of

increasing. There is still no signs of much water. We got 3 penguins I made a pair of snow shoes out of a venista packing case & they do a treat for walking round the floe

Sunday Jan 30th Lat 65-14 S Long 52 West Temp Plus 30 Light NW wind. I has been one of the best days we have had since we left the ship. Creen & Macklin went to Ocean camp today with the two dog teams to try to get what store there was left x. They arrived back at 8-30 PM Macklins leader had a bad face it put you in mind of a bad case of assault

Monday Jan 31st Lat 65-15 South Long 51-57 West Temp Plus 27 WE got 1 seal & Hurley took 3 shots at another but it was not brought in. The party brought a few books from the Ocean camp which is in great demand. We are very short of reading matter. I have read the Bible from beginning to end. I made a pair of ski sticks today

[February, 1916]

Tuesday Feb 1st Lat 65¹/₂ S Long 62-10 West

Wednesday Feb 2nd Lat 65-14¹/₄ S Long 52-18 West Temp Plus 28 There was a party went to ocean camp & brought the boat we had left there & a few more stores & tobacco the wind at present is light SSE

Thursday Feb 3rd Lat 65-14 S Long 52-26 West Temp Plus 16 There was a party of four left for the Ocean Camp Yesterday afternoon but they had to return as there was a big movement in the ice so they had to return I repaired the Boat sledge as it got damaged over some very rough ice. There was a good bit of pressure around us during the night but everything seems to be jamed hard up now. The ice is either up against the land. Or the wind must be of the land. Which is causing the pressure. There is a fine breeze of SE wind at present. We are only 127 miles from Snow Hill & 133 from Paulet Island & 349 miles from Cape Dundass on the South Ortney Islands

Friday Feb 4th Temp Plus 25 It has been over cast all day. With a strong breeze of SSE wind Which should help us along if the ice is not up against the land. There has been a lot of pressure going on. Which makes me beleive that such is the case. We squared up the boats & put all the gear in them ready to move. At a moments notice as there has been two large pieces broken of our floe. In the last 24 hours. But it is still big enough for us yet. I made a pair of felt boots. To fit inside my burberrys & finescoe for sleeping with at night As it is getting a bit cold now after sundown & the nights are getting dark again. We hope to be on land of some kind before the Darkness sets in

Sat 5th Temp Plus 30 There has been a hard breeze with heavy snow. From SSE we have not had an observation for the last 2 days & if the ice is not hard up to the land. We should have made a very good drift. We got a seal this afternoon

Monday 7th Lat 65-2 South Long 53-3 West Temp Plus 28 I has been blowing hard from the SE since saturday. With heavy snow untill 6 AM this morning. When the wind veered round to the NW & cleared up. It gave us a chance to get our sleeping bags dried. There is big movement gains on at present. The two bergs we passed on our way here from Ocean Camp has changed their position. 3 points within the last 4 hours. So the piece we are on is either turning round or we have broken away from

hours. So the piece we are on is either turning round or we have broken away from the main body of ice there is nothing to do about the camp only we talk of what we will eat when we get to civilisation I myself would give a sovering for 1 slice of bread & butter & two duck eggs

Tuesday 8th Temp Plus 30 There has been a fine breeze of NE wind but it has died away now & there is a light air from the SW at present which I hope will harden up during the night. There is a big looseness in the ice since yesterday. There is open pools around now. So we expect another blow from the SW. Will give us an opening. we got 2 penguins today. Hussey is busy at present with his 6 tunes which is heart breaking

Wednesday Feb 9th Temp Plus 26. There was alot of snow last night with variable winds. but at present there is a fine breeze from the S^{1/2}E & if it last about 3 days more We should be far enough north for Paulet Island. Then a open leed in the ice & about a week in the boats would land us nicely

Thursday Feb 10th Temp Plus 30 There has been a fine Southerly breeze all day. but at present it is very light. But I hope we are still moving North. I think we are in dubble figures now as regards to the distance from the Land

Friday Feb 11th Temp Plus 30 The wind has veered roujnd to E^{1/2}S but light. There is more looseness in the ice now. Than has been since we left the ship. And the same applies to our stomachs we have a cup of tea at breakfast & water for dinner & supper the cocoa is finished but we have plenty milk. But no blubber to warm water for mixing the milk. So there is nothing for it but get into our sleeping bags. And smoke away the hunger. what loyde george calls a luxe for working men. I wish to God he was here. & I expect we will have to submit to have about £2 S10. abducted from our wages after being out of the world for 2 years & received no benefits. & them They will say Briton is a Free Country This is where him & his fellow ministers should be for any good They ever done a working man or woman.

Sat Feb 12th Lat 64-47^{1/2} South Long 53-20 West Temp Plus 29 There has been a fine breeze of SE wind all day but it is dead calm now & a fine clear night so we are expecting a change of wind. We got a Weddel seal this morning which will keep the pot boiling for a few days more. We are still having 1 hot drink dayly as yet but we hope to get more seals soon. I smoked myself sick through trying to stifle the hunger but long may our tobacco last as it is fine when one is hungry to be fit to have a smoke

Sunday Feb 13th Lat 64-48 South Long 53-7 West Temp Plus 25. There was a big movement in the ice last night. & a lot of pressure. Which I believe was caused by the change of wind North of us. As it started to blow from N by E easly this morning. & at present it is blowing hard with heavy drift snow

Mon Feb 14th Lat 64-52 South Long 53-6 West Temp Plus 27 It was a wild night with wind & snow from the NW. But it cleared up about 4 AM & has been a fine day with Westerly wind. We have went a bit S & E since yesterday. But a leed of open water. Would put w all right again

Tues Feb 15th The Boss's Birthday We had a seal steak & a cup of tea for breakfast a bannock made of dog pemmican & a cup of water for dinner a cup of stewed seal meat & water for tea. God knows we are only having a much as keep us alive. But we are still happy though hungry & talking of what we'll eat when we get to civilisation. & that we don't know when as it has been blowing hard from the NE. Since 8 PM yesterday with heavy snow

Wed Feb 16th Lat 64-53 South No Long Temp Plus 32 There has been a fine breeze of ~~wen~~ E by S wind. But it is very light at present. There has been 4 silver terns & 1 giant petrel flying around the camp. & we got 2 emperors penguins & a seal & there is another seal been killed. But it came on thick with heavy snow. so if it is fine We will get it tomorrow. I have been ill since yesterday owing to the bannock

Thurs Feb 17th Lat 64-54 South Long 53-15 West Temp at midnight Plus 15 noon 25 Plus. There is a lot of open pools around us again. Which I think is owing to the last 12 hours calm. But we could get no observations of how the water looked beyond 100 yards There is a breeze sprung now from the NE. Which won't do us a great deal of good but better than NW if it clears up tomorrow we might get a start in the boats we got 68 adelia & Emperors penguins & a seal. So we have as much blubber as keep the pot boiling for a month at least. We had for breakfast a cup of Beauveis Pemmican mixed with dog pemmican dinner a dog pemmican bannock & a cup of warm milk supper stewed penguin heart liver eyes tongues toes & God knows what else with a cup of water. I don't think any of us will have nightmare with over eating

Friday Feb 18th Our luck is about out for the time at least as the pools have all closed up again. & the wind increased to a gale which continued until 4 PM This afternoon with heavy snow. The wind is light at present & SW but it is hard to say how long it will stay there. we have been lying in our sleeping bags all day. as we could not get about. & every thing we have is wet so we are looking for a good day to get things squared up again & we will have all the sledges & other gear to dig out as everything is buried with the drift

Sat Feb 19th It was a fine morning & we got 200 adelia penguins & a seal. This afternoon it has started to blow from the SE. & it has hardened to a gale with heavy snow at present & we hope it lasts for a week. at this rate 3 days would do us all the good in the world & then a couple of days calm to let it open up if it don't happen soon it will be too late for us to get Home before December

Sunday Feb 20th Lat 64-57 South Long 52-54 West Temp Plus 25 The wind died down at noon but we had the heaviest snow fall during the night we have had since we left South Georgia McLeod Howe & Myself cleared the snow out of the 3 boats while the others were busy skinning penguins & there were 6 others out getting more we got 100 today. There is a light NW breeze at present. But we hope it will change to SE before morning or the ice open up

Monday Feb 21st Lat 64-54 South Long 53 West Temp Plus 27. We took the boats of the sledges this morning. & build the soft snow around them. To keep them tight. We got 44 penguins this afternoon. It blew hard from the NW all night. But since 8 AM it has been S by E There is plenty of open water about 10 miles NW of us but no leads to get

been S by E There is plenty of open water about 10 miles NW of us but no leads to get to it & & we cant do anything now but sit down & wait since they shot the dogs

Tues Feb 22nd Lat 64-51 South Long 53-13 West Temp Plus 18 Wind SE frish breeze We got 3 seals 2 weddels 1 crab eater I have been building a wall round our tent to keep the wind off. & I started to build a egloe this afternoon There is nothing else to do so it passes the time. But it is getting a bit cold now. Although it has been a beautiful day.

Wed Feb 23rd Lat 64-45 South Long 53-19 West Temp Zero at midnight ~~15 at m~~ Plus 15 at noon. we got 3 seals & 70 penguins. There has been a fine SW breeze

Thursday Feb 24th Lat 64-40 South Long 53-19 West Temp Plus 9 There has been a fine breeze of SW wind but at present it is very light we got 80 penguins. We are only 94 miles from Paulet Island & 81 miles from Danger Island. Which we could do in 24 hours in the boats if we only had the water

Friday Feb 25th Lat 64-39 South Long ---- West Temp Plus 5. 8 AM Plus 25 noon 4 PM Plus 34 There has been a fine breeze from ENE all day it still continues but Light There has been nothing doing in camp only skinning the penguins That we got yesterday afternoon. Our food is getting very stale to us now as there is no variety of any kind seal meat & penguin 3 times a day. With no bread or anykind but a cup of tea at breakfast & water for the rest of the day. I made a bag out of a blanket. to fit inside my sleeping bag. As I have had no sleep for the last to nights. With the cold

Sat Feb 26th Lat 64-37 South Long 53-20 West Temp Plus 27 There has been a fine breeze of S-by W Wind all day & We are gradually getting nearer the Land. The skipper says he has seen it. But we know him to be a liar as Mt Haddington is only 6300 ft & can only be seen 80 miles of & we are 91 miles from Snow Hill & the mountain is 20 miles ~~behind~~ West of that

xSunday Feb 27th Lat 64-33 South Long 53-22 West Temp Plus 13 This has been one of the finest days. We have had since we left BA a clear sky with a light SW breeze. We got a large Weddel seal about 700 lbs at the edge of the floe. We are 1 mile nearer the land but we see no signs of the slippers land yet. We are 121 days on the ice now. & I hope we will not be another week

Monday Feb 28th Lat 64-31 South Long 53-20 West Temp Plus 15 Wind SSW Light. We had a field day building a new galley. We have got along with the one we have for over two months. One would think we were settling down for the winter. It strikes me it would take Danamite to make an impression here. The whole thing is loosing up now. With, this wind. But there is ~~[??] ankity shown~~ anxiety shown here

Tuesday Feb 29th Lat 64-27 South Long 53-15 West Temp Plus 20 Wind WSW The floes still opening up. & no signs of us making any move. We got 2 seals 1 crab & a Weddel. This has been a red letter day with us as regards the food We had a seal steak a sledging biscuit tea for breakfast for lunch fried penguin liver 1 pemmican bannock 1/4 tin of lax & milk Dinner Hoosh & cocoa & no one knows the reason why. It is a lovely evening now & the leads still opening

[March, 1916]

[March, 1916]

Wednesday Mar 1st Lat 64-24 South long 53-15 West Temp Plus 10 This has been a fine day with light N by E wind. & the pack opening up around. But no signs of any movement with us. there is a strong NNE wind at present

Thursday Mar 2nd No observations as it has been to thick But There is a fine breeze of SW wind Which has opened everything up there are large pools to be seen all around us at present. So I do believe we will make a move one of these days. But the men says our Leese is not up yet, & if such is the case there is no doubt we will stop untill it is up

Friday Mar 3rd Lat 64-12 South Long 53-18¹/₂ West Temp Plus 7 Strong SW wind. But everything has closed up again. & I dont expect it will open again before it calms down again

[Saturday] Mar 4th Lat 64-8¹/₄ Long 53-15 West Temp Plus 5

Sunday Mar 5th Lat 64-9 South Long 53-14 West Temp Plus 9

Monday Mar 6th lat 64-8 South 53-10 West Temp 20 It has been a dull day. With small rain falling The floes are still opening up. & freezing over but no. signs of us making any start

Tuesday Mar 7th It has been blowing hard from S by W with heavy snow since 5 AM. We have not been out of the tents only to get food & that was not much all our sleeping bags & gear are soaking wet so we are both hungry & cold & the pack has closed up again

Thursday Mar 9th No Observation this last two days We were busy digging the sledges out & making paths through the drift it has been the heaviest snow fall we have had since we entered the ice. There is a distinct movement in the ice like ocean swell. which every one hopes true. for there is bound to be an opening up soon We got 25 penguins within the last 2 days

Friday Mar 10th Lat 64 South 53-9 West Temp Plus 15 All hands were busy this forenoon. Putting the store in the different boats. And taking them out again & marking the sledges for each boat. Which will save a lot of trouble. When we take to the boats. Then they put the boats back on the sledges. I repaired a boat sledge & fixed a boat hook. We got 10 penguins. But there has been no seals about for some time now. Whether they have gone N or not is is hard to say

Saturday Mar 11th Lat 63-53¹/₂ South 53-1 West Temp Plus 14 There has been a large opening up again this afternoon. & if it is as open in the morning we are going to make a start & I thank God for the chance. We got 150 penguins today I put a sailing beam in the J Caird

Sunday Mar 12th We did not get away this morning. As there was a strong breeze of NE wind which closed up the ice. But it has died away at present So we may have better luck tomorrow. we got 30 penguins today. There is one thing we are in great

better luck tomorrow. we got 30 penguins today. There is one thing we are in great want of Salt. For our diet at present is solely composed of seal & penguin flesh. & it is rather stale without salt. But we wouldn't mind it so much if we only got as much once a day as to appease our hunger

Monday Mar 13th It has been thick all day. But now it has cleared up & a hard SW breeze. It will do us all the good in the world as there is water every where around us now. The Temp has been very high until this afternoon when it dropped. It was 33 at 8 AM & now Plus 7 I took the pump out the J Caird. & threw it out & got the ice out of the ladders. All ready for a Start

Tuesday Mar 14th Temp Plus 9 There is a Blizard on at present from SE. so everything is closed up again. But we expect. It will open up after this. More than it has before. We have not been outside the tents and everything is wet. So it is not very comfortable. & still we have some here that don't wish to get in the boats. They want to drift ashore. Which we can't do. But I notice Those are the ones who have never done a days work in this world & don't intend to as long as they can act the Pharisite on some body else They know themselves to be useless. & I expect They won't be much more use in a boat

~~Tuesday~~ Wed Mar 15th Temp Plus 7 All hands have been busy clearing away dirt from the sledges The wind is light SE at present. & The floes are opening up again. so things look better for the morning. We had no observations today. But we think according to the 48 hours breeze. We should be abreast of Joinville Island & about 55 miles of

~~Wed~~ Thur Mar 16th Temp Plus 27 There was some very heavy pressure during the night. & every thing has closed up again. We got 2 seals & 10 penguins. No observations as it has been overcast all day. I don't suppose there is much chance of us seeing Paulet now It will be the South Shetlands or the Orthingeys I am positive we lost our chance last week. But one dare not say so. as we are more like Prisoners than anything else & a damned worse off

Sat Mar 18th We got a rough observation yesterday Lat 63-35 South 53-22 West. I expect the ice is hard up against the land. as there is heavy pressure both E & W of us. It has been blowing & snowing this last 2 day wind E by N. but it died down this afternoon. & at present it is blowing hard from N by W. There is a huge berg lying NW of us which we. thought at first sight was long. & if it was it would be no good to us as every thing is pressed hard up. But this northerly breeze might open it up again tomorrow

Monday Mar 20th Lat 63-36 South Temp Plus 20 It has been blowing a blizard since midnight. The dirt in places is about 8 ft & it is very soft so we have been confined to the tents all day with ever thing wet. we have not had anything dried for 8 days. the hair is coming out of our bags [directly underneath is a semi-circle: "sleeping"] through the damp. We got 10 penguins I build a snow round house yesterday for the use of our tent. it will be handy at night if we are here long as it is dark now at 7 PM

Tuesday Mar 21st No observation as it has been dull day & blowing hard from the Southard. It has cleared away fine at present as it generally does every evening This

is our first day in winter as the sun sets at the Pole today the last time for 6 months. We got our gear out to dry today as the snow has ceased but instead of drying they froze stiff Temp Plus 7 I am sitting in my bag writing this & my hands are just about frost bitten

Wed Mar 22nd Lat 63-19 South 53-27 West Temp Plus 5 Blowing hard from SE

Thurs Mar 23rd Lat 63-15 South 53-29 West Temp Plus 3 Sir Ernest Sighted the Land at 7 AM. & There has been a lot of doubt in the skippers part as he never saw it first. After being on the look out this last 2 months. & reporting so many bergs as being land. he is feeling ????? sick over it being seen by any one else We are on a short scale of provisions now. as our seal meat & penguin is about finished with very little blubber to burn

Friday Mar 24th Lat 63-13 South 53-24 West Temp Plus 9 This has been one of the finest days we have had We got all our gear dried Also some ???? of Joinville Land. Which has been in sight since daybreak. But everything seems to be jammed up here. As we had a lot of pressure. There are about 70 bergs around us. In all directions Which is causing a lot of the pressure. We had 7 dominican gulls flying around today

Sat Mar 25th There is a blizard on at present I prophesed this yesterday as there is never a fine day in those Latitudes but there is 3 bad ones against it. Our floe is beginning to look dangerous now . As it is begining to crack in many places but it generally the way. Through puting of till tomorrow what can be done today. Our bill of fare now for breakfast

1/4 lb of meat & half a cup of watery milk

Lunch

1 sledging biscuit & tinned herring

Dinner

1/2 lb of dog pemmican or 1/2 lb of boiled meat
& 6 cubes of sugar

Sunday Mar 26th Lat 63-1 South 53-27 West Temp Plus 4 Light NW winds nothing doing only trying to sleep away the hunger. We are going on a shorter allowance tomorrow 1/2 lb of dog pemmican & a cup of milk for breakfast. Lunch 1 biscuit & 3 cubes of sugar. Dinner 1/2 lb of boiled seal meat of which there is not 2 ounces of nutriment. so we are longing for open water Joinville Island is still in sight. But it is no good to us. As we cant move over the rough hummicy ice

Monday 27th Lat 62-57 South 53-10-15 West Temp Plus 9 We are 5 month on the floe today & There is a much chance of us getting of it now as there was at the start in fact less as we have not the days. & as the leeds open up they freeze over I only hope for a good SE gale so as to jam us in the straits & not let us drift out to sea

Tuesday Mar 28th My Wee Loves Birthday & I hope Mother & Her are doing Well. We did not get an observation. But we got a seal. which means a lot to us. & there was another up about 1 mile away but we could not get near it. As there is a lot of open craks full of brash ice. However the one will help us going as we are doing at present

cracks full of brash ice. However the one will help us going as we are doing at present for the next 10 days. There was a cape pigeon flying around here this morning

Wed Mar 29th This has been an incessant day of rain which has turned to sleet at present. & it has made things very uncomfortable for us as our tents are over maned. They are made for 3. But under the circumstances There are 4 in tent & in damp weather we have to have all our gear inside to keep it dry. So that where anything touches the rain comes through. It is looking as if it was going to clear up. The Temp is very high Plus 34. & there is a great amount of movement gains with the floes. We have shifted our position 14 points in the last 12 hours

Thursday Mar 30th We had a rude awakeing This morning All hands were roused out. As our floe started to break up. Well we got the boats & sledges shifted & was going to have breakfast. When cracked again under the James Caird. But we got her over before she fell in the ditch. & while at breakfast a sea leopard came up & went to sleep peacefully. but it was his last sleep as Wild went out & shot him. Then he shot the last of our faithful dogs. Of which we kept the five young ones for food. & Their flesh tastes a treat. it is a big Treat to us after being so long on seal meat. & this last 14 days on almost nothing. We got 20 fish in the leopard stomach & we are having them for breakfast tomorrow There was a cape pigeon & a lot of Terns flying around all day. The wind is NNE Temp Plus 30

Friday Mar 31st Temp at 8 AM Plus 30 at noon Plus 7 There was a flock of pinguins about 3 floes from us & a crowd went out for them & got cut off as the ice opened up. We launched a boat to go to them but the ice closed in again & we had to haul the boat on the floe. & by that time they were on a loose bit of ice & ferryed over so They got back with 7 birds which will always keep the pot boiling. There has been a sealeopard on the floe but he got away

[April, 1916]

Saturday April 1st Temp Plus 17 There is a blizard on at present from S by E & we all hope it continues. We can put up with the wind & snow. As long as we are going the right way to open water. There are large pools as far as we can see. So we fancy this blow will do the trick. We had two good square meals yesterday & the day before. But not what a man doing a days work at Home would be content with. But a lot of us. & we are on our old routine again $\frac{1}{4}$ lb of Boiled meat for dinner. but through it all happy. Though hungry. I would be a pity to see this crowd let loose in a bakers shop

Sunday April 2nd Lat 62-33 South Temp Plus 10 We had a rude awakening. As the floe cracked 18 inches from our tent at 8 PM. It was pitch dark at the time & it took a long time for some of our people to turn out. 5 sledges were being cut of from us but we managed to get them on to the piece we were on There was a big swell on. Which indicated open water. But there is no signs of it today. We got a young emperor penguin & there is plenty Terns flying around. There is a very black sky to the north of us. Which I hope means open water for the sooner we are of the ice now the better, before it gets broken up to small. I dreamt yesterday afternoon the ice cracked under our tent. Longitude 53-37 West it is snowing heavy at present wind S Temp Plus 5. We lifted the boats & scraped the runners. & the same with the sledges so as they will be easier to shift at a moments notice

Monday April 3rd Lat 62-24 south Long 53-45 West Temp Plus 27 It has been a fine day with light ESE breeze we are getting along alright if it only continues every thing seems to be very loose now & we seem to be going along at a good rate. We got a Leopard this morning. & it is M^cLeods birthday

Tuesday April 4th We got 2 crabeaters & a third got away. But we were very lucky getting those as we have plenty meat & blubber now. So we are going on full rations again. only an all meat Diet. I will miss the biscuit as I did relish it above all. There is a hard breeze sprung up from SE. We have had no wind all day. So we moved the boats & sledges before dark ready in case of a sudden call. There is a large tubular berg to leeward of us & we expect some pressure. getting past it as the floes are traveling faster than the bergs. Temp Plus 29 & falling fast

Wednesday ~~Mar~~ 5th Lat 62-14 South 54-25 West Temp Plus 9 We are doing Well since we had the last observation about 25 miles WNW. We expect if we keep drifting in the same direction as we are doing now. To land somewhere in King Georges Island. That is if we keep going west. We were expecting to sight elephant Island this afternoon. But we have gone to far west for that now. There is a gap of 81 miles between it & King Georges Island. Which we hope to miss. It would be hard after drifting into those straits and then be blown out to sea. We got an Emperor penguin & three Adelies to day. Which we had for Lunch. The breeze is still holding good. We are keeping 4 hour watches

Thursday April 6th No observation Temp Plus 22. There is a strong NW breeze on at present. Which will drift us back a bit. but we hope it wont last long. There were 2 seals crawling around our tent in the dark last night. & The man on watch gave us the alarm. & Wild went out & shot 1 but the other got away. & we got a fine leopard this morning. So we are very well of for food now such like it is. But we still want some more for fuel. There was a giant petril & a skua gull flying around this morning. The wind has shifted to W by S & if it keeps steady for the next 3 days it will push us up against either the Elephant or Clarence Islands. We started the boats & sledges. All ready to move at any minute. As there is the appearance of a NW swell which is one of our biggest enemise

Friday April 7th Lat 62-8 South 54-22 West Temp Plus 17 We sighted Clarence Island bearing NNE & about 60 miles of. But at first sight it only looked about 10 or 12 miles. We have driven E with the NW breeze yesterday & it is good for us to for we were bound through the straits between. King George. & Elephant Islands. & it is hard to say how this ice would act in the open sea. But at present there is a fine SW breeze which is driving us NE. & if the ice opens any we are bound to land on Elephant or Clarence. D^r M^cIlroy & Myself have been on the sick list owing to have eating to much seal oil & blubber last night. it is over 5 months since we have had fats & our stomachs. couldnt stand the suddent change. There has been a great many whales blowing all round us since early this morning. & seals lying basking on the floes. & plenty bird life

Saturday April 8th Lat 62 South 53-49 West Temp Plus 29 We have drifted 16 miles E & 2 N since noon yesterday. The Land is much nearer today & the ice is much looser. But there is a hard NNW breeze which is doing us no good. If it takes of during the night we may get open water. There has been a large swell since yesterday. But it is doing

we may get open water. There has been a large swell since yesterday. But it is doing us no harm now as our floe is broken up so small. It rise & fall

[•••break in the narrative—missing pages•••]

[Sunday, April 16th] both feet as all his toes are gone. Rest are getting along very well. Only Hudson who has gone of his head & both his hands are pretty bad yet. Wild & his party arrived back at 8-30. So we all turned out & hauled the boat up. He reports a fine place 7 miles from here so we are going to shift to it tomorrow

Monday 17th We turned out early & got the boats launched at high water. But it was 11-25 [a.m.] before we got away. right in the heart of a heavy SW squall. & every thing went well ~~until~~ we both for the first 2 miles. & after that it was nothing but a succession of heavy snow squalls. Which gave us as much as we could do to keep up against them. & prevent ourselves from being blown out to sea. We arrived at our destination at 4 PM & by the time we had everything ashore it was getting dark. Then we had a hot drink & rolled up for the night with a watch set

Tues 18th Wilds Birthday a Blizard on at present the sea came up to the Caird & worked away a bag of under clothes that we had for the relief party who went in the James Caird for relief it is a big loss on an ocasion like this D^r M^cIlroy was on watch at the time. & any one who knows him would expect nothing else. As he is almost to tired to move. We turned out after lunch & hauled the boats further up the beach & squared things up for the night the blizard still continues. N^o. 5 tent has blown to ribbons. & all the others are down flat on top of our sleeping bags. & held there by large stones

Wed April 19th The Blizard still continues. All hands are busy trying to rig up some kind of shelter. We have built a wall 2 ft around our tent with 2 oars crossed & the tent laced up to them. We cant sit up in it but it is better than what we had last night the cold wet tent cloth on our faces. All hands went killing penguins for a winter stock of food in case there is no relief before the spring

Thurs April 20th A better day with ocasional snow squalls. I dont think there are ever many fine days on this forlorn island. Started to dismantle the Docker to deck in the Caird which is going to South Georgia for relief as I dont think there will be many surviors if they have to put in a winter here. There are 4 on the sick list at present So. There is a party of 6 going to Georgia in the Caird 600 miles. The party includes
Sir Ernest
Skipper
Creen
Macnish
McCarty
Vincent

Friday April 21st All hands are busy skining & storing penguins. some repairing the Cairds gear 2 sewing canvas for the deck. Myself Marston & M^cLeod are busy getting the Caird ready. There has been heavy snow squalls all day. There are 5 on the sick list some heart trouble some frostbite & 1 dilly. I expect to finish the boat tomorrow & sail on Sunday

Sat April 22nd There has been a SE Blizard raging all day so there has been nothing doing but lying in our wet bags & have our rations passed in. We hauled the Caird further up the beach last night. & a good thing for us as it would not have been a pleasant job in a day like this

Sunday April 23rd We were out last night & pulled the Caird further up the beach as there was a higher tide & more surf than usual. I have been busy getting the boat ready. & it has been snowing & blowing very hard all day. Cheetham & M^CCarthy have been busy trying to stretch the canvas for the deck. & They had rather a job as it was frozen stiff They had to pull the needle through with a pair of pinchers Marsten & M^cLeod have been assisting me

Monday April 24 A fine morning I started on the boat at daybreak. & finished at 10 AM. Then all hands were mustered & we launched her. & as we were getting her off the beach a heavy surf came up. & owing to us being unable to get her bow of the beach. She almost capsized as it was she emptied Myself & Vincent overboard but we regained the beach again. & went of in the stancomb wills. We got her ballasted & the stores aboard & everything ready. We took Good bye with our companions. & set sail on. our 870 miles to South Georgia for assistance at 12-30 & at 2 PM we came to a stream of ice which we managed to get through in about an hour. Then we were in the open sea wet through but happy through it all

Tues 25th Fine WSW breeze running all day sky overcast

Wed 26th WSW gale & squally & cloudy run 100 mile

Thurs 27th Northerly gale overcast & heavy squalls hove too

Friday 28th Light NW to W winds misty high NW swell

Sat 29th Fresh W to SW breeze squaly running high seas

Sunday 30th hove to at 8 AM & put out sea anchor at 3 PM heavy sprays breaking over the boat & freezing solid

[May, 1916]

Monday May 1st SSW gale lying to sea anchor & mizzen

Tues May 2nd

Mon 8th hove to in NW gale we sighted the land last night & stood out to sea again. We have been driven in on the land by the gale. & had a hard struggle to clear it by beeting off under reefed mainsail jib & mizzen. we were only about 2 hours standing on the starboard tack of the land when the wind veered round to SW a fair wind so we put about & steered W by N for the night at daybreak on the 9th [Tuesday] the land was in sight again & as we only had 3 pints of water left. Sir Ernest decided we should make for a haven of some sort to replenish our water. & while to beet up King Hakon bay we had a trying time with heavy squalls. & darkenss coming on. We ran into a little cove just inside the point to get our

squalls. & darkenss coming on. We ran into a little cove just inside the point to get our gear & stores out & dumped the ballast & tryed to pull the boat up. But as we were all about done up we left her rolling in the surf for the night with 1 man on watch. The Boss found a cave & drove us into it for the night. Then after trying to sleep in our wet clothes we were called out at 3 AM as the painter had carried away. We tryed then to turn the boat over. to roll her up the beach but it was to much for us so we had a good hot hush & stood by untill day light.

Wed May 10th We decided to make the boat lighter so as we could handle her & make for the head of the bay. & half the party go over land for assistance as we have one man done up. & has been for the first night we left Elephant Island so I have started to[?] take to 3 strake of I put on at ocean camp. The week after we left the ship. The Boss & Creen went over the hill & found some albatross nests with young on them & the skipper went up & brought down an old & a young 1 we stewed the old one & had it for lunch & it was a treat. Then we had our nut food & a hot drink & turned in for the night.

Thurs May 11th I am still busy at the boat all hands have been gathering dry tusuck grass for the floor of the cave the Boss & skipper have fixed up the sails at the mouth & there is a good wood fire going & our wet clothes drying. we have not been comfortable for the last 5 weeks we had 3 young & 1 old albatross for lunch. with 1 pint of gravy which beets all chicken soup I ever tasted. I have just been thinking what our companions would say if they had food like this

Friday May 12th I am still busy at the boat. Whilst the skipper does the Nimrod & brings home the food Vincent lays down by the fire & smokes some times coming out for more wood while the Boss & Creen looks after the cooking & M^cCarthy is my assistant We had four young birds for lunch then we think of hard times

Sat May 13th I am finishing the Boat today we are going in the morning if it is fine. We had another big lunch

Sunday May 14th It has been blowing & raining all night so we had to postpone our journey untill beter weather we turned out at 8 AM & had hush. The Boss & skipper went away for a walk round the bay if possible find a place with seals. to keep us in food & fuel while They are going over land. I went on top of the hill & had a lay in the grass & it put me in mind of old times at Home sitting on the hillside looking down at the sea M^cCarthy picked up the boats rudder which we lost the night we arrived Vincent is still laying down by the fire keeping it going & always smoking we are having two meals only today as we are geting bucked up again & we have only 80 biscuits which is wanted for the over land party

May 16th. 1916
South Georgia

Sir,

I am about to try and reach Husvik on the East Coast of this island for relief for our party. I am leaving you in charge of this party consist... of Vincent, MacCarthy, yourself. You will remain here until relief arrives. You have ample seal food which you can supplement with birds & fish according to your skill.

You are left with a double barrellled gun. 50 Cartridges.
40 to 50 Bovril sledging rations,

40 to 50 Bovril sledging rations,
25 to 30 biscuits:
40 Streimers Nutfood_

You also have all the necessary equipment to support life for an indefinite period. In the event of my non return you had better after winter is over try and sail round to the East Coast.

The course I am making toward Husvik is East [triple underline] magnetic
I trust to have you relieved in a few days

Yours Faithfully
EH Shackleton

H M^cNish [triple underline]

[Attached Obituary with photo; dated September 25, 1930]:

MR. HARRY M'NEISH, a member of the Scott and Shackleton Antarctic Expeditions, who died in Wellington yesterday.

FUNERAL NOTICES. The Funeral of the late Harry M'Neish (late of Scott and Shackleton Antarctic party), will leave the Mortuary Chapel of Robert H. Wilson and Sons, Ltd, To-morrow (Friday), 26th September, 1930, at 10 a.m., for the Karori Cemetary.

ROBT. H. WILSON AND SONS, LTD., Undertakers, 164 Adelaide road.
Tels. 24-155 and 16-781.