

**VOYAGES TO AND FROM CAPE  
OF GOOD HOPE; WITH AN  
ACCOUNT OF A JOURNEY INTO  
THE INTERIOR OF SOUTH AFRICA**

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Voyages to and from Cape of Good Hope; With an Account of a Journey into the Interior of South Africa by John Campbell

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**JOHN CAMPBELL**

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No. 60  
VOYAGES

TO AND FROM THE

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE;

WITH AN ACCOUNT OF

A JOURNEY INTO THE INTERIOR OF SOUTH AFRICA.

BY THE  
REV. JOHN CAMPBELL.

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# VOYAGE

TO AND FROM

## THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

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### PART I.

#### A VOYAGE TO THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

WE left London, November 10, 1818, for Liverpool. We remained there until the morning of the 18th, when, at ten A. M., we received an order to repair on board our ship, which was the *Westmoreland*, Captain Cree-ry, bound for Bombay. She sailed, about three P. M., out of harbour, and along the Welsh coast towards Holyhead.

We had no sooner passed Holyhead, on the 19th, into the open Irish Channel, than we found the wind directly opposed to our progress down the channel, which obliged us to tack, or cross between the Welsh and Irish coasts for many days.

For the first five days, we only advanced about twenty miles beyond Holyhead, so adverse were the winds. On the evening of the 24th, the wind changed to a favourable quarter.

On the 25th, the fair wind which so cheered us, died away about four o'clock in the morning, and was succeeded by one which blew directly contrary to our desired course. At one P. M., or after mid-day, we had to encounter a gale of wind, which blew with great fury. While most of us were on deck, a vast wave poured forth its contents from one end of the ship to the other, so that not one escaped without being drenched with water. A sheep and several of our fowls died, from the violent tossing and tumbling of the ship, and the severity of the weather.

This long detention in the Irish Channel, we thought, might be designed by Providence as a preventive of some greater evil which might have befallen us, had we got faster forward. At any rate, as "it is good for a man to bear the yoke," or suffer trials, "in his youth," so we thought it might be good for us to endure these contrary winds in the commencement of our voyage, rather than at the middle, or near its termination. However all were anxious to remove from a northern winter as fast as possible.

One of our tame geese, observing some wild ones fly over the ship, instantly flew after them, but soon lighted on the water, and very probably perished before it could reach the land. He had better have been contented with his situation, and remained on board the ship; he might thereby have enjoyed life a few weeks longer; but he could not re-



frain from following the company of those who led him to ruin: in this respect he was too much like many giddy youths.

By persevering in tacking, we reached the mouth of the channel, and got into the open sea by the 29th. Being the Lord's day, we had worship on the quarter-deck; a practice which was continued during the voyage.

December 1. The south-west wind, which had resisted our progress for a fortnight, was caused, by the Ruler of winds and waves, to give way to a north-west gale, which kindly drove us on, in our right course, at the rate of eight or nine miles an hour. Upon this favourable change all commended the captain, for his perseverance in beating up so long against a south-westerly wind, instead of returning to port, and some of us talked of soon seeing the flying fishes—a sign of more moderate climes.

December 2. The fair wind, which had afforded so much sincere satisfaction the preceding evening, began about eleven o'clock to decrease, and continued to do so till about five in the morning, when it entirely died away, and was succeeded by our old adverse south-west wind; however, we had been carried forward about ninety miles by it, for which we felt thankful, and hoped to be able to wait patiently till God should be pleased to restore it to us. We knew, also, that the wind, which was so adverse to us, was highly favourable to ships returning from long voy-

ages, wherefore we ought not to grudge their crews so favourable a gale.

About noon, this gale blew with considerable violence. When looking at the main-mast, the captain happened to observe puffs of dust, like sand, proceeding from a small hole, about twelve feet from the deck. On ordering the carpenter to examine it, he declared the mast to be rotten to the heart. Sad intelligence indeed to us all! On calling a meeting of the officers, it was resolved that we should return to Liverpool for a new mast, to the sincere regret of all; but there was no alternative, as no sailor would venture to mount it in a storm, after knowing it was decayed; or should it come down, when some thousand miles from a port, we should have been placed in a painful predicament. The ship's helm was therefore ordered about, and the bow to point in the direction of Liverpool.

December 3. In the morning we entered the Irish, or St. George's Channel. The captain, on examining his chart, found that while we had been working out of the channel, for the two weeks, we had crossed between England and Ireland sixty times.

December 4. Before sunrise we got round Holyhead, and expected to reach Liverpool to dinner. When opposite Scarry lighthouse we hung out a torch, as a signal for a pilot, but none came. At ten A. M. the wind chopped round to the eastward, blowing di-

rectly against our approach to the harbour. A pilot came on board at noon, who informed us of the death of our aged queen, and the consequent general mourning. The wind dying away, we remained nearly in the same position the whole day, and likewise the succeeding night, which rather disappointed us, as we were very desirous to spend the sabbath, which was the next day, among our friends at Liverpool. But God, mercifully, at noon caused a fair wind to spring up in the west, which carried us forward so swiftly, that we arrived in the river, opposite Liverpool, about five o'clock in the evening of Saturday, but we did not go ashore to disturb our friends at an unseasonable hour. On the morning of the Lord's day, at ten o'clock, we walked directly to the chapel of Dr. Raffles, where our friends were rather surprised to see us, having concluded we were at least a thousand miles from the British shores. I preached in the morning, and in the afternoon addressed a sermon to children, which I had engaged to do previous to sailing, had we remained another sabbath. My companions in travel, Dr. P. and Mr. M., preached in other places in the town.

On Monday, being the first Monday in the month, we had the opportunity of uniting with many friends of missions, in their monthly missionary prayer meeting, which was attended by about fifteen hundred persons.