

Extracted from
“The New Zealand Herald, Auckland, December 23, 1864”

The clipper ship Helenslee, Capt. Brown, arrived in harbour yesterday morning, after a good passage of 101 days from Clyde. The following is a report of her passage, which has been kindly furnished us:

She left Clyde on the 10th September with 334 passengers, all selected by agent for Auckland Government in Glasgow. Cleared the channel on the 14th, shortly after which experienced a heavy gale from westward, with high sea, and much thunder and lightning. Light variable winds followed till the line was crossed on the 19th October, and the same light wind continuing till the Cape of Good Hope was passed on the 9th November, after which had strong breezes from the Eastward. On the 18th November, in latitude 46S25., longitude 410E30, saw a large iceberg, supposed about 90 feet high, and 2 miles long. The wind then shifted to the westward with very cold weather and frequent showers of sleet and snow, which continued till Tasmania was reached on the 7th December, then light northerly winds prevailed, until sighting the Three Kings on the 19th inst, the time occupied from land to land being 97 days.

During the passage the greatest harmony and good feeling prevailed, and amusements were entered into with spirit.

Day schools for children between five and sixteen years of age were conducted by Mr Thomas Wilson, teacher, assisted by Mr Samuel Cricket, who, in addition to secular knowledge, imparted to them a considerable amount of religious instruction, the fruits of which, it is trusted, will be seen and felt in this colony for many days after. Sabbath day services in the forenoon were conducted by Mr Cricket to an apparently earnest and anxious congregation. Sabbath evening and Thursday evening prayer meetings were also conducted by Mr Cricket, assisted by Messrs. Wilson and Paterson.

Helenslee, Ship, 789 tons, James, from Clyde.

Passengers:

John, Ellen, William, Peter, Jane, and Thomas Wright; Janet Bowes; John and Alexander Wright; Thomas Buchanan; Alexander, Madeline, William and Alexander Mills; John, Catherine, William and John Napier; George, Elizabeth and Mary Peat; Alexander, Mary and Agnes Scott; John Maxwell; John, Euphemia, James, Janet, Grace, and Adam Gall; David, Mary, Mary Ann, David, Jane, Eliza, Alexander, Sarah, John Maxwell; Charles, Barbara and Charles Bathgate; Jean, Hugh, Margaret and John Fergusson; Thomas, Jane, Robert, Douglas, Thomas, Samuel and Jane Gordon; William and Jane Lake; James, Janet and Mary Graham; Charles, Margaret, Robert and John Stewart; George, Lawrence, Margaret, George, John, George, Jane, Mary, Agnes, John, David, James, Robert and William Pitkethley; William, Francis, and William Will; James, D., Margaret, William Thomas, and Mary Ann Beith; Campbell, Jane and Hugh Jackson; Peter and Elizabeth McIntyre; Ann Dewar; Thomas and William Mitchell; Agnes Auld; James Cassidy; Joseph McEwan; William, Catherine, William, and Jane Dean; Isabella Welsh; John, Margaret, William, Matthew, Margaret and Mary Dean; James, Elizabeth and James Kelley; William and Mary Sloan; David, James, William, Mary, Robert and Margaret Cunningham; James, Marion, David, Janet, James and William Samson; Mary Imria; Matthew, Isabella, and Matthew Paul; Hugh, Isabella, John and William

Muir; Donald McLean; Mary Cameron; George, Isabella, Isabella, William, John, James, Christina, and George Perritt; John, Mary, Thomas and Sophia Latla; Samuel and John Cricket; Daniel, Elizabeth, Foxmaule, Landerdale, and Catherine Camachan; Ann Friars; Alexander, Isabella, John, Samuel, and Alexander Craig; David McKenzie; James and Charlotte Cochrane; John, Anna, and Agnes Barrett; Alexander, Mary, Ellen, and Alexander Allen; Alexander, James, Alexander, Ellen, and Joseph Lockie; Thomas Henderson; Alexander, Janet, Janet, and Alexander Law; Stewart McGregor; John and Esther McNeian; William and Sillias Livingstone; Alexander, Margaret, Archibald, Euphemia and Alexander Buchanan; Robert, Mary, Robert, John, Catherine and William Pendergast; John, Margaret and Margaret Clark; James Phillips; James, Janet, Esther, Stewart and Janet Hughie; Samuel, Mary, Mary, Margaret, Robert, Agnes, Marion and Helen Crickett; Peter, Ellen, Isabella and Thomas McPherson; Neill McPhee; William and Rachel Douglas; Thomas, Agnes, Agnes and Thomas Williamson; James, Mary, William and Margaret McConnell; Joseph, Agnes, Barbara, Margaret, Agnes, Jane, Thomas and Robert Blair; Andrew Burns; William, Mary, James, William, George and Mary Jane McPherson; Alexander, Hannah, John, Ann, and Alexander Campbell; David Wright; William, Ellen, Margaret, Ellen, Elizabeth, Jane, Arthur and Joseph McGlyne; Hugh and Elizabeth Campbell; John King; Robert, Margaret, and John Little; James, Isabella, James, Isabella and Margaret Walker; William Sampson; Joseph Govan; Thomas Dunlop; John, Bridget and Richard Warn; William, Mary and Andrew Hunter; Thomas J and Isabella Murray; Alexander Douglas; George McCowett; John, Sillias, John, Archibald, David, Angus, Gilbert, Thomas, Allan and Duncan McGill; John, Susan and John Chisholm; Robert, Sarah, and Sarah McFarlane; Robert and Jane Shanks; William, Jean and Ellen Patterson; N., Rachel, Flora, Isabella, Mary, Alexander, Marion and John McLean; Norman, Ann and Christian McLeod; Angus McDonald; Peter McKenzie; John and Margaret Peat; Thomas, Susan and Anthony Murray; John McCullan; Peter McGuire; Ivy Ferguson; Boyd Jamieson; John, June, and Margaret Low; Arthur, Ellen, John and Francis Campbell; Elizabeth McNeish.

Lastly there was a record music class of twelve persons, named respectively, and they practiced three times weekly. This did much to enhance the psalmody of the Sabbath service and week night prayer meetings. The following were the members:

William Dean, conductor; Samuel Cricket, John Cricket, George Pitkeithley, Neil McPhee, W. Simpson, Thomas Wilson, Joseph Govan, Stewart McGregor, Mary Pitkeithley, Mary Crickett, Agnes Pitkeithley, John Ferguson, and Mary Maxwell.

The Helenslee is a fine clipper ship of 798 tons, and has, considering the weather experienced, made a very good run; and to show that if she had experienced anything like the winds she would have made a rapid passage, we may only state that the run from 40 E. to within 100 miles of Tasmania was made in 17 days, thus averaging 320 miles a day. Her last voyage was to Otago, which was made 74 days from Glasgow. The ship, which has arrived in port in a clean and creditable condition, has brought a total of 334 passengers, all in good health, and under the medical superintendence of Dr John Wilmshurst. There were 9 births and 14 deaths during the passage, one a Mr Pitkeithley, aged 21 years,

from continued sea sickness and debility; and the other, Mrs Mary Latta, aged 23 years, from diarrhoea: the remainder were all infants.

The End.