

Basic Detail Report

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Title

Private logs of HMS CALLIOPE , HMS OPAL, HMS VIVID, HMS DUKE OF WELLINGTON, HMS HOARE volume 2

Date

1889-1891

Primary Maker

Hugh Fitzroy Hopkinson

Medium

Ink on paper, boards, gilt, photographic prints

Dimensions

Overall: 25 x 320 x 214 mm, 1.3 kg Display Dimensions: 320 x 380 x 101 mm

Name

Logbook

History

Hopkinson's time onboard the MINOTAUR and NORTHUMBERLAND was spent cruising off coastal waters and visiting Lisbon (the log of the latter has a humorous frontspiece showing a minotaur saying: "Our boilers are worn out. Our guns are obsolete so its all up with the old 'MINNIE'. The ORLANDO, an armoured trade protection cruiser, took him to Australia via Gibraltar, Aden and the Indian Ocean and from Sydney to Auckland where he transferred to the CALLIOPE. This vessel sailed to Samoa, the object of rival claims between America, England and Germany. Germany had secured a German-Samoan state council intended to put Samoa under German control, its overthrow in late 1888 provoking England and America to devote more and more naval forces to the area. On March 15th, however, a tremendous hurricane put paid to the bickering and in the now crowded harbour of Apia a number of ships were sunk or grounded, only the CALLIOPE succeeding in reaching open seas and surviving ..,"The prospect of military action had been literally blown away... "(Paul M, Kennedy, The Samoan Tangle, Dublin, 1974). Included in this section are a chart of the CALLIOPE'S route from Wellington to Apia, a map of Apia Harbour, watercolour sketches of the schooner MATAUTA on a reef and of a native hut and a pencil sketch entitled "Apia Harbour after Hurricane. March 16th 1889" with a key showing the various vessels involved. The second volume relates the return of the CALLIOPE to Australia via New Zealand, where Hopkinson rejoined the ORLANDO (which went back to New Zealand). The OPAL finally to Hopkinson from Australia to the United Kingdom.