

Thursday, September 7th. In England again.

UP at eight and on deck: a soft warm grey morning, the sea calm and grey; on our right is a long grey line, which is the Scotch coast, and a fleet of small undecked luggers we are running through is the Aberdeen fishing fleet. It turned out a beautiful day, but I thought the Scotch coast wondrous dull after all the marvels we had seen; even the Firth of Forth and its islands.

So there we were at last about seven in the evening laid along the pier at Granton, glared at stolidly by a line of Scotch men and boys, whom somehow it occurred to most of us Englishmen to fall to and chaff, which amused them and us till the gangway was thrust ashore, when I for my part departed without tuck of drum for Edinburgh as I had come.

I went into a tavern there with some of the Icelanders and

there was a drinking of healths, and farewells, and then Mag- **England**
nússon and Jón Sigurðsson went with me to the railway sta- **again**
tion, and I stood before the ticket-door quite bewildered,
and not knowing what to ask for. Lord, how strange it seemed
at first! So into the train, thinking what a little way it was
from Edinburgh to London.

I was curious to see what effect the trees would have upon
me when day dawned; but they did not have much; I thought
the houses and horses looked so disproportionately big for
the landscape that it all looked like a scene at a theatre.

So there I was in London at last, well washed, and finding
nobody I cared for dead: a piece of luck that does not always
happen to people when they are fools enough to go away be-
yond call for more than two months.

This is not meant in disrespect to Iceland, which is a mar-
vellous, beautiful and solemn place, and where I had been in
fact very happy.

WILLIAM MORRIS finished writing this journal (from
notes made in Iceland at the above dates) on the 30th June
1873, intending to sail from Granton for Iceland the second
time on July 10th of the aforesaid year 1873.

Æ man lifa
Nema öld fariz
Bragna lof
Eða bili heimar