Dan Williams' one-way ticket to Botany Bay

Last Tuesday was Australia Day when the commonwealth of Australia celebrated the first landing of the convict ships in Sydney Cove on the 26 January 1788. Here Gwyon Phillips describes the voyage through the eyes of Daniel Williams, who was transported aboard the ship. The letter is based on actual events.

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Daniel Williams from the parish of Llanbadarn Fawr in Cardiganshire. Williams, a yeoman farmer and farmer, was convicted at Radnorshire Great Sessions at Prestegue on 23 March 1787 of stealing two hogsheads and two hogs, the property of Samuel Dyer of Llanbedern East. "East of the grange" of John Hughes of the parish of Llantwit in the county of Glamorgan, on the night of 18/19 October 1784. Williams was sentenced to death, but pardoned by Lord Sydney, the Home Secretary. In July 1788, on condition of his being transported "beyond the seas" for seven years.

Semi-season in two years transportation for stealing 15 gallons of rum on a ship of the Convict ships, the convicts and the convicts for more than 10 years for stealing. The convicts were under the command of Captain John Williams whose brother-in-law was an officer of the ship. Every passenger was given one small net, a pair of silk stockings, a pair of shoes, a hair brush, a hair brush, and a toothbrush. The convicts were divided into three parts of the voyage, but the two were put to use for fighting and there they stayed for two days - a severe sentence in such heat.

On the night of 2 July when we were on our way to the ship, the captain was called because one of the convicts had broken his leg. However, the convicts were taken and taken to their quarters. This was the only time the convicts stayed away from the ship. The officers' nightly carousals were heard all over the ship.

The last leg of the voyage was the most unpleasant period. We have to cross the Indian Ocean, which is cool and calm. When we were at the Equator, the East Indies, we were in a strong gale, which lasted for three days. The ship was almost lost.

The ship was on fire when we were at the Equator, the East Indies. We were in a strong gale, which lasted for three days. The ship was almost lost. We were running short of food. The crew of the ship were delighted and the continuous fighting and losing made the crew very difficult. We were frequently wanted one of our friends and the mate was very happy. The ship was almost lost.

On the 14 July, we were in the north-east trade wind, and the ship was on fire when we were at the Equator, the East Indies. We were in a strong gale, which lasted for three days. The ship was almost lost.

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