

all concerned, every one regretting that we were so soon to part.

*June 7th.*—We leave to-morrow, and I feel assured no one can visit here without being at once struck with the singular beauty of the harbour and the surrounding scenery; and I shall not easily forget the feeling of regret with which my mind dwelt on the thoughts that I was bidding it a long, long farewell.

It was a lovely evening; not a single breath disturbed the glassy surface of the silent water; and yet how eloquently that silence spoke to the heart! And as I leant over the vessel's side, filled with all those nameless feelings which such an hour is so well fitted to call forth, I felt, notwithstanding all the temptations of promised adventure, the full bitterness of the price we have to pay for its excitements.

That we had been great favourites, and had made many friends during our stay, was very evident, and there can be no doubt that the *Challenger's* visit will long remain in the recollection of our Australian cousins.

It is worth remarking that the traveller, on reaching these shores, should remember it was here at Sydney where our Australian Empire was commenced, amidst dangers and difficulties of which those in England at the present time think very little.