

*Sept. 9th.*—At an early hour this morning proceeded under weigh, and after a few hours' run hove-to off Booby Island, where a party landed for shooting and to look up the post-office, a rough log shanty in which is kept a record book; for it seems to be a rule with vessels to heave-to here, after the dangers of Torres Straits are passed, and leave their names and letters to be forwarded by the first vessel. There were no letters for any of our party, but one directed to the first visitor, describing a sunken rock not laid down on the charts.

On the boats returning, we proceeded on our way for the Arru Islands. For some eight days we cruised on a north-westerly course, having frequent successful dredgings and trawlings. On the 15th, after passing a small detached coral reef, course was altered as requisite for the island we were bound to. The group extends from north to south about 100 miles. Its eastern limits, however, are but imperfectly known. The islands seem low and swampy, but, from being well-wooded, have the appearance of being much higher than they really are. On first sight, they appear as one continuous low island, but on nearing, intricate channels are found winding amongst them, through which set strong tidal currents.

*Sept. 16th.*—We stood along the land all night, and early on the morning of the 16th were off the entrance of Dobbo Harbour, situated between the two islands of Wamma and Wokan, and during the fore-