

From the Diary of Bishop John Francis Norton – 1925

Inscription....

*Diary kept for my dearest Mother
on the P. & O Steamer "Mongolia"
by John F. Norton
With the Australian National
Pilgrimage to Rome & Lourdes 1925.*

4th May

Another bad night for our patient. He is fighting every inch of the way. When the Doctor complimented him on his tenacity, he told him that he would otherwise be but a poor successor of the first Bishop of Bathurst whose motto was "Mergimus nunquam" – "We shall never sink", "We shall never go under". It certainly has a very appropriate meaning for one who is fighting for his life at sea.

The day is trying on everyone. To add to one's misfortune - as night fell - we had another engine mishap and one of the turbines is out of action. The notice says there is no need of alarm, but it is galling when every hour is an added agony for the Bishop. This is the second time the engines have been in trouble this voyage. Although the "Mongolia" is only a new ship - two years old.

