PRESENTED TO
BOWDOIN COLLEGE
BY
MRS. BROOKS SAVAGE

(died July 11, 1894 in London England)

Alaska Savage

San Francisco

California

now

Sh

Pr

now property of Mark Savage
Skowhegan, Maine 1/25/59

Deadilla B. Morse

Wife Worcester
(Died in 1899) Mass

(died July 11, 1894 in London England.)

Alaska Sister

San Francisco California

San Francisco

Boise City Idaho

Property of
G. Willis Morse.
Worcester.
Mass. died

Jan. 1920
now the property of.
Geo. W. Morse died 1935
Stillwbrook, Calif.
1928 Compton, Calif.

1935
Property of C Katherine Clarke
Providence, R.I.

JOUR

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JOURNAL OF A PASSAGE

FROM BOSTON

TO CALIFORNIA

ON BOARD THE SHIP

ROB ROY

The Rob Roy
by Read &
She is Sip
and Sonne

The Rob Roy hails from New York but is owned in Boston by Reed & Wainwright who have freighted her.
She is six hundred tons burthen about fifteen years old and something more than common sailer.

Thomas A Holt.	Master	
John Pierce.	1st Mate.	left in Rio
John Eager	2nd Mate.	1st mate from Rio.
Cameron.	2nd Mate	from Rio
John Marco.	Crew.	
Alfred Webb.		
Frederic Winnepaw.		
John Giving.		
George Giving.		
Andrew Duncan.		
William Rich.		
Albion Glidden.		
Albion Potter.	Stephen Libbey, Robert McKay	from Rio
Stanley Mansfield.		
Thomas W. Morey.	Carpenter.	
Atwood Hansen.	Stewards.	
Philander Rice.		
Arnoldo Judd.		
John D Atkins.		
John Rooke.		
Helen Bolton		left in Rio
Thomas Smith.	Cooks.	colored
William Adams.		
Amos Wentworth.	Boys.	
John Steward.		

Passengers.

Austin Savage Blumfield Me
Charles F Kidder Cambridge Mass
Capt. William Reed Vassalborough me
Capt Elbridge Reed .. ..
Capt Amiziah Trask .. ..
Capt. William Davis Friendship Me.
Capt Benjamin Reed Vassalborough Me
William Libbey .. ..
Stephen Libbey Buxton Me.
Albion Bradbury .. ..
Charles Currier Waldoboro Me.
Robert McKay Boston Mass.
Luke Merrill Hillsborough N.H.
Thomas Ellis Waterville Me.
Edwin Ellis .. ..
Charles Glidden Boston Mass
David Tibbetts Bristol Me
Thomas Rose Boston Mass.
Samuel Morse Waldoboro Me.
Edward Thompson Boston Mass
James Lavar .. ..
Joshua Webb Waldoboro Me.
Cyrone Sawyer Swanzey N.H.
Isaiah T. Ellis Rochester Mass.
Benj Rice Boston Mass.
Austin Baker Waldoboro Me
Bristum Rogers Bradford Vt.
George Taplin .. ..
John Flanders .. ..
Philip Sargeant Lowell Mass.
Jeremiah W Gale .. ..
Franklin Atkins Vassalborough Me.
John Rowell Rockport Mass.
Jos H Stratton Boston ..
Ephraim B Stevens Montville Me.
~~Samuel Morse Vassalborough Me.~~
Edwin Moody Boston Mass.
Corn .. ..
Lowell Hardy Lexington ..
James Tillebrown .. ..
King Milwaukie Wisconsin
Henry W. Lake .. ..
Lewis Girdler Marblehead Mass.
Charles Hull Boston Mass
William Burchell Portland Me
Edward Doane Hamden Me
Richard Blaisdell Vergennes Vt.
James Raymage .. ..
Capt Alvin Rogers Orleans Mass
Henry Hodge Vassalborough Me.
Jos R. West North Providence R.I.
Ephraim Griswold Williston Vt.
Robert Brown Castine Me.
William Kirby St Johns N B
Edward Kirby .. ..
Michael Harrigan Boston Mass
Cornelius Harrigan .. ..
William Splane 1st .. ..
William Splane 2nd .. ..
Daniel Splane .. ..
Enfield Salem ..
William McLean Springfield Mass
Died in Valparaiso

Females.

Mrs Sarah Griswold Williston Vt.
Mrs Matilda C. Hardy Lexington Mass
Mrs. Elmira Tillebrown .. ..
Mrs Ann Rice Boston Mass
Mrs Stratton .. ..
Miss Laura Sweeton .. ..

Damsels.

Miss Lucinda Butler .. ..
Miss Sarah Hines Springfield ..
Miss Isabella Steward Boston ..
Miss Katherine McComic .. ..
Miss Clarinda Sue .. ..
Miss Emma .. ..

Children.

Henry Tillebrown Age.
George Tillebrown ..
Albert Tillebrown ..
Lowell J Hardy ..
Eliza J. Hardy ..
Franklin D Hardy ..

Left Centralia January 20th by the steam about 3 three o During the of to and from Cambria for three yankee Spirit. The and smaller seemed read there is some the wire pull causes delay. this afternoon was going on the wharf there walked into who had seen females of ba name of Thom he together wi and made them About 3 Oclock at the cabin several letters the tears to ro I ascertained Boston request of going to Rob Roy as that there were ship they objec had shipped left the wharf be carried fro these letters in according to to say that sh on shore by th It is now about by appearance I are now ar that I can

Left Central Wharf Boston in the ship Rob Roy friday January 25th 1850 at half past eleven. being taken in tow by the steamer Hornet we moved down the harbour about three miles from the city and anchored.
During the afternoon passengers were continually passing to and from the city. About 3 Oc. the British Steamer Cambria passed up the Harbour and we gave her three yankee cheers which she returned in true English Spirit. The wind was fair and several large ships and smaller crafts passed us bound out to sea but we seemed ready yet were not ready for sea.
There is something going on so mysterious that I cannot understand the wire pulling. but evidently there is something which causes delay. There seemed to be a stir about something this afternoon and I of course inquisitive to know what was going on harked. I ascertained that after we left the wharf there were four females came on board and walked into the cabin as passengers. and some one who had seen them on shore remarked that they were females of bad characters. There was a man by the name of Charles Hull who had them in charge. and he together with a Mr Rhodes bluffed every body off and made them out good characters.
About 3 Oc two men came on board and calling for a lady at the cabin door who soon appeared and they delivered to her several letters which she opened and read which caused the tears to roll down her cheeks.
I ascertained that the letters were written by her friends in Boston requesting her to come on shore and give up the notion of going to California. It appeared that she shipped in the Rob Roy as stewardess and when her friends found out that there were females going of questionable character in the Ship they objected to her going but she argued that as she had shipped she could not get away but after the Ship left the wharf her friends ascertained that no one could be carried from the States against their will so they wrote these letters informing her that she could refuse to go according to law if she pleased and finally she endeavored to say that she would not go accordingly she was taken on shore by the two men one of which was our pilot.
It is now about half past six and if I am allowed to judge by appearances I should think that all were not teetotallers.
I am now writing between decks and so many are the performances that I can hardly describe any of them.

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Some are playing cards some drinking and others singing and playing the accordion but only one writing beside myself. I think there are some Irishmen going in the ship and I hear them now somewhere amid ship talking, and drinking I should think as I hear one say here's to Old Ireland may her sons never want for gold. I presume some of their friends are on board drinking a farewell glass with them.
We took dinner on board today about 3 Oclock and the bill of fare was Bread Butter Stinking Beef and cold Water.

"From Saccarap- to Portland pier."

On board I find Charles & Kidder from Norridgewock and Mr Ellis and son from Waterville. The only men I have yet discovered whom I ever saw before. I first engaged a cabin passage but have exchanged it for the steerage believing it to be much the best place.
The berths are arraigned between decks on each side one tier deep and two high and two tiers in the centre two high as far forward as the main hatch. The tables are between the centre and side berths nearly the whole length on both sides.

It is now about 8 Oclock rather cold and uncomfortable and no indications of any supper and I presume as we had dinner so late there will be nothing of the kind thought of tonight by the Stewards.
I think there are some among us who are taking rather a clandestine leave of these regions. There has been quite a number on board today with letters directed to individuals as I think to ascertain if such and such ones are bound to the gold regions with the intention of stopping them if they will just be kind enough to acknowledge their names which probably will not be done by a yankee at this late hour. How many and how shrewd are the games played in the yankee city of Notions.
I have just been on deck and it is a beautiful clear calm pleasant eve but there are strong indications of an approaching storm. While there I heard an altercation between the second Mate and a passenger which arose from this. The first Mate was going ashore and finding that there were so many who wished to accompany him he concluded to take but one and as soon as they stepped into the boat the Second Mate cast her off which displeased the said man, and he was somewhat saucy but he seemed in the end glad enough to leave the mate and sneak on to the cabin

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Again I have been on deck and the moon shines beautifully. A boat has just come alongside in which are some six or seven passengers who have been up to the city and judging from the singing & carousing which is now going on I should think that they had embraced old Bacchus quite too affectionately.
I saw while on deck quite a number of vessels going out of the harbour under full sail with a light breeze which was a rich and rare spectacle by moonlight for me.
It is now past eleven Oc all have turned in and it would shame any four shingle machines to hear the different discords of snoring when we talk of noisy places and unearthly tunes. Here I leave this first day towards California.

Saturday January 26th 1850.

Nothing occurred during the past night to disturb my slumbers. and considering the change from a soft bed to a sea berth I slept very well.
I arose this morn at half past six went on deck weather pleasant and the wind blowing gently from the west saw quite a number of vessels passing out and coming into the harbour. Took breakfast at 8 Oc. bill of fare Bread Salt Beef. Coffee and a very small quantity of Beef Steak. Soon after breakfast two females came on board and a Stewardess to supply the place of the one who left yesterday. About 9 Oc the wind went down and a signal B hoisted for a steamer to tow us out. A curious sensation passed over me as I took about the ship and scarcely see an individual who appears to consider where they are going or the fact that many if not all are about to leave old New England for the last time. All seem to be full of music and police of every description. No steamer appears and about 11 Oc the wind breezes from the west & the Pilot is on board and gives orders to weigh anchor and make sail which is done and we move down the harbour under full sail very slowly. Indeed I think I never saw a more pleasant day in New England in January. It is quite as warm and the sun shines as brilliant and pleasant as ever I saw it in June. The wind dies away and about half past twelve it is a dead calm and away goes the anchor again. Here we lay as calm and quiet as a summer day about five miles from the city of Notions.

About 1 Oclk the Steamer Jacob Bell came alongside and fast to us and the air resaunds with the merry sailors song heaving up the anchor. All clear Steam on away we go down the harbour. I perceive there are quite a number on board from the city who came down in the steamer some undoubtedly out of curiosity and others to say farewell to their friends among whom I see one of the Shippers and one of his clerks a Mr Price and truly he seems a real lion among some of the female passengers. Mr Reed appears very much of a gentleman but Price I think is quite the reverse. The Capt and Mates appear well thus far but it is impossible to judge what they are until we get fairly out to sea.

I am now setting upon the poop deck rail writing and it is as pleasant as summer and the passengers are seated all around the deck appearing happy and thoughtless. Such a contrast I think never was beheld in Boston Harbour before. The island scenery plainly indicates that it is dead of winter but the Sun and sky appear more like midsummer. On one hand how beautiful but on the other how desolate and dreary. All around are islands and in the distance I discern the spires of the city and Bunker Hill Monument quite plain. At half past 1 Oclk I hear the order let go the anchor and the Steamer casts off and leaves us amid the deafning cheers of the passengers.

Dinner today at 2 Oclk. Salt Beef & Potatoes Hard bread and Butter and Cold Water. Still it continues calm and beautifully pleasant without the least indication of wind to waft us to Sea. We now lay at anchor between the islands about ten miles from the city.

About 3 Oclk some seven or eight of the passengers took one of the boats and left us for a visit to the city. It is so clear and pleasant that I can see the city spires and the monument quite plain.

The passengers are nearly all on deck this afternoon and on one side of the quarter deck I see four gents and four females playing cards and some four or five packs are being used by gents alone in different places on deck. I see some two or three reading todays papers which were brought down by the Steamer and two only have books and no one writing but me.

About 6 Oclk the Capt called all the passengers together between decks and made a speech of regulations.

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He said we had left our homes and embarked on a long and somewhat dangerous voyage upon the ocean and that it was necessary and highly important that there should be rules and regulations to govern us and that he as master of the ship felt it his duty to lay before the passengers such laws as would conduce to their health and happiness which he hoped would be respected and obeyed otherwise they would be enforced.

Supper this eve at half past six Beef Bread Butter and Tea As soon as the cloth was removed I moved that there be an organization to regulate our table also to settle and compromise all differences and disputes.

Capt Davis was called to the chair and Capt Reed called upon me to make a proposition. I proposed that there be two moderators chosen whose duty it should be to advise and also the same to be a committee of reference to settle all questions which may arise between passengers and in case they appealed from this decision the capt of the ship shall be called and his opinion shall be a final decision. This proposition was unanimously agreed upon and we proceeded to choice.

Capt Reed was chosen 1st and Mr Gale 2nd moderators and then a question arose whether it would not be expedient to add a third man to this committee which was decided in the affirmative and thereupon I was chosen to complete this committee of reference.

Voted that this committee draft and report for consideration and acceptance a code of regulations to be presented as soon as convenient. Adjourned.

Still it is calm and pleasant and the moon shines beautifully and all kinds of singing on deck from Old Hundred to the regular break down nigger song in which both male and female join, and ever and anon the chorus is increased by the assistance of some half doz squalling children in the cabin.

One choir is now singing psalm tunes at the head of our table and I hear an accordion and singing in some other part of the ship and I should judge by the noise on deck that they were having a high time there. Every one seems to try to enjoy the last moments in sight of Boston and perhaps the last they ever will enjoy in old New England. About 11 Oclock this eve the ships boat came along side from the city with a jovial set of boys.

Sunday January 27th 1850.

Went on deck this morn about 8 Oc'l wind blowing from the South West with a light rain.
At nine Oc'l the wind has hauled to the North West and the pilot give orders to weigh anchor and make sail. At half past nine we are under full sail with a light breeze damp but no rain. Nearly opposite Boston light we take leave of the pilot. Reed. and Rhodes and never did a boat leave a ship under three times three louder cheers. At one Oc'l it is cloudy with a steady but light breeze and not uncomfortably cold.
I am now writing on deck and being Sunday things seem a little more quiet than before but still they continue jovial and lively the females evidently determined to be free and happy. I understand that there was an attempt to play cards in the cabin this morning but the Capt put a stop to it and decidedly stated that nothing of the kind should be allowed on board his ship on the Sabbath.
The shores of Old New England are fast receding from view and apparently but few consider that perhaps we are now taking the last view of our own native shore.
I should have mentioned that before the pilot left us this morn we were called to answer to our names to ascertain if there were any on board who had not paid their fare. I see sails in every direction and old ocean's bosom begins to heave gently and few are beginning to be sick. It is now 3 Oc'l The weather is clear and we are on our course sailing at the rate of about 9 knots and just in sight of the highlands of Cape Cod.
I have just observed what I consider a singular sight. The sun and moon dipping the horizon at the same time exactly on opposite sides of the world.
Quite a number I perceive are now sick. The wind breezes up finely and we are evidently getting an uncommon rush out of the bay. What a spectacle I now behold for consideration! The sun setting in the west which reflects upon the distant highlands of the Cape the last spot of Old New England that we all shall ever behold again without a doubt. Some of us may return but it would be a miracle—if we all should still appearances indicate that very few have a thought upon this subject. The moon is now up and she shines beautifully. How majestic our noble ship now ploughs the rolling deep. She is now a spectacle under full sail worthy the pencil of an artist.

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We had a fine run last night and I think we must now be about one hundred miles from Cape Cod.
It is now about nine Oclock and the wind has died away and the sails are shoking loosely against the yards. The weather is very pleasant without the least appearance of winter. At 12 Ocl it continues pleasant wind light quite a number sick but most seem to enjoy themselves well. I have just taken a view of the deck and I see some half doz. in one of the quarter boats smoking segars and telling stories. Some stretched upon settees sick, some hugging the damsels in true Ann Street style, and others engaged in different amusements the dogs three we have are playing and the hens are prating. At 5 Ocl the wind breezes and there is a grand rush and all hands are engaged close reefing the topsails. It rains slightly and there is a fair prospect of a stormy night.

Tuesday January 29th 1850.

About 11 Ocl last night the wind changed to the North West and this morn we are on our course South East with a very heavy sea running.
The passengers seem very docile this morning and many very sick. at nine Ocl they increase sail and we are now moving over the mountain waves at a smart rate. Some sneezing snuff taken all round has created quite a noise and seems to be all the sport this forenoon. I feel as well today as I could wish and no symptoms of seasickness yet. I have just been administering to the wants of the sick many of whom are very bad. Some little feeling seems to exist and some harsh expressions are made because a Steerage passenger went into the cabin but I think it may end without much trouble.
Some are evidently trying to enter into the good graces of the Boston damsels with an affectionate rush. I heard one of the damsels swearing as roundly as any sailor could today, which I noticed more particularly because it is an uncommon think for me to hear such language from females. I have seen nothing yet which would lead me to conclude that we have a religious person on board but there has hardly been time to ascertain this yet. The wind is fresh with light rain this eve and the weather looks squally and unsettled.

Wednesday January 30th 1850.

There has been a continued succession of Squalls about every hour today accompanied with rain and coarse hail. Early in the morning I saw several waterspouts in the North West and about ten in the forenoon a splendid rainbow made its appearance in the East. About 1 Oclock we saw a Sail to the Eastward but were unable to ascertain her course or kind.
There has been a strong wind during the day and the sea is now very rough and the old Ship is tumbling finely. Nearly all are sick today.
While at dinner the Capt came down and read to us his ship regulations. the points of which were that no Steerage passenger be allowed in the cabin and no cabin passenger be allowed in the Steerage, no one should be allowed to converse with the man at the wheel. no provision should be used between meals and others too simple to mention.
It is now about 7 Oclock the wind continues to blow hard with squalls and rain. We are on our course sailing before the wind at the rate of about 10 knots per hour. The ship is now rolling heavily and there is a fair prospect of a rough stormy night. Some few are singing but pretty generally they are quiet tonight. One of the Capts regulations were that we should attend religious service in the Cabin.

Thursday January 31st 1850.

The wind blew strong through the past night but this morn it is lighter and we increased sail gradually.
We saw a splendid rainbow in the North this morn.
The ship made a lurch and took in water over the lee rail. this forenoon and a number of the passengers got pretty thoroughly wet. This afternoon has been very pleasant and all the passengers have been lazily sunning themselves on deck. There seems to be some little dissatisfaction today between the cabin and steerage passengers. concerning the Boston Damsels.
Thompson & Swan as I understand have advised the damsels not to associate with the steerage passengers and appearances indicate that they wish to keep a private harem for their own private use.
Swan and Thompson are evidently determined to rule the passengers and they are swelling pretty largely already. Perhaps they can rule some but can they others

Friday February 1st 1850.

We had a fine run last night and the wind continues to waft us along this morn very much to my notion of sailing.
The weather is very pleasant and warm enough to be comfortable on deck and all the passengers are enjoying it. The ship is so badly ventilated between decks that the air becomes impure in a short time and we are all glad to get on deck rain or shine. All seem very much disappointed in the ship as almost every thing was misrepresented. The deck leaks badly and a large part of the berths are more or less wet. A jug of new rum was upset in the cabin today and came down through the deck and made a fine scent. Another kind of liquid is also dripping through which is unpleasant.

Saturday February 2nd 1850.

The past night has been pleasant with a light wind. It is almost a dead calm this morn and the sea is as smoothe as a river. Saw several whales this morn and some of them were throwing water. Towards noon the wind breezes and at 12 Oc we are making fine headway. Two of the dogs are missing this morn and I rather think they were unceremoniously thrown overboard last night.
Our sails are all full this afternoon and we are moving along swiftly. The Sandwich are on deck reading chatting laughing and sewing in weather as pleasant as our midsummer.
About 4 Oc we saw a sail in the South.
We had quite an excitement this evening on the poop deck. Thompson a cabin passenger came on deck drunk and insulted a Steerage passenger and the row was ended by calling the Capt who took Thompson away. Thompson made several threats one of which was that a Mr Dorr who is a steerage passenger never could go in this ship farther than Rio and that he had authority for saying that he never would arrive there out of irons. This Thompson is a drunken Buffoon from Boston who he is or what he has been I can only judge by appearances which is decidedly monkeyish. Some are playing cards and some are dancing this beautiful Southern eve.

13. Sunday February 3d 1850.

The past has been a quiet night with a light breeze and this morn is delightful when our latitude is taken into consideration. Our latitude is 35° north but the climate indicates a more Southern latitude. Every thing seems quiet this morn and there are signs of a respect for the Sabbath.
Some are reading the bible and others are variously engaged reading and conversing.
All seem to have forgotten their seasickness today.
I perceive a few and but few who seem indifferent and evidently have no respect for the Sabbath.
I heard one of the damsels say this morn that she had not looked into a bible for more than two.
I have had a long conversation this forenoon with Mr Ellis from Waterville which carried me back to my home and friends. I am not homesick but here I am upon the wide ocean leaving my home for a distant land and perhaps never to return. All are strangers and I know not which way to turn to find what we all need a confidential friend.
This afternoon we were all invited to attend worship in the cabin, and about half went in and the farce Mr Thompson who was drunk and making a row officiated assisted by Swan the other Buffoon. I knew it would be a mock worship and would not attend. Soon after they assembled in the cabin. I was invited between decks and requested to read a chapter in the bible which being done they sung a psalm tune and Mr Stevens handed me a paper and requested me to read a sermon written by Dillingham of Augusta, after which they sang and repeated Old Hundred. Again all are assembled on deck reading chatting and singing.
I am just informed that the services in the cabin this afternoon were a perfect mockery. Thompson reading prayers and acting monkey at the same time and several of the damsels sitting behind him kicking his shins. Swan read a chapter in the bible and appeared about as ridiculous.
I just heard an observation from a Steerage passenger which was that the damsels were the most respectable portion of the cabin passengers. The wind breezes and it is a shade cooler. The sun is down and I am now writing on the poop deck. Thompson and Swan look like sneaking dogs. since services.

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I understand that the Capt says he will have no more mock religious services in his cabin but Swan & Thompson assumes more authority than he does and I think they will do as they please about that. About 10 Oclock this eve Thompson is again drunk and crazy insulting & ungentlemanly. Hee insulted and threatened Capt Elbridge Reed a Steerage passenger and the interference of the Mate only, prevented him from getting a drubbing. This Thompson is evidently a bad fellow and I think he will make a disturbance during the whole passage. In some manner unaccountable to me he seems to hold an influence over the Capt.

Monday February 4th 1850.

The wind changed during the past night into the South West and we are now braced sharp up and nearly on our course. There is considerable talk this morn about the mock services in the cabin yesterday and all seem to be down on Thompson and Swan for their sham attempt at religious worship. We introduced a few municipal rules this morn to govern us during the passage, and chose Capt Rusk Clerk to see that a certain list of them were observed. One of the regulations were that we should wash the deck in our apartment below. Mondays and Fridays. which has been done today for the first time in good shape. The said Thompson who has been drunk thus far on our passage came down between decks and commenced in an insulting manner a discourse directed to Capt Elbridge Reed who began to think that forbearance had ceased to be a virtue and acting by virtue of this impulse he unceremoniously played upon him the yankee game of an instant by packing him closely between the bulk head and stairs. After which he received orders to go on deck which he was not slow in obeying. During this time Thompson was heard to call for the Capt several times which proves that in case of resistance he expected the capt would take up for him but no Capt came only Capt. Reed who assisted him to leave our apartment without much delay. Thompson sneaked into the cabin and was not seen for some time.

About 11 Oclk. today we passed a school of porpaise which set the whole ship in uproar and upon the whole it was rather exciting. a harpoon was prepared and the mate threw it into one but passing around the weathers base the force of the water pulled him off. Today the capt gave orders that we should have no more butter for dinner. Our dinners thus far have been poorly cooked and scanty. They had a fine dinner in the cabin today furnished it is said by Thompson being his birth day. Some of the Steerage passengers were invited only two accepted Rogers and Hull.

The wind continues to blow fresh from the South West. which runs us off our course. The general topic of conversation seems to be upon the imposition which has been palmed off upon us in the manner in which we are fed. There is evidently much feeling astir and time will only tell the result. Thompson seems as quiet as a lamb today and perhaps he only needs to be put in his place and surely he will be in this crowd of yankees.

I have experienced some very serious thoughts today about home and friends but still I would not return. I think that nearly all would rejoice to have the old ship put about and return to Boston. There is a general dissatisfaction in regard to ship conveniences food &c. and some are yet sick and others who had no idea of a sea voyage wish themselves at home.

There are some rather obscene actions and expressions among the Boston Tarsels when the capt. is out of sight and from all I can learn and observe I should judge that there are curious performances in the cabin. After the lights are put out any one can pass out of their state room and into anothers very easily and I think it is done although the Capt says that such things cannot and shall not be done on board the ship but I do not believe all I hear.

Tuesday February 5th 1850.

Every thing went smooth I believe during the past night the wind continues from the same quarter as yesterday blows fresh and seems some colder. Yesterdays topic is evidently getting up steam. and at 11 Oclk a general growl from one end of the ship to the other principally about provisions. which are not according to agreement.

Jacob Austin Savage

Born Sept. 20, 1820

Died July. 11, 1894

Born in Bloomfield (Skowhegan) Maine

Died in London, England

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The Mate seems much dissatisfied and accuses the Capt of luring him on board a floating house of ill fame. The Capt appears to feel very bad and protests that he feels very bad himself and has been taken in by the shippers and if he had known that things were as they are he never would have come out of the ship. Those who please can swallow this but can I not understand some things as well as others. I understand that the Capt is somewhat interested owns part of the ship or cargo.

Passengers are continually running to the Capt. with complaints which he undergoes pretty well thus far.

I feel as calm as can be and well it is for me that I have been on the ocean before. I have not been the least sea sick yet and as far as grub is concerned I can eat any thing. I feel contented and quite happy only now and then when I think of home and the probability that I have left it for the last time. It is rather damp and uncomfortable between decks now but we are in hopes of being in a warmer climate soon if the wind will only change to the Westward. It is now 4 Oclock and the passengers are scattered about the deck engaged in sewing knitting singing smoking reading and spinning yarns. I played a game of whist this eve with Capt Reed Dorr & the Carpenter the first I have played since I came on board.

It is now still and quiet all have retired and nothing is heard but the splashing of the waves the creaking of the old ship and about fifty tones of snorers all vying with each other in their musical talent.

Wednesday February 6th 1850.

The wind continues from the same quarter and blows very fresh and I should judge that we were in about the same latitude that we were yesterday.

The grant concerning provisions continues and the principal strain today is that they live better in the cabin than in the Steerage which is a fact.

There is now a heavy sea running from the South West and the old ship is tumbling nobly and she is evidently an easy vessel in a heavy sea. We have had a succession of squalls today attended with rain and some forty dozen of the most splendid rainbows that I ever saw, all in the North. We consigned one body to the deep today and without ceremony I understand. It was the body of a grunter.

We have between decks two men who say they are married and who have their wives with them in temporary State rooms. aside from these there is a single female in a State room alone and I should think from the noise after the lights were out last night she must have had considerable company if not more.

Should this journal be read by any one in after years I wish them to understand that Seed & Wainwright of Boston the shippers have basely imposed upon the respectable part of our passengers by bringing on board after the ship left the shore some eight or ten females taken from houses of ill fame in Boston to supply a house which is on board to be put up at San Francisco owned by them and a Boston swell head who staid on board until the pilot left by the name of Rhodes.

Knowing these facts it will not be strange if I should record some curious actions and perhaps some performances which may not be as chaste and modest as they should be but it is my intention to give a true history of the passage to California in the Ship Rob Roy and if it does not suit the taste of some they need not peruse it.

Thus far the principal business evenings has been playing cards some however stick closely to their books evenings as well as day time. Novels I perceive are the principal reading. It is now late and all is quiet except the waves and snorers between which there is a contest.

Thursday February 7th 1850.

During the past night the wind hauled a little more to the West and we are now heading South East. with a fine breze and a very heavy sea which occasionally takes the liberty of leaping on board and most essentially sprinkling the passengers with brine.

Growling has somewhat subsided this morn caused away on account of the appearance of a decent sized biscuit on our table last night for supper the first we have seen since we left Boston. I assure you it tasted well to me and it must to those who have hardly tasted any thing since we came out. There are a few who are very sick yet and probably will be for weeks if it continues rough. We have some music on board I now hear a flageolet canopean accordian and fife. these I believe are all we have.

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So much fault finding I never heard before. One says the knives have not been washed another the mugs and another that the tables are dirty and so on from one thing to another which keeps a continual disputation of oaths and threats among the passengers and stewards. The Capt. looks more calm today than I have seen him for some time. He has been down between decks and says it is a great relief to get away from his noisy disagreeable cabin company. It causes rather disagreeable feelings when we think that such characters as are in the cabin should fare better than we do when the agreement was that all should fare alike supposing that all would be respectable passengers.

It is squally this afternoon and the wind continues fresh. About 4 Oclock a sail is in sight in the South which on close observation with a glass proves to be a topsail schooner heading Westward. This being the second sail seen since we came out it created considerable excitement every one men and women rushing rushing to the sail strain their sight to catch but a glimpse of any thing but the sea and sky which has been all we could see for more than a week. It is rather cold this eve and things are more quiet than they have been for a time.

The Damsels have spent most of their time today playing cards in the cabin where they ought to stay.

Friday February 8th 1850.

Last eve the wind shifted into the North East and it commenced raining and blowing almost a gale of the first class. This morn it continues to rain and blows a hurricane and we are bouncing over the mountain waves with but three sails set and those close reefed. two topsails and foresail. The passengers seem very quiet this morn some are standing near the weather rail and they get an occasional dash of old ocean which gets up a momentary excitement and others taking advantage of the rain are catching fresh water and washing their clothes. Most of the passengers avoid the deck today on account of the rain and are generally engaged playing cards. Some however are reading. One I see rather the worse for liquor and I may be mistaken but I am sorry to say that I think the first and second mate are the worse for liquor.

The wind continues to blow this afternoon and the rain is somewhat less than in the forenoon. Growling continues and indeed I do not wonder at it when I think of the beans we had for dinner today which were only parboiled and no meat with them. We got rather noisy between decks this eve and the Capt came down and requested that we would be quiet and let his officers sleep as they were up all the past night. We of course obeyed and all was quiet. Some curious expressions I hear made unless the fare is better. Some say put the ship about and run her back to Boston and expose the cargo of those worthy moral merchants, Reed & Wainwright. Others say that there are good provisions on board and we are the yankee boys to distribute it. and ten thousand other unmeaning proposals. The Damsels seem to be more quiet today and I think that the Capt has cautioned them but it is impossible for it to last long.
My thoughts have been homeward but very little today but I am now seriously thinking of Father Mother and the children at home. Yes thought far distant and tossing upon the rolling deep, home and the friends I leave behind shall not be forgotten.

Saturday February 9th 1850.

The wind calmed down last eve and we scarcely made any headway during the night. While on deck last eve I heard a grampus whale blowing around us but it was not sufficiently light to see him.
The ship is rolling about this morn in a heavy swell with scarcely a breath of air to steady her.
This being the day appointed for the diversion I belong into do their washing I have done mine which consisted of two pairs of stockings. Others had much more and the rigging looks like a washwomans yard.
About 10 Oc the wind breezes lightly and at 12 there is just enough to fill all the sails. I heard the first mate training the cooks and stewards today and among other things he said he had been upon the sea nearly all the time for 35 years and never lived so poor as he had since he came on board this ship. He said there was good provisions on board and if it was not cooked he would ascertain the reason without fail.

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About 3 Oclock this afternoon there were indications of a heavy squall and preperations were made by shortning sail &c. but there was but little wind with a smart shower and some beautiful specimens of electric lightning. The Damsels have been on deck part of them today while the others as I understand are invalids under the Capt care who performs the part of the experienced physician who was advertised in the Boston papers would go out in the Ship Rob Roy. I perceive that there are also some half doz. males on board who are now under his care and I think there may be as many more soon.

I cannot pity the Capt if all his time is employed during the whole passage as he must have known long before the ship sailed that such characters as he has were going and he aided in keeping it secret until all the respectable passengers who could be engaged were on board and the ship cast off from the wharf. Their conduct has already disgusted the Capt. So that he has given them a severe lesson this eve but let me anticipate that his sun with them has but begun.

Sunday February 10th 1850.

During the past night the wind blew almost a hurricane but this morn it has lulled into a steady breze. The first mate run a sail needle into his hand a few days ago and he has taken cold in it and it has been so painful that he has not been on duty since yesterday and fears are entertained that it may end in the lockjaw. There seems but little difference between this and a week day.

It is very unpleasant to be on board a vessel where there is no pretensions to religious worship.

The damsels are on deck some reading novels and others laughing and gossiping. The Capt looks as if he had not a friend in the world and truely his situation is not an enviable one. I understand that he has got the ill will of all or nearly all the cabin passengers. About 2 Oclock there is the appearance of a squall in the West and preperations are made for its reception. The squall was light with but little rain. When we sat down to tea this eve we found nothing on the table but hard bread and butter rather hard

fare we thought according to our agreement in Boston. Some thought if they had a small piece of codfish they should be satisfied accordingly I stepped on deck and asked the Capt if we could have some fish and after enquiring if we had any meat on the table which I answered in the negative he ordered the steward to put some on the table which being done all was quiet again. In a few minutes down came the Capt and in a very passionate manner said that after this he should put us all on allowance and went on to say that one of the passengers had basely insulted him by asking for codfish and any one who would do the like was no gentleman. As far as asking for the codfish the garment fitted me and I did not fear to wear it and I arose to explain but he was so irritated that he would not hear any thing. The Capt has acted a very indiscreet part this eve to say nothing of previous things for all feel that they have been abused and he might as well insult the whole crowd as to say what he did to me for I am satisfied that he has no friends here and I know that I have a few.

Capt Holt has proved himself unfit to manage a passenger ship and I have perceived during the past week that he was in trouble and have taken opportunities to converse occasionally in an encouraging manner with him as I am the last to insult a man when all are against him and certainly this insult this eve was the last thing I thought of.

Capt Holt has treated me very ungentlemanly as all who heard him decide and I have the satisfaction to console me that I had government sufficient over myself to receive this insult and coolly treat him gentlemanly. After he left us he went directly to the cabin and the fare on the table there was so mean that there were but few who sat down to the table which he perceived and thereupon gave them a severe blowing up although they had not said one word about the supper. I am truly sorry that the Capt has taken such a course for I fear that it may end in a serious manner. Notwithstanding he has insulted me I feel for and truly pity him. I think he is a worthy object of pity and for one I feel inclined to console and reinstate him in authority and confidence among the passengers as master and manager of the ship.

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I do not know but that Capt Holt is a drinking man, surely his looks do not show it but one cannot always judge by looks so well as by actions and certainly his actions indicate it at times He is low's for a week past show plainly that he has been in trouble and every day seems to increase the meagre savage visage of his countenance. I said I felt for Capt Hold and so I do but there are nearly One hundred New England yankees on board this craft who to all appearance have been brought up in good society and know and understand the rights of American Citizens both by sea and land (and I am one of these) but if the Capt thinks we are irish immigrants and continues to treat us as such he may be assured that he will find me in the ranks who will demand and have better treatment.

Monday February 11th 1850.

The wind kept up a lively breze through the past night and some time during which a squall struck us and came near throwing me from my berth and I should judge that the ship must have been very near on her beam ends and some one says that the second mate was asleep but the truth of it I have yet to learn It may be the case. The wind is light this morn blowing from the South West. I passed the Capt a number of times this morn on the poop deck but he did not deign to speak to me nor did his looks indicate anything like a friendly thought or opinion of me. Part of the passengers are washing today and the rigging is full of clothes drying of all descriptions some washed well but generally looking rather grey. There was a keg of raisins taken from the longboat last night and carried between decks and distributed between a few. About 12 Oc we wore ship and with a light breze and a heavy swell we stood to the South West which is encouraging being nearly our course. About 1 Oc there is a row in the Cabin in which the conspicuous characters are Capt Holt Susan Thompson Steward & Stewardess and during the melee some very hard language is made use of but I understand there was no blood spilt. We had a decent breakfast and dinner today and perhaps we yet may

fare pretty well at any rate unless we do there will be a continual row. After dinner the passengers are collected in groups conversing upon the best method of management. Opinions are expressed entirely regardless of the Capts presence although he is walking the deck apparently enjoying a troubled mind.
I can hardly anticipate how this affair will end but I am in hope they will give us enough to eat and every thing will be amicably settled.
Thompson and Swan are hard down upon the Capt and some severe language has been interchanged and I think a settlement cannot be effected for some time and perhaps not during the passage. It is quite calm and pleasant this afternoon some are washing some reading and others performing gymnastics. I see three of the damsels washing. The Capt has kept very quiet this afternoon and is now walking from the cabin to the galley apparently overseeing the cooking but he looks so cross that I should hardly dare ask him for codfish tonight. The Mates hand is better and he is on duty today. The tables are well occupied this eve playing all kinds of games of cards.
One of the Stewards. Rice told one of the passengers. Hedges some Augusta that he was a d-n liar and probably he would have received pretty severe yankee play had no one interfered. it was settled however without blows. The cooks (two darkies) had a row this eve and were about to use knives and axes when the Mate interfered and stopped them. The mate told them that if it were not for their services which we must have he would make them fight and if they did not kill each other he would finish them and then throw them overboard.

Tuesday February 12th 1850.

This is a beautiful morn and the wind seems to breze as the sun rises. We had quite a decent breakfast this morn and no grumbling. About 9 Oclock a good delegation are sitting upon the deck load eating raw carrots. The damsels are scattered about the ship some sewing some reading and others singing and talking obscenely. About 11 Oclock I hear the joyful sound of Sail ho! which carries a most peculiar thrill through one who is unaccustomed to the sea and has been out some time upon the noisy old ocean.

The sail in sight is a square rigged brig standing to the Eastward about six miles distant.
About 12 Oclock we tacked ship and bore down for the sail and hoisted the Stars and stripes as a signal that we wished to speak her but she took no notice of us. We had a very good dinner today of baked beans and peas beef pork pickles &c. which would have been first rate if they had been cooked. Passengers seem to be satisfied with the fare now no growling and I think there will not be any if we are decently fed, but if we are not there will be a continual howl and disturbance night & day. 3 Oclock and the sail yet in sight standing North East. and we about East. she appears to be an english vessel. The Capt walks the deck today evidently trying to force a smile. It appears that the reason why the Capt has let Thompson reign as he has is this. The Capt was hard up when we left Boston and Thompson lent him money to settle his bill the last night he was on shore and for this favor he felt under such obligation that he dared not to assume authority. Thompson while in a passion let this out which shows that he is no gentleman and rather than the Capt should be bound in any way one of the passengers Stratton lent the Capt $25 to pay him. I think we have a smart Capt to leave Boston master of a ship of 600 Tons without money to pay a bill of five dollars.
I have just been standing under our ventilator where I can hear all that is said on deck and the mate is talking with the damsels about matters and things in general and such vulgarity from our second officer I dare not stain my journal with. I am now writing between decks and I should judge that there were some 60 or 70 here some reading some sewing and others playing cards and the stewards are washing dishes and singing songs all appear to be happy except the sick ones and they are miserable enough some of them. We had our small biscuit hard bread and beef for supper and plenty of growling because they had pies in the cabin and we had none. I was somewhat pleased this afternoon to look about in different parts of the ship and see the passengers slily eating different articles such as turnips carrots onions herring codfish cheese raisins figs pickles &c. I should like to hear from home tonight and more than all to know how little Eliza is. When I left sick.

Wednesday. February 13th 1850.

The past night was very pleasant with a light breeze. At 12 Oc we tacked ship and stood eastward. I went on deck this morn about 6 Oc and found it a very pleasant morning and almost a calm. The cooks had another fight this morn the Capt interfered and so ended the fight. but scarcely had he quieted the darkies when Thompson commenced a row with him and so they kept the poor fellow in hot water. Some one passed a fine large New York cheese into the forecastle to the sailors last night which I agree to. The sun shines warm and pleasant and all seem to enjoy the day well. There is one respectable female on board unmarried a milliner from Boston who has been sick since we left but being better today she came on deck and I sought an interview with her and she regretted very much being in such company and said that she was most cruelly imposed upon by Reed & Wainwright. I think she is an intelligent and virtuous woman by her appearance however I can tell better as I become acquainted. I have been so often deceived in this respect that I dare not decide without undoubted testimony. Her name is Swedsen. She owns a sofa which we have the use of on deck. She told me she had some rum and brandy for medicine which the damsels had stolen from her State room. Every thing is quiet this afternoon and I think will continue so as long as hunger does not create an irritation. My codfish Scheme has thus far had a good effect and the word codfish has become quite a byword even in the presence of the capt.

Some of the damsels are on deck this eve and nearly all the men singing psalms comic & sentimental songs. There is so heavy a dew here that the deck is as wet as if it had rained. What a luxury it would be to hear from home this eve and know how all my friends are but I must undergo the want for a long time but nothing can prevent me from travelling in imagination across the ocean and seeing them all. I can hardly imagine that I am three thousand miles from home tossing about upon the turbulent old oceans bosom. and still increasing the distance. Among our passengers there are some business men who will do well anywhere if their health is preserved. but there are some who would do better at home.

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We are still heading Eastward with a light breze and damp heavy weather this morning.
Things look more calm and peaceable this morn than they have for some time.
Most of the females keep in the cabin today.
I saw two of the domsels in the forecastle with the sailors this forenoon. I have scarcely seen Swan and Thompson today and the Capt looks as demure as a lamb. I have had a severe turn of the headache this afternoon and have been in my berth most of the time since noon now four Oc.
This is the fourteenth day we have had a head wind and many of the passengers are getting out of patience and most of the complaint today has been about our bad luck. We had a small biscuit apiece for supper this eve just an aggravation.
It seems to be the determination just to give us occasionally a taste of land fare so that they can say that we have had such things but a large part of the meal must be made of hard bread & salt junk There is more food carried into the cabin for less than half the number than we have between decks.
This morn we had a small quantity of corn bread for breakfast perhaps one third as much as we should have eaten and I noticed a considerable quantity was taken from the cabin table and given to the pigs
We have had a slight dash of rain this eve and the wind has increased so much that the topsails are now closereefed and it is dark and dismal.
Some of the passengers are on deck smoking some playing cards and others engaged in different ways one playing upon the accordeon one upon the flageolet and a third the castinetts.
I have had many reflections upon home today and have asked myself many times have I one single friend who has had a thought of me today? perhaps so I answer but if not why need I care as there is but a bare possibility that I shall ever meet them again and if by chance I do it will be when friendship and affection shall have dwindled into forgetfulness and the memory of old associations be crushed under the ponderous wheels of time so why need I look back so often and with such feelings towards my home and friends.

Friday February 15th 1850.

The wind blew fresh during the past night and still continues this morn from the same quarter. Passengers and sailors are generally cursing the luck of head winds so long without any prospect of a change. One of the passengers lost about three gallons of whiskey last night and I am informed that Swan Thompson and others officers not excepted had a regular on shore spree last night which lasted until daylight and probably they drank whiskey or thus it is presumed. The damsels are on deck today each with a new fancy man whom they change nearly every day. There are any quantity of men on board who I am allowed to judge by appearances prefer the company of such females and it is amusing to see what a shrewd game these debased females are playing with them. They exercise all their ingenuity to gain the esteem of one of the soft pates one day which being done the next day they will not speak to him but commence the same operation upon another wretch, which is fast sowing the seeds of jealousy and were it among men of common sense I should fear the consequences. It is disgusting in the extreme to see men who have left virtuous wives and respectable families at home so intimate and obscene both in language and actions with these vicious females. As far gone as I am and a single man too I detest such actions and notwithstanding I may never see or associate with my friends again I will not stoop to such things. Some say the circumstances and situation is sufficient excuse for them but it is not for me. I hardly dare describe the performances I have seen between the damsels and some of the married men on board the famous ship Rob Roy. Suffice it to say I have seen all that can be imagined circumstances to be considered withal. The niggers had another row today but nothing serious resulted.

We tacked ship today at 12 Oc and are now standing to the South West. I am quite unwell today. Nothing particular has occured this afternoon only I saw one of the steerage passengers who has been preaching temperance selling liquor to Thompson. The wind is hauling to the East this eve and blows very fresh. The principle amusement this eve is playing cards and thus far they have played without quarrelling.

Some half dozen had a drunken row on deck last night which lasted until daylight did appear. Most of them were cabin passengers and I understand stole their rum from between decks.

The wind continues to blow fresh with a turbulent sea so much so that the ship is more uncomfortable now than she has been since we sailed.

The mate was caught at a late hour last night with one of the damsels (Miss Estelle Egerly) on the poop deck and not in a very justifiable position for a married man. "If such things are done in green trees what will be done in dry"

"O navis referunt in mare te novi fluctus."

Since dinner the cooks have had another disturbance and the Capt has instructed the mate if they are caught fighting again to give them the ropes end.

The wind has veered to the Eastward and we are now making our course under full sail close hauled.

We had stinking mackerel for supper this eve which created a general growl during which the Capt came down and delivered a dissertation on the difference between the usual fare at the Tremont House compared with that of the Rob Roy and aggravated our appetites by descanting freely upon pan cakes and closed the scene by stating that we aught not to growl when we considered that he a sea Capt had part of his life lived upon bread which he was obliged to soak in order to extract the worms which he scummed from the water by spoonfuls.

The Capts speech was cut short by a call for him from the deck and there was a general rush after him.

It appeared that the aforesaid Thompson being drunk had drawn a knife on a Mr Hardy in the cabin and threatened to transform him into sharks meat whereupon Mrs Hardy fainted, partially recovered and then went into a fit but they say she is now restored.

The general cry was put Thompson in irons but the officers two of whom were drunk took no notice of it and he is now strolling the deck making dangerous threats. I made a proposition tonight which was unanimously received. That unless the officers kept sober we secure them and choose a new set and unless things go on better we certainly shall do it for the simple reason that we considers ourselves and the ship in danger

Sunday February 17th 1850.

The mate was on deck last eve hugging and handling the damsels entirely regardless of decency There is a general growl this morn about the fair. Some are trying to adopt measures to keep liquor from Swan and Thompson and the mates.

Some say deliver it to the Capt and let him look it up but I oppose this and fearlessly say that to deliver it to him would be the most dangerous thing that could be done with it as he would not dare deny them when they asked him for it and if he should they would break into his State room and get it without doubt.

About half past eleven last eve Swan insulted the second mate and he slapped his face. Thompson took it up but the mate quieted them by threats.

Mrs Hardy has not wholly recovered from her fright last eve and I think she will not for some time.

Thompson is walking around the deck this morn as independent as can be and there is every appearance that the officers fear him.

The liquor question grows warm and those who have none say throw it overboard while others say they are capable of taking care of their own property. I say it is a delicate question to decide situated as we are and I must acknowledge I fear the consequences of any decision which should forcibly take any thing from the owner. I say if any thing is to be done with the liquor the only safe way is to throw it overboard and if it is removed to any other part of the ship I prophesy trouble.

The Capt has called the passengers all on deck and is delivering a speech on the importance of removing the liquor from their chests and placing it in a more convenient place for the accommodation of Thompson and his confederates. The Capt asks what has caused all our trouble Liquor Liquor Liquor Rum Rum Rum was the general cry Thereupon the capt proposed that all the Liquor be put in his hands and sealed and called a vote but they were more disposed to argue the question than to infring upon the individual rights by voting to make forcible entry upon anothers property. He finally tried to force the vote but it was no go. They decided to let every man take care of his own property and voted to put the man in irons who should be caught the worse for liquor also the man who sold liquor. Finally those who voted deliver their liquor to the capt a thick I opposed on the grounds that it would not be safe in his hands.

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The first and second mates evidently felt that the movement was made on their account and I think that it might have been done without the Capt assistance, instead of which he took the lead and I perceived that the mates were offended.

The fact is the mates already have the whole command of the ship and if I mistake not this movement by the Capt which ought to have been done (under the existing circumstances) by the passengers will create a disturbance between those officers and the Capt which will cause trouble which shortsighted lookers on cannot foresee.

Both mates are men of high spirits and have been captains of ships for a long time and they will never bear such manifestations against their conduct with impunity.

The mate has been an old East India Capt and he is just one of the hardest cases of hard times and the second mate has been Capt of one of the Liverpool Packets and Capt Holt does not seem to consider that he is trifling with no ordinary characters although he has the lawful right. but I am now arguing the policy to keep peace which I think in this instance might have been done without the Capts interferance

This affair made quite an exciting forenoon for Sunday and as the weather is very pleasant all spirits seem to on the alert.

We had a very good dinner today and while we were eating Miss Sweetser came down from the cabin and distributed some tracts which all received but two or three one observing that he could do his own preaching this was Hull. the other two were Harrington and Dorr. I arose and observed that I was sorry that any one would be so uncourteous as to refuse a favor which was offered by a lady gratuitously and in this situation After thanking her I called for a vote of thanks which I am happy to say was responded to in true yankee style.

After dinner all were engaged reading their tracts and every thing seemed to be as quiet and Sabbath like as on shore. After the tables were cleared I was invited between decks where nearly all the passengers were assembled, and requested to read a sermon. After singing a few hymns and hearing a chapter read from the Bible. I stated that under no conditions

– whatever would I comply with their requests unless they would guarantee that decorum and good order should be preserved. There was an expression that order should be preserved and I proceeded and finished the sermon. during which nothing occurred to disturb us except some little laughing among the damsels which was expected. less however than I anticipated. considering that perhaps this is the nearest that these females have come to an attendance on religious service for years.
They are all good looking damsels but their actions are disgusting. It is a very pleasant eve with scarcely wind enough to fill the sails and as far as I can ascertain all are sober. The passengers are all on deck singing chatting and every thing seems to go on pleasantly. It is now about 11 Oclock in the eve and the snorers are well underway. There is some three or four up talking about California and I hear laughing heartily. Charles Ridder formerly from Norridgewock changed his berth this eve and will now sleep by the side of me in place of a Blanose whose nightly gesticulations have been rather uncomfortable for me at least.

Monday February 18th 1850.

It was nearly calm through the past night. One of the adventures of the past night was an onset upon the hencoop by Swan and Thompson whose nightly perambulations and depridations they are trying to palm off upon the Steerage passengers which has raised a general cry and question of who robbed the Hen Roost. I understand that there was liquor drank freely on deck last eve after I turned in and some say that it come from the Capts State room.
There was a box of rose waters extracted from the cargo last night by the carpenter and Stratton the barber reported him to the Capt who threatened him and all is quiet again. I bathed this morn in salt water for the first time and I believe I am the first one. and I feel much better. It is so warm they have raised an awning over the poop deck. which makes it very comfortable.
There is a school of dolphin playing around us this forenoon and several have tried to catch one but they failed.

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The mate threw a harpoon into one but lost him.
The question of who stole the chickens is yet going the rounds.
The wind is light this afternoon but fair the Studding sails are set and there is every indication that we are in the trade winds. The dolphins continue to play around the ship until dark but none are caught.
We had warm biscuit for supper, and having the promise of as much as we could eat but we broke them before all were satisfied. and there was a general cry for bread which made the old ship ring.
The head steward made his appearance and took the liberty to call us a pack of d-md fools. being near one I arose from the table rather quicker than usual and he took back what he had said and very politely asked me to be seated.
As I predicted the rum decision yesterday has turned the mates against the Capt. and they are well liquored up today, and the question is where did they get the rum if not from the Capt State Room.
I have a very severe headache this evening.
All kinds of amusements on deck this eve singing dancing and playing upon instruments hugging the damsels &c.
Thompson and Swan are very still and calm this eve.

Tuesday February 19th 1850.

Nothing particular occured during the past night only an attempt to releive the cargo of what was supposed to be a half barrel of rum but which proved to be something els. It appears that one stood on guard and another with gimblet in hand crawled under the deck among boxes barrels &c until he found the object of his search which he tapped with nose down so as to be sure that it was rum. and pulling out the gimblet a Stream of varnish followed it which filled his eyes face and covered him in a complete coat of the expected rum which troubled him some to get clear of.
It is a cloudy morn a fine breeze smooth sea and we are nearing the equator at a rapid rate.
The Sun made his appearance this afternoon and it is very warm
The mates look savage today and to all appearance have had their liquor. The Capt is very nervous and takes any quantity of snuff. The damsels are all at work today sewing and seem to be pretty quiet and peaceable.

Wednesday February 20. 1850.

About two hours of last evening was spent by the whole company in imitating animals and beasts and surely I never heard such an unearthly noise. I cannot describe the performance but imagine fifty or sixty all imitating all kinds of birds and beasts.

At a late hour last eve I was invited to partake of a select supper consisting of choice articles extracted from the Rob Roy. such as Raisens Pickles Cheese Brandy &c &c.

It was squally during the past night with some rain. This morn we have had a smart shower.

The wind continues to blow a smart breeze and we have made over two hundred miles the past twenty four hours. The air is chilly considering our latitude.

There was a skirmish this morn between one of the sailors and a passengers who is working his passage blows were exchanged some blood spilt but neither could strike hard enough to knock the other down and finally the fun ended by the interferance.

The Mates Swan & Thompson had rum last night and I am quite sure they are essentially corned today.

We had flitters for dinner today since which all has been quiet. We are in Lat 27.8. Lath. and Lon. 31.15.

It is now four Gl. chilly and but few on deck.

The mates seem to be indifferent to every thing.

The first mate is now fooling around one of the damsels in a silly and indecent manner.

The Capt looks sad and truly I pity him although he does not deserve it. He has not deigned to speak to one yet. A sail was seen this morn standing to the North but she was so far from us that we could not ascertain what she was. I see one of the damsels has come out this afternoon dressed in pink. We had hard bread and herring for supper. We have chocolate or coffee for breakfast and what they call tea for supper but I have seen nothing yet but sweetened water, cold water for dinner.

It is a beautiful eve a splendid moon a climate unequalled in any part of the globe and who could help engaging if our company was what it might be. But how is it. On the quarter deck nearly all the passengers are assembled and the maneuvers are as numerous as the individuals.

One has a Canojean another a fife and a third a tin pan and such music charms the Savage breast beyond endurance. The damsels and some of the other sex who make well mated companions for them are dancing promenading

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and going through all kinds of obscene gymnastics interspersed with the most vulgar expressions. and where are the officers of the American Ship Rob Roy?
The first mate is hugging one of the damsels about half drunk and the timid little feminine Capt is pacing the deck through the crowd apparently pleased with the performance.
I said to the mate this afternoon that we should be obliged to take care of him unless he let the damsels alone and he answered that it was a damned pity if he could not speak to a woman when all he done it for was to vex the Capt.
Another Menagarie performance came off this eve but not below as before but on deck
I have noticed that generally the men who have been the most intimate with the damsels are married men.
The Capt threatened to put the damsels on shore in South America unless they behave themselves.
The Capt exposed one of the passengers whom he had been giving medicine for a private disease because he thought he had been talking to the damsels which was a mistake and proves that he is no gentleman. This raised a contention and the young man asked him what he could expect but such things as and occurrences on board a floating house of ill fame. I have just been on deck and find it is one of the finest evenings that I ever saw.
I had an invitation to another private supper this eve I had some conversation with both mates this eve and they both expressed themselves decidedly against the the Capt. just as I prophesied it would be.
It is now 11 Oclock all quiet except the snorers and among them there is a strong contention for the loudest snort.
I have thought of home many times today. and what would I give to be there.

Thursday February 21st 1850.

The wind drove us along through the past night at a rapid rate. and we are not sailing slow this morn.
The mates look ugly and the Capt preaching this morn.
The damsels are as fierce as tigers and evidently mean to have their own way or fight. About 11 Oclock we saw a sail on the weather bow standing to the westward and when she crossed our track probably she was not more than two or three miles from us. She was an American Bark of about 350 tons

How earnest all appeared and how anxious to keep their eyes upon this new object upon the ocean. We had a sea pudding for dinner today which they call duff. it was very good.

The passengers are scattered this afternoon in all parts of the ship generally idle some spinning yarns and others smoking.

Some of the damsels are on deck sewing and others closely engaged in converse with their jaunty men. I had a talk this afternoon with one of them and she says she worked in Lowell six years and most of the time in the mill. She says she worked a short time at Mrs Bachellers when she kept Norcross boarding house and is acquainted with Thomas Norcross Robt. Brainard Benj. Akers and others. She calls her name Marcose Rogers and says she is sent out by Rhodes of Boston who is a married man and is going out across the isthmus to meet her at San Francisco where she is to be his mistress. This is a splendid eve and I have been spending it on deck with nearly all the passengers. Among the most conspicuous characters who are prowling around the damsels this eve are the Mate Capt Rogers. Capt Elbridge Reed and Charles Fiddler all married men. By the appearance rum has passed around rather freely this eve on deck. Some are hugging the damsels some laying on the deck with them and others have them on the knee. The mate killed two pigs this eve for dinner tomorrow as we intend to celebrate Washingtons birth day.

Friday February 22nd 1850.

I attended a private supper last night about 10 Oclock where raisins figs cheese &c were served up in good style and the scene closed by passing around the brandy which called out several witty toasts bearing strongly upon the manner and success of procuring the fixings for private pic nics. one of which was The Damsel who passed the drum of figs out of the cabin from which we have partaken this eve may the first tap of the drum always bring to her side a cash customer. Supper over segars were passed around and going upon deck we found about a dozen among which were the mate and Hull about as drunk

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as they aught to be and all were enjoying an oyster supper the closing scene of which was the throwing of the dishes overboard by the mate.
Between ten and eleven Charles Hull who has the care of four of the damsels ordered one of them into the cabin and she refused to comply and a scuffle came off in which he choked and handled her rather roughly which disturbance called all the passengers on deck to see the sport. The damsel was crying piteously and Hull was swearing and expressing himself rather freely against the Capt. who did not make his appearance This is a beautiful morn and I have been on deck to hear a salute fired in honor of the day and walking aft I see the Stars and Stripes waiving at the peak.
Some dozen or more have their revolvers out this forenoon shooting at a mark and every thing seems to go on in a quiet peaceable manner.
We took dinner today about three Oclock. We had turtle and veal soup baked pig turnip potatoes and hard bread and butter a first rate dinner at sea and every thing passed off in good order.
Toasts and sentiments were expressed at the cabin table and I understood the dinner passed off very pleasantly.

After dinner I was invited to deliver an oration in commemoration of the day and I must confess that it was so unexpected and the notice so short that I came near declining but finally I accepted and searched my books and extracting from different speeches I fixed up as appropriate a discourse as could be expected and all being assembled on the poop deck and after singing several national airs I delivered my speech and received a vote of thanks. after which the Capt called for the Star spangled banner which was sung as we only could do it. A gun was then fired the Stars and Stripes lowered and three times three hearty cheers made the Ship ring.
It is a splendid eve and we have had a dance on deck which all seemed to enjoy. About 9 Oclock the capt observed that we had better close the ball and invited the damsels into the cabin but the most of them went upon the forecastle which he soon found out and drove them in. This has been the most peacable day I have seen since we left Boston all seem to be united.

Saturday February 23d 1850.

This is a beautiful morn and we are making rapid headway towards the equator. Some are engaged washing some mending and others singing and gossipping. Nothing has occurred this forenoon out of Character. All seem to be happy this afternoon and all kinds of sport is going on some six or eight are in the main top playing cards and I am sorry to say that gambling is getting fashionable on board the Rob Roy.
Our little Dutch Capt looks sorryful and the mates evidently get some liquor yet. The Capt displayed some little courage today by stepping up to the mate and asking him if in case of emergency he could depend upon him and his answer was yes by God.
This is the first night we have had warm bread enough.
The damsels retired this eve peacably.
About 11 Oclock this eve a supper came off in honor of the birth day of one of our passengers one of the right stamp. after which we went on deck and had a time and while there I saw several down on the side chatting with the damsels through the cabin windows.

Sunday February 24th 1850.

Nothing occured during the past night worthy of note.
It is a pleasant morn and we are sailing very fast.
Setting up late last night and eating heartily makes me feel dull and upon the whole unwell.
I saw a numerous school of flying fish this morn.
We have had no religious services today but truly this has been a well observed Sabbath. Nearly all dressed up and noticed the day. The Capt is sick today.
I noticed one thing this eve which looked bad It was four passengers playing cards but they had not played long before the Capt found it out and promptly put a stop to it. A box of preserved strawberries was foraged last night and divided containing twelve bottles.

Monday February 25th 1850.

Peace and quietness prevailed throughout the past night.
During the past twenty four hours the wind has wafted us nearly three degrees. It is not so warm as I supposed it would be so near the equator. The sun shines very brilliant but the wind is comfortably cool.

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I saw the head steward throw a small live pig overboard this forenoon and the little creature swam after us as far as I could see him. One of the passengers has put up a watch to be drawn in a lottery and is now selling tickets I have taken medicine this morn. which makes me feel decidedly bad. The damsels are very docile and quiet today one of whom I perceive is laying on a bed on deck by the side of Charles Currier who is hugging her rather affectionately and the passengers are walking around and over them. This Currier any one would suppose would keep away from such company as he has been and is sick now of a disease contracted by a connexion with such characters. The mates have had about as much rum today as they can carry The Capt looks as if the pig which the steward threw overboard was his last friend and he was mourning his loss.
We had stinking meat hard bread and potatoes for dinner today.
The watch which was put in a lottery this forenoon was drawn by Mansfield one of the sailors.
I have done my washing today which consisted of stockings shirt towel and pillow case. Lat. 15.31. Lon 26.46 today.
There was a general growl at the supper table this eve.
I saw the mate and one of the damsels rolling over each other on deck this eve.

Tuesday February 26th 1850.

We had a pleasant night and some fine sport trying to catch porpoise but it was a failure. Another school came alongside this morn but we could not get any of them. The only fish we have caught thus far is a flying fish which flew on board last night. It seems almost incredible that a fish should fly on board but it is a fact. This fish was nine and a half inches long and ten and a half from the tip of one wing or fin to the other. These fish have large scales which fall off at a touch and very small mouths. The lower fluke of the tail is much the longest. It has large eyes and the shape of the body is like a mackerel. A box of capers were foraged last night and distributed by some person or persons unknown to me. These are a small vegatable put up in long slim bottles for pickles. The mates are well liquored up today.
Another private supper came off at a late hour last night.
The Sun begins to pour down as we near the equator.
Ladd one of our stewards is quite sick with the rheumatic fever.
A box of current jelly was taken this eve and divided. 24 bottles.

Wednesday February 27th 1850.

We had a pleasant night with strong trade wind. It is not very comfortable sleeping now on account of the heat. This is a beautiful morn and some are having fine sport trying to harpoon porpoises. I am quite unwell and have been in my berth nearly all the forenoon with a severe headache which has troubled me more or less for a week.
Rum has evidently been used freely by quite a number today. Some four or five of the damsels are essentially drunk this afternoon and are swearing and using the most obscene language I ever heard from man or woman. Smoked herring and hard bread for supper this eve. All are assembled on deck and all kinds of manoeuvres are going on both decent and indecent.
The mate is hugging and kissing the damsels &c &c rather indecent to mention
Some are in the quarter boat going through curious performances and some are dancing to the tune of Old Zib Coon. It is a beautiful moonlight eve very warm with a light breeze. The mates are both drunk enough to be happy. I have crossed the ocean and visited home in imagination many times today and I am almost beginning to get weary and wish myself back. I would now make any sacrifice to hear from home. I am now writing between decks. and it is so warm that the sweat flows profusely. Some are asleep others playing cards

Thursday February 28th 1850.

Kidder and myself slept on deck last night for the first time had an excellent nights sleep.
It is warm and calm this morn and there is any quantity of fish around us such as albico bonita shipjack flying fish but we have not had the luck to catch any although we have tried our best.
The damsels appear as docile as lambs since their drunk. I see there are quite a number well liquored up today. I have heard offered as high as a dollar a glass for liquor. We had stinking mackerel put on the table this morn and I asked the steward to remove it as it made me sick which he refused when I took the liberty to toss it dish and all the whole length of the steerage about as forcibly as it could be thrown. I have not yet spoke to the Capt since our codfish skirmish. It is excedingly warm this afternoon

Friday March 1st 1850.

This is a most splendid morn and old Sol. begins to look daggers at us. There is plenty of fish around us but we cannot catch ony of them.
We saw a school of black fish this morn but they did not venture very near us. I think they must have been from twelve to fifteen feet long.
I saw two of the damsels go into the mates state room late last night. A leg of tomato ketchup stepped out last night.
It is now twelve Oclock and the sun is pouring his rays down upon our devoted heads almost inendurable.
There is a large fore and aft schooner in sight East of us.
I see a number of the boys are preparing for a spree this eve and I expect it will be a hard one.
They intend to celebrate this the first day of Spring.

Saturday March 2nd 1850.

There was just the greatest spree last night on board the Rob Roy that I ever saw. There was about twelve as drunk and crazy as coots. They made a tremendous rush and noise throughout the Ship and considering how drunk all were the spree passed off peacably. The Capt kept clear of them for well he knew that if he interfered they would only howl worse.
This morn they were found asleep in every part of the Ship minus hats shoes coats some with one shoe and one boot on and no one recollected how he came where he was. Upon the whole it was a great drunken spree.

It is a very pleasant morn. just right early to be comfortable. We are surraunded by schools of fish but it is provoking to think we cannot get any of them. Swan one of the cabin passengers found certain parts of his person tarred and feathered this morn. Swan was the drunkest one of the spree last night and it is now past noon and he has not yet been seen and others who have crawled out look calm and sober. Thompson and the mate are both drunk this afternoon. The Capt spoke to Thompson in rather an insulting manner and being in liquor he resented it and told the Capt he would thrash him when he got on shore. The Capt then ordered the mate to put him in irons but after getting them and making a display they were put away and so it ended. Thompson was decidedly insolent.

Sunday March 3d 1850.

I slept on deck last night on the top of a small house over the main hatch where I could see into the cabin the whole length of it and I saw some curious performances. The first one I saw was the mate who went in very cautiously and extinguishing the lamp as he passed it which shut him from my sight and I saw no more of him for about an hour when I saw him lighting the lamp after which he passed out and some five or six went through the same manoeuvres during the night. I heard one of the damsels say this morn that of the three who visited her she enjoyed Capt Rogers best.
We have had a series of smart showers today and the way it rains here can only be known by seeing and feeling. It may properly be called pouring not raining.
We caught a young shark this afternoon which was served up and tasted nice.
We saw a sword fish following the ship today.
There is a general gravel from one end of the ship to the other this eve about our victuals.
The difficulty now arises from the fact that they have many things in the cabin which we are not allowed which is not according to our agreement.
The wind has been light and from all directions today.

Monday March 4th 1850.

We had a smart shower last night about twelve Oclock which cooled the air and it is as pleasant this morn as we could wish. There is plenty of fish around the ship this morn but we are not so fortunate as to get them.
Every thing goes on this forenoon as pleasantly as can be.
While fishing today a shark about six feet in length took my hook but my line parted and I lost him.
There is a schooner in sight about four miles from us probably the same we saw Saturday.
Quite a spirited dispute took place this eve among several of the passengers. hard words were exchanged but the Capt and mate interfered and all is quiet again.
After I turned in this eve Merrill one of the greenhorns from the Granite State while talking about the affray observed that I was engaged in it which called me out and I made him take it back as I had not had anything to do with it. I have thought of home and friends many times throughout the day and evening.

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This is a great country for shawers one of which we had last night and this morn there is the most splendid scene of threatning clouds that I ever saw. It commenced at the horizon extending about two thirds around the circle and gradually rose higher and higher displaying a sight truly sublime and grand until it came over us and then such torrents of rain I never saw fall before. It came down in sheets and continued more than an hour attended by a light squall.

It has cleared off and the sun is pouring down upon us with a vengeance. There is a brig and schooner in sight this morn. We have not yet seen but a very few seafowl. I am now writing in the stern boat and I can see a shark playing under me but he does not seem inclined to take the hook. It is almost a dead calm today and there are fears that we may be detained here sometime as we are so near the equator where calms prevail.

While we were at breakfast this morn the second mate ordered Kirby who is working his passage to fill a cask with rain water which he did not feel inclined to do until the rain was over and thereupon the second mate struck at him and Kirby fended the blow with a bucket but the mate caught him and jammed him down between some spars and called the first mate to bring the irons which he did and put them on Kirby while the second mate held him with his foot upon his throat and then ordered him to stand in the rain.

As soon as I went on deck the second mate stepped into his state room and I told Kirby to go below. I then went into the state room and told the second mate that he had done wrong and advised him to take the irons off but he was pretty saucy and observed that he should do as he liked. The irons were put on without consulting the Capt which is unlawful. A storm of opposition among the passengers began to lower which the Capt observed and going between decks he said that Kirby was one of his men and he should manage him as he saw fit and advised the passengers not to do or say any thing about the matter but this expression only made the fire burn hotter and as the storm began to howl the passengers rushed around Kirby and the Capt and the cry arose release him, release him, which the second mate heard and was evidently alarmed and taking the keys to the

handcuffs came down and gave them to the Capt
who was absolutely obliged to release the prisoner which
being done we gave three cheers for Kirby.
The topic of conversation now is free trade and sailors
rights. The mate made a raw this forenoon about a
report that he crept into one of the damsels state rooms
last night which is undoubtedly true.
The damsels get along very quietly today but it is
only an indication that a storm is brewing.
It is pleasant this morn but rather warm for comfort.
All seem happy and many are the amusements
such as dancing marching cheering &c.
Some few are essentially horned who are making
sport jesting and blackguarding among themselves.

Wednesday March 6th 1850.

This is a beautiful pleasant morn and as warm
as any yankee could wish. The schooner is yet
in sight about five miles distant. The sun begins
to pour down with a fury and probably by noon
it will be rather warm if not warmer.
We have a view in this latitude of the most splendid clouds
I ever saw. It is now past noon and the ship presents a
novel sight. There is scarcely a rope but what is filled
with clothes drying which were washed yesterday & today.
Some ten or twelve of us have had pantaloons cut today
from white bleached cotton to wear on shore in Rio Janeiro.
Some intend to have them trimmed with stars &c.
We caught a shark this afternoon about three feet and a
half long which created considerable excitement it being
such a rare thing for us to catch a fish. We had the
sharkish gentleman served up for supper and but few
times have I tasted better fish. One of the amusements
of the eve is a company of about twenty having an
old fashioned training marching to the music of a fife
and tin pan. carrying broomsticks &c.
Our steward who has been very sick for some time was
carried on deck today and is recovering slowly.
The damsels are training this eve as though the very
devil was in them.

The first mate is not quite so
intimate with the damsels as he was last week and
probably the captain has been talking to the old rat.

Thursday March 7th 1850.

Kidder and myself slept on deck last night and got a fine wetting by a smart shower.
We had a fine breeze through the night and without doubt we are now in the South East trade winds.
There is a schooner and brig in sight this morn.
It is very warm today which keeps us as quiet as can be. Some few are walking the deck but nearly all are stowed away in the shade panting for breath.
While at dinner we had a smart shower which has cooled the air and it is now quite comfortable.
We have hoisted the American flag and the schooner has also shown hers which is the Stars and Stripes and proves that she is yankee and no pirate as some supposed because she was a large rakish looking craft. The brig is nearing us slowly.
I can now see the men quite plain on board the schooner.
No excitement today and I think the liquor is scarce.
The passengers had a general training this eve which lasted about two hours. Two of the damsels were drunk this afternoon and made considrable noise and some fun. One of them went into her State room and soon made her appearance in the open cabin and attempted to get on deck with nothing but her shirt on.
These damsels are all very good looking but their actions and obscene expressions will soon disgust any one.

Friday March 8th 1850.

We had a smart shower sometime during the last night with vivid flashes of lightning and the thunder is rumbling this morn in the distance.
It is very pleasant and warm with a light breeze from the South East. There is a brig and schooner in sight about four miles distant to the westward.
The principal amusement today is pitching coppers.
We have had several showers during the day attended with heavy thunder. It is so very warm and sultry that all dread to move which is the principal cause why things are so quiet. The system seems to be relaxed and unnerved and after we get into the shade we dread to move. They had a row at the cabin table this eve and I understand Thompson got knocked down by one of the Stewards. The amusements this eve are dancing, marching and promenading. The Capt looks very bad yet.

Saturday March 9th 1850.

We had a pleasant night with scarcely any wind. It was so warm that I could not sleep. I slept a short time after turning in but awoke and the air was so stifled that I was obliged to hurry on deck. I understand that one of the damsels was on deck nearly all night and is very sick this morn probably took cold. This damsels name was Estelle Egerly she that cried half a day or more after we had been out a few days because some one questioned her virtue since which she has proved herself the worst one in the crowd. The first mate has been with her almost every night and it is very evident that he has contracted a disease which he did not bring on board with him, and I think there are some dozen or more in the same condition. The brig and schooner are in sight but farther from us than they were yesterday.

Pitching coppers and raffling for cigars is todays amusement.

Sunday March 10th 1850.

We have made but very little headway during the past night. It rained and thundered and lightened nearly the whole night. The thunder was not very heavy but the lightning was more brilliant and vivid than any thing of the kind I ever saw before. I slept on deck and was awake at intervals throughout the night. I was covered with an india rubber blanket which kept me perfectly dry. We have a fine breeze this morn and if it continues we shall cross the equator this eve. It is now post noon and the wind has nearly left us but a squall seems to be rising. On account of a paper which has been circulated among the passengers requesting the Capt to leave the damsels in Rio. My opinion is that he cannot leave them lawfully.

I should like to have them out of the ship but would it be right to leave the unfortunate creatures in a Brazillian port without money or friends. We have had poor suppers for a week past which has kept up a continual growl and has burst out stronger than ever this eve. There are now some twenty or more on deck swearing threatning and demanding more and better food. Mr Dorr had a gallon of alchohol taken from his berth since supper and I rather think they did not know the strength of it that way they have. Quite a number drank freely of it and they are crazy enough. Thompson and the mate have been essentially corned today.

Monday, March 11th 1850.

The alcohol spree passed off last night without any serious trouble but there was some of the loudest language of the season.

Mrs Hardy accused the first mate of being in the cabin last night with one of the damsels which he denied and then she went on and described the performance which she swore she saw with her own two eyes and I guess all believe she tells the truth.

We had a spirited discussion at the table this morn on the subject of internal improvements and chose a committee to wait on the Capt and inform him that we intended to have better grub as long as there was provision on board.

It is now twelve Oc and we are exactly on the equator but there is no appearance of Old Neptune and some say that he is now on board those vessels which are in sight and will be on board of us this afternoon to shave those who have never crossed the equator.

We have had a light breze today and it is extremely warm. I have done my washing today and lost one of my shirts overboard.

Mr Dorr's alcohol is evidently doing a smart business today among the men and damsels.

Nothing said today about leaving the damsels at Rio. Both mates and nearly all the passengers are against the Capt which makes him timid and all do about as they please. The alcohol has been taken from the one who stole it and there is a general row about it by those who expected to get another sup of it.

One of two says the other has the alcohol which he denies and they settled the dispute by going on deck and pulling hair and biting thumbs which raised the Capt who raved considerable and finally ordered the alcoholic combatants from the deck.

Thompson threatened to whip Kling this eve for disturbing him by playing some kind of a game with a certain damsel against his Thompsons State room door but the first mate interfered and it ended as many other similar disputes and wrangles have in gas. There is quite a number essentially corned this eve and among them is the first mate so drunk that he cannot stand but is sitting upon some spars hugging and slobbering one of the damsels and giving orders to the sailors at the same time.

Tuesday March 12th 1850.

We had a fine breeze the past night which continues to drive us along rapidly this morn. There was a continual row last night both below and in the cabin. The mate crawled into the cabin on his hands and knees to where one of the damsels was sleeping on a sofa about 1 Oc last night awoke her and stopped some time. Yesterday Mrs Hardy reported that she had seen the mate several times with this damsel and he called her a liar, and she happened to see him again last night and called out for others who appeared and witnessed the scene, which frightened him and he mad tracks on all fours with nothing but shirt on. Hes must have looked well and probably felt better. I slept on deck last night and was driven in twice by showers. The boys are getting up a steam and I think they intend to have a time today. There are now some six or eight as drunk and crazy as coots and the Capt is trying to keep them quiet but they are raving and making stump speeches. They have just passed the bottle around on deck and in the presence of the Capt drank his health. While we were at supper one of the damsels fainted and it was ascertained that she had been taking laudanum. Soon another swooned and they rushed her on deck and the mate seeing that she was the same one he visited last night he took her in his dear old arms. After administering emetics they recovered. The rummies are quiet this afternoon. The Capt came down between decks this eve where several of us were talking about our food and forced me to tell him that we had lost all confidence in him and that we had come to the conclusion to live better regardless of consequences. The passengers all rushed up and each one gave him a rap. He observed that he hoped we would not force him against his own notion of things. It is now about ten Oc and I have just been on deck where I saw the mate and the damsel who swooned last laying on a mattress hugged up as affectionately as if they meant something. One of the steerage passengers went into one of the Cabin state rooms to day with one of the damsels and another damsel thinking that her rights were infringed upon made a row and threatened to break the door in and finally drove them out and took possession. I intend to sleep on deck tonight as there is no appearance of rain

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Wednesday March 13th 1850. 48.

I slept on deck last night and was up at one Oclock and at three and saw the mate laying on the mattress with the damsel both times hugging her too rather affectionately according to my notion of things.

The last time I was up I met the Capt who made an apology on the codfish affair and probably I shall now be on speaking terms with the baby.

We had a strong breeze through the night which continues fresh this morn and it is as pleasant as can be.

Miss Sweetser a maiden lady and cabin passenger has lost liquor several times from her state room which she kept for medicine and this morn she put some into a bottle with a quantity of Lobelia and stepped out. The bait took Thompson stepped in took it and drank passed it to Swan who finished it and now they are heaving up finely. It truly is a good joke but wrong and is the topic of talk and sport this morn.

The Mates damsel is sick this morn and judging from her looks she must have passed through a siege last night. Things are as quiet as can be expected aside from the jokes which are passing around about the emetic.

It is now four Oclock and there is the appearance of a spree. After supper three of the boys began to rave and such crazy fellows I never saw before. Kidder Burchell & Girdler. Kidder stood upon one of the hatch houses and preached two hours or more upon several subjects sentimental comic and sublime. Burchell ranged fore and aft the ship swearing yelling and howling and making all kinds of unearthly noises which frightened all who came in his path. At last we got him between decks and he stripped off his shirt and was all for fight and certainly he was the worst drunken man to manage I ever took hold of. He raved until about ten then went on deck laid down and went to sleep.

Kidder is good natured when drunk and all for lecturing which he kept up until past twelve Oclock when I took his mattress on deck and got him asleep.

One of the damsels was raving crazy last night and the presumption is that she had smelt a rum bottle; she fancied that the devil was after her.

I have been on deck from eight to twelve which is the first mate watch and he has been sitting in a chair asleep nearly the whole time decently drunk.

A sand gull flew on board this eve and we caught him.

Thursday March 14th 1850.

I took cold sleeping on deck last night and have a bad headache this morn.
The boys who had the drunk last eve look very bad and if they tell the truth they feel worse.
The Barber Stratton has liquor and has sold some as high as two dollars a pint. The mate and those who have money will have it and thus for a little gain one more endangers the safety of the ship and keeps us all in a perfect hell. and it is our duty to put a stop to it and we have resolved this morn to find and take care of it. Accordingly Capt Reed told him unless he gave it up we should find it upon which high words arose and Reed took hold of him rather roughly but they were parted before any serious damage was done. Strattons fancy woman stood by screamed fainted and so the fight ended. A short time before the squabble Stratton went to Hull and asked him to lend him a pistol which he consented to do and was loading the pistol when the affray took place The Capt. appeared and told Stratton he must give up his liquor and he said he might and might not. The mate finding that we were determined to have the rum and being about half drunk remarked to the Capt that if he intended to give the command of the ship up to the passengers he-d be damned if he had any thing more to do with it and sneaked into his state room. Stratton finally gave up the rum.
Every thing is quiet since the rum row.
About five Oclock we saw a brig standing to the North.
During the evening several feats were performed such as taking possession of boxes of currant jelly and filling many pockets with cloves things being due the passengers according to agreement.
Every thing is as quiet and peacable as can be which proves that rum has been our disturber.

Friday March 15th 1850.

We had a fine run the past night and the balmy Southeastern breeze is wafting us gaily along this morn.
Nothing occurred during the past night to mar the peace and quietness of the sleepers which shows that rum is a night disturber as there was none used last.
Every thing is as still and quiet as a church this morn

and I have no doubt that it will continue so until a new vein of rum is struck which will again create noise and disturbance and I fear a serious one.
I have commenced a letter today to Father hoping that we shall soon speak a homeward bound vessel as we are now about in their track and have an opportunity of sending it but if not I can send it from Rio Janeiro.
We are farther South than I noted in my letter today our latitude being 5. 56. South.
It is a beautiful climate here warm but the breze is quite cool and comfortable. I have not seen the mate so sober since we left Boston as he is today and I rather think the available rum is all gone.
There has been a curious looking bird flying about us today entirely white with a very long tail.
Our sick Steward is gaining slowly.
The Barber is very still and quiet since the rum affray. I understand that our maiden lady Miss Sweetser found a full and well formed infant in her bed last eve but life was extinct. I believe it was composed of putty. All such games are coming off almost every day which makes some sport.
I have had my mind homeward every hour today and I would give all I have for a letter but patiently will I wait. The mate has not had any rum today and he is the most forsaken and melancholy specimen I ever saw.
I notice since supper that the mate and some two or three others have had some rum but not enough to hurt them much. It is strange where it comes from.
All is peace and quietness and I think this is altogether the most honest day we have spent on board the Rob Roy.

Saturday March 16th 1850.

I enjoyed an excellent night sleep on deck with nothing to mar my virtuous slumbers.
It is one of the most beautiful mornings I ever enjoyed the air having a balmy softness unlike anything I ever experienced north of the equator.
The sea is smooth and just breeze enough to keep the air comfortably cool although the sun is very hot.
I have fixed an awning over the maine hatch this morn which makes an excellent chance to read write or loaf in the daytime and to sleep under by night.

The deck looks like a second hand clothing store this morn all the beds bedding and wearing apparel is brought up to air. I see no appearance of rum yet. Some of the passengers are as uneasy as tigers and are continually walking from one end of the ship to the other trying to find a place of contentment
We have seen but very few birds yet which I cannot account for. All around within a few degrees of the horizon are white rolling beautiful looking clouds
We have some curious performances of late such as taking one of the damsels into the mates state room which opens from the main deck and there some half dozen more or less going in by turns to kiss her &c &c all before nine Oc. Another sly way they do it is to crawl the whole length under the table in the cabin and visit a very ladylike damsel who makes great pretensions to virtue and good morals in the day time and receives any number of under the table creeping visitors by night. She has awakened some of them to their hearts content and not a few either. She goes by the name of Estelle Egerly and appears to have had a good chance in her younger days but she is now the lowest piece of a woman who makes any pretensions whom I ever saw. There are some men among us who pretend to be respectable who hang around and suck her gums by daylight such as Capt Rogers and others I may mention hereafter. There was a school of porpoises passed us last eve and made a beautiful brilliant appearance seeming when they came out of water to be covered with fire. There is a vessel in sight of us astern this evening. This has been a day of peace and temperate habits.

Sunday March 17th 1850.

I slept finely on deck last night and the first thing I heard this morn was Hidden (who by the way is my bedfellow) awoke me and there was a splendid ship under full sail about one mile astern coming up. When about half a mile from us she hoisted the Stars and stripes and soon after displayed her name over her quarter which John Q Adams. We raised our flag and showed our name as she gained upon us. When she was abreast of us and about forty or fifty rods from us the Capt hailed us in these words.

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Ship ahoy. Where are you from. Where are you bound. How many days out. Have you spoke any vessels yet. and some others which was answered by our Capt. Our Capt asked about the same questions which were answered in these words. from New York. Bound to San Francisco Twenty nine days out. and have not tacked ship. nor taken in my royals since I sailed. I think she had some ten or twelve passengers. She is a splendid looking ship of about eight hundred tons and has thirty different sails all doing their duty. The Capt. was a fat looking man and a little deaf I think as he had a man by his side whom he turned to before answering each question. She sails right away from us and is now about one mile ahead of us and she is the most splendid sight I ever saw upon the ocean. She has every inch of her canvass spread and she looks and acts proud of her sailing qualities which she is now showing to the best advantage. Some are cursing the Rob Roy to think she will suffer a vessel to leave us thus behind and others say the Rob Roy is the fastest ship but the large cargo of sandbags her astern of all honest freight. There is another vessel in sight heading westward a brig I think. Speaking this vessel seems to have put new life and animation into the passengers and indeed my own dead spirits are materially changed. To see new faces and hear new voices is such a rarity that it can but change the feelings of any one This has been a day of peace and enjoyment very different from last Sunday. when rum kept up the spirits as well as disturbances. The Ship we spoke this morn is almost out of sight. She outsails us nobly. We have had a smart breeze through the day. Latitude 10. 31. South.

Monday March 18th 1850.

We are enjoying one of those beautiful balmy mornings which only those who live in the tropics know how to appreciate. The ship we saw and spoke yesterday is now out of sight and we are again alone upon the wide blue ocean. We have had the wind for the last twelve hours from the North East which is uncommon in these latitudes. All seem happy and jovial this morn. About 11 Oclock we saw a sail in the East heading North West probably bound to the United States.

About three Bells she crossed our track and appears to be a large bark. What a contrast between the present time and before the rum was gone. Every thing is now still peacable and pleasant and all seem to enjoy themselves instead of a few who while they pretended to be happy kept all others uneasy and fearful.
We have an awning over the poop deck and a lazier set of fellows I never saw than are stretched on the deck under it. Some are in the tops panting for breath as the sun comes down with a vengeance.
The afternoon and eve has been spent peacably and no signs of rum today. It certainly is one of the most beautiful evenings I ever saw. The moon is just beginning to give out her evening brilliancy and the stars look much brighter than they do North of the equator.

Tuesday March 19th 1850.

I slept on deck last night and nothing occurred to disturb my peaceful slumbers. This is a beautiful morn with a climate unequalled in any part of the globe. I have been aloft this morn to see if there was any ocean wanderers in sight but I have scanned the horizon all around and see nothing but the swelling ocean and the dark blue sky.
There is evidently strongs signs of liquor this morn and where in the deuce it comes from I cannot begin to imagine as I thought every resource had been exhausted long ago but a new vein has been struck this morn and by the way they begin to shine I think it must be a rich one.

The climate seems to have produced a general depression of feelings among the passengers and some to all appearance have hardly life enough to move about. As for myself I have scarcely life and energy enough to keep my journal alive.
About four Bells this afternoon a brig was seen to the westward heading North. There is some dozen or more this eve well liquored up and among them are the first and second mate but they are very still.
Swan has appeared this eve for the first time today having as I learn been in his state room drunk.
I have found out where the liquor comes from. It was taken from the cargo. It is bottled brandy in boxes of one doz. each.

Wednesday March 20th 1850.

We had a fine breze during the past night and this morn it is in the North West. I note this because it is said to be singular for the wind to blow from this direction in this latitude.
I was awoke last night about one Oclock and hearing the mates voice on deck when I knew it was the second mates watch. I listened. I heard the Capt say to the first mate Mr Pierce you can go below I will take charge of the deck.
I went on deck and strolled around about an hour and ascertained that the second mate was so drunk that he could not get out of his state room.
The damsel Miss Egerly stole a bottle of brandy from the mates state room last eve. and got pretty essentially drunk. The mate is now so bold that he goes into the damsels state rooms in the day time and in presence of the Capt. The sound of sail ho. awoke me this morn and looking astern I saw a schooner coming up with us. After breakfast all were assembled on deck eagerly eyeing the approaching craft and making all kinds of expressions about her and finally came to the conclusion that she was a pirate. About ten Oclock the stars and stripes went up and in a short time she was in hailing distance. She was the Urania of and from New York bound to California. Some are liquored up.
We saw a sail about four Oclock this afternoon to the Eastward.

Thursday March 21st 1850.

The mate had one of the damsels on deck four hours last night. It was thought best not to let a few monopolize all the liquor and last night we succeeded in securing a quantity which had been secreted by the mates. It was expressly taken to keep it from the mates.
The second mate was not seen yesterday nor last night either drunk or sick from the effects of the liquor drank night before last. The Capt has found out where they get the liquor but is quiet about it. There is a schooner in sight heading to the North. We had a smart shower last night attended with a squall.
There is considerable talk this morn about the brandy which stepped out last night but I think it will trouble them to ascertain its latitude about this time.
There is evident signs of rum this eve but they are quiet.

Friday March 22nd 1850.

I was on deck several times last night and saw but three sailors and they were asleep.
There is three sails in sight this morn all steering the same way we are. Very light wind this morn.
It is now four Oclock and we have had a succession of squalls and rain through the day.
We signallized one of the sails a brig this afternoon but she took no notice of us. She appears to be Brazillian.
The mate and four or five of the damsels are drunk this eve and I understand they broke into a passengers trunk and stole a bottle of brandy which they have drank.
Some of the boys are in good spirits this eve and I guess they have tasted a drop. We were visited by a little sparrow today which stopped two hours or more with us.
I saw a large bird high in the air today.
There has been a large butterfly on board of us most of the day. The Capt has been down to see us this eve and compares his cabin to Hatters Square. It rains very hard this eve and I have taken my bed down as it is rather damp to sleep on deck tonight.

Saturday March 23. 1850.

It rained most of the past night and we made but little headway. Every thing has the appearance of peace and quietness this morn. We expect to make the port of Rio in a few days which is the topic of conversation today. There is a slight appearance of liquer this morn among the sailors as well as passengers.
There are two sails in sight this morn.
We have had showers and squalls throughout the day.
There is any quantity of flying fish around us today.
There was a bird came on board of us today about the size of a robin of a greenish color with a light yellow breast. He stopped just long enough to rest and left us. The boys who concealed the brandy in the chain locker are a sorry looking set of disappointed victims. They had just got it concealed and had got but one drink around when it was stolen from them and they are smart if they taste it again. Their anticipations were high as they supposed they had a supply to last them into port as soft as the ballast. but alas! how uncertain are the things of the world. They look wishful and dry.
The wind breezes and we are moving along rapidly this eve.

Sunday March 24th 1850.

Our evening breeze lasted us through the night but it is raining this morn and almost calm.
There is a brig in sight this morn but a short distance off.
There was two of the damsels between decks last night and about twelve Oc the lights went out & probably there was some pretty extensive skirmishing.
I fear that unless the wind breezes we shall not get into port today. Thompson gave Miss Sweetser a damning this morn because as he says she stuck her nose into his business so for that it started blood.
Great preperations are being made in dress to wear on shore. Thompson & Swan are pretty drunk this morn.
There is no wind this eve and we have given up the hope of getting into port today.

Monday March 25th 1850.

There is scarcely a breath of air this morn and the prospect of getting in today looks slim.
There was a large ship passed us this morn about three Oc. steering north. There is sixteen sails in sight this morn and some say they can see land.
We caught three rudder fish this morn.
About four Oc we saw land for a certainty and no one but those who have been at sea a long time can imagine the feeling which thrills through every nerve when they hear the sound of land ho!
At eight Oc this eve we saw the light on Cape Frio and every passenger was on deck straining their eyes to the utmost

Tuesday March 26th 1850.

I went on deck last night about one Oc and many of the passengers were up looking at the light and the land which can be seen distinctly.
After I turned in Mr Dorr came down and while overhauling his trunk some one threw a pillow at him when he took out a bottle of powder uncorked it and poured out some upon the table near his lamp and threatened to blow us all to hell. I began to think it was time to put a stop to such threats and suiting action to the thought. I took the powder from him shook him until he was light enough to throw then tossed him about a rod or less.

I put the powder away and turned in and he went on deck which was the last I heard of him until this morn when I gave him his powder which he took without speaking.
There was but little sleep last night the excitement of seeing land and a few who had taken their honest rum as they call it kept all awake.
We can see sails this morn in every direction.
It rained most of the past night with scarcely any wind.
We have one of the most splendid land views this morn I ever saw. as far as the eye can extend to the north we can see mountains looming one above another partially covered with clouds and vapor.
I think we are about twelve miles from land and can see the lofty towering mountains sixty or seventy miles in the interior. It is truly one of the most splendid sights I ever beheld. Far above the clouds are visible the blue Brazillian peaks.
We see sails all around us and the wind is wafting us slowly along under the bold rocky mountains.
After getting in sight of the town and within about four miles of the fort the wind veered around and we are again standing out to sea.
On our left going in is some five or six high rocky islands on one of which is a revolving light showing different colored lights. At the entrance of the harbor on the left extending along the coast some eight or ten miles is one of the most grand sights of mountain scenery that can be imagined.
High craggy pupendicular rising far above the clouds these mountains loom and look truly grand and sublime terminating on the right at the entrance of the harbor with a high peak exactly in shape of a sugar loaf and so called about eight hundred feet high. On the right of the harbor as far as the sight extends is seen lofty mountains and many peaks as sharp as a sugar loaf some covered with verdure and others bare and sterile and apparently composed of rock.
Some of these mountains are covered with trees and from their appearance must be very large.
If the wind had continued fair about one hour longer we should have been nicely in the harbor.
There is just rum enough this eve to keep things lively.

Wednesday March 27th 1850

We are about fiftan miles from the fort this morn with a light breze heading towards the harbor. Again we have a splendid view of the mountains at the entrance of the harbor towering high above the clouds. The breze increases and now about nine Oclock we are about where we were last eve when we went about and stood out.

We have an excellent view of the light house and round island which is a high round island of rock between the light and the sugar loaf. The passengers are crazy to get on shore. Our stars and stripes are floating at the peak and Burgee at the main.

I see there are quite a number of steamers in sight. Some of the boys are lively with rum this morn. One Oclock and we are now between the fort and sugar loaf which are about one half a mile apart. There are batteries and small forts on the left and on the right a very large and strong one from which they hail us and we pass on and in about half an hour we let go the anchor within about two miles of the town. About two hours after we anchored three government boats board us and as soon as they left some six or eight runners in as many boats came on board and remained about an hour. These runners are employed by American ship chandlers to board ships and engage their patronage. About dark a boat came alongside with fruit rum &c. Some of the fruit was taken on board but the Capt stepped into the boat and stopped the rum.

No rum on board and things are as quiet and peacable as can be. I have taken a view of the town with a glass and I should judge there were some fine buildings. I should think this was one of the finest harbors in the world. I judge it to be from ten to fifteen miles long and from three to four wide and on each side of the entrance (which is about half a mile wide) it is sheltered from sea storms by high ridges. in fact there is a range of mountains extending entirely around it. Opasite the town on the north side of the harbor is Rio Grande quite a large place between which and Rio Janeiro two steam ferry boats ply one of which is now crossing but a short distance from us. The yellow fever is prevailing here to an alarming extent.

Thursday March 28th 1850

A boat came off this morn with fresh provisions and Mr Gale myself and two others went on shore Before landing we were obliged to pass a guard ship and inform them what ship we were from & satisfy them that we had no contraband goods in the boat. The yellow fever which has been raging here the past two months has paralized all kinds of business as well as regulations and we are told that we can land any where but at other times there is one place of landing where all are subjected to an examination by an officer. We landed among a crowd of dirty looking scow sloops used for transporting produce from different parts of the bay. Near the shore where we landed were a number of bamboo huts around and in which we saw any quantity of little negroes and dogs.

We were conducted by the ship chandler who carried our provision on board this morn to his store over which is his residence. He invited Mr Gale and myself to stop with him and we accepted at one dollar per day. After taking breakfast we started out to see the town. and passing along parallel with the shore we soon were in the Emperors square which is surrounded by his residence and the government buildings and two fine churches. These buildings like nearly all in Rio are built of stone and plastered on the outside. They appear strong and massive but nothing ornamental about them and only three stories high. I went into one of the churches in this square when they were holding services which were similar to our catholic performances at home but the church its ornaments and statues were of the richest and most splendid kind. On the left in a retirement from the main body of the church was a representation of the crucifixion of Christ as large as life having the appearance of solid gold. The candlesticks and all the utensils appeared to be of gold. Some of the candlesticks were four feet high. The priests and attendants were dressed in the most gorgeous styles. There was a gallery in front of the altar where the choir performed as fine music as I ever heard. I think there must have been some sixty or more in the choir about one half having instruments such as. trombones bassoons bass viols. Passing along I noticed the Post Office which is a fine building. The streets are generally well paved but rather narrow. Most of the buildings are three stories high but few higher

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We passed through some of the principal streets some of which I noticed had as fine stores in as there is in Boston Passing out of the city on the southern side we entered a garden where we saw oranges lemons and all kinds of tropical fruits growing in abundance. some of which were given us by a negro who was at work in the garden. I should think from what I have seen that about two thirds of the population are slaves who to all appearance do as they please. We took our voitures ashore and have dressed ourselves as thinly as possible but still we are suffering with heat before noon. Returning we saw several funerals. some in carriages and some on mules. The hearse is a large massive four wheeled carriage covered similar to ours at home but much larger with gilded posts. The coffins are all the way of a width and the top like the roof of a building. These are drawn by four or six mules and generally attended by bearers on mules. I noticed several either sick or dead carried in a sort of a hammock slung to a long pole upon the shoulders of two negroes. I also saw a number of persons carried in a sort of an easy chair enclosed in a light frame work to which were attached curtains. the whole machine made fast to two long crooked poles and shouldered by four slaves. We returned to our stopping place about two Oc. took dinner and after resting about an hour we strolled out again. and walked up to the square where we made a halt and viewed the crowd.
On one side of the square near the water is a fountain surrounded by a crowd of holy naked slaves with casks holding about fifteen gallons which they fill and carry away on their heads. They put the keg upon their head upon the end and carry it without touching the hands to it. Around the Emperors building are stationed black soldiers in blue uniforms.
Don Pedro the Emperor is now at his country residence about sixty miles from Rio and has been since the sickness commenced. They tell me he is twenty four years old six feet two inches high and the best looking and best proportioned man in the world. I saw slaves carrying bags of coffee across the square on their heads and singing a sort of a time song to the step.
I have noticed a number of maimed or worn out slaves laying or sitting at the sides of the street asking alms. I notice that there are but very few beggars here.

Retracing our steps we passed through the town in another direction and strolling along about one mile and a half we came to one of the public gardens which contains about ten acres and is enclosed by a heavy iron fence and one side coming out to the water. This garden must be more than an hundred years old I think by the appearance of the trees. It is laid out in mechanical style and looks as neat as it can. Passing in at the main entrance leading towards the shore and nearly at the termination on each side are beautiful shady bowers for resting places and still farther on are on each side are artificial ponds about forty feet in diameter and in the centre of each is a conical pyramid about thirty feet high. At the termination of this walk rising about ten feet above the level is a splendid promenade about ten rods long four wide with a fine stone railing and paved with small square pieces of different colored marble and in the centre on the garden side is a splendid fountain of pure running water some of which I drank and it was nice and cool. On each end of this promenade is a fine eight squared and nicely ornamented buildings with seats and open doors. In this garden are some of the most splendid trees and flowers that I ever saw. There are fine gravel walks in all directions and the flowers are supported by elegant iron railings which gives the garden a rich appearance. I should think there were about one hundred visitors in the garden when I was there.

It being now near dark we returned to our stopping place took tea and then walked out to see the town by lamp light. The streets are generally well lighted but this being a week of holidays there is but little business done. No theatres open on account of the sickness. While out I fell in with an American who told me if I had been on shore last eve I would have seen a torch light procession in which they carry all kinds of images. These he said were common during the holidays. Being tired I returned and Mr Gale and myself retired to rest and before going to sleep we had a hearty laugh contrasting the accommodations with ours at home. We slept in rather a dirty looking room upon some half doz. mattresses piled one on the top of the other with nothing but a blanket to cover us. +

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Friday March 29th 1850, 62

When we arose this morn the sky was overcast and there was sure signs of rain. We took a walk through the markets which were generally rather poor and then returned and took our breakfast. Mr Gale being about used up I stepped out to cruise alone. I climbed up a high perpendicular ridge which extends into the town and on the top of which is a convent where I had a fine view of the town. There are three of these ridges extending into the town almost to the water. The level part of the town is well laid out but on the sides of these ridges are irregular. There is no wharves only where the steam ferry boats land. I have seen no appearance of drunkenness or disturbance in the streets yet. I have noticed some elegant private dwellings built of stone and plastered. About ten Oc I returned to the square and saw an American omnibus with four mules attached to it and ascertained that it run between the town and the Botanic Garden which is about ten miles. About this time it began to rain and I stepped into this omnibus for a ride to the garden. There was some half doz more or less in the omnibus but none who could speak english. It kept on raining and about the time we arrived at the garden house it rained as I never saw it rain before. We were about one hour and a quarter to the garden. I stopped at the garden house and took dinner and after the rain was over accompanied by one of the slaves I strolled through the garden. This garden is situated on a level at the foot of a high mountain one side extending to a beautiful bay which makes in from the sea. This garden contains somewhere from fifty to seventy five acres and is surrounded on three sides by one of the finest thorn hedges I ever saw the other side being open up the mountain. I hardly dare a description of this garden it is so far beyond any thing I ever supposed existed. The walks are spacious and very neatly gravelled. All the paths in this garden are wide enough for carriages. The maine walk which extends back to the foot of the mountain is very wide and on each side are planted beautiful palm trees about two rods apart. These trees are about eighteen inches in diameter at the ground and bulge out like an onion stalk and six feet from the ground they are about two feet in diameter. Smaller up along.

These trees are about sixteen feet high have no limbs but large wide leaves grow out of the top and hang down some six or seven feet.
The bark is rather smoothe and the body of the tree is so symetrical that one would suppose they were turned out in a lathe. Along the sides of the other walks are all the other kinds of tropical trees such as cinnamon clove nutmeg spice orange lemon guniea and all sorts of the rarest kinds of plants and flowers. Here is tea coffee and other plants in abundance. There is a beautiful cascade near the foot of the mountain from which branches little rivulets running in different directions all through the garden. Near the entrance is a fine granite circular cistern about sixty feet in diameter but entirely dry now. On the southern side of the garden is a mound rising about fifteen feet on the top of which is a live southern cedar house about twenty by forty with no roof but windows as regular as can be. These cedars were set out and taught to grow in the shape and place they are in. Near this is a fine house belonging to the Emperor for his special use when he visits the garden.
This garden is as neat and regular as mechanical skill can make it. Having spent all the time I could spare in the garden I started for Rio on foot. On the right as I leave the garden is a beautiful bay along the shores of which is a beautiful growth of trees and on the left about one hundred rods from the road rises the mountain almost perpendicular about one thousand feet high. After leaving the garden the space between the road and mountain is occupied by splendid houses and gardens city gentlemens country residences. About half a mile from the garden I am out of sight of the bay and there are gardens and vineyards on both sides. About three miles from the garden there is another splendid little bay on the right and on the left is a jutting mountain overhanging the road and its top in the clouds. As I leave this little bay the mountains rise on both sides almost perpendicular with just space enough between them for fine gardens every inch of which is under the highest state of cultivation.
I hastened along and stopped at the extreme southern part of Rio. about two miles from the square where there is a steamboat landing waiting for the boat which runs to the city.

While waiting here I saw two negroes carrying either a sick or dead man in a hammock slung to a pole and passing a guard house where several soldiers were assembled one of the soldiers ordered them to lay it down which they did and in a few minutes they undertook to shoulder the pole again and one of them being as I thought pretty drunk staggered and let it fall when two of the soldiers drew their swords and beat the negro as long as he could stand and then kicked him some minutes. While waiting I reflected upon what I had seen on my route from the Botanic Garden and came to the conclusion that probably I had seen the most romantic and beautiful place in the world surely nothing can be more grand in natural beauty than this route. It is one splendid garden the whole distance.

The steamer arriving. I went on board and in about half an hour stepped on to the wharf opposite the square. About the time we landed one of the hands a negro done something wrong and the Capt beat him severly with a piece of wood about the size of a hoe handle and the darkies on shore seeing it set up a sort of during Turkish when the Capt run off the wharf and gave chase to some twenty of them with his club but they were too smart for him. I started immediately for our stopping place and on the way saw three of our passengers as drunk as convenient.

I found Mr Gale and about seven Oc we went on board and found both mates and several passengers drunk. The damsels are all on shore each with a fancy man.

Saturday March 30th 1850.

I noticed that nearly all the vessels in port had their yards crossed. but no one could tell me the reason of it. I went on shore this morn and about twelve Oc I saw several images hung at the fore yard of vessels and enquired what it was for. They told me that this was the day they hang Judas. I saw several crowds of boys dragging images by the neck with long ropes while scores run behind with clubs striking the image until it was all beat to peces. This they call killing Old Judas.

Jos Kent of Maine is consul here and I called to leave some letters with him but his family is sick and he is at his residence four miles out of town. so his clerk informed me.

I visited several churches today and I confess that I never have seen any thing to compare with them in splendor. I have seen several water fountains in different parts of the town today. About two Oclock Capt rogers and myself crossed over to Rio Grande in the ferry steamer which is a neat little boat. Rio Grande is a large neat village extending around a curve in the bay about one mile and a half and containing some splended residences owned in Rio. Back of this village is some gradual ascending hills all of which are perfect gardens. We walked back about three miles and came to a fine pond of fresh water. It is almost a paradise all around on this side. I returned to the ship this eve and found all sober except quite a number who were essentially corned.

Sunday March 31st. 1850.

The damsels came on board last eve and a boat load of them have gone ashore on the Rio Grande side this morn. Every thing is peacable and still on board today. I went out in the harbor and had a fine sail this forenoon.

There is some twenty american vessels in this port at the present time. many of them bound to California. There is scarcely a vessel in port which has not suffered more or less with the fever.

There is one vessel here from San Francisco bound to the States. The ship Monterey from New York bound to California with U S Soldiers lays just astern us. The steam propeller Sea Gull from New York is here bound to California.

Rio Janeiro contains at the present time over two hundred thousand inhabitants being the largest city in South America. Brazil formerly belongid to Portugal but but is now an independent province under Don Pedro one of the Royal family of Portugal.

The laws do not allow slaves to be brought here and after a slave has behaved himself and worked ten years after he is twenty one he is free or if he can raise money enough to buy himself he is free. A slave which is worth five hundred dollars in New Orleans can be purchased here for one hundred and fifty. I think they are better used than in the states.

Many of the passengers are leaving and going to the city this morn. I went ashore this morn on the Rio Grande side in company with two married men and their wives and some half doz. other passengers. We visited a Brazillian gentlemans country residence and were so strongly urged to stop to dinner that we consented and certainly it was the greatest dinner performance I ever attended. We sat at the table about three hours had twelve different dishes four kinds of wine and some eight or ten little niggers about eight years old to brush the flies from the table and a young englishman for an interpreter. We drank toasts and I must say I never enjoyed a dinner better in my life. After dinner the old Don escorted us through his beautiful garden which alone is a little paradise. He has about twenty slaves and they seem to do as they please. He has one son at home about twenty years old. There was a fine piano in his sitting room and we had a man with us who could play and having two accordions with us we had some good music. They seemed delighted with our music. He had hundreds of doves similar but larger than ours. also some of the finest carriers and mourning doves in cages that I ever saw. The old Don showed me his mules which he said he kept to ride. they were very fine ones. Their residence is on the top of a hill in the centre of the garden plain neat but nothing elegant or ornamental. It was nearly dark before we could get away and Miss Sweetser myself and one other concluded not to return in the boat. but walked about half a mile to the steamboat landing and going on board we crossed over to Rio walked about an hour or so and then hired a boat to row us on board where we arrived about nine Oclock. I learned today that the fever was abating and it is hoped as the weather is getting cooler that it will soon stop its ravages. There has been about ten thousand deaths within the past two months and a half. and it is said that it was so mortal that scarcely one was cured the first month of its ravages. Nearly all the business men have retired from the city which makes things dull in town. but there is a prospect that business of all kinds will soon revive again

Tuesday April 2nd 1850.

This was a beautiful morn and several of us went on shore at the same place where we went yesterday to get oranges. We could not get away from the old Don without taking some wine and a lunch. The old lady made several of us a present of a nice cut glass tumbler a piece.

We took the old gents son on board and he stopped about two hours. I went off with him went up to the house and bid them a final farewell. The old gent embraced me and seemed affected when I left.

Returning to the boat I passed through some beautiful groves of orange palm and cocoa trees.

Passing through this grove I met several companies of ladies and gentlemen. These Portugese ladies are dark complexion but some of them are very good looking. The gentlemen are generally of lighter complexion than the ladies. Coming on board this eve I find every thing quiet and peacable. This morn Capt Davis one of our passengers an old sea captain was appointed first mate and a new man who was hired on shore as second mate. the other two having been discharged. About eight Oclock Stratton came on board from the city and our new mate stood on the gangway and asked him if he had liquor which he answered in the affirmative when the mate told him he could not take it between decks and he gave it up and it was put into the Capts State room and Stratton made some fuss but was obliged to hush. About nine Oclock Hidden Hull Burchell and Rice came from the city and coming on board they were asked if they had liquor and they said no but the mate would have them examined and it appeared that they had some gallons which they refused to give up. The Capt called his crew and ordered them to take the liquor by force which they did but not without a general row and fight in which one of the sailors got stabbed in the arm by Rice and several got banged up but the crew conquered and threw the liquor overboard. The Capt then ordered his men to destroy all which was put into his room between here and Boston which they did. Jugs kegs bottles and demijons were stove upon the rail and all went overboard. Some raved but it was of short duration. So much for disobeying the Capts orders.

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Mr Rice is somewhat excited this morn and wishes to go ashore to make a complaint to the Consul for destroying his liquor. Two of the damsels Miss Estelle Eagerly & Miss Clarose Rogers left the ship this morn for good with a dangerous looking man who came off with them this morn to get their baggage. They have been on shore all the time since we came in and being both good looking they have been coaxed to stop. Mr Pierce the old mate has taken his baggage ashore but Eager the second mate is on board and I presume he is now going as passenger. Every thing is as quiet as can be now that there is no rum. The custom house boats have been along side and we are now ready for sea waiting for a steamer to tow us out. About nine oclock the steamer took us in tow and we passed the fort in company with the Sea Gull a propeller from New York bound to California and a brig from California bound to New York.

They hailed us from the fort and we gave them the pass word. As we passed the sugar loaf we took the altitude measured the height and as I guessed when we came in found it about eight hundred feet high. The steamer left us opposite the light and we are again left to our own strength. As we came out I viewed the hills and mountains with a gloss and almost every spot is a garden.

Our new officers have squared things up in good shape and it seems as if we were on board a new ship. Every thing is peaceable and quiet this eve and we have a fine favorable breeze. The Sea Gull is in sight in shore. Some few are sick but no real signs of fever yet but I expect some of us must have taken it and it will soon make its appearance if we have.

Thursday April 4th 1850.

We had a fine run the past night and the Sea Gull is just astern us this morn. She does not work her engine.

Every thing is still and peaceable and there is decidedly the appearance of better and happier times.

We have a strong and fair wind this morning.

Rice is growling yet about his liquor and swears he will have satisfaction when he arrives in Valparaiso.

The Capt bought some three or four hundred oranges in Rio Janeiro and finding that they would not keep he has divided them among the passengers and Sailors. We have any quantity of Bananas hanging all about the Ship.

Friday April 5th 1850.

We have a fine breeze this morn and the Sea Gull is yet in sight only a short distance from us.
There are some half Doz. sails in sight this morning.
There is some considerable talk and excitement about some one who put the lights out last night and searched divers and sundry chests to the inconvenience of the owners of said boxes but there is more gas than reality I think about the matter.
Most of the passengers are lounging about the deck as lazy looking set of mortal pilgrims as ever I saw.
Some few are on the poop deck sewing on sails.
The Capt has hired two of the passengers to work before the mast. Stephen Libbey and Robert McKay.
We saw two sharks this afternoon and we had some fine sport fishing for them one of which we caught which was about seven feet long. When he was taken on board there was a grand rush to get a lick at him some with handspikes clubs and one I see with an old axe. This shark had five or six spotted attendants from four to twelve inches long called pilot fish.
Every thing is quiet this eve and I anticipate peacable times hereafter.

Saturday April 6th 1850.

The past has been a very pleasant night and it actually seems as if we were in another ship. The brig and the propeller are both in sight this morning.
There has been but very little seasickness since we left Rio Janeiro. There are some few sick caused by overeating when in port. but they are getting better. Destraging the rum was the best thing that could be done for us.
It is very warm today the thermometer standing about eighty. The passengers are getting so lazy that they can hardly move about. It certainly must injure the health to lounge about so long without any thing to do.
I have been at home today many times in imagination and could I know that all my friends were alive and well. I should be as happy as any living man.
I can hardly understand how any one who has any feeling of a home and friendly nature can make up their minds to place themselves in a situation where they can neither see nor hear from them for so long a time as a passage around cape horn. The air this eve is quite cool and I think we shall have rain before morning.

About eight Oc last eve the sky became as black all around as I ever saw it and in a very short time the rain came down in torrents accompanied with any quantity of hail the largest I ever saw or heard of. With this rain and hail we had a perfect snorter of a squall so much so that they were obliged to take in almost every yard of canvas. During the squall there was very heavy thunder and such lightning I never read or dreamed of. Above beneath and all around was a brilliant blaze of electricity and what was still more curious to me was the repeated flushes one after another in quick succession for more than three hours and almost every other flash was a bright blue color and about every minute a streak of electric fluid would start from some point and like a rocket burst and diverge a hundred different ways displaying the most brilliant and splendid specimens of fire works that can be imagined. This morn the air is quite cool a great contrast with yesterday. Only one sail in sight this morn. All seem happy and eating oranges and bananas is the business of the day. Our new officers get along nicely. The damsels are as quiet as lambs. Latitude 28.30. today.

Monday April 8th 1850.

We had a strong breeze through the past night but it being a head wind we made but a little distance. It is pleasant this morn and the wind is more favorable. There is a brig in sight the only company we have now except sea birds and they are very numerous. Some of the passengers have tried their skill at shooting but no birds have fallen yet. There are preperations going on today to stow the boats on deck and prepare for doubling the cape. There was a general growl at the dinner table today for grub on account of a scanty allowance and we have reduced it to a demonstration that unless we keep up a perfect hell they will starve us which is rather hard for those who wish to get along peacably. Those who left Rio Janeiro sick are getting better except Mr Hardy who is yet very sick. and I pity any man who is so unfortunate as to have an appetite which he cannot govern. This Hardy eat every thing he could get at in Rio. The wind is fair this eve and we are going along in fine style

Tuesday April 9th 1850.

Fair wind through the past night which continues this morn and we are now moving rapidly towards the cape. There has been another change of officers this morn. Capt Davis who has acted as first mate from Rio. has resigned and the old second mate has taken his place for what reason I know not. but probably there was an agreement so to do before we left Rio. Many of the passengers are amusing themselves this morn shooting at birds. Every thing about the ship is in disorder today preparing for cold weather. We are now in a beautiful climate just cool enough to be comfortable.
It looks very much like a storm this eve and as we are now off the river La Platte which is a stormy place we must expect wet bad weather soon.
I have been at home many times during this day.

Wednesday April 10th 1850.

The wind continued to increase during the past night and this morn we are riding a tremendous sea with a fair wind at the rate of ten knots per hour.
Only one sail in sight this morn. and every appearance is lonely. a school of porpaises passed under our bow this morn and we tried to get one but failed.
We have run over two hundred miles the last twenty four hours. The sky looks dark and threatning this eve and preperations are made for a storm. The rain begins to come down in torrents but the wind does not increase much. The royal yard was sent down this eve

Thursday April 11th 1850.

It rained nearly all the past night and about twelve Oclock the wind hauled to the east and died away so that this morn we hardly make our course at a very slow rate. There are three sails in sight this morn. There are great numbers of birds around us of some half doz. different kinds and there has been some fine sport shooting them. I call this sport because there is something new and exciting in it.
I notice among the birds the Albetros larger than the goose with a white body and dark wings measuring I should judge ten feet or more from tip to tip.

The past night was pleasant with a light breez which has hauled and is now dead ahead and we are heading in towards the land. The weather looks and feels like the first of october in New England. We shall experience two winters and two summers on this passage.
There is one sail in sight this morn.
The airs in this latitude (now about 36) is much purer than in the same latitude North but not so bracing but soft and balmy. It is undoubtedly the best climate in the world to loaf in but in the same degree north I think a man would stand more hardship.
Sea and land fowl are very numerous this morn.
There has been a turtle dove on board to visit us today and he seemed loth to leave us. We tried hard to catch the little fellow but he only wished to be looked at. Mr Stevens injured his side badly in a scuffle today. One of the passengers asked another to cut his hair rather shorter than common and for a joke he made him perfectly bald. and we have had some good sport out of it.
All kinds of actions and sport between decks this eve and the noise fairly makes the old ship tremble. No signs of rum yet. Throwing the rum overboard in Rio Janeiro put a damper upon the rummies.
The passengers seem tired of every thing except playing cards but this they keep up day and night.

Saturday April 13th 1850.

We made but very little headway last night it being almost calm. The first thing I heard this morn was the cry of Whale a whale but he was out of sight before I got on deck. It was a very large sperm whale and came within a few rods of the ship and the mate put two rifle balls into him and he left. The wind is very light and the weather extremely pleasant as much so as any one could wish. We saw a very large school of porpoise today and they made the water roar so that we could hear it distinctly when they were about a mile from us.
It was a blessing to us getting rid of those damsels and the liquor in Rio Janeiro as all is peace and quietness since they stepped out. There is scarcely a breath of air this eve but it appears like breezing soon

Sunday April 14th 1850.

The wind breezed up about twelve Oc last night. and we are making fine headway this morn on our course Every thing is still and calm this morn and there is decidedly the appearance of Sunday morn. Quite a number are reading the bible this morn and I see only one reading a novel.

Things did not look exactly right when we sat down to the dinner table today and I perceived that a growl was brewing and growl it was with a touch of the scientific sparring exercise. The dinner was scanty and after all we could get was devoured all commenced bawling at the top of their voices and calling for bread grub &c &c. Some wanted the capt sent down another said send down the niggers I want a piece of them to scoff. One may judge something of the scene by imagening himself in a crowd of fifty or sixty men having been out of employ about three months and confined to a ship at sea sitting at a table hungry with no food before them all shouting and yelling bread bread bread at the top of their voices. While this was going on the Capt on deck was heard to say that another such a pack of damned fools could not be picked up in New England.

He said that he soon should put us on hard bread and salt beef and that he was damdably mistaken if we had the chance to growl long about this grub as he intended to run the ship to hell as soon as he got an opportunity. After we had growled about half an hour Burchell toled Kirby that there was grub in the galley and he could get it by asking for it. and Kirby who is a steward now told him he was a liar. Burchell took it up and made a rush for him and such a fight I never saw before. Neither of them knew how to strike hard enough to knock a man down but they played the gauge game scientifically. Burchell hit Kirby five or six times before he attempted to do any thing but when old John Bull (Kirby is an Englishman) got pretty essentially hammered he had just began to fight and getting a good clinch in Burchells hair he held his head pretty well down and thumped him some surely and at the same time Kirbys hand got too near Burchells teeth and one of his thumbs got finely chawed up. Finally Kirby got Burchell down and fairly had the advantage but agreed to let him up if he would let go his thumb.

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After Burchell gained his feet they met again and fought with stools knives forks and dishes until the blood dropped from their shins and they were entirely beat out but still the ring was kept good and no one interfered. As soon as they got breath they commenced again with fists and fought better than ever until they were winded again when they fell back to rest looking each other in the eye. Thus they continued to fight and rest until they could not stand without leaning one against a berth on one side and the other on the opposite about eight feet apart threatning and stumping each other the blood running down their faces but neither dared to let go fearing a fall. At last Kirby got breath retreated washed up and went to work and Burchell turned in and I have not seen him since. I think when two men get to fighting and are sober the better way is to let them decide it themselves. The afternoon has been spent in lectures and dissertation on scientific fighting and the best method of bleeding in the head. As near as I can learn Burchell is pretty well banged up. This is the twelvth sunday I have spent on board the Rob Roy and it has been a long day to me. I have been at home many times today.

Monday April 15th 1850.

A light breze sprung up sometime during the past night but it happens to be a head wind which is unpleasant. We saw a sail heading directly towards us this morn and as she neared us she haisted her signal for speaking and coming down within about a half a mile of us she hove to in our track. Our signal was run up and coming up she spoke us in French and only wished to know our longitude which is. 53. 7. English. and hers was 54.20 French. making only about one mile different. time.
She was a French bark and as we had no one who could speak French we could not ascertain where she was from or where bound. She had no name that we could see. On leaving us she steered in an opposite direction to us the Capt saying in pretty good English good morning and running his signal up three times which salute we returned in the same way. We had a decent dinner today and all is peace and harmony. We had some fine sport trying to catch a shark this afternoon. but he was too cunning for us.

Tuesday April 16th 1850.

The wind is light this morn and if it continues ahead much longer we shall all get discouraged.
The oranges we took from Rio Janeiro do not keep very well and overhauling them this forenoon we laid out some hundred or more on the table partially decayed. The chance was too good to lose for fun and we improved it. Some one commenced the operation by throwing one of the rotten oranges and hitting me in the head and then a general pelting came off which finally ended on deck. I am getting low spirited which carries me home and many times have I seen home and friends in imagination today. If I could only hear from home I think I could go on with good courage. The passengers are generally getting low spirited and some I have seen looking dejected and even shedding tears.

Wednesday April 17th 1850.

It is warm pleasant and almost calm this morn and we are beginning to think that we shall have a long passage to the cape. Playing cards is the universal amusement and when I observe the interest which now pervades the crowd for playing I do not wonder that California is a population of gamblers. They gain such an appetite for playing on a long journey around cape horn that like the drinking man they cannot govern it but after practicing so long they are sanguine of success and go on gambling. So eager are some to play here that they cannot wait for the stewards to clear the tables after eating but move the dishes aside and remain in their seats until the next meal and in some instances they have played all night. I have played some the last three days. There has been some fun today shooting cape pigeons. These birds are as large as our largest doves and look very much like them in shape. We saw a very large shark this afternoon. Mrs Hardy accuses her husband of deserting her bed last night and sleeping with one of the damsels. Mr King gave one of the damsels one yard and a half of ribbon to keep away from her state room and give him a chance with her room mate. Our carpenter is a simple fellow and the boys have some rare sport with him. I saw one pass a line over the longboat with a hook on it. another hooked it into his vest back and they soaked him on to the water casks and held him

Thursday April 18th 1850.

A light breze sprung up last night and this morn we have some encouragement but we must wait the event. About nine Oc this morn a dense fog surrounded us and in less than an hour it came so thick that the water run off the decks.
The fog continued so dense that we could not be seen but a short distance and we came close to large numbers of Sea fowl both in and out of water some of which were larger than geese all white but their wings which are dark.
We had some fine sport shooting at them many of which we killed but could not get them.
It rains this afternoon and the fog still surrounds us.
The wind is breezing this eve and the old ship is moving through the water at a rapid rate. Playing cards and howling is the order of the evening. Very foggy at 9 Oc.

Friday April 19th 1850.

We have a steady breze this morn but the weather looks dark and threatning. Some half doz. of the passengers are practicing with their guns which is fun for them but death to the birds.
There are two sails in sight this morn which takes from us a load of loneliness. After being at sea many days without seeing any thing but the waves and sky it is a relief to see a sail even at a long distance from us. The wind increases this afternoon and the weather indicates that we are nearing the cape as it grows cold very fast.
I am quite unwell this eve and if the symptoms do not disappoint me I soon shall be sick.
We have a head wind this eve blowing almost a gale.

Saturday April 20th 1850.

The wind continues to blow almost a gale this morn and the old ship rolls very heavily.
This is truly one of the uncomfortable days at sea.
I am quite sick today with the dysentary comfortably attended with very strong symptoms of the fever & ague. On board a ship is the most uncomfortable place one can be in. Now is the time a poor devil will think of home and friends. A sea hen was shot and fell on deck this eve.

Sunday April 21st 1850.

We have a fair wind this morn and it is blowing just hard enough to be comfortable.
The air is clear cold and bracing. latitude 44 South.
I am just able to move this morn and unless I get better soon I shall need assistance.
The passengers are walking to and fro today like tigers in a cage and the reason why they are so uneasy is that they are not allowed to play cards Sunday and this is the only amusement they can content themselves with. The damsels are very peacable since we left those two in Rio Janeiro. The two we left were not connected with the others and a jealousy existed between them which made trouble daily.
They carry on their business in the cabin but are still and sly about it. The mizzen top gallant yard was sent down this afternoon. We have a strong studding sail breeze this eve. I am not any better this eve.

Monday April 22nd 1850.

The weather is damp this morn but the wind is fair and blows stronger than it did last eve.
There is some kind of a sail ahead of us this morn.
The weather is hazy and cold and it looks as if we might have a gale of wind within twenty four hours.
I am very little better today than yesterday.
It is cold and uncomfortable on deck this eve but the wind is not so strong as in the morning.
Several schools of porpaises have passed us this eve making the water sparkle like fire.
Great coats and gloves are in good demand this eve.
Stratton invited one of the black cooks down between decks to play cards and about the time he got fairly under way the boys pelted him with rotten oranges and he was glad to leave with a whole head.

Tuesday April 23. 1850.

The wind is strong this morn but has hauled ahead. The weather is clear and cold.
I am very sick this morn probably caused by eating last eve. I have severe chills with the billious colic.
The wind is back again this eve and we are making rapid headway. Quite a number are sick this eve.

Wednesday April 24th 1850. 78.

The wind blows almost a hurricane this morn and it is anything but comfortably warm. I am better this morn than yesterday and I think with proper care about diet I shall soon get well again.
There was two hogs killed on deck today which made some sport for the crowd. It was a tragical scene. They slung them up by the nose just so their hind feet touched and Bone Nose acted the tragedian with a ceremony. which made some fine fun.
The Capt is as crass and ugly as a pirate today.
There is a grand row this eve because they did not give us warm biscuit for supper as it is due us.
Hawling yelling and crying bread bread bread with Stentorian voices is only heard to be appreciated on the high seas. There is such a tremendous row that the Capt dare not show himself between decks.

Thursday April 25th 1850.

The wind is not so strong this morn but fair and we are now down to 50. South just passing between the coast of Patagonia and the Falkland islands.
Many are complaining of being sick today and I think if the fresh pork had been thrown overboard all would have been better off. I am better this morn.
The passengers and Capt held a long argument today and they decided that he was any thing but a man and his decision was that we were the damndest set of unreasonable victims to misplaced confidence that he ever fell in with. A school of black fish was seen this eve. The wind is increasing this evening.

Friday April 26th 1850.

We had a swere blow last night from one to four but it only blows a gentle breeze this morn. I am quite smart this morn but far from being in decent shape.
There is a sail in sight heading in towards the Straits of Magellan probably the Sea Gull. If this breze continues we expect to hear the joyful sound of Land ho. about eight bells tomorrow morn. The cry of land at sea sends a thrill through every nerve. Home and all the endearments there have been on my mind the whole day and I almost fear that I am getting homesick.

Saturday April 27th 1850.

We are indeed blessed with luck just where we wanted it. The wind continues fair this morn and we are dividing the water very rapidly. All are up in good season this morn each expecting to be the first to cry Land ho. All are straining their eyes when from the topsail yard that joyful sound to the sea rover sent a thrill to every heart about nine bells. We saw land exactly where the Capt said we should which proves his skill in navigation. This land is Staten island and we are east of it although we might have run between it and the main land. It is high and the mountains are covered with snow and I should think by the appearance that there was some kind of growth on it but being about fifteen miles distant from it I cannot decide positively.

The weather is not so cold this morn as it has been. Just three months ago today we bid adieu to old cape cod and now we are looking upon highlands almost upon the opposite side of the globe not at all dissimilar in appearance at a distance. We have had some grand sport today trying to catch porpoises but have not succeeded although they have been plenty and we have had many trials. There is a ship and a schooner in sight ahead of us. This afternoon has not been uncomfortably cold on deck. The sun has been out bright and we have had an excellent view of Staten Land. The passengers have been extremely happy and jovial throughout the day and it is astonishing to see the change of life and spirits since the cry of land ho! I am quite smart today and am half inclined to say I am well again. We saw one of the most splendid sunset scenes this eve that we have since we left Boston in truth the finest I ever saw anywhere.

Over the whole range of mountains upon the island hung a heavy line of clouds through which the sun sent his golden rays which reflected to us in the most grand and gorgeous splendor unequalled for richness by any thing I ever saw or read of. It was conceded by all to be far beyond any description they ever saw. The splendor of the clouds and their reflection upon the mountains cannot be described so as to give a faint idea of their beauty. I have seen nothing yet that would lead me to suppose that it was so very dangerous and cold off Cape Horn as we generally suppose it to be at home. I only of course judge from what I have seen.

We had a [illegible] which continu[ed] This is a day It is the Sabba[th] I ever saw. It is about as The interest sharing sight are the Lower the Leward and bark bo[und] and stripes the third is It brings a vessels pass opportunity get breathin[g] our name. cold and st[ill] off Cape Hor[n] spirits this I have seen Here is mu[ch] and the knap if we get ar[ound] There has be[en] cape pigeons. and let it be fifty to a hun[dred] They have very pretty bi[rds] resemble in the beak which hooked. The same shape a of the wings These spots co[ver] the top of the the head ne[ar] are webfooted like ducks. It looks as de In fact this is I can now caus[e]

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Sunday April 28th 1850. 80.

We had a light steady breze through the past night which continues this splendid morn off cape Horn. This is a day long to be remembered by us all. It is the Sabbath and one of the most beautiful morns I ever saw. The sun shines in all his splendor and it is about as cold as the middle of Oct. at home. The interest of the morn has been increased by some cheering sights. On our weather quarter in the distance are the towering blue summits of Staten Land and to the leward about four miles distant is a noble ship and bark bound homeward with the glorious Stars and Stripes proudly waiving from their peaks and the third is a schooner heading the same way we are. It brings a sadness over my feelings to see these vessels pass us bound to the States and not have an opportunity of letting my friends know that I am yet breathing. Probably they will report us as we showed our name. I can hardly realize that we are in the horrid cold and stormy place we have heard so much about off Cape Horn. Every passenger seems to be in high spirits this morn and more jovial and happy than I have seen them since we left Boston.

There is much talk and sport about the horn and the knowing one think we shall be lucky if we get around without getting it stuck into us. There has been some great sport this afternoon catching cape pigeons. They bait a small hook attached to a line and let it tow astern the ship and it is fun to see from fifty to a hundred of these birds all striving for the bait. They have caught quite a number and they are a very pretty bird. One kind of them is nearly white and resemble in size and appearance our doves except the beak which is like all carniverous birds is a little hooked. The other kind is not quite so large but the same shape and white underneath except the inside of the wings which have three dark spots on each these spots covering about half the surface of the wing. The top of the wing is similar the back speckled and the head nearly black. These birds like all sea fowl are webfooted. These pigeons dive and swim precisely like ducks. There is a large ship between us and the land. It looks as clear and bright this eve as we can wish. In fact this is a splendid moonlight eve off Cape Horn. I can now count forty eight men at two tables playing cards.

Monday April 29th 1850.

During the past night the ship which was yesterday between us and the land came down across our bow but soon fell astern us and this morn she is about three miles distant. The wind continues fair and probably we now have one of the finest views of Cape Horn that was ever seen.
Being about twenty miles from the land this morn we have a fine view of about one hundred miles of of the Patagonian mountains the most lofty and distant covered with eternal snow.
The weather is just cold enough to make one feel right warmly clothed. I see in one place three conical rocks as sharp as Bunker Hill monument and must be very high to be seen so plain at such a distance.
These Patagonian mountains look bleak and cold a great contrast with the verdant and picturesque scenery which we saw going into Rio Janeiro yet there is something grand in the sight.
Far back towering above the clouds can be seen the summits of the white capped mountains.
I cannot realize that I am now in the cold region of latitude 56 South enjoying one of the most beautiful days I ever saw. but thus it is.
This is a beautiful moonlight eve as ever I enjoyed.
I feel better this eve than I have for two weeks.

Tuesday April 30th 1850.

About eleven oclock last night the ship we saw yesterday came up alongside and we spoke her and she turned out to be as some had guessed the ship Raritan from Boston seventy nine day out. bound to California.
This morn the wind blows from the South West a perfect cape horn gale which is a bad wind to double the cape with. and changes our feelings from yesterday.
A row came off in the cabin this morn between Mr and Mrs Hardy against old granny Griswold between which there was some smart sparring which made laughable sport for the whole crowd and granny closed the scene by producing a large butchers knife and threatning to skin them like a pickerel.
We have seen a whale and a school of porpoises today.
We have caught a number of cape pigeons with hooks.
The wind continues to blow a hurricane this evening.

The wind blows a gentle gale this morn & sometime during the night it hauled to the south and we went about and this morn we are heading towards the cape Quite a number are engaged this morn catching birds. We had a snow storm last night and a considerable quantity remains on deck this morn.
The rigging and spars are covered with snow and ice and water changes to ice on deck pretty quick this morn. We are now making a good course under full sail which is some encouragement. About two Oc we saw land again directly ahead from the topsail yard, and a sail on each side of us. Our longitude informs us that this land is Cape Horn again which proves that the gale of wind drove us eastward. The wind has veered and we have tacked again and are now standing south not a very desirable course. About five Oc the topsails are close reefed and we are visited by a heavy squall of hail and snow. The Capt ordered one of the damsels into the cabin this eve and she refused to go. The Capt thinking he must be obeyed pushed her in and shut the door and Hull who has the care of the sails asked him to keep his hands off of his property and the Capt. told him he would call his men and have him taken care of if he was saucy. and Hull retorted by threatning to knife him or any of his crew if they laid a hand upon him and so ended this row. The Capt came down between decks this afternoon and ordered the steward to break open miss Lucindas State room and get a lantern. which he wanted and she refused to give up. The steward got the lantern which raised a row between her and the Capt and I should have doubted whether such language could have been delivered by a female if I had not heard it. She gave him what a yankee would call a severe yankee blessing. She cursed and swore like a pirate and told the Capt that he was the smallest specimen of a he woman that she ever fell in with which shamed the little fellow so that he sneaked on deck fearing as I supposed that she would box his ears.
When these damsels get excited they rave swear and talk all manner of vulgarity and such obscenity as some of them gets off would shame a dog.
Our between decks damsel is just drunk enough. This eve to be ugly. I passed her but a few minutes since and said something and she gave me a pretty severe blowing up.

Thursday May 2nd 1850.

The past has been a cold snow stormy night blowing a gale which has somewhat subsided this morn but it looks dark and dismal to the windward. About nine Oc we discovered land again ahead and on the lee beam and it was not until noon then the sun came out and we got an observation that we ascertained whether the land in sight was the cape or the islands which are South West from the the cape about forty five miles. Some said it was the islands and others the horn but the latitude told us beyond a doubt that it was the cape again this being the third time we have been blown back and made the same land. The mountains are covered with snow look cold and dreary and our situation is anything but desirable or pleasant. We have had three heavy snow squalls today and the deck is covered with snow. It is so cold that I cannot remain but a short time on deck. There is a ship between us and the land. We have had quite a row this afternoon which grew which grew out of the discovery of some bread which was left in the pantry with poison in it expecting some one would steal and eat it but no one took the bait. I think they would have thrown the steward who placed it there overboard this eve if the capt had not taken him into the cabin and secreted him.
There has been a female row in the cabin throughout the day. We have caught about twenty pigeons today. The wind continues to howl this eve and we must endure another snow squally night.
This cold dreary stormy weather makes me think of home especially when I think that we may be a month or more knocking about here before we get around the cape.

Friday May 3d 1850.

We had a succession of snow squalls throughout the past night and about twelve Oc a sea struck us and chests crockery jugs pitchers and every thing which was loose came down with a crash and awoke us all. nearly all turned out and such a howling I have not heard before in the ship. The wind blows a perfect gale. The steward who poisoned the bread has appeared but looks fearful. There has been one general cry of Piser piser piser today. The weather looks more favorable this eve than it has of late

Saturday May 4th 1850.

The past night was a severe one and about twelve the wind changed to the east which is a fair wind for us and we are bouncing over the mountain waves this morn at a rapid rate.
We have had squalls of snow almost every half hour today and it continues to blow a gale this eve. About four oclock we saw a sail which continued to near us until we discovered her to be a brig.
Running before the wind in a heavy sea makes the old ship roll badly and there has been some fine sport today for the boys seeing the chests dishes &c fetch away and smash up. It is as cold as we want it this eve.

Sunday May 5th 1850.

The past has been one of the most severe nights we have yet experienced. There was one continued hurricane throughout the night and it snowed so thick that we could not see across the deck. This morn the wind is not quite so strong but continues in our favor.
Some time during the day yesterday our damsel who has a state room between decks made a bargain with the carpenter to let him sleep with her and after thinking that she might get caught she concluded that it might be turned into a joke and a joke it turned out indeed. She let four young devils into the secret and they stationed themselves to see the carpenter enter the state room at the appointed hour which was 11 Oclock. About the appointed time the carpenter was seen by the sentinels slying along in the dark with his jacket under his arm towards as he supposed the dear object of his desires and thinking the coast clear he slipped into the state room about which time one of the spies jumped out and the carpenter fearing he should be seen by him closed the door and the boys locked it on the outside about as quick as it closed and then crying out at the top of their voices awoke all hands and we turned out to enjoy the fun. The carpenter or professor Chips as we call him begged and plead to be released but it was no go. The scene which lasted nearly an hour was a rich one. One may judge something of the same by imagining fifty or sixty voices screaming yelling and asking the carpenter all manner of obscene questions.

There was a small aperture over the door of the state room and occasionally he would peep out and one stood by to dash water in his face. After keeping him in about an hour they let him out and the crowd formed a ring around him and threatened to put him back unless he complied with their request and it will be sufficient to say that he complied which created another grand shout. The damsel left her room to trap the carpenter in and took up her quarters in the cabin last night.

About the time the fun wound up with professor Chips Tom Rose a young Boston devil was said to be missing and the general supposition was that he was in the cabin as a sort of a guard to our damsel Miss Lucinda Some one proposed to the carpenter that he might turn the tables upon Tom if he would go into the cabin and rouse the Capt and inform him that Tom was shut up in a state room with Lucinda. Chips took the bait and went up and told him. The Capt jumped up hastened to the state room where he found three damsels turned in and Tom behind the door.

The Capt ordered Tom out and he concealed himself somewhere on deck being ashamed to come into the steerage knowing that the crowd were waiting to blow him. Finally he was found and a general cry was raised of bring him down bring him down, but fearing that he might be dealt with as the carpenter was by a display that would cause him to recoil with shame he dared not make his appearance. The saying is that misery likes company and so it was with the carpenter for he seemed to feel pretty nice after he had exposed Tom and got him into the scrape. The carpenter is a married man and they made him believe that if he had a trial on board he could not be taken for adultery when he got ashore and he consented to have a trial here. Finally the scene closed and all was still save the snoring and mournful creaking of the old ship. The day has been passed commenting upon the nightly perambulations of Tom and the carpenter. The carpenter thinks he turned the tables nicely by exposing Tom which he boasts of and says he only went to Lucinda's room in the first to catch Tom. The wind howls this eve and is attended with cutting snow which gives the storm a stern

appearance

The past has been a hard night but the weather looks more favorable this morn. The wind is yet in the South West blowing a close reefed breze. There is a large number of birds around us this morn and quite a number have been caught. There seems to be an intention to arrest the carpenter and put him through a sham trial. I am to act as State Attorney in this case and have issued a writ in regular form for the arrest of the carpenter. A jury has been empannelled and the carpenter has employed two attorneys from the cabin Swan & Moody and Kidder Sawyer and Libbey are the judges. Kidder the chief justice. We have selected the oldest men in the crowd for jurors. The carpenter actually thinks all is reality and is making a strong effort to drum up witnesses.

A grand jury has also been empannelled and a bill found against the carpenter. The indictment charges him with committing eight different crimes at divers and sundry times The time set for the commencement of the trial is seven Oc. this eve. At half past seven the court is in full sitting. At the head of one of the tables sits Girdler the clerk & directly behind him on the top of two high chests sit the judges the chief justice in the centre with his head powdered a high dickey on and a pair of green goggles looking as sedate and solemn as a parson. On one side near the head of the table the jury are seated looking like a jury indeed some of them men upwards of sixty and sitting together their grey heads give things the appearance of reality. Opposite on the other side of the table I take my seat with a pair of gold bowed spectacles on and next below me is the prisoner and his counsels and above is Hedge the high Sheriff with a red sash and a wooden sword on. About half way down the table is the witness stand and the remaining part of the steerage as far as the main hatch is crowded with passengers and in Lucindas State room are five or six females from the cabin concealed harking. The chief justice announced that the court was ready to proceed and the clerk read the indictment which made some fine sport for the crowd. I then opened the case and stated that I intended to introduce evidence to prove the prisoner guilty of the several crimes set forth in the indictment. The counsel for the prisoner questioned the identity of the prisoner which raised an argument and made some sport. Every thing went on in perfect order and we proceeded to examine witnesses and the crowd made the ship ring with laughter. After examining eight or ten we adjourned until six Oc tomorrow eve. The mate caught an albitros measuring 7 feet from tip to tip this eve

Tuesday May 7th 1850.

The past was a dark dismal stormy night and it is any thing but comfortable this morn.
There is considerable excitement this morn about the trial and the carpenter feels confident that he shall be acquitted and says he intends to prosecute several for defamation of character. He had a fight with one of the stewards this morn and says he intends to to flog every one who insults him. This trial has already created much interest, and will be the source of some good fun. It will take several evenings to wind it up. The general topic for discussion and amusement through the day has been the trial of Professor Sykes.
At half past six the chief justice announced that the court was convened and ready to proceed to trial. After the proceedings of the last sitting were read we proceeded to business. With permission of the court to call some few other witnesses if I chose at the close of the trial I announced that the evidence for the prosecution was closed. One of the Attorneys for the prisoner stated that his ground of defence would be a plea of somnambulism which after a long and laughter making argument the court admitted the plea for the prisoner.
Some fifteen witnesses were examined for the defence which made about as much fun as I ever saw in so short a time. It was proved that he was a somnambule and beyond a doubt that it was caused by overeating. It was proved that he had at one time eaten fourteen plates of duff and fourteen mens allowance of meat. About eight Oclock the ship made a lurch and upset the Judges which convulsed the whole crowd in laughter and it was some fifteen minutes before we could get underway again. Some parts of the proceedings were tinged with ingenuous obscenity which of course made it more interesting to a crowd of ganders. I drew out some hearty laughs in the cross examination.
We closed this evenings business about nine Oclock and adjourned until tomorrow eve at six Oclock having gone through with the evidence for the defence.
The prisoner was left in the custody of the Sheriff.
All the male cabin passengers have attended the trial and every thing has been conducted as orderly and properly as any real trial I ever attended.
The carpenter is swelling with the hopes of acquittal.
There is but little wind and a fair prospect of a calm.

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Wednesday May 8th 1850. 88.

The first thing I heard this morn was land ho. which came very unexpectedly to all even the capt.
There is scarcely a breath of air this morn and the sea is as smoothe as a river. The land in sight is cape Pillars at the South West entrance of Magellans Straits.
We have seen whales spouting in every direction this forenoon. There is much conversation today about the result of the carpenters trial. We saw a grampus whale this afternoon within a few rods of the ship and I think he must have been thirty or forty feet in length. We also saw a sword fish this eve playing around the ship.
All are on the tiptoe anxious for the court to convene expecting some rich sport this eve.
The court assembled at half past six this eve and the clerk read the proceedings of the last sitting after which I asked permission of the court to call one or two witnesses to impeach the testimony of one of the witnesses in the defence which raised an argument and the court decided to hear no more testimony. Swan one of the counsel for the defence commenced his argument which was a long and elaborate dissertation written out in good style. It was well got up but did not make so much sport as I expected. I of course as prosecuting officer had the closing argument. I commenced by pleading indisposition caused by the arduous labor of the trial which had troubled me in my sleep and that I dreamed the past night that I saw the prisoner somewhere near Rio Janeiro leading an animal the body of which looked like a calf but the head exactly resembled my brothers in the defence and I was of the opinion that it was a calf until my learned brother in his argument this eve had shown his ears which convinced me that the animal was a Jackass. I went over each count of the indictment and applied the principal evidence and closed by thanking the court and jury for their attention and patience.
The jury retired and soon brought in a verdict of guilty of indecent exposure of person and not guilty on the other counts. The court asked the prisoner if he had any thing to say why sentence should not be passed and he arose and made the best sport of the trial. He exposed some of the boys and damsels and included the chief Justice. The clerk read the sentence which was that the prisoner should hold his head under the pump fifteen minutes when we crossed the Equator. The Court adjourned and the old ship rang with three times three cheers. After the trial about half doz got corned and were very noisy.

Thursday May 9th 1850.

The effect of the rum drank last night annoyed us until past one bell. There is not a breath of wind this morn. The land is yet in sight.
One sail in view to the eastward.
It is chilly this morn but the sun is out and it really looks pleasant after so much cold dreary weather.
There is a large number of sea fowl around us and we have had some fine sport shooting them this forenoon with rifles. It remains calm this afternoon and a long range range of high land is in sight.
It is clouding up and there are evident signs of rain and wind. We have seen a large number of whales today two of which passed under our stern very near us.
The Capt has been quite unwell for a few days past.
There has been a general growl about the grub today.
The tables are crowded this eve playing cards.

Friday May 10th 1850.

About eight bells last eve the wind brazed up from the east and continued to increase through the night.
We have a rough turbulent sea this morn which we are ploughing at a rapid rate under closereefed topsails. The first mate and one of the cabin passengers had a mess some time last night and came near fighting. The wind has been strong through the day and there is a prospect of its continuing.
There is a very heavy sea this eve and the ship running before the wind makes her roll badly.
We have changed our course to North this eve.
I have heard some severe disputations today between the passengers and stewards and I expect another fight soon. The Capt caught one of the stewards asleep today and made a row about.

Saturday May 11th 1850.

The wind continues fair but not so strong as yesterday nor is the sea so heavy. Under full sail we are gliding along finely this morn. It has been cloudy damp and rainy through the day. It is not uncomfortably cold this eve. The Capt is sick cross and peevish.
I was in the cabin a short time this eve and the damsels were playing cards and swearing like pirates.

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Sunday May 12th 1850.

The wind hauled sometime during the past night and this morn we just make our course close hauled. The sea is very smoothe and we are skimming the water rapidly. During the past twenty four hours we have made three degrees and ten miles nearly as much as we have in the same time since we left Boston. It is cloudy and we have had some slight touches of rain this forenoon.
Every thing has been peaceable and quiet among the passengers today. One part of the steerage seems like Sunday this eve where they are singing psalm tunes while the other seems more like an Ann Street cellar singing and talking all kinds of obscenity, and Mr Dow is playing nigger tunes on his fiddle.

Monday May 13th 1850.

I awoke last night about twelve Oclock and went on deck and the wind continued from the same quarter that it was last eve and we were splitting the water at the rate of nine or ten knots and I observed that it was clear starlight and noticed some rather dark looking clouds to the leward or towards the land but thought of nothing uncommon in the appearance.
I turned in and about half past three was awoke by a rumbling noise like distant thunder and a violent trembling of the ship which lasted about 30 seconds. The scene which followed was truly ludicrous.
All seemed awake at once and there was a general rush from the berths some singing out that the ship was ashore and others crying at the top of their voices an earthquake an earthquake and in about two minutes all hands were on deck some frightened and others enquiring if any one had seen the earthquake. Knowing for a certainty that something uncommon had taken place I was on deck about as quick as any. I had not been on deck more than two minutes when I heard the same rumbling noise followed by the trembling of the ship but only lasted about half as long.
About this time the Capt appeared and ordered his men to sound the pumps but finding no water all concluded that it was an earthquake. Directly after the first shock the sea combed up and made a complete breach over the poop deck an occurrence which has not taken place

before in the worst weather. It must have been a powerful shock on shore to have been so sensibley felt so far at sea it being now about two hundred miles to the nearest land. We are now exactly opposite one of the volcanic mauntains in Chili and I think this shock was caused by an eruption.

The weather is cool and the breze continues to give us encouragement that we may yet make an average passage. All hands are plaging cards at an early hour this morn anxious to make up the time lost Sunday. The weather is damp and cloudy but no signs of a storm. There is a cloud of cape pigeons following us today and some of them come so near that we can almost catch them with our hands. I saw two caught today with a small harpoon which was thrown into them on the wing. There is also quite a number of albitoss and goneys flying around us two of which have been shot on the wing today. These are a very large bird some of them measuring fourteen feet from tip to tip. These birds follow the ship and shine around like swallows close to the water and when any thing is thrown from the ship they light in the water sometimes fifty or more huddled together squacking and fighting each other. They look very pretty on the water and dive and swim precisely like ducks. all these sea fowl are webfooted. The ship has been sailing so fast for a few days that we have caught but a few of these birds.

They are having a sort of a nigger concert on the starboard side of the steerage this eve which makes the old ship ring. The wind continues strong but seems inclined to haul ahead a little.

It is now twelve Oc and all is quiet and still save the creaking of the old ship and the everlasting snorers which may be heard as plain as a shingle machine in any part of the ship.

Here I am tossing upon the old pacific thousands of miles from home and friends but distance does not drive the thoughts of these endearments from my mind. Scarcely an hour passes but what I think of home and its attachments. If I could let my friends know where I was and that I am well and as happy as can be expected situation and circumstances considered. I should not think of home so often.

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Tuesday May 14th 1850.

About four Oc this morn the wind hauled and we are now moving rapidly in a North East direction towards the land. Close hauled with a strong breeze and a heavy press of sail makes the Ship careen badly and she is very uncomfortable so much so that it is impossible to move without holding on to something. I think if we run at the rate we are going and in the same direction we shall see the Andes before night. There is a cloud of cape pigeons and other sea fowl following us this morning.
Singing dancing and all sorts of fun and amusement seem to be contagious among the passengers this morn and I should judge by appearance that there is not a single individual on board who has thought of anything beyond the Rob Roy this morn. The sky begins to look dark and dismal this afternoon and there is every appearance of an approaching storm. The wind increases this eve and they continue to carry sail which carries the old ships leerail under water when she careens over.
The new moon has made her appearance this evening.

Wednesday May 15th 1850.

We are still heading north East under close reefed sails raining and blowing a gale. There is a very turbulent sea this morn and heading quartering across it makes the ship roll and pitch violently.
The carpenter spit in the face of one of the passengers this morn. which raised a row and came near causing a general fight. We had an excellent sea pie for dinner today made of cape pigeons. which tasted something like wild ducks. About twelve Oc the wind changed to the South and we are now running before it but unable to carry but little sail on account of the tremendous sea which last nights gale got up.
One of the passengers caught an albitras this afternoon measuring ten feet from tip to tip. The under part of this bird is white. the back and head nearly black and the beak white large and hooked. I have noticed that these birds differ in color and some say it is on account of their age which I think must be the case as they all seem to resemble each other except the color. We have caught a large number of cape pigeons and shot several goney and albitrosses this afternoon.
The sea has nearly subsided and we are moving along finely this eve.

Thursday May 16th 1850.

The wind has died away so that we scarcely move this morn. The weather has so changed during the last twenty four hours that it is now quite comfortable on deck. There has been some fine sport catching birds this forenoon, five of which are albitrosses measuring over ten feet across the wings. They were caught with hooks baited the same as we catch fish only it is buoyed on the surface of the water. These birds were all caught within ten minutes which caused a general rush and hustle among the passengers some of whom were crazy with excitement.

There is not a breath of air this afternoon and the passengers are again lounging about the deck. It is now past ten in the evening and it being warm I have been on deck musing upon the fond recollections of home and the associations connected with it and while there I was roused from this reverie to behold the moon rising with solemn grandeur in a cloudless sky. Nothing could be more impressive for a profound silence reigned throughout the ship and nought was to be seen save this pale queen of night ascending to perform her rounds, with here and there a brilliant gem that decked the azure vault and the wide spread ocean which seemed almost boundless as infinity, and the old ship now floating o'er the blue wave. These contemplations make me feel lonely and almost homesick.

Friday May 17th 1850.

The wind sprung up sometime during the past night and this morn it blows a decent breeze but unfavorable. It is cloudy this morn but the weather is just cold enough to be comfortable. I have spent part of this forenoon in the cabin and the swearing obscenely of the damsels together with the squalling and yelling of children did not make me feel sorry that I was a steerage passenger. The wind continues to head us off this afternoon and it gradually breezing. The birds are not so numerous today as they have been of late. About five Cl this eve we tacked ship and are now heading North East which is about the direction of Valparaiso where the Capt thinks we shall be obliged to run in for water and I feel somewhat disappointed as I hoped we should go in at Callao

Saturday May 18th 1850.

The weather this morn is damp and there is scarcely a breath of air. It is astonishing how a few days of head wind will discourage our passengers and cause a general and continual murmur. I do not allow such things to trouble me but the epidemic might be taken very easy as it is evidently contagious. I have spent most of this forenoon fishing for birds.

If I was homeward bound I would preserve some specimens of the Pacific sea fowl. but as it is they would be too much trouble. The wind breezes up this eve and at eight Oclock blows hard but unfavorable.

Our damsel Lucinda gave Stratton and his pretended wife a smart blowing up this eve. The pretended Mrs Stratton called Miss Lucinda a whore & Lucinda retorted by calling her a fancy woman and told Stratton that he ought to be ashamed to take such a damned looking thing as she was for a fancy woman and advised him to return to Boston as quick as possible and take care of his own wife and two children and he was glad to sneak off out of Lucindas sight and hearing.

Sunday May 19th 1850.

The wind has again died away and it is warm and rainy. We caught another large albitros this morn and kept him alive some time.

There is hundreds of cape pigeons around us this morn and the boys are having some great sport with. They tie a pin hook on each end of a short line bait it and throw it overboard and two pigeons swallowing the baits which fastens them together and trying to fly different ways down they go into the water. I caught one today and tied a red ribbon around his neck and let him go and he seems as proud as can be. The wind is dead aft and breezing this eve which is encouraging.

Our chance for light in the steerage is very poor especially in bad weather. There are four stern windows which are shut about half the time and we are obliged to use lamps. All the chance I have to write is upon a greasy dirty table most of the time surrounded by as many as can sit playing cards swearing disputing and fighting and often so far from a dim half trimmed lamp that I cannot see the lines.

Monday May 20th 1850.

We made but very little headway during the past night but the wind is breezing and we are doing well this morn. Merill one of the passengers lost his rum last night and he is making considerable noise about it this morn. He has kept rum to give the stewards and cooks and they have furnished him with extra grub. which some thought a privalege which did not belong to him so they honestly stole his rum. It has rained at intervals throughout the day. The last of the four legged swine have been killed this afternoon. one hog and two pigs so we have got rid of one of the greatest nuisances in the ship. There has been considerable excitement today about Miss Shines who has made a suit of mens clothes to wear in California and some how or other it has leaked out.

Tuesday May 21st 1850.

The sails are flatting against the yards this morn and the old ship is rolling easily with scarcely a breath of wind. It is cloudy and there is an appearance of rain. The thermometer stands on sixty today just warm enough. We have seen some dozen or more whales this forenoon. Miss Lucinda got some rum this afternoon somewhere and on the strength of it called Tom Rose rather a hard name and accompanied it with a slap in the face and Tom pitched her end over end and getting up she made for Tom again and he choked her until interference stopped him. which came near causing a general fight. Finally the Capt ordered her below and peace was restored. Any thing for excitement I say as long as no one is injured

Wednesday May 22nd 1850.

This is a beautiful morn but the water is scarcely ruffled by the wind. There is a schooner in sight about three miles astern this morn. We have seen any quantity of porpoises but they do not venture very near us. We saw two large Sperm whales this afternoon about thirty rods from us. About four bells this afternoon we saw the Andes and we must now be at least one hundred and fifty miles from the coast and the Andes are eighty miles in the interior. All playing cards this eve

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Thursday May 23d 1850. 96

We have a fine breeze this morn but it is dead ahead.
The whole range of coast is plainly in sight.
There is a large ship and bark in sight this morn
standing the same way we are.
We have seen three schools of Sperm whales this forenoon
Spouting and rolling lazily out of water.
There is considerable excitement today about some
sort of poison which was put into old Grandma
Griswolds coffee this morn which she tasted and
mistrusting something wrong she only tasted it
and the coffee being thrown out the dregs were left
and Mrs Hardy putting more coffee into the mug drank
it and is very sick. Mrs Griswold is also sick.
The wind is yet ahead and it rains slightly this eve

Friday May 24th 1850.

This is a fine morn and we feel somewhat
encouraged as the wind has hauled so that we are
now on our course but moving very slow.
There is but one sail in sight this morning.
We see the land very plain this morn and many
spots of it are high. They are having some fine sport
this forenoon catching birds. There is a school of Sperm
whale around us this afternoon and certainly it is
a great sight in the fish line. As far as the sight
can reach I can see them spouting in every direction
and some dozen or more are very near us apparently
playing. When they go down they throw their tails up
and the water foams and flies up some twenty or thirty
feet. I judge some of them to be seventy or eighty feet long.
There is an innumerable flock of small birds flying around
them and when they appear above the water these birds
light upon their backs. Sometimes four or five feet
of their backs and the whole length of them are out of
water half a minute or more when they disappear for
a few moments then rise again. When they sound they
throw some ten or fifteen feet of their tails or flukes out
of water and apparently go down perpendicular and
usually are gone ten or fifteen minutes. The spouting is
nothing more than breathing their breath being a spray
or mist and comes out of the top of their heads every
time they appear above the water and goes up straight
about twenty feet and can be seen a great distance

Three very large ones came within six rods of the ship which gave us a fine opportunity of seeing them and when they turned to go down they threw the water nearly to us. This would be an excellent chance for a whaler as it is a dead calm and the sea is as smooth as a mill pond.

There is quite an excitement getting up about the poison which was administered yesterday. Mrs Hardy is quite insensible this eve with clenched hands and frothing at the mouth. Old Mrs Griswold is also very sick from the effects of what she drank. The passengers are enraged and are calling upon the Capt to do something about it.

One of the passengers who works his passage and assists the cabin steward has acknowledged that Thompson gave him something on a piece of sugar and told him to put it in Mrs Griswolds and Miss Sweetsers coffee and that he did put it in Mrs Griswolds but not Miss Swatsons. Thompson has argued that he gave something to Kirby to put in the coffee merely for a joke to physic them in return for one he had played on him and that it was nothing but croton oil but probably he mistook the dose. He says Swan gave it to him and probably they are both concerned.

The passengers have voted to put Thompson in a state room and shut him up but whether it will be done or not is a question. Some are crazy to have Swan & Thompson put in irons but I am glad to see that the Capt is very cautious how he moves. The Capt has shut himself up in his state room and says he will do nothing more about the poison until morn. I think the passengers are too fast in this case for certainly it appears to me in every shape I can look at it nothing more than a joke or at least as far as intention goes, although it has turned out a serious one but not more so than many other mistakes which are winked at and passed by without notice. Thompson appears very sorry and says that Swan gave him the croton oil and declared that there was not enough on the piece of sugar to injure any one.

Some half dozen have raised some liquor this afternoon and are drunk saucy and noisy among whom are Kidder and Hull. The latter has been threatning and talking hard to the Capt. Another sail in sight this eve. The chains have been got up and bent to the anchor this afternoon

Saturday May 25th 1850.

This is a still foggy morn and not a breath of air stirring. Three sails are in sight this morning. There has been several attempts this morn to implicate Swan in the poison affair but the Capt refuses to do any thing about it Mrs Hardy and Griswold are better but quite helpless yet. The fog is so dense that the decks are as wet as they can be.
There is considerable excitement about the poisoning and nearly all are of the opinion that the Capt ought to take more notice of the affair. Thompson has been shut up in his state room. but I think it is all a sham and he will be out as soon as the excitement is over. Such jokes are wrong but I see nothing in this which looks like an intention to seriously injure any one. It is calm and very foggy this evening.

Sunday May 26th 1850.

We had about a three knot breeze through the past night which continues this morn. The fog is so dense that we can scarcely see the length of the ship and every thing is as wet as water can make it.
The poisoned patients are getting along finely.
About noon the fog cleared away and we saw a sail and land. We cannot be more than fifty miles from Valpiaraiso. There is much uneasiness and anxiety to get on shore now that we are so near. Swan made his appearance today looking exceedingly meaching. Curious scenes in the cabin last night.

Monday May 27th 1850.

The fog has partially cleared away and we can see the whole range of the coast. We have a light breze which is ahead and the only hope we have of getting in is that a strong sea breze may set in.
We saw a number of fur seals today some of them coming up within a few rods of us. They were of a brownish color about four feet long with heads shaped like a bull dog. They were under water half the time.
The poisoned cases have nearly recovered.
There are two large ships in sight this afternoon
The wind has gradually increased through the day and this eve it blows a gale but is yet dead ahead.

Tuesday May 28th 1850.

We wore ship at twelve Oc last night and this morn we are again in sight of the coast which is generally level in appearance. The wind does not blow quite so strong as it did last eve. but there is a very turbalent sea which makes the ship veg uneasy and uncomfortable. There is a large ship in sight. It is rainy and cold this afternoon and the wind yet continues to blow a gale. The wind has lulled this eve and we are again standing off the land.
There is now a fair prospect of getting into Valparaiso tomorrow where the Capt has decided to make port. The Capt has not got a correct observation for three or four days and we do not know our position exactly. Playing cards telling yarns and swearing is the order of the evening.

Wednesday May 29th 1850.

There was but a light breeze thraugh the past night and it is almost calm this morn.
There is an innumerable flock of cape pigeons around us
There is much anxiety this morn by the officers to know where we are as they have not got a good observation for a number of days and are totally unacquainted with the coast. The land looks much better than the Brazillian coast and as far as we have seen is level.
We have run in this afternoon so that we can see the land very plain with the naked eye and what is more important we have discovered a land mark which is a high white rock resembling a vessel under full sail. This rock is in 33.26 South so that we now have only about a half a degree to run. We have also discovered Bell mountain which is directly back of Valparaiso Far back in the interior the lofty Andes are to be seen towering one above another white with never dissolving ice and snow. While looking upon these distant heaps of everlasting snow this afternoon I have been carried back to my school boy days which are fresh in memory when I answered the questions about the Andes which then appeared fabulous. and I can hardly realize that the then fables are now realities and before my eyes.
We have seen quite a number of whales today one of which come within a few rods of us. I am quite unwell this

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We made but little headway during the past night but there is a fine breeze this morn which we are improving I was quite sick through the night but am better this morn. Now ten Oclock and we are in sight of the light house and shipping in the harbor. There is two ships and a bark very near us going in. The mountains back of the town are in the clouds but around the entrance to the harbor the land is in gradual swells with a sort of low shrubbery growing with here and there a green spot which looks like cultivation. This for the land looks better than that adjacent to Rio Janeiro.
This is a splendid clear day but rather chilly and cool. Every one is straining his eyes towards the land. There are thousands of porpoises playing around us. The water has changed to a bright green which indicates that we are on soundings. All the sailors are busily engaged getting the anchors ready. The English eighty four gun ship Asia is going into the harbor just ahead of us. As we near the town we can see them riding on horseback in every direction. At one Oclock we let go the anchor in full view of the town about two miles from the shore.
From where we are the whole town has the appearance of being situated on the side of the mountain which surraunds the harbor and appears to commence rising near the shore. This mountain seems to be in ridges and on each ridge is a zigzag road running over the top from the town. Nearly all the buildings from here appear to be one story and the color indicates that they are all covered with tile.
There has been a number of boats alongside but no one has yet dared to come on board.
A port officer has just been on board and left a yellow flag which he ordered to be hoisted at the foremast which puts us in quarantine and we shall not be allowed any communication with the shore until the health officer visits us.
We can see lots of ladies and gentlemen riding on horseback on a promenade north of the town.
May is the last month of autumn here. There is quite a number of California ships in this port.
About four Oclock two men came on board and in a few minutes down came the yellow flag and now we can go ashore. There is a canoe alongside selling apples at three cts a piece. The last has gone ashore. Dinging and dancing on deck this eve.

Friday May 31st 1850.

The four oc gun from the English man of war awoke me this morn and I have been on deck and it is about as cold as the middle of October at home. I dressed myself and about seven Oc the Capt came on board and I went on shore with him about half past seven. We passed the Ship Monterey which left Rio three days before us. The propeller Sea Gull which left the same day we did and the ship independence which we left in Boston about half loaded. We saw some twenty other American vessels some of them of the largest class.
There is but one wharf here and this is only for a landing place for boats so that the vessels all lay at anchor and discharge their freight with lighters. At the end of this wharf where the boats land are stairs running down into the water which makes it a very convenient place to step out of a boat. When we came up to the wharf it was crowded and there was such a crowd of boats that we could scarcely get to the stairs. The complexion of the natives is nearly as dark as our indians and to me they have a savage looking appearance. A garment which they wear over their shoulders gives them a queer appearance. These garments are generally of coarse dark cloth similar in quality and shape to our horse blankets with a hole in the centre to let the head through. All have a stripe of red or some other color round the bottom near the edge. Panama or Manilla hats are generally worn here.
Back of this wharf is a square one side of which is bounded by the custom house which is a large and very neat building. Those buildings in the lower part of the town which had the appearance of being one story from the ship I find are two and three and some even four.
I left the Capt and wending my way towards the promenade where I had seen them riding from the ship, and passing through the Street where their markets are held I examined some of their fruits among which were some of the finest Apples Oranges Lemons pears peaches and grapes that I ever saw. I also saw some nice vegatables among which were some of the largest and best looking onions I ever saw or heard of, some of them being ten inches in diameter. The grapes were the best I ever tasted and very cheap. Almost every thing is very dear here. I saw the sign of a livery stable and passing in I saw some forty or fifty ordinary horses and ten or fifteen as fine ones as I ever saw in the States.

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In quite a number of places just at the edge of the town I saw women sitting around a small fire cooking near the door of their huts. I saw in one place a vessel building of about three hundred tons. There is a good carriage road up the hill to the promenade running about ten rods on the side of the hill one way and then turning short around and rising gradually runs about as far the other and so on to the top. which is about one thousand feet. Passing along this high play ground I came to a neat clean space about half a mile long at one end of which is the light house and at the other is a building on each side about ten rods apart. in the front of which are seats and in the back part a bar and bowling saloon. This place is their race course. Stopping at this place but a short time I hurried back to the whorf where I found several of the passengers and we started to get some horses to have a horseback ride. Eight of us got horses for one dollar apiece to ride as long as we pleased. They told us that there was a fine for galloping in the street of two dollars so we trotted slowly along until we got up the hill upon the promenade and then we put them through the best they knew. We rode down to the race course where we had some grand sport trying the speed of our horses. We spent about two hours here and then started for the town which we passed through and went up the mountain at the opposite end. It was a good carriage road but in the same zigzag direction of the first. We met droves of donkeys coming down the hill loaded. and overtook others going up. We also saw quite a number of two wheeled carts attached to which were from four to six oxen drawing by their horns. This road passed along in places near the brink of a chasm four or five hundred feet deep and almost perpendicular. As we rode along I was delighted to stop at the edge of the precipice and look down upon some of the most splendid gardens. We rode out about eight miles and stopped at a tavern and rested about an hour. On the top of the mountain we saw a number of wind grist mills and by the way they have the finest flour here I ever saw. While going up we met a large drove of hyena looking hogs and a large flock of the finest looking turkeys I ever saw. There were men working at different places repairing this zigzag road.

We saw them ploughing with wooden ploughs which were made of a straight piece of wood for a beam with another piece passing through the beam angling near the end with a place at the top end to take hold of and the other end passing through the beam protruding about one foot is sharpened like a stake which does the ploughing. We saw great numbers of women washing at the brooks which run down from the mountains. It would astonish a New Englander to see these horses go up and down these steep roads. I have rode my horse down places on the dead run where I should hardly dare to go on foot and he has not made a miss step during the day. It now being near night we hastened back. At the place where this road enters the town. There is three fourths of a mile of level ground from the water to the foot of the mountains which is well packed with buildings and like all others in the town are built of stone or brick plastered on the outside and the roofs covered with tile which are about fifteen inches long and look like one half of a long earthen pot cut in two lengthways. There is a sort of a canal commencing at the foot of the mountain near this road about one hundred feet wide and walled up about four feet high most of the way down to the beach in which but a small stream of water runs but there is every appearance that this canal is full at a every shower or considerable rain. When we came down along by this canal I left the company crossed it and in a short time fell in with three of our passengers riding and joined them and we rode out of the town on the nearest road to the beach about a mile and then back to the stable and left our horses. It was now near dark and I hastened down to the wharf, and while waiting I saw a boat come up to the stairs, an in it was Elem Sinsmore. I hailed him and he stepped out and I had a few minutes conversation with him. He said he belonged to the Ship Independence from Boston. He was ordered to return to the ship immediately and I had but a short time to talk with him. but he agreed to come on board the Rob Roy and see me before we left. In a short time three or four passengers came down and we hired a boat to take us on board. When we came on board we were told that McLeran had been dead about an hour. He died with consumption having left home hoping to prolong his life

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There are quite a number of shore boats alongside this morn waiting to carry passengers on shore. These boatman make a business of carrying passengers to and from the vessels to the shore. They charge twelve and a half cents or one spanish rial. At ten Oc the passengers had nearly all gone ashore and at eleven Oc I left the ship in company with Sargeant and we went ashore. We directed our course towards the promenade and on our way we met many of our passengers and sailors riding.

On the promenade we saw another party on horseback composed of composed of passengers sailors and damsels. I noticed that some of the damsels were excellent riders. Returning to the town we met our damsel Lucinda riding in company with one of the sailors. Neither of them knew how to ride or manage a horse and they made some fine street sport. The boys were hooting and striking the horses dogs barking men and women laughing and crying out Americano Americano California California. We saw one of the sailors who was drunk surrounded by officers who took from him his knife and pistol. I saw quite a number of the passengers and crew drunk noisy and saucy. The principal streets are well paved with round stones. Most of the carriages are similar to our old fashioned chaises only the shafts are much longer and the top sits forward of the axletree and most of them are drawn by two horses one in the shafts and the other outside upon which the driver sits. I saw a few old worn out four wheeled carriages similar to our hacks of thirty years ago. We visited a livery stable where we saw some fine specimens of the wild horse of all colors and sizes. There are many English French and Americans here of both sexes who dress as we do in the States. The native females wear no bonnets and their black hair hangs down behind in two braids like our little school girls. They wear silk and highland shawls. I saw some if it were not for their complexion would be very handsome. Most of them wear shoes similar to ours. I came on board about five Oc and every thing was peacable and quiet. Dinsmore came on board this eve and stopped about two hours. He said the ship Independence would take a cargo from this coast and return to Boston. He was well and appeared happy. A coffin was brought on board this eve and the man who died last eve was taken on shore and buried about 11 Oc

Sunday June 2nd 1850.

The damsels and some of the passengers & crew stopped on shore the past night. Nearly all have gone ashore this morn and the ship is as quiet as a Bethel. About nine Oc several of the damsels and their fancy men came on board and I noticed nothing unusual in their appearance except a sort of a restless uneasiness which I ascertained to be caused by the fleas which they brought from the town. I went on shore about eleven Oc. and stopped about an hour. I noticed that there was but little business going on and nearly all the stores and shops were shut up. I saw several of the passengers well corned. Soon after I returned one of the passengers an Irishman came on board decently well to live and one of the damsels said something to him which he did not like and he applied the right name to her which set the whole of them at him and they called him every thing they could think of which he stood for awhile but when he did start he drove every thing before him. The damsels kept provoking him until the second mate took it up and ordered them into the cabin and told them to bring on their fancy bullies and he would whip the best of them which quelled the row.

There has been boats along side the whole day selling fruits and fish. I have noticed that many of the boatmen and fruit pedlars are Sandwich Islanders.

There are more Americans and English in Valparaiso than in Rio Janeiro which make it seem more home like but in other respects I consider it much inferior. The scenery in Rio is far superior to the best parts of Valparaiso. The natives of Rio are Portugese and have the appearance of Americans or Englishmen in dress habits and business but here the natives are a mixed race of Spanish and Indians and they look to me like dangerous customers especially those I saw back in the country riding horses which they would turn about when at full speed as quick as I could turn my hand over. I should not dare to describe places which they ride their horses down at full speed. Their police ride on horseback and they will catch a man as quick as a cat can a mouse. I could not believe unless I had seen them that horses could dodge about and turn corners like these. Our Water casks are all filled up and probably we shall go to Sea tomorrow.

Monday June 3d 1850.

This is a beautiful morn and we are waiting for the Capt and first mate. About nine Oc the passengers who stopped on shore came on board about as drunk as they ought to be and among them was Hidden who did not stop long but returned to the to the town with two or three others and being gone about two hours we saw them returning holding Hidden into the boat who was as crazy and noisy as any drunken man I ever saw. The boat came along side and a rope being let down he was taken on board the worst specimen of humanity I have seen for a long time. His shirt and pantaloons were nearly torn off and he raved frightfully. It took two to hold him for about two hours when he became exhausted and went to sleep. About the time this was going on I saw some chests and hammocks thrown overboard from the ship Monterey which lay near us and soon I saw two men jump into the water and swimming around awhile they took hold of a rope which was thrown to them and were hauled in while their dunnage drifted some thirty or forty rods from the ship and was picked up by a shore boat and carried off. I think there were two sailors who wished to get clear from the ship and three shore boats coming near the ship were ordered not to come alongside and supposing if they jumped over they would pick them up instead of which they pulled away from them and they were obliged to return to the ship. This ship Monterey was in Rio at the time we were and left three days before us. She has on board a company of United States soldiers for California. I saw a number of these soldiers drunk on shore. They swamped a boat last eve near their ship and came near drowning several.

The officers and passengers all being on board we weighed anchor about two Oc and with a light breeze and six shore boats to give us a tow we stood out to sea. I sat upon the poop deck this afternoon with a glass viewing the receding town and adjacent hills until my eyes failed. The view has been grand and sublime. Along the coast the beautiful upland slopes covered with vineyards and groves of fine looking fruit trees were before our eyes and back in the interior we could see the lofty Andes their summits and sides covered with perpetual snow. We have a fine breeze this eve but it is cold and chilly.

Tuesday June 4th 1850.

We had a fine run last night and the land is just in sight this morn. We have again embarked upon the ocean thanking our Stars that the next port is our last. I am already tired of the Ship and Sea but have made up my mind to endure it two months longer. The news from California which we received in Valparais was favorable which has given us some courage to go through the remainder of the passage.
Our Studding sails are all set for the first time and before a strong breeze we are sailing rapidly.
The topic of conversation today is Valparaiso and the Chilian damsels and the general opinion is that they have more fleas than graces. We are entirely out of sight of land this eve tossing upon the heaving bosom of old ocean. Those who were drunk yesterday have scarcely made their appearance today. Fair wind this eve.

Wednesday June 5th 1850.

We made a fine run the past night the wind is yet fair and we are skimming along about as speedily as the old Ship can run. Nothing in sight this morn but the blue canopy of the heavens and the heaving ocean. I have not seen a man since we left port the worse for liquor. Every thing goes along as peacably and happily as can be. It is not near so cold as it was yesterday.
The passengers have had some fine sport today playing bluff for walnuts which they bought in Valparaiso.
The old Ship is now carrying all the canvass she has which tests her sailing qualities and the old thing is not slow. Nothing uncommon has occurred today.

Thursday June 6th 1850.

The wind died away some time during the past night and we have scarcely wind enough to fill the sails this morn. The first thing which came off this morn was a fight between the nigger cooks and all I know about it is that one gave the other a severe thrashing. Some one says they both turned pale in the melee. I understand that the Capt interfered and threatened them. They had a row in the cabin today and I heard the Capt use high words. The wind continues light. It is a very dark dismal night upon the ocean wide.

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Friday June 7th 1850.

The weather is warm and comfortable this morn and we have a light favorable breze.
The stewards were asked to scour the knives this morn which they refused to do and the knives were taken up to the Capt and he said take them back and soon came down in a perfect State of excitement and said he could scour them himself and I observed that I had paid for cleaning mine and I did not care whether he or his steward scoured it. He took the knives and forks went on deck and scoured them nicely and I rather think he is not a green hand at it.
John Atkins and Tom Rose had a Skirmish this afternoon in which John got nicely choked but Tom could not make him cry enough. There was a general rush to see the fight but Tom only let him know that he could flog him at his leisure, and so this fight ended.
About five Oclock we saw land to the westward which must be Felix Islands. We have a decent breze this eve.

Saturday June 8th 1850.

We are evidently in the trade winds this morn with every inch of canvass we have Spread to the breze sliding through the water at a race horse speed.
The weather is beginning to get warm and the passengers are again lounging about the deck lazy and lifeless Passing the cabin door this forenoon I heard the damsels swearing like pirates and threatning to fight. Thompson the man who was shut up in his room for poisoning the coffee is now at liberty and the excitement has turned to sympathy.
It is dark and gloomy this eve but the wind is yet fair and is driving us along rapidly. Latitude 24.46.

Sunday June 9th 1850.

It is cloudy and there is the appearance of rain this morn but the wind continues strong and our rapidity is encouraging. Every studding sail which the ship can carry is now drawing in fine style. The passengers are getting uneasy this afternoon and some are drumming some fiddling and others dancing to keep the spirits up. They miss the privilege of playing cards when Sunday comes along Latitude 23.12.

Monday June 10th 1850

The wind continues strong and fair and all seem happy this morn. Many I see are playing cards before breakfast and say that it seems a month since Saturday. The weather is cool for this latitude and for me it is just right with light exercise. A large fin back whale passed us this afternoon at railroad speed. There has been some little skirmishing among the passengers today but nothing serious. I saw two large Albitross drifting this afternoon.

"Tis said the Albitross never rests"—Buffon.

Where the fathomless waves in magnificence toss,
Homeless and high soars the wild Albitross—
Unwearied, undaunted, unshrinking, alone,
The ocean his empire—the tempest, his throne.

When the terrible whirlwind raves wild o'er the surge,
And the hurricane howls out the mariner's dirge,
In thy glory thou spurnest the dark-heaving sea,
Proud bird of the ocean-world homeless and free.

When the winds are at rest, and the sun in his glow,
And the glittering tide sleeps in beauty below,
In the pride of thy power triumphant above
With thy mate thou art holding thy revels of love.

Untired, unfettered, unwatched, unconfined,
Be my spirit like thee in the world of the mind,
No leaning for earth ever to weary its flight,
And fresh as thy pinion in regions of light.

Tuesday June 11th 1850.

The trade winds continue very strong wafting us along at the rate of eight or nine knots. The weather is not so warm in this latitude as I supposed it would be. It is just about warm enough to be comfortable on deck. The females have been sewing on deck nearly the whole day. There was some kind of a bird came on board last night and remained about two hours. It is quite dark this eve and the damsels are scattered around the deck some with passengers and some with sailors who as far as can be seen are hugging them up as lovingly as can be. The wind is not so strong this eve

Wednesday June 12th 1850.

It rains lightly this morn and the wind is not so strong as it has been for a few days past.

A row came off in the cabin last night in which Old Grandma Griswold got pritty roughly handled by the damsels and thoroughly wet with water &c which was squirted at her with a syringe. Mrs Hardy instigated the row by passing around some cake to all but Grandma who watched her chance and came the grab game and from this time about nine Oclock the melee may be dated which lasted until past twelve. The Capt tried to quell them but they stumped him and his bully crew to stop them. Finally the Capt called Bull who quieted them. This morn they began anew the opening scene of which was tearing Grandmas dress off. The old woman keeps her tongue flying which only enrages the damsels. During their row last night I could hear them plain and such swearing I scarcely ever heard from men. Every thing has been quiet this afternoon

Thursday June 13th 1850.

There was a large school of porpoises passed us last night and the mate threw the harpoon into one and as they were taking him in he broke the iron and they lost him. It seems impossible for us to catch a porpoise or any thing else but a shark. Quite a number have taken very bad colds and among them I am sick. It has been warm today and so sensibly is it felt that the disease called laziness is getting prevalent.

Friday June 14th 1850.

The weather being perfectly clear with a smooth sea I had a delightful opportunity of beholding the sun rise at sea this morn. It has been said that the scene wants the accompanying beauties of the landscape singing of birds &c, yet to my mind to behold the sun rising from beneath a well defined horizon in majestic splendor when there is not a cloud to be seen in the blue arched canopy of the heavens while the eye ranges over the interminable waste of waters not only surpasses in beauty the rising of the sun on shore but it also inspires the beholder with a feeling of the most profound awe and reverence in the contemplation of that Being who has made and upholds all things by the word of his power. The mate cuffed boy John severly this afternoon. There is scarcely wind enough to fill the sails this eve

Saturday June 15th 1850.

We have a fine strong breeze this morn and the weather is getting almost too warm for comfort.
Many of the passengers have got the blues the worst kind. It is quite amusing to see them this morn trying to find something new to interest themselves in.
Some there are whom I have seen today in every part of the ship as often as they can move from one to the other. The sun has been shining down upon us part of the day uncomfortably warm. Every inch of the tables are occupied this eve playing cards anxious seemingly to gain if possible the time they must lose tomorrow. Swearing cursing and every thing but fighting this ev.

Sunday June 16th 1850.

The weather is cloudy this morn and has every appearance of rain. The wind continues to drive us along finely. There are thousands of flying fish skimming over the water this morn. Every thing seems to have a serious appearance today more so than any Sunday for a long time. Every one seems to be still and engaged in reading and many I se have the bible. It is really a novelty to see how uneasy many of the passengers are getting. I notice some this afternoon climbing the rigging and looking eagerly around upon the ocean as if trying to discover something new to feast their eyes upon.

Monday June 17th 1850.

The wind continues strong this morn and with every sail set the old Ship looks grand. There is nothing looks more majestic to me than a Ship with all her studdingsails set sailing away before a strong steady breeze. The Capt caught one of the married men in the after cabin with a female last night about one Oc. and what is still more surprising the female was not his wife but one of the damsels. There was another trial last night to capture a porpoise which like previous adventures failed. The damsels are stowed away with their fancy men this eve under the rail and in places where they are most likely to be out of sight. Singing and dancing and all kinds of sport to keep the spirits up this ev

Tuesday June 18th 1850.

There was some short watching one of the Sailors last night. who had an engagement with our damsel Lucinda. We are now in Longitude about one hundred and the trade wind is driving us along astonishingly. It is very warm this morn so much so that we are obliged to seek the shade or suffer with the heat. This day has been passed very pleasantly and I can hardly remember when every thing has gone along so peacably. The females have been sitting on deck engaged in different employments the whole day. Many of the men have been engaged washing and it is really a novel sight to see them sitting around their tubs in different parts of the ship five or six in a place busily scrubbing and telling stories of by gone days at home. I have spent this eve on deck in company with Miss Swalsers and a very pleasant chat I have had.
We are skimming over a smooth sea at a rapid rate and we are enjoying one of the beautiful moonlight evenings in the tropics at sea.

Wednesday June 19th 1850.

The wind continues about the same as yesterday but the weather is not near so warm.
We saw a very large Sperm whale this forenoon spouting and dashing through the waters.
The passengers are all on deck today some reading some working and others in groups telling yarns.
This day has been passed very peacably and pleasantly. Some playing cards some promenading and others wrestling this eve. The wind continues strong.

Thursday June 20th 1850.

It is comfortably cool this morn and I am very happily disappointed in the temperature of the climate so near the equator. We are now only seventeen days from Valparaiso and we have run more than the distance from New York to Liverpool which proves the sailing qualities of our Ship.
The weather being cooler today the Spirits are revived.
Nothing worthy of note has occurred among the passengers today. Have seen many flying fish today.
We are moving over a smooth sea about 9 knots this eve.

Friday June 21st 1850.

The weather is fine this morn and the wind is driving us along rapidly. Perhaps there is no place in the world where there is so much sameness and so little excitement upon the ocean as there is in running down the longitude in making a passage from Valparaiso to the North West Coast. There is no vessels return in this track nor is there scarcely ever any fish seen until the equator is crossed. These facts I have learned from those who have sailed this ground over a number of times and thus far I have found it true to the letter. Sun moon, stars, and sea, is all the company we have. The decks are occupied today making and mending sails. Dancing boxing and wrestling is carried on extensively on deck this eve. A school of flying fish passed us this eve and two flew on board. If I could describe a moonlight eve upon the ocean I would attempt it this eve as it is one of the most splendid nights I ever beheld. The air is balmy and soft altogether unlike any climate North or South of the tropics.

Saturday June 22nd 1850.

This is a splendid morn and the wind yet continues strong and favorable.
There has been about a doz. suffering with the tooth ache there being no instrument on board to extract them. A few days since a young man by the name Ellis made an instrument and there is some great sport this morn taking out the teeth. Mr Gale acts as dentist and has already extracted mine this morn and is now at work at another.
They are singing out all over the ship walk up gentlemen and have your grinders out.
Dr Gale has already become popular and notorious.
The passengers seem more lively this afternoon than I have seen them for a number of days.
The damsels are cutting around the deck performing all kinds of ludicrous pranks. I have not written but little of late about the damsels for the reason that I have become so accustomed to their actions and conduct that I do not notice it as I did when I first came on board. Mr Gale has extracted twenty five teeth today which has kept up a pretty good excitement

God has preserved our lives to behold another splendid Sabbath morn far from our home and friends tossing upon the ocean and truly there is indications of the day of rest even here. I promised myself that whatever was my situation or condition I would set apart a space of time each Sabbath morn to visit home in imagination and thus far I have kept my promise sacred. This morn I have been thinking what Father & Mother and the children are doing this morn. If I knew that they were all well and engaged as I have imagined them to be this morn I should be happy. I think the garden and the trees must look beautifully about this time.

I can hardly imagine that I am passing the winter season on one side of the world while at home on the opposite side my friends are enjoying summer. Scarcely a day passes that I do not think of the kindness of Mrs Page.

The wind continues strong and fair. Our latitude today is S. 7. 14. which shows that we are nearing the equator very fast. We saw a brig heading across our stern this afternoon and it has been so long since we saw a vessel that there was a general rush and cry of Sail Ho. This is one of the most splendid evenings I ever saw and nearly all are on deck enjoying it. Dorr is below playing old Dan Tucker on his fiddle. There has been some few disputes today but no blows.

Monday June 24th 1850.

Weather fine and wind fair this morning. Many of the passengers are engaged in washing and in every part of the ship is displayed clothes drying. It has been very warm today and we have had an awning over the poop deck which has made it very comfortable.

The passengers are scudding about deck this afternoon lively and apparently quite happy. The Capt ordered the stewards not to make bread for supper this eve which caused a general row. At the supper table all commenced howling at the top of their voices and made the old ship ring for a half an hour. This is a splendid moonlight eve.

Tuesday June 25th 1850

I was awoke last night about twelve Oclock by a general row and cry of bread from nearly all the steerage passengers which lasted about an hour. There was a row at the table last night at supper on account of not having our warm bread which was due us and it appears that there was an agreement last eve for all to howl for bread at twelve Oclock and howling it was with a chorus. The mate swore to the capt that he would give the ship up to the passengers or set her on fire. Soon after the noise was quelled a large school of porpoises passed under our bow and we had some sport trying to catch some but failed. About two Oclock all retired and the ship was quiet again. The mate has blown off considerable gas this morn and says if he was capt he would try the virtue of pistols. We caught two skipjack today. These fish are some like mackerel only they are much more thick set.
Things have generally been pretty quiet this day. The Capt has had the resemblance of a Turk today. The wind is strong this eve and we are now within about four degrees of the equator.
We had our warm bread for supper this eve and every thing passed off in a satisfactory manner.

Wednesday June 26th 1850.

The trade wind continues remarkably strong yet which gives us courage and keeps up our spirits notwithstanding the sameness of each day.
I noticed this morn something on the surface of the water which at first had the appearance of bubbles but on a close examination I ascertained that they were beautiful little shells of a whitish appearance checked in diamonds about the size of a dollar and nearly globular. We made an effort to get some of them but did not succeed on account of the velocity of the ship.
There are large numbers of fish around us today called bonita but we cannot catch them.
Most of the passengers are stretched lazily upon the deck under the awning. This has been a beautiful evening just cool enough for comfort on deck.

Thursday June 27th 1850.

This is a splendid morn and quite a number of us have had a nice bathe in salt water which by the way I have practiced about two weeks. The thermometer stands about eighty but it does not seem near so warm as it did when it stood the same on the other side of the equator. It is really cool and comfortable this morning notwithstanding we are within two degrees of the equator. Some of the passengers are at work some reading and some on deck asleep this fine afternoon. We have had a fine time this eve playing leap frog shoemaker and several other laughable plays. Tomorrow we cross the equator again and expect a visit from Old Neptune. We saw a very large shark today.

Friday June 28th 1850.

The wind continues fair but it is not so strong as it has been. It is warm but not uncomfortably so. The passengers seem tired of so much monotony and some of them are getting very uneasy and fretful. We crossed the equator today about ten Oclock and it now seems as if we near our journeys end. There are great numbers of fish around us this afternoon but we cannot catch them. There are many games going on this eve one of which they call learning the shoemakers trade. One sits down as boss having an apprentice on each side of him with their pants rolled up above their knees the boss having a shoe to work upon and while he is hammering and shaving them how to work he hits them with the shoe on their bare legs. A splendid moon this eve.

Saturday June 29th 1850.

This is a fine morning and the passengers are up bathing and climbing the rigging early. Edwin Ellis got pretty essentially stoked today while attempting to fool around Austin Savage and his father or any one of his friends got an invitation to take it up if they chose. This is a fine eve and all kinds of sport is going on

Sunday June 30th 1850.

Another Sabbath has rolled around with a fair wind and fine weather. It is warmer this morn than it was yesterday although I have been comfortable this forenoon with a woollen coat on. Mrs Hardy undertook to cuff John Roach one of the cabin stewards this forenoon which ended in a fight between Mr Hardy and John. Hardy got a black eye and a bloody nose and probably would have got more if the Capt had not interfered. Mrs Hardy and her children commenced screaming when the fight began which made a perfect hell for a half hour or more. Soon after dinner Mrs Hardy commenced upon John again which caused another rush but no fighting.
This afternoon has been spent very pleasantly and peaceably and this eve the wind is fresh and fair.

Monday July 1st 1850

The wind continues fair but light this morn and there is the appearance of rain. Nearly all the passengers are busily engaged washing their clothes this forenoon.
We had some fine excitement about twelve Oc last night trying to catch porpoises.
We have had a fine rain this afternoon and indeed it is refreshing to us as it has been a long time since we have seen it rain.
It continues to rain this eve and there is a prospect that it will not cease very soon.

Tuesday July 2nd 1850.

It rained at intervals through the past night but the wind has not yet changed as we expected it would after it commenced raining. There was a quantity of fresh water caught last night and all are washing again this morn. The damsels have had a row in the cabin today in which there was any quantity of swearing but no blows nor blood. It commenced raining about four Oc this afternoon and continues this eve. Came near taking a cow fish today.

This was whittled with a
knife by my Uncle Austin Savage
when sailing around Cape Horn
(from Boston to San Francisco)
from one piece of wood, in 1850.
The glass was cut marked
in some way with a flat-iron
(See Journal of "Rob Roy") (over)

Carved out of one straight piece of wood.

There is scarcely a breath of air this morn and there is every appearance of rain. A large school of porpoises passed us this forenoon which gave us some little excitement but we were not fortunate enough to take any of them. It has rained at intervals throughout the day and some part very hard. The wind has breezed up this eve and we are moving on our course at a rapid rate. There was a general howl this eve about ten Oclock for water and the Stewards being turned in they raised the Capt and he came down and brought us some waters.

Thursday July 4th 1850.

The wind blew strong and the rain came down in torrents the past night and has not ceased this morn. It was the intention to have some kind of a celebration today but it looks this morn as though it would rain the whole day. There has been a few guns fired this morn and some noise made but the rain has stopped it.
It has rained almost incessantly today and the wind has increased so much that at five Oclock the topsails were double reefed and while clewing up the foretop gallant sail it blew into strips. At nine this eve the reefs are shaken out and the rain has almost ceased.

Friday July 5th 1850.

It continued to rain through the past night and this morn it comes down in torrents. Nearly all the passengers are busily engaged catching rain water and washing apparently esteeming it a pleasure to get well soaked. The wind is very light and we are get heading our course. This has been a long and dreary day to me and my thoughts have been at home with my friends many times. I am thinking how pleasant it would be to spend the day at home about the garden and in the ever to be remembered Summerhouse. It continues to rain this eve.

Saturday July 6th 1850

The first thing I heard this morn was the sound of shark, shark, shark, and hastning on deck I saw the second mate and some four or five others hauling a large shark up the side of the ship by three ropes one with a hook attached from his mouth one with a turn around his head and the other around his tail. After he was taken on deck there was some fine sport for the boys killing him with axes handspikes &c. This performance of course made some considerable noise which awoke the first mate and he made his appearance cursing the second mate for taking the hook to catch the shark with. They had some strong talk in the course of which the second mate told him that he knew his duty and place and if he did not stop his noise he would do one duty which would be to stop it for him. Thus it ended.
It's almost a dead calm today and the sun shines down with all its fury and almost every rope in the ship is filled with clothes drying.
The wind just moves us this evening.
Latitude 13, 30 north.

Sunday July 7th 1850.

This is a beautiful morn and the sun begins to let us know his power. The wind is fair but very light. There is the appearance of Sunday this morn in a degree by dress and the use of bibles and other religious books.
There seems to be a row brewing among the women in the cabin this afternoon.
There was a row in the cabin after supper this eve in which Mr Ellis threatened to thrash Hanson the steward and before the scene closed Mr Moody and Miss Hines were called as witnesses to prove something that the steward had said.
No wind this eve. The air close still and very warm.

Monday July 8th 1850.

It is warm and calm this morn and the principle business is washing. Nothing particular has occurred today. Splendid sunset this eve. no wind

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Tuesday July 9th 1850. 120

The wind breezed up some time during the past night and this morn we are moving along finely. About eight Oclock we fell in with a large school of dolphins and were lucky enough to catch twelve fine ones which made us an excellent dinner. We caught them with hooks and about a half an hour after we saw them they refused to bite although they were all around us in great numbers. The wind increases this afternoon and without doubt we are now in the North East trade winds. Some of the passengers are busily engaged making and fixing tents. The anxiety to get on shore is continually on the increase now. We have had a fine shower this afternoon. The wind increases this evening.

Wednesday July 10th 1850

The wind blows strong this morn from the North and we are close hauled heading over towards the Sandwich Islands. About ten Oclock we saw a sail ahead but so far distant that we could not make out what she was but she is evidently bound the same way we are. Nearly every passenger has now a very bad cold and mine among the number I think is the worst as I cough nearly all the time night and day and I am unable yet to get any thing to help me. We have neared the sail which we saw this morn and she turns out to be a bark bound the same course that we are. It rains lightly this eve and the wind continues very strong and yet from the north.

Thursday July 11th 1850.

We had light squalls through the past night and this morn the weather is heavy and quite cool. My cough is not any better this morn. The sail we saw yesterday is not in sight today. The wind has hauled to the North East and blows very strong. Dark cool heavy weather this eve

Friday July 12th 1850.

The wind continues strong this morn and what is more remarkable than any thing else the weather is as cold as the first of May at home and we are now nearly under the sun. We are now passing the Sandwich Islands and if our Longitude is right we are not more than two degrees East of them. There are a few birds with us today some gulls and some cary chickens. I can hardly write today the old ship tumbles about so bad.
Almost every soul on board have a very bad cough and I fear many will be down sick unless we have a change of weather soon. Many of the passengers are very restless and uneasy. This is a dark cloudy dismal evening and there is a prospect of rain before morning.

Saturday July 13th 1850.

We had some rain during the past night and this morn we heave a Specimen of the Simon pure California weather cold foggy bleak and windy and just about as uncomfortable as can be anywhere. Nearly all the passengers have kept below today it has been so cold. One down sick today and others in a fair way.
Our damsel Lucinda got two of her fingers cut badly this eve fooling with one of the Stewards. Many are now engaged making tents hammocks clothes bags &c &c. Cold and dreary this eve.

Sunday July 14th 1850.

The wind continues from the North East this morn cold cloudy and uncomfortable.
There are quite a number of Sea fowl about us this morn and among them I see a few of those large goneys such as we saw off cape Horn. We saw a very large school of cow fish this afternoon some of which came alongside. These fish resemble the porpoise in shape and movements but are larger being from eight to twelve feet in length. We have passed through this day in peace something wonderful for Sunday.

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Monday July 15th 1850.

There is no material change in the weather this morn and all seem astonished that such weather should continue in this latitude so long. I cannot perceive that our colds get any better mine am satisfied is growing worse Our companions the birds have increased today and I think we must be near the islands. The damsels are as quiet and peacable of late as ladies. The Capt takes but little notice of small affairs lately and I think he might have saved himself considerable vexation if he had taken this course throughout the passage. Playing cards and checkers is the order of the evening. The ship is tumbling about in a turbalent sea

Tuesday July 16th 1850.

The wind continues very strong from the North East with a cloudy sky but not so cold as it has been for a week past. The passengers are all guessing on the time it will take us to get into port and variously estimate it from ten to thirty days.
About noon the sun is out and the weather feels very comfortable again.
Our colds are not any better today.
My mind has been at home during the whole day and should this passage continue one month longer I shall wish myself there.
We are now in latitude 26.47. ten degrees of latitude to make and about the same of longitude Playing cards telling yarns and swearing is the order of the evening.

Wednesday July 17th 1850.

There is every appearance this morn that the trade winds are leaving us. The sun has been out part of this forenoon and it is getting quite warm again. Mrs Hardy and one of the damsels had a pretty severe spat in the cabin this afternoon and the Capt and Hull were called to still the combatants which ended after Mrs Hardy had sputtered about an hour. Every thing is peacable and quiet this evening.

Thursday July 18th 1850.

There is no material change in the weather from yesterday nor but very little in the wind which continues to blow strong from the North East. There has ban a continual fight throughout the day between Mrs. Hardy and the damsels. Some of the passengers are getting completely discouraged and really believe that the fates are against us because this head wind continues so long. I think there now is a fair prospect of making out at least two hundred days from Boston to San Francisco.
This is a dark dismal cloudy night wind strong.

Friday July 19th 1850.

It continues cold cloudy and windy blowing yet from the North East. Every thing goes along peacably this forenoon.
Our colds are getting a little better I believe.
The old Ship is knocking about against a cross turbulent sea so heavily that I can hardly write. Many of the passengers are engaged making knives money bags &c &c and one is busily making a small wagon for his boys. Dark and gloomy this eve.

Saturday July 20th 1850.

The wind is somewhat lighter than it was yesterday but continues from the same quarter. It is truly amusing to sit and watch the movements of the passengers and see them move from one part of the ship to another. They all seem to be trying to find some new place to resort to in the ship and the more they search the more restless and uneasy they seem.
Many of the passengers are cursing the Captain for running so far West but I think it is his business to know where to go and I for one have no business to call his judgement in question.
The sun has been out part of the day but it's cold.
One more Saturday night has rolled around on board the old Ship and one week ago I thought this would be the last but how deceived we are.

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Sunday July 21st 1850 1240

Still we have the wind from the North East without any prospect of a change and about October weather. Our provisions are getting scarce as well as bad. We have had no molasses fit for a dog the past three weeks nor any sugar since July 15th. Our bread is bad and the report is that we have but one more barrel of flour. Our water is very good and cool and probably will be as long as it continues so cold. I believe this is the first Sunday which has been passed on board this Ship on this passage in peace and quietness. It has indeed seemed like Sunday. I have been at home the whole day in imagination. No change of wind this eve.

Monday July 22nd 1850.

The first thing I heard this morn was the sound of Sail Ho! and going on deck I saw a large Ship about six miles ahead probably bound for San Francisco. Soon after we saw her she tacked and we followed her example and now make near a course to San Francisco. The Sun has been out part of the forenoon quite warm. It is cool and uncomfortable this afternoon but the wind has hauled so that we now make our course. The Ship we saw this morn is now out of sight. All are encouraged this eve.

Tuesday July 23d 1850

We have a fine breize this morn and close hauled we make our course which is East by North. The passengers generally feel encouraged today and some of them are in high spirits now that the wind is fair. There are quite a number of large birds around us today. Our colds are getting better. I am quite unwell yet. I have been engaged today making a hammock which I believe finished and it is a very nice one. One of the Stewards had a bottle of wine taken from him this eve and he is making quite a row about it. I begin to think that this climate will not agree with me. The wind continues fair but light this eve.

Wednesday July 24th 1850.

The wind is again in the North East and the passengers are cursing our bad luck and many declare that there is a Jonah on board.
The weather is cool the thermometer standing about sixty five: Nearly all the passengers are busily engaged completing tents hammocks bags knapsacks preparatory to a trip to the mines. I have been quite unwell today and unless I am better than I have been the past four weeks I shall make a poor California subject. I do not cough so bad as I have but my whole system is out of order and I am getting very thin. The wind seems to be whirling around and we have tacked ship several times this afternoon, The wind has died away this eve and it is almost calm. We caught a large bird called a goney today with a hook and line.

Thursday July 25th 1850.

There is scarcely a breath of air this morn and the and the sea is as smooth as a river.
Such a set of discouraged pilgrims I never saw before as there are now on board this old ship.
It is six months today since we left Central wharf and here we are nearly a thousand miles from land. Six months is no short time to be tossing upon the ocean and worse than all not to hear from neither friends nor country. I heard Mr Eager the first mate talk very saucy to the Capt today and I expected he would be put off duty but the Capt bore it like a hero of endurance. Another bird caught today.
There has been a school of fish around us today.
I have finished my hammock this eve.
Not a breath of wind this evening

Friday July 26th 1850.

The wind is yet unfavorable but very light and we all live in the highest hopes and expectations that it will soon change and there is a satisfaction that it cannot change for the worse. About eight O'cl this morn the cheering sound of Sail Ho! resounded from one end of the old ship to the other.
There is in sight a schooner the Mary Reed. Belfast and a brig. Neither have spoken us. No change this eve

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Saturday July 27th 1850 126

The wind has brized up and blows quite fresh this morn but remains dead ahead.
The schooner has gained to the windward of us during the past night but she is yet in sight.
The brig can just be seen this morning.
We begin to feel somewhat alarmed about our water and I expect that unless the wind changes between this and Monday we shall be put on allowance and I think prudence demands it now. We are now out of beans rice and sugar but our bread is quite good and we are all so anxious to get in that we do not feel much inclined to say much about our hard fare.
Home and friends have been on my mind many times today. Tom Rose is very sick this eve.
The wind has hauled so that we are heading East this eve. Water Water Water is all the talk.

Sunday July 28th 1850.

The schooner and brig are in sight this morn the brig being the nearest.
No change of wind yet and all seem disheartened. Every thing is still quiet and peacable this morn. About two Oc this afternoon the brig hoisted her signal and as soon as ours went up she squared away and bore down for us. We spoke her and she appears to be a chilian craft from Valparaiso bound to California and only wished to know our longitude which was 40. 39. Latitude 37. 30. She had on board two chilian women who seemed delighted on coming near us. We gave them three hearty cheers and are now outsailing them. Heading East this eve.

Monday July 29th 1850.

We feel somewhat encouraged this morn as we yet continue to head East with a strong breeze. The brig is in sight a long distance behind.
The weather is cold and disagreeable and I continue to cough badly yet. We are not yet put on allowance of water nor is any thing said about it today.
The wind is strong and we are heading East this eve.

Tuesday July 30th 1850.

About twelve Oc last night we passed a full rigged brig standing to the Northward.
There is a fore and aft schooner in sight this morn to the Leeward. We are yet heading to the East with a strong breeze. It is so cold and uncomfortable today that we all need winter clothing. If this is California weather I know that it will not suit me. The schooner nears us this eve heading East this eve with a strong breeze.

Wednesday July 31st 1850.

About four Oc this morn hauled into the West and we are now running before a light breeze with studdingsails all set.
This fair wind has raised the spirits of all and it was amusing to hear them shout fair wind fair wind this morn when we first turned out. The weather has been pleasant and the sun out most of the forenoon. The children are running about the deck chanting fair wind fair wind.
There has been light squalls with rain this afternoon. The wind continues fair and all are in the highest spirits this eve. We are about six hundred miles now from our destined port.

Thursday August 1st 1850

The wind wafted us along about six knots per hour the past night and continued fair this morn. All are making great calculations to get into port Sunday or Monday but scarcely any one thinks there may possibly be another head wind and perhaps very soon.
Some I see there are who seem to express a dread to get into port and be thrown upon their own resources after being idle and not dependent upon themselves so long. This has been a day of light squalls and rain, but the wind remains favorable. Our colds do not seem to get much better.
I am quite unwell yet and probably shall be until we get on shore where I can get something to eat. The wind has hauled ahead this eve and such curses and imprecations I never heard expressed before.

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Friday August 2nd 1850.

Some time during the past night the wind hauled again and this morn we are making slow headway directly toward San Francisco. Many of the passengers are almost entirely worn out and I think that if we were to be but one month longer many of us would go to Davy Jones locker. I am so unwell myself that if I was at home I certainly should be confined to my room. The damsels get along quietly of late which I attribute to their having chosen particular fancy men and the Capt has let them do as they please or has taken no notice of it when they stopt the whole night in the cabin with the gals. The wind continues fair but very light this eve.

Saturday August 3d 1850

Another Saturday has rolled around and we are yet tossing upon the ocean but there is now a fair prospect that this is the last for the wind continues fair and is some stronger than it was yesterday. I am some better today but sick enough yet. Some of the passengers are almost crazy and it is truly amusing to see them prowl around the ship. Seeking. Something new. I have visited home and friends every hour of this day and almost begin to wish myself back before I get to the end of the journey. It is damp raw weather this eve but our courage is kept up to a degree as long as the wind is fair. A sail in sight this eve.

Sunday August 4th 1850.

The wind has veered again and this morn we hardly make our course.
Our small quantity of water begins to call our attention and unless we get in the coming week certainly we shall come short.
It does not appear much like Sunday today or less so than any other since I came on board as many are engaged making knives &c the same as they have been through the past week.
The wind is more favorable this eve but very light yet. An albitros was caught today.

Monday August 5th 1850.

We are making our course this morning with an increasing breeze and my hopes of getting in this week are now quite strong. Nearly all seem busily engaged in washing this morn and the ship presents a novel sight. Never at any time during my life has time seemed so long as it has the past week. Days actually seem longer to me now than weks did when we first sailed.

My health is better today than it has been for some five or six weeks. I have taken considerable medicine during the past week and I have every reason to believe that it has helped me. We saw a school of porpoises today. The ship is so infested with rats and bed bugs that it is almost impossible to sleep. Two of the stewards Kirby & Rice had a fight this eve being the first which has arisen from playing cards and this did not amount to but a trifle.

Tuesday August 6th 1850.

The wind is favorable this morn and we are moving along finely. The sky is cloudy and the weather cold bleak and what I call very uncomfortable. I heard the Capt say this forenoon that we had eaten the last of our flour and now should be obliged to live upon musty hard bread. There is plenty of provisions on board belonging to passengers and I do not feel alarmed about suffering with hunger if we should not get in this week. The wind increases this eve.

Wednesday August 7th 1850.

The wind is fair this morn and blows strong and we all feel highly encouraged.

We are looking out for an eclipse of the sun today which is visible in the Pacific. About half past twelve the sun began to be darkened the eclipse continuing about two hours covering nearly one half the sun. I suppose we are now about two hundred miles from San Francisco and if this breeze continues as strong as it has been today I think we shall be in tomorrow. It has been cold and chilly today.

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Thursday August 8th 1850 130

We had a fine breeze through the past night which continues fair this morn and there is very prospect of getting in today. There is a thick heavy fog so dense that we can scarcely see one mile.
The sound of the chains and the bustling preparation getting the anchors ready seems to fill every one with joy. About ten Oclock the fog clears away a little so that we can see land and such a cry of land ho! from every mouth as poured forth made the old ship fairly ring.
It is very cold and uncomfortable this morn.
We now see whales spouting in every direction.
We have seen a few land birds and ducks.
The land we see is the islands just outside the harbor or entrance to the bay.
I am quite unwell this morning.
It is truly amusing to see the anxiety among the passengers now that we are in sight of the promised golden land. This makes one hundred and ninety six days from Central Wharf Boston a long tiresome passage.
As we passed the southern island I noticed a large hole through a high rock on one end of the island and on the other a large cave in and out of which thousands of birds were flying.
These islands are nothing but bare rocks covered with guano. As we passed in we saw moderate high land on both hands. About four Oclock we took a pilot being about twenty miles from town. On the right hand is the ruins of an old spanish fort and still further on the same side is the town. Most of the land is a barren waste but in a few spots I see trees but mostly where there is any verdure it is a kind of moss. There is any quantity of seafowl and ducks all around us.
As we near the town we see a forest of shipping. I see many houses building and hundreds of tents.
At seven Oclock we let go the anchor but cannot see the town there is so much shipping inside of us. I must say I never saw one half so many vessels in one place. I should judge there was one thousand sail.
Rhodes came on board this eve and he is raving because his damsels were left in Rio. I learn that there has been a very destructive fire here of late

Friday August 9th 1850

About nine Oc this morn George Hasty of Waterville came on board and I went on shore with him. The first business was to ascertain if Samuel Brannan was here and through him find the whereabouts of Eliza. I was not long finding his office as he is one of the richest men here and known by everybody. I did not find him he being up to Sacramento City and will return next Sunday. His clerk told me where he lived, about one mile out of town and I concluded not to call until afternoon so I walked about town and such a rush of business I never thought of. I saw more money in one gambling saloon than I ever saw before in my life. Took dinner with George. Called on Mrs. Brannon in the afternoon and found her in as fine furnished and as costly furnished as any in Boston. Mrs Brannan seemed as glad to see as if I had been a relative and treated me very ladylike. I ascertained that Eliza had been gone to the Salt Lake about one year. I next went down where more men from Waterville were putting up their Steamboat went on board the brig which they came in and still live aboard and stopped all night. In the morn it was quite pleasant but this afternoon and eve it has been very windy.

Saturday August 10th 1850.

I called this morn to see Doct Whittemore of Lowell but he was out and I walked about town until twelve Oc then called again found him and spent the afternoon with him and stopped to supper.
I can get boarded by sleeping on the soft side of a board for sixteen dollars per week.
Day laborers get eight dollars per day not found. Generally it is very healthy the streets dry and sandy. There is five times the improvement here I expected to see. This is already a large city laid out well. I spent the evening with George going about town and it is truly astonishing to see the million passing from one to another in the gambling saloons almost hourly.

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March 15th 1850.

Dear Father.

I was disappointed in a chance to cross the Isthmus and rather than wait I took passage in the Ship Rob Roy from Boston. There is on board 105 Souls including 13 females. 6 children crew and officers. She is a ship of 600 tons and a fast sailer. We are now about 4 degrees South of the equator heading in towards Rio Janeiro which port we intend to make in about six days. We are now nearly in the track of homeward bound vessels from the pacific and I write now expecting that within a few days we shall speak one and have an opportunity of sending it to the States. but if not I shall mail it at Rio Janeiro. I have not been seasick any but I cannot say that I have felt well but little of the time thus far. My appetite has been poor and I have lost flesh very fast probably twenty pounds lighter than when I came on board. I think I should have been better if I had been seasick. Heaven has blessed us with good weather nearly all the time or I know not what would become of us ere this. The first mate has been drunk nearly all the time, and the Capt is as afraid of him as he can be of the devil. The second mate has been the same for liquor much of the time, and it is well for us that we have some four or five sea Capts as passengers, who are steady men. I think we shall have a new set of officers before we leave Rio. We have eight Boston whores who were sent on board by the owners after the ship left the wharf. They have been the source of disturbance every day since we left. The capt has lost all authority, which keeps us in a perfect hell. Both mates are dead down on the Capt which places him in a fearful situation, and notwithstanding we tell him we will support him he fears to go ahead. There has scarcely been a day since we left but there has been more or less drunkenness on board. I keep a journal of all the proceedings which I hope to show you within a few years which I imagine you will find interesting. There is a few that I am acquainted with on board. a Mr Ellis & Son from Waterville. Charles Kidder from Norridgewock and two from Lowell. some five or six from Passadumkeag all well.

I am very much disappointed in the climate crossing and near the equator. We have had but very few extreme warm days. but it unnerves us and we feel but little energy. We have had some considerable noise about our food as much of the time it has been coarse and scanty but I think it will be better hereafter. I have slept on deck most of the time for the past four or five weeks on account of the closeness of the air between decks. The only fish we have caught thus far is two sharks although there has been plenty around us at times. We have seen but few vessels and spoken none yet. We are now in the South East trade winds going along about six knots. We have had no serious trouble yet and but little sickness. One of the Stewards has been very sick with the Rheumatic fever but is now getting better. I am now in Rio Janeiro. March 30. 1850.
I did not get a chance to put this on board a ship and now I finish this and put it in the hands of Jos Kent of Maine who who is Consul here.
We come in here yesterday and probably shall get away in a few days I have been on shore and find this to be nearly as large as New York. There are 200 thousand inhabitants here. Brazilians. who have about ten slaves to a man. This harbor is very large and one of the finest in the world. The city is surrounded by a chain of high mountains some of which are cultivated to the very top. I have visited the Botanic Garden today about ten miles from the city. and truly, I never saw any thing that would a hundredth part compare with it. The whole distance to the city is a perfect garden. The garden contains about 50 acres and is situated between mountains whose tops are in the clouds. There are undoubtedly some of the finest gardens in these mountains in the world.
The yellow fever has killed ten thousand the last ten weeks here and is raging now. I expect we shall get it on board. Some 10 or 12 passengers have been on shore today as drunk as they could be. Six of our gals have gone on shore to stop tonight. The Capt has discharged his mates today we have been 60 days from Boston.

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They are mostly mules here but I have seen some very fine horses. Don Pedro the Emperor is out of the city now at a country place called Santa Cruz about 60 miles so I shall not see him. There is no business now on account of the epidemic. Kent lives 4 miles from the city. One of his family is dead. They tell me that there were 7000 Californians here at one time last fall. It is exceedingly warm here and I must close my letter short. I have not been so well since I left Boston as I am today.

Yours Truly Savage



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