

Private Journal,

Kept during a voyage from Boston to San Francisco  
in the Ship Mary Merrill George E Kellum Master  
April 22<sup>d</sup> After much delay on account of pecuniary affairs  
of owners of the vessel we were this day towed down into  
the stream by the Tow Boat Lion. Anchored there for the  
for the night Several hundreds were on the wharf when  
we pushed off seeing and bidding their friends farewell  
Many tears were shed, I was most glad that I had none  
there to bid adieu to,

23<sup>d</sup> Took pilot and went down the harbor and anchored  
Strong indications of a storm, All on board appeared in  
fine spirits There was music & dancing on deck and  
dull care gloomy forebodings seem cast to the winds They think  
a change will in a few days come over their feelings, They  
dined to the very appropriate tune "The girl I left behind  
me" Our Cook is a smart active man but unfortunately  
is intemperate when on shore, He has been drunk nearly  
a fortnight and is now suffering <sup>from</sup> the effects of it, He has  
unfitted himself for his duty, The other men help him  
but with all their help there is much dissatisfaction  
among passengers about their food Only two meals prepared  
to day,

24<sup>th</sup> Pilot came on board piloted below Boston Light  
and left us with three hearty cheers Win fair North west  
25 My first Tubbath at sea It is a pleasant morning  
Fair wind Off the Georges saw a wrecked Brig & a schooner

making toward her. Many of passengers were sea sick  
 there has been talk of holding religious services on  
 board but on account of the sick ones it was abandoned.  
 Passengers appeared to be thinking of "home sweet home"  
 Long faces all thick to day, I took a cold last Eve & to  
 day have a sore throat & slight headache, only incident  
 of the day worth noting was a pig got sea sick <sup>2d</sup> the night  
 took him under his especial care and being one of the  
 allopathic believers he bled piggy by the excision of  
 the caudal extremity, but poor pig got no better very  
 fast & his doctor cast him overboard, Course to day  
 about east wind fair

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> Calm & beautiful morning slow sailing  
 better breeze in the afternoon, course about east  
 strong signs of a rain storm

Tues 27 Rain storm, strong south wind most  
 of the passengers sick only three in storage  
 eat breakfast no table set during the day,  
 I was sick & vomited several times during the forenoon  
 Many sorrowful faces & some of the passengers  
 were much frightened, their fright afforded cause  
 of laughter and jeers among the crew and some of  
 the passengers that were accustomed to such  
 storms at sea, One passenger Mr — in the house  
 on deck was very much frightened by some ropes  
 being roched off of the house, He sprang for  
 his baggage but suddenly stopped and said it  
 was no use we were lost I pitied the poor man

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For hours after the occurrence he trembled like a leaf shaken by the wind, His friends said he was the boldest of the lot in fair weather, one thing was noticeable among the passengers while the storm was raging I heard no swearing - a fact showing plainly to my mind that in mens sober & serious thinking moments they not only know but feel the wickedness of that habit - profanity, To myself the day afforded a rich subject for reflection, The howling wind the falling rain the foaming sea the rolling waves, all together afforded a beautiful ~~yet~~ <sup>and</sup> sublime yet awful scene no pen can describe no pencil can paint it - it must be seen to be realized

Wed 28<sup>th</sup> Beautiful Morning wind fair and strong N.W. Ship made eight and part of the time ten knots passengers nearly all have recovered from their seasickness a few however are on the sick list, I feel tolerable well but not much appetite,

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> Squally Morning but good wind during the day, Saw a vessel an English Ship in sight three or four hours

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> Fine day - good wind - vessel made 230 miles  
Sat May 1<sup>st</sup> Squally Morning Clear off at ten o'clock course South the East Lat 34-53 Long 50 - made 207 miles being about 1362 from Boston - Amusements among the passengers appear to be principally playing cards and checkers some however provided themselves with books but many of them are novels. Several have commenced with the intention of reading

their bibles through ~~our~~ our passage to California  
 There has been considerable talk to day about going  
 Maying but the company gave up the idea thinking it  
 "wouldnt pay" Netties N. England Boy and girls  
 This morn would like the warm weather we are  
 enjoying It seems here about a N. E. morning in June

Our Cook has now got about over his drunk &  
 has returned to his business a fair sample of  
 a man ruined by rum, Necessity now will compel him  
 to be temperate through our voyage But as soon as  
 he goes on shore he will probably return to his  
 cups like a sow to her vomit.

Sabbath May 2<sup>d</sup> This a most glorious morning calm mild  
 Every the winds to day appear to obey the Divine Mandate to Man  
 "Six days shall thou labor - Remember the Sabbath day to  
 keep it holy," At ten o'clock all were invited on to the Quarter  
 Deck to attend to religious services (Most of the Passengers  
 were present & Officers and some of the crew also,  
 Mr Bentress (one of the owners of vessel) officiated, He  
 first read a hymn which was sung by the company  
 he then read the 12<sup>th</sup> chapter of Luke and offered  
 a prayer Then singing afterward Dr <sup>Group</sup> delivered a  
 short sermon from the text "What shall it profit  
 a man if he gain the whole world &c He spoke so low  
 that but few could hear his words distinctly, It was  
 a pleasing sight to witness our little company assent<sup>ed</sup>  
 in the open air on deck in the midst of the ocean and  
 sending up their songs of praise to Him who rules the winds  
 and waves & who "Safely through another week"  
 "Has brought us on our way"

The sabbath was pretty generally observed on board, <sup>as</sup> might be expected however some appeared to take delight in ridicule upon all observance of the day, One Jack Star wished they would all pray that the cook might get well so as to give us more grub, Towards Eve the general silence was broken by the cry of "Porpoises" presently all were on deck to see the fish about half a dozen were alongside jumping entirely out of the water and keeping up with us about a quarter of an hour No apparatus being in order none of them were taken

Monday May 3<sup>d</sup> A calm pleasant day havent made much headway - toward Eve more wind - course about South East slight

Tuesday May 4<sup>th</sup>, A ~~pleasant~~ wind not, orders were to "pump ship" they found after pumping an hour and a half that there were three feet of water in the pumps both pumps were then manned and kept at work an hour and a half ~~twenty~~ <sup>both together</sup> five minutes, they made about 120 strokes pr minute, the officers said the ship had not been pumped dry since she started by neglect of some of the men, some of the passengers thought that it was not "all right" - we shall soon see,

Tues May 4<sup>th</sup> Another fine day wind nearly ahead we have made but little progress, In the Afternoon we saw a whale said to be a sperm whale At supper time some of the passengers were dissatisfied with their fare and went to the Capt and got satisfaction, To day the pumps

~~W~~abse & c were pronounced all right, But - I think the ship leaks more than she ought to, But as yet there is nothing serious about it,

Wed 5<sup>th</sup> Slept well and more sound than any night since I came aboard, The wind has been unfavorable to day carrying us nearly a degree north of our course, A ship in sight today

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> Pleasant day - three ships in sight to day one an English Brig

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> A pleasant Morn but squally before noon wind fair and we are on our course,

Sat 7<sup>th</sup> Pleasant not much progress All anxious to have a wind to waft us on our way.

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> Never danned the day to usher in a more calm and beautiful scene The winds are hushed in stillness as if to rest from their labors, The sea is smooth with gentle swells keeping the vessel in an easy rocking motion, The weather is warm, about like our summer days, Most of the passengers & men have put on their clean Sunday attire, At ten the Bell rung for religious exercises on the quarter deck, About half of the passengers got within hearing of the speaker, The exercises the same as last Sabbath, About fifty were attentive listeners some others made light of the exercises But most <sup>all</sup> of the company were respectful to the feelings of speakers & hearers,

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> This morning we have a fair wind now we have the trade winds, at times strong then growing less these winds prevail from about Lat 30° north to the line blowing about S. west, To day many of the passengers are sea sick Myself among the number we had some

for breakfast and I eat and immediately vomited ~~it~~ all  
that I ~~eat~~ had eaten Sea sickness with me thus far has not  
been that terrible disease that some have represented it  
I vomit easily and freely then feel better for hours, there  
are two or three cabin passengers that have been sick  
ever since they left Boston One an elderly Irish lady  
only able to come on deck with help in very pleasant weather  
Tuesday May 11<sup>th</sup> to Sunday May 16<sup>th</sup> My sea sickness lasted me  
Saturday but I had company in the business My sickness  
has not been severe but a kind of dull sickish feeling  
not much relish for food and frequently vomiting it  
Yesterday I felt some better, This morning I rose early  
& with several others took a bath on deck we poured  
water on to each other and took a real washing and  
rubbing down the water was about the right temperature  
& to me the bath was a real luxury, to day I have  
felt better than at any time since I came on board  
I never before felt so beneficially the effects of a bath  
I have had a gentle perspiration since I took it,  
As for medicine in sea sickness I think that every one  
must be his own judge what to take, Grid was  
what I craved and the only thing that I wanted  
every thing else I thought of appeared sickening, some  
used Brandy but I think it injurious rather than ben-  
eficial, and I think that those passengers that have  
taken the least medicine are the best off now, One  
Man a Tailor from Boston brought a great supply  
of medicines and as soon we got fairly out to sea ~~we~~  
began to take them and has been taking medicine  
more or less every day and now he is the sickest  
man on board, I think he would have been better yes I think

he would have been well if he had taken no medicine  
To day I have got an appetite like a bear, To day for the  
first time we have only two meals in order to relieve  
the stewards of some of their Sunday labor, The weather  
since Monday last has been very favorable and we  
have been on our course about South Wed we were  
in Lat 24-21 Long 32, Thursday Lat 21-23  
Sat 15-20 To day 12-30 This Afternoon we were going  
nine knots, Passengers are in fine spirits & health  
But few attended the religious exercises to day  
Many of the passengers like Mr Bentress preaching well  
enough but hate his practice - in their estimation  
he is a hypocrite, The case is this, Mr Bentress sold the  
tickets to passengers he told some of the Steerage passengers  
that their living would be the same as in the Cabin the difference  
in price was on account of Cabin passengers having State Rooms  
There is a difference in living and some of the Steerage pass-  
gers (and with just cause) blame Bentress for deception, They  
declare him a base hypocrite & wont hear him exhort or pray on  
Sunday if he is bad enough to lie wed & day, We have had  
two disputes or rather difficulties arising from this cause  
The Captain with a few words ~~settled~~ settled all quietly and  
satisfactorily, The exercises at meeting to day were the  
same as usual, Mon May 17<sup>th</sup> Fine weather good wind  
for several days we have made about three degrees  
In pleasant weather there is pleasure in being at sea if  
one is well, To day I feel very well and shall do <sup>my</sup> something  
at reading & study hereafter, But for all the pleasures of  
the sea give me a footing on the land. The sea hath no  
charms to entice me from the sight of "terra firma."

yet I have not been neither am I homesick, Had I one  
or two of my Old Classmates I could make a more  
profitable use of my time As it is my books are my best  
Companions, though I have some fine young fellows who  
have a taste for reading & study to associate with these  
have their school books before them most of the time and  
will make a very profitable use of their time; About a dozen  
young men read Novels (yellow cover) most all of the time  
while Cards & Checkers occupy the time of most of the others  
Now and then a roguish trick is practiced for instance a man  
lies down in some nook or corner on deck and perchance he falls  
asleep While he lies in the quiet embrace of Morpheus the  
rogues tie him & foot to the deck - then wake their victim  
if good natured he enjoys the sport & they soon free him but  
occasionally the Subject rips rants & raves swears he'll  
throw the rascals overboard - they'll tell him to stop awhile  
till he is able to stand alone - they let him hang till he gets  
cooled off & then untie him - nobody knows who does  
the tricks, Once in a while a man will be lassoed - another  
one will attempt to rise from his seat but his efforts are  
vain There are some of the shames we have

With all the tricks "That idleness has ever yet contrived"  
"To fill the void of an empty brain"

"To palliate dulness and give time a shove."

Tues May 18<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> weather former day pleasant and  
good wind, saw in the Thom two sail bound home ward, saluted  
one, latter day squally all day a good deal of rain fell, I and  
many of passengers spent considerable of the washing as we could  
catch fresh water to wash with. There was some thunder  
during the day but it was not near us, several of us fished  
two hours or so and caught nothing, though plenty of fish were <sup>in sight</sup>

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Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> The Skies ~~are~~ are clear & no wind a brig is in sight to the South West headed the same as we  
Our Lat yesterday was 4<sup>o</sup> day before 6<sup>o</sup>-12 day before 228

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> So day we <sup>are</sup> experiencing a calm in the sound zone  
It is what would be termed in New England a very warm day  
It is quite disagreeable weather being uncomfortably warm  
yesterday we made only about 3 miles - we are in Lat  
about 3<sup>o</sup>, The sails and clothes are up so as to afford  
a shade over most of the ship, Some of passengers are busy  
at cards some at stories some at checkers a curious &  
merry group Some are lamenting the loss of winds and  
longing for a breeze to urge us forward, Three others and  
myself are pretty intimate all of us are engaged more  
or less of the time in studies and thus at our books  
we "while dull care away" with both pleasure and profit to our-  
selves, Had I no books I think I should be of all the company one  
of the most miserable, But as it is give me good winds good food  
and I can content myself with my books, I am frequently  
much amused at the conversation and actions on board, One Man  
honestly asked how long it would take to cross the line after we got  
to it, Another was earnest to know in what latitude we should find  
the line, One had borrowed a map and had made so much progress in  
Geography that he had found ~~at the~~ Cape Horn & California & upon  
my looking on the map he informed me which we had got to go  
to get to those places all this he did unasked I thanked him for the  
information and turned away much pleased at my first lesson in  
Geography on board the May Merrill, A Shoe Merchant from Boston  
who talks politics long & loud & has a high opinion of himself  
When only five days out of Boston during a storm said to me  
that that was quite a storm but he supposed it nothing to what

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~~We should~~ they had in the Atlantic ocean, I supposing that it was only a 'lapsus linguae' and I mildly corrected his error telling him that we were already in the Atlantic, I nearly laughed in his face when he told about being in the Pacific and going several hundred miles from Boston before we should get into the Atlantic. Surely a little learning is a dangerous thing, There are dozens on board who when they left Boston had ~~the~~ no more correct or definite idea of the route direction and distance to California than a child of three years of age, They were surprised to find that we were to sail east and south from Boston.

It is surprising that persons otherwise intelligent could live years in New England in such ignorance when most children of ten years could give them lessons & instruction in Geography, Sat 22<sup>d</sup> last ~~night~~<sup>eve</sup> we had a squall & since that we have had a gentle breeze, I rose this morn before day & took a bath & to day feel well with good appetite. To day we are sailing I went about six or seven knots wind about East, Last Eve we had considerable noise & sport in the Steerage Mr Packard and May were the cause of it, I intend to give ~~some~~ a description of there & several other persons aboard sometime soon. At the same time (about ten in Eve) they had a row in the Cabin the cause was this The first Mate was talking on deck near the main hatch with Mrs — a California widow bound out to her husband, The Mate saw two women in the hatch as he supposed watching him & the lady with him so he threw a pail of water upon them, This raised a row in an instant as the water all went into the cabin and some of it on to several of the passengers, Most of the passengers took part with the immersed women & against the Mate he had to leave the deck & go to his berth or he would have been whipped, The Captain interfered & soon quelled the row,

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If the wind holds on we shall probably pass the line  
to night and be on our way toward the Cape the much  
talked of Cape Horn "Blow on zephyrus blow & joyful waft us on our way"  
Sunday May 22<sup>d</sup> A ~~very~~ pleasant day - this afternoon we  
crossed the line this morn I attended religious services  
on the upper deck Mr Bentiss read a sermon only a few  
attended. The evening performances were of quite a different  
character. From time immemorial it has been customary  
among sailors on crossing the line to pay their respects to  
Old Neptune the god of the sea so they introduce their shipmates  
who have never crossed the line before. The modus operandi  
of the introduction is somewhat different on different on different  
occasions. An account of the the ceremonies on one crossing the  
line will give a general idea of what they may be on other  
similar occasions with this difference passengers (those who  
had crossed the line) as well as sailors were the actors as well  
as the principal victims. The affair had been kept very  
still among the passengers some were knowing what was to be  
done, It had been hinted to me and as in many other cases my  
silence was taken for approval, I thought it best if not  
absolutely necessary "when among the Romans to do as the Romans  
do however much it might be against my judgment of  
right & wrong. The matter had passed from my mind and during the first  
part of the eve I was talking with one of the Cabin passengers  
aft. While with him preparations for the ceremony had been made  
on the forward deck such as draining water making slush &c. A  
large & hot tub was filled with water & as I was afterwards informed  
the passengers (except the knowing ones) thought it was for washing  
decks in the morn. I was aft and heard a rumpus forward I  
started to learn the cause & met a young man upon the run

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I asked him the cause of the row he said I should find  
find out he quere if I went forward and he kept on as if  
he was bound to the North Pole, I found a crowd collected when  
suddenly Neptune with a band of followers came up from  
over the bows he was a large sailor named Miller & dressed  
in a fantastic dress and carried a trumpet, they marched  
aft & returned then addressed the Boatman who acting as  
Master replied in a few words - then Neptune <sup>with his trumpet</sup> ordered his  
subjects to be brought forward, His followers then seized Charles  
Hopkins a large six and a half foot good natured Bernoster  
and immersed him in the tub of water this was only a ruse  
de guerre in order to pull the wool over the eyes of the  
spectators as I had given his consent to it in order to have  
the fun go on, The next subject was a Mr Love of Boston  
a shoe merchant on Hanover Street, He had rendered himself  
obnoxious to several of the passengers & crew I will relate  
an instance <sup>story</sup> of his disagreeable manners, I was telling a  
passenger some ~~thing~~ stories I had heard about the performers  
on crossing the line when Love came up to us and told me  
that what I was telling was all gas, I told him to act like a  
man or tell me I lied & I would consider him as gentlemanly  
as I did then & I then thought him to be a duncy & ignorant scoundrel  
I was perfectly cool all the time but he was hopping mad  
before I got through with him he owned he knew nothing about the  
affair & never heard any thing about it, Several heads were talking and  
they told him that perhaps he might find out that crossing the line  
wasn't "all gas" he said he would knife or shoot them if they  
should lay their hands on him, I told him that it was an  
old proverb among the Romans that "a cowardly dog always  
barks the most" This affair had all passed from my mind until  
I heard the Bohemians cry out Low Low next, He talked some and

and resisted some but soon gave up and begged them to stop  
and let him take off his coat which request they granted  
they turned his face & shaved him with a wooden razor about  
the length a yard long then immersed him in the tub of water  
This was a good but a severe lesson to Lowe The next subject  
was a man named Smith, He threatened and swore but all to no  
purpose except to get an extra coat of tar and rubby The  
British was McCabe a Nova Scotian - It was reported  
that he was lousy true or not true he was marked  
he undertook to escape by climbing the rigging but the tars  
were faster than he & poor Blue Nose went through the  
operation like a martyr The next victim was a Mr Burke  
he was perfectly pliable and only got a little ducking  
After this there only were victims who had or were  
supposed to have liquor with them A Battle of Cyon  
of the fine about half a dozen passed out their liquor  
at about this stage of the proceedings their fun received  
a check, The Jacks had got too much liquor down to manage  
their liquor business prudently, They went on to the deck  
over the cabin where the Captain's wife was sick & attempted  
to take a Mr Burns of Lowell he showed fight and hallooed  
Captain The Capt appeared and ordered all further proceedings  
to stop, His orders were instantly obeyed took off their  
official or contrabands and then with their liquor they had  
a regular bacchanal in spire, Some passengers were  
afraid the ceremony were not over yet & it only  
needed a hint from Neptune's followers to make them fetch  
over a bottle though it was the last and all they had  
with them, Mr Hodgdon a man of 400 faked over a bottle  
of seven years old Jamaica that the day before he paid 75  
for several of them came into the Steerage & Jack

being pretty drunk, in a playful way slapped George Perry <sup>15</sup>  
a little <sup>while</sup> in his berth George thought he was sent for  
and being frightened and pretty mad he used his fists and  
shouted Murder murder as loud as he could scream  
Several of us interposed and parted them, Then Jack &  
his Co went to the fore castle and spent most of the  
night in singing drinking and carousing, This we crowd  
the line some of the passengers will long remember the  
time and the ceremonies, Any time hereafter they will  
easily recall to mind Old Neptune's phantasmagorical  
appearance & will almost smell the salt-water stunk  
etc. <sup>As</sup> I expected & had always heard I found it the best  
way to submit to Old Neptune's demands It happened  
that he asked nothing of me and received nothing from me

The two principal causes for these performances  
are revenge & rum principally the latter O rum  
how many and how deceived are thy victims!

Mon Our log is between 28 & 29, We yesterday saw  
three sail the west of us not near enough to speak  
Tues <sup>25</sup> by not much wind, war & sultry with occasional  
squalls of rain, last night saild near a brig she bore  
two but did not speak us Wed 26, Last night pass'd  
the Island Bermuda to the west of us, This morn we came in  
sight of land the eastern point of St Anacris, We saw it  
dead ahead of us went within a few miles of it then tack'd ship  
The land appears lilly & sandy Fridy <sup>28</sup> we have lost  
some cat to day Sat 29 last night tack'd ship and  
we are about on our course South with good wind  
Friday June 11<sup>th</sup> We have very unfavorable winds  
since crossing the line, nearly all the time are

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have had head winds calms or squalls, Fourteen days we  
only made about 14 degrees South yesterday we were in  
about 19° South to day over twenty one, yesterday & to day  
we have had tolerable winds and probably make Rio  
to morrow which city lies in about 22 1/2° South, It has  
been warm and dull since we crossed the line, They  
now the weather is cooler and all hands feel much  
better every way. We now expect to stop at Rio some  
days and passengers are all anxious to put foot again  
on land, we have seen but few vessels thus far, To day for the  
first time we saw a US Steamer at a distance appear  
bound to California, soon after a French Bark parted us  
bound N West, I have spent most of my time in reading and  
walking the decks thus far, I would write had I the convenience  
but as I have not I must be contented and make the best of it.  
It seems now that I am away from home and for away  
from home. In the day I look for the sun where I have  
been wont to see him but he's not there his face to the  
North, By night I look above I see the moon but she  
appears as if she had lost her way and was wandering among  
unknown companions The North Star disappeared below the  
horizon the second night before we crossed the line  
The dipper nearly dips the line from the ocean at the  
first of the evening The Southern cross appears in full  
view, The evening I enjoy now more than heretofore  
the air is clearer the weather cooler & more comfortable  
My health has been good so far except a general  
complaint of dulness which the cooler weather has  
diminued away, I have now good health and hope  
to pass a pleasant time ashore soon.

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Sat June 12<sup>th</sup> To day we have come in sight of  
Cape Rio <sup>in</sup> about the same lat as Rio the haul  
tacked ship and are now making west with  
a good breeze we are hoping to make Rio to night  
passengers are writing letters & getting things ready to  
go on shore tomorrow. The lands in the distance  
do not appear as New England hills, they appear  
oval or something like the form of Sugar loaves  
in the distance rather rough and uncultivated

Sunday Last eve we made a light the Capt tells to  
day that his chronometer was out of order and  
the light that we passed last night was Rio's light  
instead of the light which he thought it was and  
we passed it at about dark last eve and have been  
sailing with a fair wind till to day noon when the Capt  
found his mistake we are something like 50 or 60 miles  
south east of Rio - a pretty mess of fish, This Afternoon

we have had a breeze and we have started back for  
Rio, Monday June 13<sup>th</sup> we last night laid too about a  
dozen miles from Rio this morning set sail and today  
with a fair but gentle breeze we are sailing for  
Rio, we came near land a little past noon passed  
very near to the light house which sett upon the  
top of a small Island, which has only three small  
buildings upon it, the light house is of pyramidal  
form & built of stone, There are many islands in  
the vicinity all of them appear to be barren and solid  
rock with but little vegetation upon them, This  
Afternoon we have Rio harbor in sight, We hope to make  
the port to night so as to go on shore tomorrow

18 June 26<sup>th</sup> In Latitude about 33 South,

For nearly two weeks I have been so situated that it was very inconvenient to write so I will just sketch the principal incidents that have occurred with my observation since going into Rio. While there I wrote four letters home three to David and one to Sarah, We entered the harbor of Rio and anchored on Monday Eve - The passengers were nearly all on deck as we glided up the harbor with a fair wind, The harbor is nearly surrounded by hills and the City, The hills are all very pointed and steep and appear as if formed by volcanic causes, The first hour after casting anchor the custom house officer came along side in a small boat rowed by six Maine soldiers, He did his business in a short time with the captain and then went off soon a Health officer came on board and examined the ship. About dusk a boat from the Bark Pathfinder and J. Verrell bound to Cal came along side to learn the news she had been fifty eight days from port,

Two gents from Lowell were on board of her of the name of Munson. Early the next morn our ship was nearly surrounded by small boats manned with niggers - gabbing away like monkeys, they wanted to carry passengers ashore one boat load went off at twenty five cents apiece then the price fell to ten cents which was the price while in port. I went on shore <sup>daily</sup> the few days we stopped in Rio. I visited the principal churches and found them decorated in most costly style some of the

19  
were very old for American buildings and  
of them was built in 1863, Our passengers  
I think all went ashore more or less, They seem  
to enjoy themselves pretty well - though they had different  
ways for doing it, May indulged freely in the use of  
liquor - some five or six were quite drunk, Boney  
the Nulty of Lowell got drunk & lost his money and his  
clothes that he had on beside being considerably hurt  
Nicholas McCarty a returned California got drunk & said  
that he lost two hundred & twenty dollars, <sup>& myrtle</sup> Every night  
we had very noisy times in port liquor was the cause as  
much as I saw that was new & interesting to me I was  
ready and willy to leave day before the ship was  
sailed Monday they got the last of the water on board  
and at noon we set sail from port - all were  
as glad to leave as they were to go into the port, I  
bought in port about 100 oranges for sixty cents, The  
Capt. shipped two new hands both from the Pathfinder  
one the second mate of her the other John Banta  
of Woonsocket R.I. had been sick with diarrhoea for  
some time but was able to be about when he shipped  
Monday he did not do much Monday he was able  
to do nothing, Tuesday <sup>morning</sup> he was on deck grew worse & died  
about noon, About four o'clock we witnessed his  
burial It was a solemn scene though he was a  
stranger to all of us, Mr. Ventres offered a prayer & read the 15<sup>th</sup>  
chap. of Corinthians and the passengers sang a hymn and  
the body was launched into the deep and that was the end  
of the sailor, Until to day we have had but little  
wind this week to day the wind is good <sup>we overtook and passed</sup>  
a big today - a Brazilian

2<sup>d</sup> Tuesday June 28<sup>th</sup> Lat about 37<sup>1</sup> Today we are having a strong breeze from the west, ship by the log this morning was running 10<sup>1</sup> knots I think now she is faster by a knot an hour, We are now opposite the river plattie where we expect rough seas and storms, The weather now is fair and we hope to encounter no storms or gales but we may be disappointed, An old whaler (Mr Hathaway) informs me he has <sup>here</sup> seen the worst storms that ever he saw any where, We yesterday had but little wind and made but little headway The weather now is cool but not uncomfortable I want my overcoat on when I am on deck, The temperature is about right between decks cool and comfortable, Passengers are all in good spirits to day and anxious to make Cape Horn My health is good appetite better than since I left home Cold weather is more agreeable on board ship than warm weather particularly where there are so many passengers as we have on board, The passengers so far have been quite orderly and quiet; A few slight quarrels have occurred but were soon over, The most quarrels have happened in the cabin and some of the women were parties <sup>and</sup> concerned in them, We have in the steerage in no one birth Newton Morgan & Charles Hopkins of Andover but about the same age & old acquaintances, They are the two largest men on board, Two strong and active men, They were doing "well enough" at home the fever took them off and they are bound to get their pile Morgan is a good checker player and spends much of his time at checkers & p<sup>l</sup> cards The diet on board has not suited him and he has lost

21  
some flesh on the voyage though his weight now  
is about two hundred, He is a stray and I should think  
reliable friend - up and down in his business, and a  
fair share of the Yankee in him so that if he has  
his health is bound to go ahead and get his pile - he  
leaves a wife at home, Hopkins is six feet six inches in  
height stout and hearty, a real stout jovial good  
natured Yankee, On board he is called Charly by all  
both passengers and crew - any time he's ready for a game  
of checkers or cards - relishes a good joke and in short  
is generally called a fine fellow

Tues & Friday July 2<sup>d</sup> The wind on Tuesday  
gradually increased till it blew a gale by sunset  
which continued through the night, The sky  
was clear and the moon shone brightly, the  
beautiful sky the moon and stars shining bright the  
winds whistling and roaring through the rigging the  
sea rolling and raging in terrible commotion - all  
conspired to present a scene awfully grand & sublime to  
the beholder! - toward noon the wind abated & Wednesday  
there was but little wind about midnight the wind rose  
fair - in the men we had a strong wind - but it increased  
so that at noon they began to take in sail at 3 P.M.  
we were under light sail running close to the wind, some  
cloudy with squalls of rain during the day Last night the  
wind was about the same as Tuesday night The ship  
rolled so that passengers got but but very little  
sleep, this morn the wind has abated so that we have all  
sails set though we are not exactly on our course We are  
headed East of south, The weather on deck is sufficiently cold  
for over coat and mitts, The Man at the wheel uses both

22 Sunday

July 4<sup>th</sup> 1852 Yesterday the wind was strong and sea rough so I could not write, we were close hauled on the wind till this morn they squared the yards a little and to day our course is South West with a strong wind and with but little sail, Last Eve there was a meeting of passengers in the after cabin to make arrangements to celebrate the Anniversary of our Independence, they vote to celebrate on Monday - At sunrise to fire guns & ring bells at 9 p to form into a procession at 10 to listen to an oration from Mr Chishelm - I finally chose a committee of arrangements for the day, The Capt objected and would not allow the use of fire arms on board for fear of accidents, He also found fault about calling a meeting in the After Cabin without his leave, I think that the demonstration will be a weak one it was not commenced right and has thus far been carried on wrong end first, Spirits will not be lacking on the occasion - however I will wait till the performance is over before writing more, The weather to day is clear and cool one needs his winter clothing on if on deck, The thermometer indicates 42 above zero freezing being at 32°, We are in lat about 46 p South, This is somewhat of a novel situation for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July men and women walking about with their winter clothing on and cold at that - the further to the North of us than ~~it~~ at home it is to the South of us the vessel pitches so that it is nearly impossible to write

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> Thus far we have had rough on comfortable weather this week Monday stormy and the wind blew nearly a gale most of the day & night, Wednesday we had a heavy gale from the S East which continued through the night, but few of the passengers slept any

It was the severest gale we have had, the Staff<sup>20</sup>  
only had close reefed fore and main sails & jib,  
This gale answered well the descriptions that we  
read of of gales at sea, The officers & men spoke  
well of the vessels behavior they say she did nobly,  
The 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration thus far has been minus  
& probably will continue to be so till we get into  
warmer weather, The Mercury in the thermometer  
has ranged this week from forty to thirty three, If  
they free to the atmosphere it would probably have  
fallen below freezing, Now we are in the midst  
of frequent snow squalls, several times sufficient  
snow has fallen on deck to make snow balls  
with, We have made but little progress for a week  
Wednesday the gale drove us back some distance,  
The birds have been thick around the ship they are  
most of them about the size of our pigeons & larger  
— their passengers have caught two with bait hook  
& line they are a very pretty looking bird — web footed  
and cant walk or fly on deck, Most of the birds  
that we see here are called Cape pigeons, This morn  
an Albatross was in sight — they are a much  
larger bird frequent in cold regions,

Aug<sup>st</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> On account of bad weather and  
many other disadvantages I have omitted recording  
events of our voyage we are now off Valparaiso  
and they have announced that Land is in sight, I shall  
note only a few of the principal events since my last  
date, The weather has not been so cold as I expected  
— only one morning has the Mercury been down to freezing

24  
We have had a great deal of bad wind & weather  
however no damage has been to ship or rigging  
excepting at one time then not serious though the  
passengers were much frightened Sunday August 1st  
the wind blew a gale all day, The ship was under  
close reefed main & fore ~~and~~ sails and stay sail  
a little past sunset Mr Shepherd Mr Bent and I  
were standing on the lee side by the after cabin  
door, the Mate had just passed us and gone into the  
cabin & the Mate had just gone below and there was no  
officer on deck, A heavy sea struck the vessel in mid-  
ships and aft the first warning we had of it was a loud  
crash I thought the house on deck was crushed I sprang  
for the cabin door (about five feet from me but in a  
moment after the report or crash - ~~a~~ large quantity of  
water poured down upon our heads - It knocked Sheph  
down upon the deck - in an instant the water was  
from two to three feet deep on deck, In a moment  
all the passengers rushed upon deck and many of them  
were much frightened - The railing for about thirty feet  
was broken in and the bulwarks were a good deal  
broken for about twenty feet - the water came  
into the cabin considerably, The sea came over the two  
boats that were lashed over head above decks and fell  
into the quarter boat and carried it away The boat  
hung about four feet above the railing on the lee  
side within five feet of us, Course of the sea  
striking her was the wind eased blowing instantly  
and left the vessel in the trough of the sea

Aug 26<sup>th</sup> Yesterday Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> at about 4<sup>25</sup>  
o'clock P.M. we sailed from Valparaiso - ten  
vessels were in sight ahead of us and one behind  
us, we anchored in Valparaiso Friday Morning  
Aug<sup>t</sup> 20<sup>th</sup>, It was a beautiful morning and it  
was a beautiful sight to see the hills and vales  
of terra firma once more, The city appears to  
be surrounded by hills and the harbor, For in  
the distance we see hills covered with snow  
though the <sup>low</sup>lands are green with verdure, we  
anchored about a mile from shore, As soon as we  
anchored a yankee ship chandler with two or  
three men came along side in a small boat  
- he informed us that the R.B. Palmer of N York (the  
clipper that passed us off Staten land had been  
here & left for Cal the night before - The brother  
was in port from N York & had had a hard  
time & was considerably hurt had repaired and  
was to sail the next day & would carry letters  
to Panama, The Brig George 50 days before us  
from Boston was here & had had a hard passage  
The Bark Southerner from Philadelphia anchored  
just about the same time that we did - we  
afterward learned that she had six passengers  
was 108 days from Philadelphia had made no  
stop - she had very rough gales off the Horn - was  
thrown on to her beams ends and they were obliged  
to throw several thousand dollar worth of her cargo  
overboard before she righted, Soon after we  
anchored we wore off for the shore, we paid

2. Some real to go ashore = twelve & a half cents  
of our money, There is no wharf only for small  
boats - large vessels dont go nearer than twenty  
to fifty rods of shore to load or unlade, then  
they use smaller boats, I noticed a large lot  
of cotton goods from the House of De Laurens  
Boston probably manufacture in Lowell piled up  
on shore, The City & people answered my expectations  
of Spanish Character & customs, Where we land is  
a plaza or public square upon this we see  
& large piles of goods - Men & women going to work  
and for - People riding in carriages & on horseback  
and in the morning we here see large numbers of  
mules loaded with produce from the country On  
one side of the Plaza is the custom house - quite  
a large building with a tall steeple and a clock  
upon it, As soon as we got ashore I felt hungry  
and we looked about for something to eat, we found  
the price of meal at the hotels to be fifty cents  
But we for 37 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ got a good dinner at a restaurant  
consisting of Beef Steak Eggs bread butter & coffee,

I had a most voracious appetite while on shore  
and I found enough food to satisfy it, When I left Boston  
I weighed 153 when I landed at Balparaiso 145 &  
when I left by the same scales I had gained three pounds  
in six days showing plainly that I had pd due respects  
to Balparaiso food, We found good English Walnuts cheap  
a dollar for half a bushel, or 100 for 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ & figs the  
same price, Apples & pears were two cents apiece, The  
city appears to be a good place for making money Mechanics  
get from two to five dollars per day, On Sunday we went  
ashore to the Church (Catholic) in the forenoon & in the afternoon  
we went over to the race ground, There we found music &  
dancing & horse racing - in fact every body appear to esteem  
it a holiday, A great many foreigners were riding horseback

as they could hire horses cheap, the morals of the people here I judge to be at rather a low and the influence of foreigners must be far from beneficial, Grog shops are abundant and so are gambling houses & houses of ill fame, A good many of the streets are narrow & filthy but the excellent climate here prevents the bad smell that we might otherwise expect

Some of the buildings have rather quaint names and mottoes on their signs, One a large building at the top of a hill has a very large sign and painted in large letters Main top ten pin alley, - another not far distant has on its sign Skittle Alley, Another, The Poor Devils Saloon, Another building a long grocery sailors as you pass walk in and take a glass.

The most amusing sign that I saw was a painting of an artificial globe having a man's head sticking through it and he calling ~~represented~~ saying Come friends help me through the world

The visited thing being ground <sup>on the top of a hill</sup> a part of it was well arrayed and had some quite costly monuments but at one side of the field was a revolting sight - a large hole about thirty feet square into which they throw the bodies of the lower or poorer classes and dont even cover them entirely from sight,

I understood there was an English burying ground but I did not visit it, Our passengers here did not drink so freely as they did at Rio - want of money I think was the reason in many cases - Siquin here being a nipene a glass, As it was several got pretty drunk, One man by the name of

28 Stewart from Baltimore a passenger on board  
the <sup>Bark</sup> Venice from Philadelphia for San Francisco got  
into a fight on shore and stabbed a native  
so that he died the next day, Stewart was  
put in prison and was to be tried to day, what  
the result will be is uncertain, The Venice was  
yesterday ready for sea but as some of the passengers  
are witnesses for the prisoner she will stop  
till after the trial, I understand that rum  
was the cause of the row, While at anchor  
the MD frigate Kaitum lay near us all night  
and morning we had the pleasure of hearing her  
band of music which sounded delightfully, The  
Bark Southerner weighed anchor yesterday noon  
we have come nearly up with her and passed all  
of the vessels that were ahead of us except her

The ship Josephine is not far aft so there  
is considerable excitement about the speed  
of vessels, passengers & officers are thus far  
well pleased with the sailing qualities of  
the May Merrill, We receive good news from Cal  
rather singular news from the States about  
the nominations for the presidency. The democracy  
must have been pressed to have nominated  
Pierce - but yet I think he will be elected

Sept 10th Friday, We are in lat about 6° South  
We have had quite a good run thus far from Valparaiso  
Monday Morn the 30th Augt they squared the yards and  
we have had the S East trades fair ever since  
The ship had had most of her studding sails set ever

ever since we took the trades a week ago last <sup>29</sup>  
Monday morn yesterday, the wind was rather light but  
came on stronger as usual toward night and still  
blows a fresh breeze we have had no rain of any  
consequence since we left Balparaiso, The weather has  
been very much colder in the same latitude on this side  
than on the other side South though the sun now  
is several degrees further south now than when we  
were in the Atlantic, I have worn my overcoat every  
evening on deck until last eve, while we have wind from  
the S, East we probably shall not be much troubled with heat  
though I expected by what I had heard and read that it  
was much warmer here than what we have found it, we  
are quite a distance from land, our course having been  
about North West from Balparaiso, The Mercury has stood  
from 50 to 65 yesterday it was up to summer heat 76, This  
morn it stands at 73, Day before yesterday (Sept 8<sup>th</sup>) we  
witnessed another burial at sea, Capt Phillip Rogers of  
Medford Mass died in the morn of that day and was buried  
at 2, P.M., He had been the subject of disease since we left  
Boston and required an attendant to wait upon him, He was  
a man of property & left a family and was formerly Master of this  
vessel, But alas he died a miserable death unwept & un-  
mourned by all on board. He will be reported died  
with inflammation of the bowels but what agony of mind  
would the truth bear to his family & friends, It can be  
told but this is not the place to record it, Requiesce in pace.  
A great many of the passengers have got colds I have escaped  
thus far though day before yesterday I had a severe headache  
but a good rubbing and a mild sweat cured me.

3<sup>o</sup> We left behind the whole dozen vessels that came out of Val with us and have not fell in with any since passengers are in good spirits and trusting that the trades will cast us over the line.

There is a passenger dangerously sick in the cabin - her name is Mrs Stevens she has a husband in Cal with Dr Frank Kittredg at Vera Cruz. Her health has not been very good since we left Rio - she is naturally of a delicate constitution and not inured to hardships she went ashore at Valparaiso and was better - physicians there advised her to stop there a few weeks but she would not consent, she is now worse and probably will live but a few days.

Sept 11<sup>th</sup> <sup>Saturday</sup> ~~Sunday~~ Today we have witnessed another burial at sea - May this be the last is the heartfelt desire of all on board. Mrs Stevens <sup>she</sup> died last night at about 12 o'clock and according to her request her funeral services were conducted according to the Episcopalian form, Mr Pyle officiated at the funeral, It was a solemn scene, the day was beautiful the sun shone warm - the wind blew gently and a solemn stillness pervaded the whole ship during the morning. At 9 o'clock the passengers assembled on the poop, A hymn was sung to tune of Old Hundred and the usual service read ~~the~~ <sup>then</sup> the body was launched into the deep blue sea there to remain till the sea shall give up its dead, What grief must the husband experience when he instead of meeting his wife at San Francisco at our arrival there learns her sad fate Surely are the ways of Providence inscrutable and past finding out. Our latitude is 4-51<sup>o</sup> Long 101-11 West. Sunday Morn Sept 12. It is a beautiful Morn and the wind is still fair, The weather is warm but not very uncomfortable on deck as there is quite a breeze, Yesterday & today noon the Mercury stood at 79 Summer heat being at 76. We have no religious services on the Sabbath though the day is generally observed, Most on board are reading but there is a good deal of unprofitable reading on board. While on board I have read a hundred pages of Ciceros orations (Latin) 12900 lines of Virgil - Beechers Lectures six months in the Gold regions besides various smaller works papers Magazines &c for about a month I have been studying Spanish.

Sept  
June 15: Wed Lat yesterday  $12^{\circ} 8'$  North 31  
Wind continues fair though this morn it is rather light  
Mercury yesterday noon  $81$  in the shade The sun is ~~over~~  
directly over our heads his declination is  $2^{\circ} 53'$  North

I have not yet been able to trace the seven pointers though  
It was not much cloudy last evening The Southern cross  
has disappeared in the S. West, yesterday morn there was  
quite a stir in the cabin Mrs Laura Warren thought  
herself insulted by Mr Fletcher so she bent on revenge threw  
a mug of tea in his face after that he threatened pretty  
hard and repeated some three insulting words and she threw  
the second mug of tea in his face which burnt him some  
he then pushed her upon the table and then the fracas  
ended though the parties talk pretty freely of law in California  
The lady and gentleman both belong to Boston and unaided  
their dispute afforded a subject for conversation during the day  
Since leaving Val this was the first excitement we have had  
to break the monotony of the voyage, Last Eve the Boatman  
speared a porpoise and hauled him above the water and then  
lost him, The Sailors since we left port have been busy  
tarring and painting the rigging they now are nearly done with  
the job and the ship looks the better for it, In two or three weeks  
a good deal of interest has been taken in Checker playing, I have  
played only about a dozen games since we left Rio though passengers  
have urged he hard to play with the ballies (as they call them, I yesterday  
played with Mr Dodge who calls himself A. 1 in the business  
I beat him twice & I drunk him once out of five times, This  
caused considerable merriment among a few that he had beat  
though they said they should not care anything about it if he hadn't  
bragged so much about beating the whole company

32 June 16 Thursday Morn Yesterday Lat 29 58'

Wind this morn fair and stronger than yesterday  
Mercury Yesterday noon 81 - this Morn 78 Last Eve  
quite cloudy and sprinkled some during the night - this  
Morn it is pleasant and comfortably cool on deck  
where the wind blows but it is quite warm between decks

The difficulty between Fletcher & Miss Warren was the  
cause of another fracas yesterday Henry Ackema wrote a  
few lines of rhyme rather hard upon Fletcher and the  
authorship was laid to Daniel Dodge (Captains nephew) Mr  
Hedding (a friend of Fletcher) charged Dodge with it had words were passed  
and then some blows were exchanged - the spectators parted then  
and the Capt ordered Hedding below - the following are the  
verses that caused the difficulty.

There is a man with two black eyes  
And he has a croaked nose likewise  
He is six feet high perhaps some higher  
And his a most confounded crier,

His hair is very black  
At peddling goods he has a knack  
He strides about with haughty air  
He's something twist a horse and mare (ie a jackass)  
He come on board this ship to go

Away to California  
Most every body is his foe  
Because he's such a blackguard

There is a lady of a certain age  
This man insulted her to rage  
She took a cup of scalding tea  
and threw it at his physiognomy,

These lines were dropped (I suppose by design of the author) on  
the deck and soon found and read by most of the passengers.

The author was so elated with his success in writing  
poetry that he has got out a new edition this morn about  
Hedding and Dodge. They verses are passing about on deck I have  
not yet had them, Henry is young and inconsiderate he may  
yet get into difficulty by using his literary talents.

This Morn an advertisement appeared on deck announcing that  
Mr Packard had lost some liquor Brandy and offering a reward  
for the apprehension of the villain or villains with or without  
the Brandy. It was pretty well got up and I suppose  
emanated from the pen of Mr Baynton

I commenced on page 20<sup>th</sup> to give names and some particulars of 53  
of our passengers commencing in the steerage I there mentioned  
Morgan & Hopkins but I concluded to omit writing of more until  
we came into a smooth sea We are now in the mild  
Pacific and I will proceed to give names and a few particulars I may  
wish hereafter to have such a record for a reference In No 2 Philo E Russell  
& P M Wright both of Paris Maine, Russell is 42 years old small active  
sort of a man - very tenacious of his own opinion whether right or wrong  
- rather quick tempered but a good friend if a person keeps the right  
side of him Wright is 62 years old the oldest man on board A fair  
short, thick, talkative good natured jolly sort of a man A fair  
specimen of a country farmer of the old school - pretty well  
informed - a friend to every body and liked by all on board - A  
few more of the same sort would be acceptable if we had room for them  
No 3 Thomas I Haskell & J Chandler Wright - former of Oxford Me  
A large dark complexioned man - very stout but not very active - on  
board he has been rather sleepy not seeming to care much whether  
the ship goes or not provided it dont disturb him in his berth  
He likes fun as well as anybody after he gets waked up Wright is  
just about on the other extreme quick in body and mind  
quick tempered and harsh quite apt to get into disputes where  
there is no need of it - he lacks a little cautionary, No 3 George  
W Perry<sup>2</sup>, Borton (formerly of Andover Mt) & Leonard Rogers<sup>Ellist. Meij</sup>, Perry is an active  
enterprising young man has been in Borton in a store two years He  
is fond of reading and acquiring information wherever & whenever he  
can get it He is bound to get his pile - he generally mends his own  
business but he lacks a little ballast during extremities to  
enable him to keep cool, He has been the most studious man  
aboard, Rogers is an easy dont care sort of a fellow never intrudes  
and takes things fair and easy, No 4 Calvin Packer 53 of  
Houghton corner Mass & William Coven Dunney Mass 30

34 Packard is a short thick man not overstocked with a knowledge of the ways and customs of the world and he has been the cause of much sport on board. In fact he has been the football for every body to kick about. He is a hard drinker and smoker quick tempered rather ignorant fond of sport and just such a man as passengers like to pick upon. The sports with him will long be remembered by the passengers. He has filled the office & performed the duties of butcher on board thus far. He has a son in law in Cal whom he expects to find when he arrives there, Cowen (commonly called Bill) is an Irish man by trade a shoemaker - he ~~has~~ <sup>was</sup> been our head steward until we came to Valparaiso where he went into the cabin and his place filled by a more faithful man. He is ignorant and self conceited a "little man of little mind" No 5

John Boynton 42 & Joseph H Low Boston Boynton is unmarred of good education and has a good stock of general information and to appearance he is a fair dealing & well meaning man but he has a failing that many others on board have viz - love of strong drink, It was a sad sight to see a man of his abilities overcome by rum get it is too often that we find men of the noblest talents the most merited slaves to rum, Boynton got drunk at Valparaiso and was so helpless that he was lifted on to the ship with ropes just as the men would lift a cask of liquor aboard. Low is just about as different from Boynton as I can well imagine. He is the Boston shoe dealer of whom I made mention as having been shamed on crossing the line. He is somewhat troubled with two complaints which I think he never will eradicate viz ignorance and self conceit. Selfishness unadulterated appears to be his ruling principle and most prominent trait of character. He is stingy & discontented and consequently he has made himself very unhappy during the voyage. He has had disputes & hard words with nearly all the passengers in the steerage, yet I think this voyage will be of considerable benefit to him unless he is too bigoted to receive instruction. He is a universalist and very tenacious of his opinions. He was terribly frightened when our bulwarks were stove in, that he has all in all the like which we never shall see again. Long he will be remembered by all on board as one by name and nature. Low

And in all that constitutes a man most despicable means

No 6 Judson & Mephardt Gilman & Grant 26 1/2 both of Warren + 35  
Shepherd is quite a fair sociable young man a good  
companion and if he is not too much influenced by others  
he will succeed well. He has had the habit of swearing  
pretty strongly fixed upon him but since the 1<sup>st</sup> of August he  
has pretty nearly left it off. He at the time the balwerks  
were done in was standing with me on deck and got  
rather harshly used at the time. He was considerably frightened  
at the time. He had a pretty hard time with seasickness  
but after he got over that he has been the heartiest one  
in our number. Grant is generally still and says but little  
but he is <sup>so much</sup> of a waspish disposition that one has to be careful  
how he deals with him. No 7 Mark Smiley <sup>39</sup> New Sanderson Boston  
Bath Irishmen and only lack information or perhaps  
a Yankee education to make them influential & useful men.  
No 8 Franklin Hildreth 30 & Edward A. Fullum 17, Hildreth  
is a man of fair school education has traveled by sea & land  
a good deal and has got considerable general knowledge of  
men and facts. He was in a Man o' war several years & also  
in the Mexican war a strong friend and as strong an enemy.  
No 9 John Lynch Cambridge 27 & Ellison L Crawford Postville Maine 19  
Lynch is an Irish one only lacks an Education. Crawford is a  
fair specimen of a Yankee boy has a good education and is  
one of the go ahead kind. He likes his books well and has  
taken quite a number with him and has improved his time  
quite well on the voyage. As a companion he is rather  
too egotistical but he has the perseverance to encounter difficulties  
so that he is bound to succeed in getting his pile. State room  
Edward Greech & wife and little girl Julia, Greech & wife are Irish  
he has a decent education but is a slave to strong drink  
and when he gets drunk he is very noisy. He has been the subject  
of a good deal of sport while we were there he could get  
liquor in the same State room (Irish fashion) are Miss Mary  
Burt & Mary King fair specimens of Irish lasses. The

36 former is a real talking & joking Miss up to all sorts of  
fun not particular what she says or does she has  
made considerable sport for passengers for they always  
find her ready for fun <sup>boatwain</sup>

1st State room on Starboard side is occupied by Joseph O  
Keith & wife He is a Man o' war man understands his business  
well but feels his self importance very much - but on  
the whole he would be quite an agreeable passenger on  
the voyage were it not for the detestable influence of a  
most detestable wife. In her ugliness seems to be concentrated  
They are both of Irish parents they belong to Boston

2d State room Antonio Joseph & wife Boston He is a sailor a  
Portuguese his wife an English woman both good company  
In same room Mrs Thompson & her sister Ann Thompson  
The former has a husband in California they are Irish  
Ann has a very unhappy disposition and considerably  
tinctured with Irish ugliness. Next berth is occupied by  
Cp Jacob Spiney 56 Wm Cutten 51 both of Sterling Nova Scotia

Spiney has once been to Cal and had good luck and is  
now returning again, He acts as a leader of several other  
Nova Scotians as it was by his influence they are on their  
way with him He has been a seafaring man is quite  
religious and a good singer and enjoys music very much  
He frequently calls the singers together and we have quite  
a good sing, He and his crew are well liked and much  
respected by all the passengers, Cutten was quite sea  
sick for about a month but now he is in good health  
& spirits they have exercised a good influence over some  
of the younger passengers Spiney has been an inveterate  
smoker and has troubled me much with his smoke but now  
he has left off the vile habit and now I can enjoy myself in  
conversing with him without having the vile stench of tobacco  
come in my face, the next berth is occupied by Howard Wells 23  
& Thompson Chapman 24 Both strong hearty and intelligent young  
men from Nova Scotia, Chapman is a good singer and occasionally  
gives us a song. Next berth are George Trenholm <sup>21</sup> NB and James  
Denny <sup>21</sup> Carltown NB. George is one of the mild sober large kind judging  
from appearances during the voyage, If he can have a good dinner and  
a good bed to lay on he appears to be perfectly easy during cold  
weather he was abed most of the time He is a good singer

Sowing is called Jack for a nickname. He was steward the <sup>37</sup>  
first part of the voyage. he is a small active and very <sup>N.Y.</sup>  
inoffensive young man. Next berth Samuel Dodge 25 Melmot  
and Wm McCabe <sup>Dodge</sup> Dodge is a sailor at home and was  
wrecked off Cape Ann just before we ~~came~~ <sup>on board?</sup> off from  
Boston. He has spent most of his spare time in playing  
checkers. He is as good a player as any one on board though I  
have beaten him more than an even number of times.  
McCabe from Pictou Nova Scotia is kind of an indescribable  
non-descript - uncultivated and unlearned lazy & slovenly yet  
eager for information and his head about as full of facts &  
about as useful as a last year's almanac. He had a hard  
time crossing the line but he bears anything with nearly the patience  
of Job. He has occupied his time principally by asking questions &  
picking lice. Next berth two Irishmen Barney McPhilly 20  
and Mr Grimes <sup>born 1842</sup> Lowell was Barney termed sailor soon after leaving  
Boston. He had a hard time at Rio getting drunk and losing his clothes  
he was lucky in not losing his life. Grimes formerly worked  
in the Hamilton Runtworks and is the only one on board  
that I had seen before coming to Boston. Next berth are  
Henry H Scherman 22 & Benj Ballou (Medford Rhode Island)  
He is rather an active young man but he is governed more by  
feeling than reason. He has the honor of having been one for four  
soldiers and he has often been joked of marching up the hill with 5000 men  
and then running down again. Scherman is a tall green &  
uncultivated specimen of mortality always gabbling and never  
still. Yet after all he has a spark of wit about him and  
will persevere in whatever he undertakes. He writes what  
the passengers call poetry. It has something of a jingle  
to it but it comes together like claps of thunder. He was  
the author of the lines concerning Fletcher the other day.

38 In the berth under ours are Jersee Green 34  
and Piche's Irenholm 20, Green is a small active  
Bachelor has a perfect diarrhea of words sometimes  
they are to the purpose and sometimes, He talks too,  
much to communicate good sense all of the time  
He is a little too careless of his personal appearance, But  
he's a "man for a that an a that," He gives us a song once  
in a while & the passengers will long remember his singing  
the song of the Sailor Boy, His chum is a large high  
spirited fellow quick tempered and ready to resent  
an insult with an oath or with his fist, Two years  
residence in California will probably cut down his proud  
spirit a few degrees yet so far he has used me gentlemanly  
and I don't know but he had all others but he has had  
several scrapes that he could easily have avoided if  
he had possessed a little disposition a little more  
pliable Next on the other side of us are two  
Germans Sebastian Seculiger whom passengers call  
Stickum & Skulte

They are still mind their own business and say but little  
they can talk but not write English One got drunk  
at Rio the other at Valparaiso, They are real money  
getters, Beyond us and next to the cabin in State Room  
are James R Bent 30 Benson Smith 19 JB Church 22,  
& Joseph E Page 22, Nova Scotia All have been accommodating  
to me & so far have been agreeable companions I might  
write considerable about them but my space will be small  
if I write more, Last but not least in the Storage in  
Berth No 25 are John Massey <sup>McBrew</sup> and JB Clark The former  
is an English man by birth resided in Russia a few years  
of his childhood since that has lived in ~~the~~ He is a shoemaker  
by trade & is married, He is a great reader and a good store  
of general information He has been a first-rate chum for  
me and ~~has~~ by his kindness has merited my best wishes  
for future <sup>good</sup> health and prosperity, Of his chum I think the least  
said the better

In the House on deck are Thomas Casey and Irishman  
somewhat addicted to drinking, Charles Smith rather a  
harsh spoken man and had rather harshly treated

When crossing the line Hugh D De Noon N 39  
Steward in the house, Benj B Hodgdon Boston  
the man who was very much frightened while in  
the Gulf Stream John R Clark

John Lieber <sup>Boston</sup> a German George McJuer N.S.  
Wm H Giles Somerville Henry L Barker Somerville, Eli  
Joss Barnstead N.H. Timothy Emerson Danvers N.H. David  
W Forbes Peru (Mc Isaac Pickering Concord N.H. Thomas R Burns  
Lowell Mass Robt P De Noon N.S. Peter C Jones N Boston N.H.  
a tailor formerly of Milford but lately of Boston, Lyander  
Hathaway has been to California has formerly been  
whaling considerably a good checker player Wm Townsend  
Chief cook Boston, Ventres Boston

In Cabin Robt Shepley 39 Salem Mass an English man  
Daniel Dodge jr South Boston Mass 26 Henry Bowen 26  
Wm J Locke 26 Boston P Robinson & wife 33. A D Chandler  
30 David Lavers 21 Frederick J White 24 Thomas R Lavers  
Adna Sprague <sup>Boston</sup> 26 Hiram Deluce 31 has been once to Cal  
Richard Gibson <sup>Boston</sup> 26 & wife Jason Stodd <sup>Boston</sup> 52 & wife  
David Nelson 36 & wife George Hovey 37 Boston C S  
Hedding Boston 27 Eliakim Darling jr 22 Boston Franklin  
Pletcher Boston 28 George W Bayle 26 Wm Row Boston  
24 Benj Darling 46 has once been to Cal Rufus Herry 41

was formerly been capt of a whaling ship Alfred Nye  
New Bedford 25 Nicholas McShay 24 has been <sup>once</sup> to Cal  
Mrs Nancy E Kullun <sup>Boston</sup> Mrs Parks  
Boston, Mrs Delaella Gooday Boston Mrs Am J Fuller Elizabeth  
B. Mack <sup>Mary King</sup> Eliza King <sup>Mary</sup> Miss Laura C Warren Boston  
Mrs Abby L Stevens Boston died on the passage, Rebecca Gregory  
Mrs J Kule, Sarah Mc Laughlin SP Jones <sup>Mary</sup> M  
Smith Sarah O Mason Mrs Philip Grinnell & children

Capt George B Kellum Capt, wife & child Wm Remond Mate  
 George Hynes 2<sup>d</sup> Mate with wife George Adams 3<sup>d</sup> Mate wife &  
 child Henry Duncree first steward & wife

James McGamma Dr Ben Group Joseph Gleason Aaron  
 Robinson wife and child Miss Dorcas Robinson Charles J  
 Stumpke 2<sup>d</sup> Steward Ben (Dutchman Stew) Daniel Pike Baker  
~~John Bond~~ (died) Sailors John Miller John B Clark  
 Murdick McOlson George Goodell Warren Simpson Charles  
 Dudley Sydney Crocker John Smith alias Jack  
 George Curtis George Flood Lewis P Boston (Chief)  
 Antone Joseph Frank Rope Robert Gilman Fred  
 Greenham Robert Pitman

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> Lat yesterday 828 Long -113-29 to day  
 Lat 11° Long 114-50 We are now about 1600 miles from  
 San Francisco. We are in the lat of Panama, the sea  
 is smooth - it is yet warm Therm. on deck 82 at noon in  
 the shade the wind hauld more to the west so that this  
 morn they took down the studding sails which have  
 been set all the time for three weeks - a day.

20<sup>th</sup> Monday This morn rather cloudy rained some last night -  
 strong westerly wind so we cant lay our course but yet  
 we are doing tolerably well, Parseyes are pretty busy in  
 washing mending &c and begun to talk of what they shall do  
 when they get ashore.

Monday Sept 20<sup>th</sup> It is cloudy with a strong westerly  
 wind we are making North by west Our Lat today 13-55 N  
 Long 115-44 west, we made yesterday about 190 miles  
 we are considerably off of our course but still  
 are making nearer to California The Capt wishes to keep  
 further to the west being more likely to have favorable winds.

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Sunday Sep 26 Lat yesterday 17-41 Longitude 119-12  
Thermometer this morn 79 wind N.E strong we are heading  
North West Since my last date we have had unfavorable winds  
Now we have the N.E. trades, the winds have been changeable  
but principally from the north since we left the S.E. trades  
We are now almost 32 days from Val when we left there  
there was considerable guessing how long it would take  
us to reach San Francisco, we varied from 35 to 65 days  
I guessed 45 and that will be about a fair run  
Now the parayers are pretty busy in repairing clothes  
and getting ready for going ashore, the weather for a few  
days past has been comfortably warm to day it is cooler  
Last Tuesday Mrs Joseph gave premature birth to a  
child she has now taken state room in cabin yesterday  
there was quite an excitement yesterday the cause was  
this, Mr Chandler bet <sup>425 against 350</sup> with Mr Fletcher that he could beat  
him playing checker with three Kings against two and he would  
allow I to place the men on the board, both claimed the bet  
and some of the passengers sided one and some with the other and  
some hard words passed between them finally they agreed to leave  
the matter to the Capt & George Kellum - they decided that I won  
the money but as gambling was against the known rules of the  
ship each must have their his own money returned to him  
This is Sabbath morn about half a dozen of us have been singing on  
deck such tunes as Missionary Hymn Greenville Leno &c which  
revive in mind the thoughts of home and friends, I never have  
liked to hear singing half as well as since I last left home  
I think should I ever see home again I shall know how  
to prize and enjoy good N.E. music, "Roll on ye wheels of time  
And bring the welcome day"

22 Monday Sept 27<sup>th</sup> Lat yesterday 18°-54 Long 122-45  
To day Lat 20-41 Long 125-51 Days work 210 miles Mercury  
74 This Mon wind east night & to day strong from North & East  
This Mon cloudy & squally comfortably cool to day Ship now  
is headed nearly west & if the wind hauls much more we  
shall tack ship as we are now about three degrees to the  
westward of San Francisco, Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> Long 128-21 Lat  
21-31 yesterday <sup>to day</sup> strong wind from N<sup>W</sup> we have headed N<sup>W</sup> by  
west our course now is North by East we are now  
eight or nine degrees further west than I F. If the wind  
holds as it is now we shall probably have to go considerably  
farther to the west than tack ship and run about N<sup>W</sup>  
to I F. The weather now is comfortably cool yesterday we  
discovered a sail to the Eastward of us this Mon we see that  
she has rather gained on us during the night, she is the first  
vessel that we have seen since we left the bark Northern  
about a month ago, A fair wind now would take us to  
I F in about five days but but the fates are against us  
it is not our luck to have fair winds much of the time  
if we had had them we should have been in Cal more  
than a month ago To day makes 5 weeks from Cal I shall  
be satisfied if we are not more than ten <sup>days</sup> more as I set  
the time at 45 days when we started from Cal yest-  
erday I commenced working as Steward I shall only work a day  
or two longer, Sunday Oct 3<sup>d</sup> Lat yesterday 28-44 Long 136-4

To day Lat 30-9 - Long 137-44, Another Sabbath on the  
Pacific - The past week we have made but little progress strong  
head wind all the time to day it is not quite so strong but rather  
squally, We may now reasonably expect a change of wind soon  
as the N<sup>E</sup> trades seldom reach farther than Lat 38 I spent most  
of the AM singing with Mr Bent & some other Nothing recalls friendly  
& home to my mind so vividly as singing some old tunes like  
Old Hundred Missionary Hymn Hebron &c Now now could I  
enjoy myself though I to myself with Parents Brothers & Sisters  
writing in singing This is the day the Lord has made  
He calls the hours his own  
Let heaven rejoice let earth be glad  
While singing this verse to say the thought occurred to me  
that this is Abi's birth day - How does time fly away!

I have now become rather uneasy about getting to my journey's  
end, so that I can't enjoy myself more at reading  
until I get to D. D., Four or five days of good wind would  
bring us to our destined port, I have commended a letter to brother  
D and one to E. K., I shall expect to find written a lot of letters  
at D. D. when I arrive there, What shall I learn from my  
relatives at home? Shall I read there that my relations & friends  
are in good health & prosperity? I trust so, I will not  
suffer a thought otherwise, Now after nearly 6 months absence  
I must conjecture or rather imagine how all the folks are  
at home, well I suppose Siram & Abby have moved into a  
cheaper residence so as to suit their ideas of economy (well  
is a good boy but if I mistake not he'll be a boy for long  
Not a few will be the roquish tricks he'll cut up Charles has  
not located in his new house so now he & his wife can  
say they are under their own vine & fig tree Dair & wife  
are I suppose at the old Stand I hope well I hearty though if I  
were a believer in dreams I should fear something had  
befallen D for I have had two bad dreams concerning him, But  
her leading my stomach at supper is generally a sufficient  
cause for my dreams, at any rate I have never  
borrowed trouble on account of dreams, I suppose father  
and mother are fairly established at the old homestead. I hope  
they are well and prosperous, But where is Hannah? I am  
anxious to know how she succeeded at school, must  
often have I thought how I should like to walk into  
her school room and see her preside over her juvenile  
company, I hope she has succeeded well, & I can  
not imagine why she should not succeed well, but  
the best miss it sometimes, Teachers are very apt to do  
as well and often better than their first term than ever after  
it. Tuesday Lat 34-12 Long 139-4 Wed Oct 6<sup>th</sup> Lat 35-30, 14-1/2

Thursday Oct 7<sup>th</sup> Yesterday noon we tacked ship and  
during the Afternoon we made our course E N E  
with a strong wind, Passengers were all much elated  
but by evening she was off of her course again  
Truly we have adverse winds with a vengeance  
This morning <sup>at 2<sup>o</sup> clock</sup> a squall struck the vessel from ahead &  
turned her of 6 points to the south, It turned the sails all black  
& suddenly that it made a loud noise like the breaking

67 of rigging, The noise waked most of the passengers  
I was soon on deck but all was right again only  
a head wind for us to contend with Here we are about  
eight hundred miles from I & A and only a little newer  
than we were a week ago, But cheer up boys there's  
a good time coming past a little longer,

Sunday Nov Oct 10<sup>th</sup> We have now made our latitude  
During the last three days we had strong head winds until  
last night the wind came fair but light and thus reminds  
this morning we are between 7 & 800 miles from port yesterday  
we saw a Bark to the south of us she appeared to be  
bound up the coast probably to San Francisco This morn  
Mrs Keath (Boatswain's wife) gave birth to a daughter Not a very  
uncommon occurrence on board passenger vessels bound to  
San Francisco, I am now rather earnest to reach port  
we are now forty five days from Valparaiso the time  
I allowed for the vessel to reach San Francisco

The week past I have had a sore throat It is now better  
cold water is my medicine, Nearly all <sup>after being</sup> on board <sup>had</sup>  
a very bad cold before I caught it. The Elements seem to  
be against us, Four days good wind and we should beat  
our gunny's end

Thursday Oct 12<sup>th</sup> yesterday Mon the wind hauled  
into the south and they set <sup>the</sup> Studding sails, we made  
good progress during the day and night, This morn  
the wind hauled more to the Eastward so they took down  
Studding sails - we are yet on our course E by N with  
a strong wind, We are hoping to make the port Sunday  
if the wind holds, I understand that a spiritual rafter  
in Boston announced before we sailed that we should  
reach San Francisco Friday night Oct 15<sup>th</sup> which is to  
morrow night, we cannot do this but the rapping spirit  
guessed pretty near for a first rate wind will put us through  
by Saturday, Friday 15<sup>th</sup> Wind fair, pleasant day today we  
saw the water rather green indicating soundings, we shall  
probably see land to sight or in the morning This afternoon

The sailors are taking up the cables all on board are  
in motion mending washing &c, Well we probably  
shall reach our journey's end sometime It has been  
a long and tedious one and we shall all be glad to reach  
shore again, On the whole the passage to me has been  
as pleasant & agreeable as I expected, I did not undertake  
the journey without first counting the cost, As for my  
health it now is good my appetite particularly since  
I left Valparaiso has been good I think that I am now  
heavier than when I left Boston, I have had a good  
stun and been surrounded by agreeable passengers  
near my berth as I could expect, In some parts  
of the ship there has been a good deal of dissension  
particularly in the cabin On the larboard side  
in the steerage there has been considerable many  
disputes particularly about the times of being in  
port when liquor was plenty, It has been a good school  
to many of the passengers they have learned that there is some  
body else in the world beside themselves that this little  
globe is larger <sup>than</sup> their <sup>own</sup> town or state, I should like now  
to retire to a private room away from the noise and  
confusion, and <sup>there</sup> write a history of our voyage and  
relate many of the particulars connected with it which  
will soon be forgotten, But it has been impossible  
for me to write or even think with any degree of accuracy  
but I could read or study very well but for  
weeks together it has been very difficult to use the  
pen on account of the motion of the boat, I should  
have taken a blank book to write in if I had  
thought of it before leaving Boston, It would have

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been quite convenient to write in instead of  
of doing as I frequently have done taking a board upon my  
knee writing up paper placed up the board.

For a day or two past I have busied myself grinding out  
Machine poetry I have ground out the names of all on  
board the ship, The grist amounts to about two sheets  
of small letter paper It caused some sport among  
the few that I have shown it too, Henry Scherman  
has written considerably poetry and has been cracked up  
highly for it, I cant write poetry myself but I can  
beat him if I should try at all, however I have not  
neither do I wish to enter the contest with him or any  
other person in writing poetry, He feels very proud of the  
<sup>compliments</sup>  
~~honors~~ bestowed on him by passengers that can hardly  
spell their own name so he frequently writes a few  
verses ~~and~~ <sup>about</sup> some occurrence on board and then  
he'll pass around the effusions of brain, I probably shall  
write but little if any more in these pages before I go  
ashore in San Francisco then I may write a few lines  
I must now write a letter to Eben Knight one to Davie  
one to father <sup>Monday</sup>

Oct 18<sup>th</sup> <sup>Monday</sup> Tuesday Yesterday a pilot came on board  
and we should have been in port some time  
since but for a calm we have made no progress  
since yesterday noon, Yesterday I gave a copy of  
my rhymes to my chum & he was much pleased  
and by my consent he showed a copy to one or two  
others, Next they requested me to allow the verses  
read on deck, Finally they got leave of capt to  
read them on the quarter deck and they had considered  
spat hearing them read, The verses were pretty  
extensively copied last night, and probably will be

Be scattered for and new passengers this  
 noon are all very anxious to get on shore  
 Three hours of good sail would put us on  
 terra firma once more there now is so much  
 confusion that it is impossible to write more  
 until I get ashore, The pilot informs us that  
 the times are good in San Francisco

The Staffordshire has arrived and gone to  
 China, also the Shooting Star arrive the  
 same time, The bark Southern had not  
 arrived we expect that she is in sight  
 about eight or ten miles astern of us

The hills about San Francisco answer  
 well the description given of it by every one  
 approaching the harbor from the sea they  
 appear dry and sandy or rocky the whole  
 appear barren and unfruitful

19<sup>th</sup> It was a beautiful morn and a fair wind to day  
 In the forenoon we entered the harbor At a distance  
 though distinctly in sight lay the Ship Samoset of  
 Boston on the rocks, The greatest novelty in entering the  
 Bay is crossing the bar we lay there about all day in  
 a perfect calm, but the water moved there in large  
 swells from eight to ten feet high they say their course  
 according to the tide. To day we cast anchor The Bark  
 Southern anchored about five minutes before us. Ship  
 Venice & Brig George & Ship — all came in to day having  
 sailed the same day with us from Valparaiso. Wednesday 20 I thank  
 the "Ruler of wind and wave" I am once more on terra firma  
 in my own country protected by the stars and stripes of our Amere  
 Union Farewell ye gallant ship that has so proudly stemmed wind

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and wave and brought us safely to these western shores,  
Farewell fellow voyagers we have now left the perils  
of the briny ocean and a world of new scenes are before  
us May the same Guardian Hand which for months  
has protected <sup>us</sup> alike in calms and howling storms still  
in the future guide & preserve us once more to see our  
own Nations hills the homes of our youth and again greet  
kindred and friends to us most dear

Y<sup>rs</sup> J. J.

This was written under many disadvantages  
and I don't know as you can read it - I have  
not read it since it was written and have not  
time to correct it. I don't wish you to show it  
to any one except our own folks