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#3 PUBLICATIONS OF THE ACADEMY OF PACIFIC COAST HISTORY

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No. 3

DIARY OF NELSON KINGSLEY  
A CALIFORNIA ARGONAUT OF 1849

EDITED BY

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## INTRODUCTION

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The diary here printed came into the possession of the University of California in 1910 as a gift from Mr. Nathan Kingsley, of Austin, Minnesota. Mr. Kingsley writes as follows concerning it:

This journal, covering the period from the 8th day of February 1849 to the 4th day of March 1851, shows the troubles and experiences of a "Forty Niner," and contains much that is valuable as illustrating the history of many young men of that day and age who left their homes in the East to search for wealth on the shores of the Pacific.

The author, Nelson Kingsley, after his return to Connecticut, delivered this book to his only sister, Mrs. John Hungerford, upon whose death many years later it descended to her daughter, Mrs. Nellie Fairchild, now living at 2412 27th Street, Kansas City, Mo. On a visit to my home in Austin, Minn., in the year 1888, Mrs. Fairchild presented the volume to myself, who have had control and custody of it until this date. Nelson Kingsley was the third son of Nathan Kingsley, of New Milford, Conn., being the next oldest brother of my father, who was the fourth son of the same parents. Upon or shortly after his return to Connecticut in 1851, Nelson married the young lady to whom he was engaged prior to his departure for the West, and the following year, 1852, he died without issue.

San Francisco, Cal., April 20, 1910.

NATHAN KINGSLEY.

The diary is written on two hundred and seven pages of a two hundred and twenty-four page blank book,  $8 \times 10\frac{1}{2}$  inches in size. The fly-leaves at the back contain sketches of places touched at on the voyage; among them are Port au Grande, Cape Verde Islands, and Port Stanley, Falkland Islands.

In printing, the punctuation and spelling of the original have been scrupulously followed; lack of punctuation is indicated by spaces. The characters < > indicate matter printed in proper, but not in original order—such as marginal additions.

F.J.T.





DIARY OF NELSON KINGSLEY 1849-1851

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A Journal of a Voyage at Sea in the Bark *Anna Reynolds*  
from New Haven to San Francisco [i]

Nelson Kingsley's Journal, begun February 8th 1849 [ii]

Page 1st

Journal beginning Feb. 8th 1849

Feb 8th Thursday Arrived at New Haven last Monday, from a visit to my parents & friends in New Preston, the purpose of my visit was to apprise them of my intention to emigrate with a company now formed in this place, for California to search for gold, the company to be a joint stock company. I fitted myself with clothes as much as required, and have now returned to New Haven to await the day for Starting. This visit home was therefore a farewell visit, and one of no little interest both to me & my friends, it is considered by all a great and hazardous undertaking, for a green Yankey, but consoleing myself with prospects of advantage, both as concerns temporal and intellectual gain, I felt that could not well relinquish my designs, the vast amount that has been said about that country has led to the formation of many companies like our own, and those too, who are not half so well prepared for the purpose as ourselves, and where it will end, would be more than I could predict. There has been some considerable snow and cold weather this winter so far, to day it has snowed some toward night and rather cold during the day. Stay at Mr. Wilmots, bought augurs, frame, chisels, &c for California to day. Fri 9th Quite cold. First rate sleighing A meeting at Exchange building of the California & New Haven Joint Stock Co to night at which reports were made of the several purchases made by the company, the articles of which I will name hereafter

1849  
Feb.



1849

1849

2

Feb.

Feb. 10th Sat Went about town all day, quite pleasant today thawed some went to singing school at St Thomas in the evening

11th Sun Quite pleasant thawed considerable prospects of rain. Went to church today preaching by Mr. Beardsley.

12th mon Began snowing about 10 oclock and quite blustering the rest of the day. Fitted some keys to my chest locks in the forenoon & in the evening went to Mr Jno Spencers, in company with Mr Parker and sung with Mr S. & his sisters.

13th tues Verry cold to day, read from the Philadelphia papers of our vessel being in the Deleware

14th wed St Valentines to day, cold, but first rate sleighing. The New Haven and California Joint stock company met at the Tontine and organized and chose officers for the expedition and adjourned one week

15th thurs Verry cold, wrote a letter home to New Preston to Miss W

16th fri Cold yet, some snow, bought a Revolving pistol of S C. Miller in State s gave \$15. with the addition of about \$3. more for the nessary other fixings

17th sat The coldest day yet. vessel not arrived but expected singing school in st So'ty to night

18 sun Went to church today preaching by Mr Cook in the AM and by Mr. Beardsley PM

19th mon Staid about town, went musical association in the evening

20th tues Heard from vessel in New York, cold yet verry bad for the boats on the sound

21st wed More mild vessel started this morning from New York by Tow Boat. Meeting of the members of the Joint Stock company to night at E L Barbers, Exchange

22 thu Found the vessel at the Bell Dock this morning she was towed all the way from New York, cost \$300. went on board and like many others of our company assisted in hauling freight, and other things such as was needed, found every thing much better than was expected.



23 fri Moove my chest of tools on board and helped on the vessel 1849

1849

3

Feb.

24th sat Quite warm and pleasant to day, worked on board, took my meals on on board and found it to be quite a novelty, she is stowed as far forward as the cabins front, and some at Bulk Head

25th sun Rained with some snow, wind N.E. went to church to day and wrote a letter to E W. stay at Mr Wilmots over sunday

26th mon Lowry, wind N.E. rain towards night, worked on board at house on deck

27th tues Wind NE. cloudy but no rain moved my things aboard, and worked on board.

28th wed Worked at house on deck attended a meeting in the exchange at E L. Barber of the company cloudy to day wind N.N.E.

March 1st thurs Worked at house on deck, quite warm Saw Mr Larmon Scott this morning

March

2d fri Worked on house, pleasant, snow in the evening, meeting at E. L. Barbers at the Exchange, decided on sailing saaturday the 10th by Cap' Bottom

3rd sat Clear, wind N.W. put out all the colors in the afternoon, house nearly done on deck, went to singing school in the evening

4th sun Clear & pleasant, wind N.N.W attended church at St Tomas as usual and St. Pauls in the evening wrote a letter home to J. H.

5th mon Clear & pleasant, went to the custom house and got a protection laid floor in the forecastle, and to meeting of the company in the evening

6th tues Pleasant in the forenoon cloudy in the afternoon.

7th wed Mate arrived today, Mr. Webb, put in deck lights & scuttle to house on deck

8th thurs Pleasant, wind N.NW started at 11 oclock last night on the steamer *Champion* for New York and arrived a 6 oclk in company with Mr Henry Potter one of our



1849 company as committee to purchase muskets, and a Filter and  
 returned at night did not purchase but reported at the meet-  
 ing  
 March

9th fri Went back on the steamer *New York* to purchase muskets got them for \$1.25 apiece at A. W. Spies No. 91 Maiden Lane and returned with them on board the steamer and got to New Haven at 10 oclck evening

1849

4th

March 10th sat Clear wind North West strong day apointed for sailing Captain not here yet—3 sailors run-away not able to start to day on account of men Monday at 1/2 past 9 set—fellows to be all aboard and ready

11th sun. Ann Smith arrived at wharf hauled vessel at end of dock went to church. fair wind crew all aboard, start to morrow

12th mon. Pleasant, prepareing in the morning the dock crowded to overflowing had services on board, hymn, Old Hundred and address by Rev Mr Floy, and followed with prayer by Rev Mr Smyth, after which the vessell was cleared and searched to prevent smuggling. Men called on by roll call, and not allowed to go ashore a song sung and we cast off but haveing no wind, was towed out of the harbor by the steamboat *New York*, and then sailed up the harbor the wind S.S west.

13th tues Found ourselves in Stoneington bay anchored in 40 fathoms water clear stop for boats and haveing no wind will stop to-night and until fair wind

14th wed Went ashore this morning got back about ten oclock the fellows begin to be sick wind SE sea rough

15th thurs Wind NE. Line storm wind bound yet in Stonenington bay went ashore this morning and see them make ropes called on the captain returned about noon found some of the men sea sick men uneasy

16th fri Went ashore and cruised about town until noon and returned and wrote a letter to Miss W. expected to start this afternoon but come on verry foggy and could not get away to day

17th sat fair wind this morning set sail about 10



oclock and got out of sight of land about 2 ocl'k about 1/2 sea sick myself among the rest

1849  
March

March 5th

18th sun Sea rough, wind N.W. nearly all sick not verry much like sabbaths at home, found many wishing themselves home again <Lat 39° 38'N Lon 68° 12'W>

19th mon. Found ourselves in Gulf Stream waves verry high wind N.W. sick yet vessel tossing furiously  
Lat 38° 40'N Lon 66° 20'west

20th tues Sea more calm today wind S.S.E. Nothing of much notice today <Lat 36° 28'N Lon 64° 40'W>

21th wed Windy rough sea many sick and some wishing themselves home again Wind South East course east Lat Lon

22 thurs. Sea rough as yesterday wind the same, so rough we could not set table Captain says he never had a rougher time off coast Lat Lon

23d fri Sea rough, wind west, storm and gale about 4 oclock PM, lasted about 12 hours hove too terrible tossing Lat Lon

24th sat Fair wind throwed Log near night 9 1/2 knot per hour Lat 35.40 Lon 57° 39 W

25th sun Not much wind, had services on board a sermon read by Mr Shipman at 4 o'clock called aft to hear the cap't give his regulation, and was divided into messes of 10 & 11 each director taking his number after the Cap'ns choosing his number of 16 Mr Keeler, Mr Potter, Mr Barber Mr Whipple myself fell to Mr Potters Lon 34° 28'N Lon 55° 49'W

26th mon Wind S.E. with squalls course E.NE. SoSE. worked on my hammock Lat Lon

27th tues Wind S by E. worked at putting up ricks for books verry pleasant and warm Lat Lon

28th wed Pleasant, wind still ahead, saw a sail early this morning supposed to be a merchantman se was from the United States about 8 miles off Lat 36° 05'N Lon 53° 24'W

29th thurs Squally with strong South East wind three sails seen two of them on our course formed a class



1849 in Arithmetic headed by Mr Addison. Lat 37° 05' N Lon  
 52° 21' W

March

1849

6

March 29th Pleasant to day, but wind S.E yet worked  
 at making potatoe bin in round house Lat Lon

30th Pleasant, course E.NE. wind South East  
 Lat. Lon

31st Pleasant, with light wind from SE Lat 39° 20 N  
 Lon 50. 30 W

April April 1st sun Wind strong from south, sea rough, no  
 services today Lat 41° 14 Lon 48° 33' W

2d Mon Had a hard night, last night heavey sea  
 wind S.W course So E some sea sick Lat 39° 40' W  
 Lon 42° 25'

3rd tues Course SE, wind fair, sailed about 150  
 miles the last 24 hours, run into a school of Porpois Cap'n  
 struck one did not save him, lost the iron. Lat 38° 51' N  
 Lon 41° 10' W

4th wed Verry pleasant, all merriment to day  
 broke out and aired our chests and goods, prayer at Eve.  
 Lat 37° N Lon 39° 50' W

5th Thurs Pleasant with fair wind, got out the mus-  
 kets, and all had a time at cleaning, they gave a satisfactory dis-  
 appointment. Sperm whale passed near us last night. Lat  
 37° 10' Lon 34,25

Fast Day 6th fri Pleasant with fair wind, great ex-  
 citement a porpoise struck by our Cap'n and run very near an  
 Austrain ship, but did not speak her as she seemed scared  
 at our red shirts, on which our Cap'n got us out with muskets  
 and drums, on which she altered her course and was soon out of  
 sight Lat 36° 30 Lon 33°, 17'

7th Sat Light winds, verry pleasant, and warm,  
 saw several whale small ones, some came verry near us Lat  
 35, 10' N Lon 32, 17' W

8th Sun Easter day not much wind, quite pleasant,  
 breezed up in the evening had services on deck to day and a  
 discourse read by our cap'n and prayer meeting in the even-  
 ing Lat 34° Lon 31° 20'



9th mon Quite pleasant in the morning but considerable  
of a wind & rain squall in afternoon. Man overboard this morn-  
ing considerable effort but not much danger, Mr. Jennings he  
being a good swimmer Lat 00 Lon 00

1849  
April

1848 [sic]

7th

April 10th tues Heavy wind from South, somewhat  
rough, drawed for berths last night and changed to day  
commenced sleeping in my hammock Lat 32° 31', Lon 27°, 41'

11th wed Strong SW wind, sailed about 8 mile pr hour  
commenced reviewing loggerithms. shown by Mr James P  
Keeler Lat 30° 25' Lon 25° 19'

12th thrs Wind SW, verry mild drafted a compass,  
to day as the first step to the art of Navigation, a main Royal  
sheet was put up and a Sprit Sail yard was rigged Lat 29° 14'  
Lon 25, 10

13th fri Not in the trades yet, met a vessel this morn-  
ing spoke her and <the questions were from us Ahoy! &  
Ahoy! Where are you from from England & Lisbon,  
where are you bound Ans to Tampico from her doo you  
want anything No, from us Will you allow us to come  
on board and send letters by you Yes> the Cap'n went on  
board, she was an English ship started from Liverpool to Tam-  
pico, but was dismasted and put into Lisbon and just on her  
voyage we gave them some potatoes, and the Cap'n purchased  
a few bottles some choice wines out sailed her and overtook  
a bark and another brigg yet to overtake and we gain on her some

Lat 28° 48' Lon 23° 14

14th Sat Very pleasant, calm towards night, stud-  
died Geometry fixed a cleet on the Martingal, had the 1st  
number of the Golden Budget by Norton & Keeler. Lat 27° 22'  
Lon 22° 53'

15th Sun Verry warm & pleasant, but little wind, sur-  
face of the sea glassy had service & sermon read by our Cap'n  
Commenced a couple of letters to send home to be sent at Cape  
De Verdes Lat 27° 31' Lon 23° 10'

16th Pleasant with a fine steady breeze,—threwed the log  
at eve—running at 9 knot per hour—made some, hanks for flying  
gib—lesson in arithmetic—and Geometry things more agree-



1849 able than usual to day—sea smooth—saw two sperm whale  
 sporting verry near us—run by one hermaphrodite Brigg and one  
 ship. Lat  $26^{\circ} 19'N$  Lon  $23^{\circ} 11'W$   
*April*

17th Pleasant, to day showry last night, fast run  
 all day, with westerly winds took a lesson in Trigonometry,  
 saw a large school of porpoess this afternoon, some of them  
 leeping out clear from water wrote some in a letter to my  
 friends home Lat  $24, 10$  Lon  $00$

1849

8th

April 18th A fine breeze from the West sea nothing  
 of much notice to day prayer meeting at night in which there  
 was some fine speaking saw a sail two points on the lea bow.  
 Lat Lon

19th A verry pleasant day but the hottest yet, with wind  
 so light that we move slowly, but it has hauled around to the  
 NE the point from which we expect the trade winds, had  
 awning over the quarter deck, a rolling sea Lat  $20^{\circ} 00 N$ .  
 Lon  $24^{\circ} 10'W$

20th Land seen by our captain, verry pleasant a  
 good run to day porpoess seen to day two sail in sight  
 Lat  $19^{\circ} 4'$  Lon  $25^{\circ} 13'$

21st Land plain to be seen St Antonio—tho' at a dis-  
 tance, looked like clouds riseing out of the sea, ran in verry  
 near and saw men in boats comeing towards us—Most splendid  
 scene, she looked like a barren rocky mass rising far above the  
 clouds took a tack about 11 o'clock saw a schooner come-  
 ing down before the wind came near and spoker she was  
 loaded with passengers for California cheers passed between  
 us, and she tacked and followd our wake, ran so close to St  
 Antonio had to tack at night wind being dead ahead Lat  $00$   
 Lon  $00$

22 Sun Found ourselves standing towards the Island St  
 Vincent and got near her about 10 oclock and as we approach  
 from the north it seams like large perpendicular cliffs riseing  
 abruptly from the shore and to the eye no entrance it is about  
 11 miles from St Antonio to the E.N.E. ran in betweene the  
 two and saw to appearance a small gap betweene the rocks that  
 looked like an entrance and as we neared, it looked like a fine



harbor ran close to a large needle rock which stands about half way between the two shores of the entrance found a very fine harbour, the schooner ran by the entrance and made tack an came in and anchored near us

1849  
April

April

9

1849

April 23 mon Divided Messes, and went ashore,—no fruit—killed a bullock and brought it aboard,—cost \$15.00—every thing very dear, find the Island very destitute,—a very rude population no vegetation except in the rainy season—and then only in spots—went ashore in the evening and had supper with the captain.

24 tues Went ashore early this morning and staid all day cruised along the beach, and, about the Island, went to the Consuls plantation about 2 miles South from the village The houses are built of stone & clay, and roofed with a kind of straw and matting fastened by a kind of rope or strings, they have glass windows only in the Consuls house.

25 wed Went ashore early this morning, come back and work on board ship, at helping stow away in the ship, went ashore again at night, and took the drums and the captain had supper the Consul & Governor were present and after supper they escorted the Governor to his home he appears to be an old man his name is . . . . he is somewhat infirm with the gout, or rheumtism

26th Went ashore early after the captain, and again after breakfast had my things washed by one of the Senorettas paid her two dump as they term it, the people are somewhat ignorant and all with but one or two exceptions are black,—and to apperance the female portion seem to be led to prostitution, especially by ships comeing in and stopping but the evil is not felt here as in our own country—should the contrary be the case and good influence be extended to them and held there, they would through it be quite easily moulded into a different form, went on board the schooner, with Mr. Webb, our mate

April

10

1849

27th fri Went ashore this morning & went across to the watering place to help fill a raft of water, while there saw the brigg *Porpess* U S man of war—came in the harbor and



1849 anchored near us—worked on board in after noon, Schooner  
*Friendship* sailed this afternoon.

April

28th sat Went ashore this morning, & with Mr S N. Norton went to the consuls plantation, and wrote letters to our friends I wrote one to Miss W, one to my father, and one to John G North New Haven verry strong winds from the North East, and came over the mountains in squalls almost like hurricanes

29th sun Went ashore and (in company with four others,) hired donkeys and went across the island to a plantation some 4 miles, we rode and found many places verry steep and seemingly nearly perpendicular, with the exception of a small foot path, it was the place of one of the higher class (so considered here) his name is Antonio after getting to his farm he ordered a goat killed, and in a short time had a verry good dinner from it—whith yams or casada, beans and cabbage & plenty of cow & goats milk the dishes was considered a rich one for these diggins and no mistake, his plantation was on a verry steep place and was made ready to cultivate by being once in two feet built up with stone and watered by water dripping from the rocks above which rose some 3 or 5 hundred feet perpendicular over the reservoir. Went on board the brig of war at night, found everything like waxwork

30th mon Went to work helping stowe to get ready to leave port some took the boat ashore and got the casks, and got pumpkins &c, and took our small anchor about 6 o'clock, and got under weight about dusk, the brig *Porpoise* was cheered by us, and returned by them wind comes in verry strong gusts or squalls, causing us to roll considerably—left hadsomly, per order of our worthy Officers

May

11

May

1st Found ourselves sailing this morning, which seemed quite old fashioned, hove in sight of St Jago just at night—got to the lee of it, and stand out till morning

2d Found the good ship standing into port Praya ran close in under the lee shore, and anchored a very good berth—the health officers came off to us, and found us well left two officers to see that wed carry nothing ashore to sell sent our



empty casks ashore to be filled with the pure water that is to be found here had oranges, bannanas; sent off to us by our cap'n, the most delicious ever ate by me go ashore tomorrow

1849  
 May

3d Went ashore this morning and staid all day—rambled about and around the place—was conducted around the garden, by one of the natives with several others of our men,—the place is unlike anything ever before witnessed by any of us. The trees shrubs, and vines which were planted in regular order in & around were curious to look upon the Cocoa nut trees are some 20 or 30 feet high and covered by a rough bark and bearing fruit and leaves only on the top with young ones growing—Bananas are a weed-like tree growing some 12 feet high with a long broad leaf which by age becomes tattered, the fruit grows on the extreme top with a blow or flower resembling our Skunks Cabbage which is about 12 inches from the fruit—The fruit grows in a cluster it resemble our cucumber in shape with a smooth skin which is most delicious when ripe <there are some 150 in a bunch> The Plantain grows some eight feet high, the leaves are clustered on the top of the stump-like body, and the fruit resembles the muskmelon of the small size with a fair skin and grow clustered close under the leaves they look handsome when growing—Tamarinds grow here—ther tree resembles our thorn tree—the thorns are shorter however. The tree is as large as a small appletree, Olive bean, grass palm for hats Casada, a kind of bread fruit, and other fruits and flowers such as Oranges and Lemons &c in great abundance

May

12

1849

3d The natives are mostly black—talk Portugese—a few talk broken English, the town is situated on a bluff or eminece, and the front or side towards the harbor is guarded with a wall or breast-work—and on the east end is a fort with several pieces of cannon mounted, soldiers are stationed on almost every corner as peace sentineels I suppose two of our men was put under guard, for the trivial offence of stepping over the wall into the fort—the laws are verry strict—no going ashore after 6 o'clock. The Brig *Porpoise*, and the splendid ship *Portsmouth* both men of war are lieing near us, and one Portugese brig a trader—every morning, our three American coulors are sent flying to thier



1849  
 May places at the end of the Spanker Gaft—and drums & fife are playing Hail Columbia & Yankey Doodle from the after deck of the good ship *Anna Reynolds* to the gratification of something like 250 live Yankeys—The stars & stripes, the handsomest the least like patch-work, the most freedom-like, of any emblem which graces the atmosphere of the known world, and if ever any being enjoys freedom in its true light—it is an American when abroad in a land held down by the voice of some tyranical Monarch We have bought some fruit oranges of a good size for 50 cts per hundred Lemons the largest ever I saw for 1 cts per dozen and other things in proportion Tobacco is the best article to buy with, but oweing to hevey duties, it cannot be used to so good an advantage as money.

4th Staid aboard and helped about the ship got the last of the water today—Went on board the *Portsmouth*, & looked about, she is a fine ship of 24 guns and would do justice to the cause in which she is engaged—The splendid ship *Yorktown* 18 guns came gracefully into port about 9 oclock and anchored showing the beautiful Emblem of *American Liberty*—Cap'n Gordon of the *Porpass* came aboard just at night, we were requested to give him a specimen of our musical genius, as taught us in a yankey land.

May

13

1849

4th We were invited on board his ship—to play a few tunes, was made perfectly at home, the best of liquors the world affords was ours—from off his own table—and healths was drank to our prosperity and on the whole should think him a true born Yankee

5th Went ashore all hands today—much dissatisfaction about our being detained in port—everything ready yesterday—went about the town—took dinner at an old womans house She seemed quite cleaver—got some boiled eggs casada bread &c gave her (as she desired) a plug of tobacco in return brought off a quantity of oranges and other fruit to day

6th Verry pleasant A party of 17 went ashore and walked 6 or 8 miles under a scorching hot sun to visit the ruined city Sedad Myself not being one of the number I cannot do better than give a description as related by one of the party



it lies on the opposite side of the Island, and is situated at the entrance of one of those narrow vallys so common here, these valleys are the principal places for vegetation the one here mentioned opens a passage for a stream of fresh water during this dry season which the others possess only in the wet season—"This city flourished in the thirteenth century, and must have been a place of great importance as the fortifications on the heights above the valley indicate—The ruins of the old fort are bounded on the right as you look towards the sea by a lofty precipice of perhaps 300 feet, at the foot of which lies a sharp declivity of 500 feet more, beyond is the rich valley, teeming with every production of the tropics presenting line of most magnificent verdure winding far up the valley averaging not over a quarter of a mile in width the opposite side of the valley is bounded by lofty precipices & declivities—looking from this Fort the valley seems almost directly beneath your feet & within a stones throw—I stood he says on the brink of the highest rock & threw an orange with my whole strength in such a manner as to project it as far as possible, thinking it might strike about the middle of the ravine what was my astonishment to find it disappear behind the precipice

1849  
 May

May 14 1849

6th sun continued befor it reached the ground—The remains of several ancient churches now entirely in ruins, lie in the bosom of the valley, a large church greatly dilapidated but still retaining some of its former splendor, stands on the sea shore, and is used by the inhabitants as a place of worship, and is regarded with all the superstitious reverence of the Roman Catholic faith—here is the holy fire constantly burning, the image of the Virgin Mary the Infant Jesus, St Joseph, Christ on the Cross, St Peter &c &c.—The keeper of the church after learning we were Americans treated us verry hospitably—invited us to the Bishops palace, a large airy building a part of which is in ruins, where we were refreshed by a draught of Lemonade after which we took a ramble in the orange groves in the valley climbing the trees and picking for ourselves—we then returned to the shore and commenced ascending the paved road that leads in sharp irregular angles up the hill to the fort—This must have been a



1849

May

position of great strength, both from its great natural advantage & the affectual manner in which it was fortified, some of the guns & magazine & part of the walls are still remaining''

7th mon Everything ready as far as the ship is concerned to go to sea. Bishop one of the sailors left yesterday & is not to be found—one of the crew of a brigg bound to Africa for nuts & pepper (John Orr by name) was shipped in his place, a good swap I guess, A little after sundown the captain came on board and weighed anchor, after saluting the U S man of war with hail columbia, the Brig *Porpoise* sett her colors and after passing them a short distance down the harbor we returned and gave the sloop of war *Portsmouth*, the *Yorktown*, the *Porpess* each three cheers which were heartily returned by them and put out of the harbor. After about an hours sail the captain discovered he had forgot something, and immediately tacked about and stood off the harbor manned the stern boat and pulled in for the squadron and after two or three hours delay got on our way again and after staying 15 days bid the Cape De Verds a hearty good bye

8th tues A heavy breeze and smart run, considerable number sea-sick—escaped myself from its disagreeable effects, our fore top gallant mast has been badly sprung to day. Lat 13° 22'N Lon 22, 57 W

May

15

9th wed Repaired mast and sent it up—have a steady trade and a fine run drawed for berths this afternoon oranges, bananas, cocoanuts, suffer from the effects of a fruit-loveing people who claim a good taste of for the novelty of haveing a plenty and haveing it free Lat 10°—N Lon 22, 33 W Course South by East

10the thurs Changed berths to day, but give my bed-fellow the whole of my share prefering the hammock under the long-boat, verry hot days—sun a little north of us saw two black fish a species of whale though seldom taken as they are of but little value All well—and good natured & fine spirits Lat 9, 14 N Lon 21° 33'W

11th fri Verry warm—all glad to get under awning—most all kinds of buisness going on—some are moddleing steam-



boats some drilling bearings to washing machines—some braiding hats &c &c—debate meeting at night query Are early marraiges conducive to happiness or productive of general good light breese to day and last night but more fresh to night a school of porpoise came under the bow and looked like streaks of fire or light the water verry brilliant so much so as to light the sides of the ship Course S Lat 8, 18 N Lon . . . . thermometer 80

1849  
 May

12th sat Hot as blazes—glad to get under awnings—had them spread fore & aft—buisness same as yesterday—thermometer 85°, water 65—heard some strange & laughable stories from our captain concerning Old Neptunes boarding us as we cross the line passed one ship early and raised another on our lea bow had a fine time going in swimming—Lat 6, 30 N Lon 24, 13 W light wind Course S

13th sun Verry hot—thermometer 88½ at 2 o'clock a dead calm all day—had services to day sermon read by Cap'n Bottom—sea looked like glassy mounds rolling to & fro Lat 5°, 23' N Lon 20, 50 W

14th The hottest day yet, went to getting out the stuff for Gold washing machines sawed up stuff for six—traveled 4 miles since 12 yesterday to 12 to day noon had a shower at night, and unlike any shower yet seen by me came down streaming not dropping.

May [Continued]

16

1849

14th Mon Striped and had a fine shower bath from it, a great sight to see the washing on deck take the shirts soap them put them down on deck & stamp on them, until they wer somewhat clean, caught a small shark this afternoon thermometer at 12 to day 90°, quite a breese during the shower Lat 5, 18 N Lon 20° 15' W

15th tues Cooler to day—more cloudy—worked at setting out stuff for machines, in forenoon—A severe rain from 3 till 8 oclock this afternoon.—It seems to be common to have verry heavy showers in these low latitudes as our officers tell us—catch good water to drink—our water got at the Island begins to stink,—but soon will work itself clear again Lat 5° 12' N Lon 20



1849  
 May

16th wed Worked at machines—verry hot—thermometer 85°—some light winds to day—prayer meeting at night, in which Mr Stuart spoke in his gude auld scotch style, and as he is brief—he says how should we fell had we rigged out to go to California got every thing which we now have and started in this ship to go this long journey and left our compass, how foolish we should have been considered by our friends, so it is in the journey of human life should we go on without Christ as a guid, as a compass to guide us into the haven of eternal joy and by that rest assured we shall not be wrecked on the shoals which is found in the river of Time Haveing past the harbor which we might have found did we keep this precious treasure, we can no more turn back until too far to recover Lat 5, 05 N Lon 19, 22 W

17th thurs Warm—with but little wind—worked on machines thermometer 83½°, no rain Lat 4 42 N Lon 18, 20 W

18th fri Squally to day two sail on ou[r] starboard beam.—Thermometer Air 84° water 82° worked at braiding stuff for a hat a kind of grass found at Cape De Verde;—Debating club organized to night James P Keeler chosen sec'ry—Commenced eating but two meals a day wind SE Course S.S.W. Lat 3° 52'N Lon 18, 05 W

May

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1849

19th sat North starr—clear down to the horizon, sun goes north fast—A hard breese from the SSE had to take in sail for an hour or two and eased up—then blowed steady all day, have singing almost every day every man his own teacher Lat 2° 54'W Lon 18[ 00'W

20th Sun Verry pleasant to day—a good breese about 8 knot—wind S.S.E—had services to day sermon read by Mr S M. Shipman—prayer at night—had a hearty two hour chat on the monkey rail with Cap'n Bottum Lat 2° 00'N Lon 20, 08

21st Mon, Fast run to day—see many flying fish, and a school of Black fish—worked at seting out stuff and planning work to complete the washing machines in the forenoon, but gave it up in the afternoon from a hard cold—and severe head-ache—find many verry ingeneous persons among our number, and should judge good and quick workmen as can be found anywhere Lat 0, 33'N Lon 21° 20'W







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*May*

29th tues Haveing a first run every day many are dreading the passage round the Horn preparations are making to prepare the vessel for that passage formed a reading society to night for the improvement of reading help work out a lunar to day Lat  $14^{\circ} 37'$  Lon  $35^{\circ} 10'W$

30th wed. Good wind, but the wind little to far south. Lat  $16^{\circ} 40'S$  Lon  $37^{\circ} 17'W$

31st thurs Hold our old S.W course yet. came in sight of a suspicious curious looking sail ahead but proved to be an open sail-boat fishing we hauled up and spoke her she had ten men in her lowerd our boat and went got some of thier fish Lat  $18^{\circ} 21'S$  Lon  $38^{\circ} 39'W$

**June**

19

*June*

1st fri Tackeed last night but found ourselves on our course this morning our sailors seem to think they never saw our SW trades so variable as they have been this time. Worke at making a table to go in the cabin, had reading at night Lat  $19^{\circ} 07'S$  Lon  $38^{\circ} 33'W$

2d sat. Broke out our chests to day, found all our things in good order—saw land this morning the coast of Brasil had to take a South East course to prevent running to near Wind S—I feel as if I should like a meal of good victuals—I have imagined hardship but did not think of haveing to recieve hard fare on account of food—we have a plenty that is good aboard but it is mostly spoiled cooking or rendered quite unpalateable—our water is not fit to drink without mixing it with some sort of disguise to allow it to go down free—the stinking water by the road side of old New Preston would be better —Lat  $19^{\circ} 55'S$  Lon

3d sun. Had services to day lecture by Dr. Hawse of Hartford to young men was read by Mr S Ford prayer meeting at night—running SE.—not a verry stiff breeze many thoughts of home, and kind wishes as regards my friends there a letter or newspaper would be worth its weight in gold to any of us Lat  $20, 07 S$  Lon  $37 W$

4th mon Worked at putting a an addition on the table below. Have a verry fine run to-day direct on our course a steady handsome breeze. Saw some red stuff or insects float by



to-day which was said to be whales feed and is found in large quantities in whaleing ground it was found in large & small quantities, resembling blood on the surface of the water debate to-night question are any of this company justified in private speculation decided in the negative golden budget read quite funny. Lat 20° 52' Lon

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5th tues Finished the table to day considerable said about by-laws one thing adds to the variety, consquently when there is any thing funny takes place we all laugh and considerable noise ensues, and without exception our three dogs invariably

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fall to fighting, thus any subject is dropt at once to part the dogs and to one who hears this every day will almost wish the dogs overboard had reading at night quite instructing.

Lat 23° S Lon 38° 28' W

6th wed. Worked at puting cleats around over the fore-castle to prevent leaking Saw a large right whale today looked like a monster as he rose out of the water—Had a prayer meeting at night—there is but a certain portion of this company who have a regard for anything like prayer meetings—Lat 24° 52' S Lon

7th thurs Sea runs high this morning and continues to blow during the day prospects of a stormy night saw a large whale today—now comes the wish that we were safely round the Horn a debate at night, question Does the abolishment of Capital punishment, tend to abate crime, decided in the negative. wind abated during the night Lat 26° 14' S Lon

8th fri Almost a dead calm all day—a heavy roll or sea too much to be comfortable saw the greatest sight yet a small whale came up within 20 feet of the vessel and spouted, two or three times and played around and under us about 20 minutes blowing several times—he was I should judge about 40 feet long—such sights as these are what gives cheer to a day lying at calm—to anxious boys at sea. Lat 26° 39' S Lon 34° 54' W

9th sat Saw a water-spout this morning but was not near enough to see the bottom of it. It looked as if it was attached to the under part of the cloud—and from that seemed



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to hang suspended in mid air, towards the water—but disappeared about half way from the cloud to the water—It is said they are dangerous should a ship be too near—Did not have much of a run to day, variable winds with some strong head winds—Drawed for berths this afternoon—Lat                      Lon

10th sun      Rained the greater part of the day, but cleared up towards nigt              made tack 3 or 4 times—but the wind hauled to the west and a good run south—A prayer meeting at night—but no service through the day on account of the rain. Lat                      Lon

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11th mon      Quite pleasant to-day—changed berths to-day, saw some large birds called Albatros. Lat 29° 52'S Lon 34° 01'W

12th tues      Quite strong winds      saw a ship this morning—she heading towards us, prepared letters &c to send should we speak, but she kept off—proved to be a Scotchman      Wind increased all day and about eight oclock at night had to shorten all sail      sailed under double reefed topsails, a terrible sea—some heavy ones boarded us; Mr Ellis came near loosing his life while on the yard reefing topsail narrowly escaped      prospects of a hard time of it to night      Lat 31° 51'S Lon 30° 06'W

13th wed      Blowed a gale all night, and all day, hove too just at night      the hardest time yet, cannot stand on deck—seas breaking over us every little while, everything wet      Main spencer split to day      Lat 33° 53' Lon 33. 27

14th thurs      Quite the hardest time last night yet, had to take in all but sails sufficient to keep her steady      the fore top mast stay sail and close-reefed main top sail,      squally all day, the gale not broke yet      blows tremeduous—sea runs mountains high      ship tossing terribly      Lat 35° 12'S

15th fri      Wind lulled a little about midnight last night not quite so strong this morning      able to set the fore-sail and go ahed some—All glad to think ourselves safe, and for my part do not wish to see another such a gale—But it has left a lasting imprission on my mind, never shall I forget those two long tedious nights & days—Home, friends and kindred were often before me—And then to look out upon the merciless waves come-



ing with tremendous force, and with height sufficient to bury us beneath its foam—Now the ship is raising to an incredible height, now diving as if never to rise again—now pitching sidewise suddenly righting and going as far or farther the other way—The deck at each lurch standing at an angle of  $45^{\circ}$ , thus

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rendering it almost impossible through such a constant, and tremendous motion as this for any one to stand, sit, or lie down. Think you who have never enjoyed if I may so speak a sight such as this and think of those that venture and trust themselves on the ocean—Think how many a poor soul is every moment in danger of being swallowed up by the raging tempest while you are enjoying yourselves by your quiet firesides and homes on land, where you can bid defiance to the howling winds, and the raging storm, enjoying every privilege that a civilized community can enjoy. But just imagine a scene like this and seemingly think yourself there, and pity the mariner—the sailor who has to endure this, and thank your Heavenly Father for the many blessings he every day bestows upon you. Lat  $35^{\circ} 59'$  Lon  $31^{\circ} 45'W$

16th sat Nearly calm this morning but freshed up about 10 o'clock and allowed us to go a S.S.W course, with the wind aft Opened the baggage room to day—but found the things quite dry—Getting to be quite cold—water looks as if we were on sounding plenty of large Albatross, or coony flying about the ship, got out our Cape Horn cloths to day Lat  
Lon

17th sun A lowry, cold night last night, a 10 knot run this morning but had to take in sail before noon, wind hauled and had steer our course south. Had no services to day on account of its being cold, & rainy.—Can plainly perceive we are coming into cold weather.

18th mon Should like right well be home and see the verdure on my own native hills, give me this, and not a sea life, home is the spot where the good things of earth can be had, and should advise every stripling before venturing on a whaling voyage, to think first on the privations & bondage, yes worse than slave bondage which he is always subject too, and then on the



1849 many blessings he enjoys at home,—and I am sure he will decide  
 on staying at home

June

June

23

Had a good run to day, wind NW. course SW the coldest day yet—weather like our December—Main Sail split by shaking in the wind, took it down and put in its place the new Fore Sail Mate quite unwell, Second mate has been sick some days but is getting better now—Lat  $41^{\circ} 04'S$  Lon  $32^{\circ} 50'W$

19th tues Had rather of a hard night last night, on account of squalls of wind & rain—verry cold with squalls of rain—catched this morning 3 large Albatross—they are about as large as our geese, with a long hooked bill, wings wide—when extended measure from six to ten feet and from that down to two or three feet—when on deck can scarcely stand up—These are constantly flying about comeing verry near when anything is thrown from the vessel—and seem verry greedy—Wind to-day quite varriable—sent down the royal yard—and getting prepared for more hard weather. Lat Lon

20th wed Had a squall about 8 oclock, which blowed all night and caused us to heave too—but held our course towards morning quite a good run till towards night, then commenced blowing and blowed a gale about 9 oclock hove too Lat  $41^{\circ} 56'S$  Lon  $34^{\circ} 40'W$

21st thurs Decidedly the hardest night, last night yet, Oweing to the winds shifting, and causeing heavy chopped seas, many of them come aboard of us, this morning while trying get breakfast (haveing to take what we got and eat it in our hand) and standing up the best we could on deck, one of the biggest seas came over that I have seen some had just got their victuals from the Galley and others were makeing thier best way there, all buisy getting something to fill up, and over come a sea with considerable force and landed us all on the other side of the ship I think I never recieved a harder stroke, on looking up, the whole side was lined with fellows, some afloat, some trying make for a place to catch hold, and all wringing wet

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Lay too all day—the gale broke about 9 oclock in the evening prospect of a favorable wind—



22d fri Going ahead finely this morning, and a good run all night took in the fly gib boom, the Fore top Gallant mast, and yard, & the missen top Mast—today, laying our course for the Falkland Islands to get water. Displaced cooks today and put in Mr John E. Atwater in the place of Mr & Mrs Patch and rather think there will be less patch work among us as far as the cooking is concerned Lat  $43^{\circ} 20'S$  Lon  $36^{\circ} 30'W$

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23rd Sat More pleasant to day,—shook the reefs out out of the top sl's—this morning—threaded needles for Mr Stuart to make a stay-sail,— One year ago I was in better *buisness*, but here I am, wind W by S course NNW Lat  $43^{\circ} 52'S$  Lon  $37^{\circ} 15'W$

24th Sun A squall struck us this morning while eating Breakfast, the most sudden and severe of any thing of the kind yet, came near loosing our masts—had to lie too, about 3 oclock—had no services today—Prayer Meeting in Fore Castle in the evening—Went back into Mr Potters mess this afternoon, A heavy hail storm this afternoon Wind W Lat  $43^{\circ} 46'S$  Lon  $38^{\circ} W$

25th Mon Found ourselves going a little this morning—Bent the Main Spencer this morning—course this moring NW Wind SW by S—wind hauled about 12 oclock tacked Ship and stood our course W. wind NE by N—A fast run at night—going at a rapid rate at 9 oclock—Lat  $42^{\circ} 47'S$  Lon  $38^{\circ} 02'W$

26th Tues Blowed too strong last night—had to heave too last night about 12 oclock, a light was seen in the rigging, a Phosphorescent substance somewhat resembling our Ignus Fatui, only brighter—Wind lulled a little this morning but freshed again at noon—blowed a gale at 3 oclock and continued all day—shiped a heavey sea about 7 oclck this evening Lat  $42 25 S$  Lon  $40^{\circ} 07'W$

27th wed Blowed hard all night—gale not broke yet wind WNW, head N—gale broke about 9 oclock able to make some sail after wearing ship Lat  $42^{\circ} 30'S$  Lon  $38 53$

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28th thurs Sea runing high this morning—lifts to the main top Gallant yard broke with Mr Ellis on the yard, no harm done—took down the yard and stowed it wind NNW



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Course W by S and was going our course at night—one thing that is quite amusing as well as prevelant among us is, that when a hard storm commences some are all for giving up and count thier share of stock worth but a verry little and would sell out for almost nothing—but now the wind is fair and going our course no money would tempt them to forsake the enterprise—Rather cold and rainy to day—mended main sail today. Lat

Lon

29th Fri Wind headed us off this morning to the south tacked and stood WNW wind SW by S pleasant to day but cold, come up again to our course towards night—had a squall about 5 oclock Lat 43 25' Lon 42°

30th Sat Not much wind this morning—head NW by W—bent the main sail—took the new fore sail and bent it forward—wind freshed a little at night—at 9 o'clock quite a fair steady breeze from N by W—made a sou'wester for Mr John Bodge Lat 43° 05'S Lon 43° 09'

*July*

July 1st Sun Not much wind to day—cold and wet—no services—prayer meeting this evening wind freshed a little at night

2d Mon A first rate run last night before the wind course W wind East rained all day quite hard—Caught 3 casks of water—come my turn to act as steward wash dishes &c this morning—with Mr Platt

3d tues Wind shifted last night and come back into its old quarter headed us NW verry rough—a hard time to get breakfast—All hands out of humor this morning—some swearing and finding fault, some one thing and some another, sweet time washing dishes in salt water—all slush—and vessel upside over, first one side then another getting dish water all over us thus rendering us fit subjects for the song of “O carry Me Back &c” not quite a gale to day—sailing NNW with single reef top sails—fixing for to have a bit of a time tomorrow

Lat 43° 31'S Lon 48° 53'W

**July**

**26**

**1849**

4th This day—The glory and pride of our native land—Day ushered in by Fireing 30 guns at sunrise—one for each state and sent the starrs and stripes to the Mizzen Peak afterward



a general salute of all hands for california      Order of the 1849  
 Day—A true Copy      The day will be ushered in by the hoisting <sup>July</sup>  
 of the American Flag at sunrise at the Mizzen peak accom-  
 panied by a national salute of thirty guns      a federal salute  
 repeated at sunset, at which the flag will be lowered,—At ½ past  
 12 the company with the officers and crew of the vessel will  
 assemble at the after hatch and form a procession under the  
 direction of the Marshall

1st A band of Martial Music      2d President, Orator & Beeder  
 of the day      3d Committee of arraignments—4th Officers &  
 crew      5th Members of the medical department      6th Mem-  
 bers of the I O of O F      7th I O of Recabites      8th Sons of  
 Temperance      9th members of benevolent Institutions      10th  
 The Company at large

The procession after forming will take the course designated  
 by the Marshall and proceed to the Main Cabin when the follow-  
 ing Exercises will be observed

- 1st Hymn by the quoir
- 2 Prayer
- 3 Music
- 4th Reading of the Declaration
- 5th Oration
- 6th Music
- 7th reading (The Amer'n Flag)

8th Music .      After which the Company will assemble at the  
 dinner table, when the following toasts will be drank . . . .  
 At noon we discovered a sail off our weather quarter, and she  
 appeared to be standing the same way we were—at ½ past 12  
 our procession was formed and about 2 oclock had a fine dinner  
 which was of boiled ham—cheese—bread—doughnuts, and served  
 up by the committee of Arraignments, and in this place, it reflects  
 credit on them as well as Mr Atwater—The toasts were numerous  
 and passed off verry

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verry well—but towards night things looked and bore a  
 different aspect—and for my part could not enjoy any part  
 of the proceedings, like many places at home the same thing  
 which destroys the happiness of this glorious day was the



1849 *July* demon among us—Liquor in any shape is a curse to any body of men connected as we are, but such is the case amongst us, it began by having the Critter passed early, and ended past midnight the Oration was good—I have heard worse ones,—and had there been no liquor on board all could have enjoyed it—and takeing every thing into consideration, I think I never felt more miserable than I have this afternoon—for taking things as they have been for the past month since the first of June—We have had head winds and many severe gales, and have been knocking about in the space of about 500 miles, but we now have a fair wind or one that will allow us to go our course and if ever a set of men feel to be thankful it is ourselves—what makes me feel more miserable is our friends at home who will have to be so long without hearing from us, but providence has our path marked out and patience must exert herself till our deliverence—we have many things to harrass us, To start with our agents have in fitting out the vessel with provisions, played a rascally game—our pork must open with from 3 to 8 hogsheads half shaved in each barrel—our sugar is black enough for *casting sand*—the other day a cask of peaches was opened and did not look any more like peaches than an *old cider cheese*—our apples are first rate, mackerel *with the number bored out*, and of an inferior quality—soap made of poor whale oil—and every thing accordingly, but perhaps it is a long road that never turns, so I hope it will be with us and my wish is that I may with the rest be safely landed on Terra Firma and then we shall be more to ourselves, more under the direction of men as I feel that a portion of our directors are men that will look more to our general happiness—We have had a verry fine day with a light breeze and have steered our course wind freshed a little at night apple pie at  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 7 ocloc which was verry good had a regular break down about half past 8 oclock of which I shall not speak

July

28

5th thurs The wind S A verry fine morning—we have left our neighbor and are not in sight of him this morning—things wear a brighter look to day but little said, but think the more—nothing happened to day to marr our good feelings—The



sails have been flapping all day occasioned by a verry light breeze, from the S—have made but little headway to the W—  
 Lat  $42^{\circ} 34'$  Lon  $51^{\circ} 28'$ . 1849  
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6th Fri But verry little wind this morning and that from the SW.—heading us NW—rather cool—a light fog this morning but cleared away after sunrise the sun is far to the north of us, and rises with us here about 8 oclock makeing rather shorter days in July than us yankees are used to seeing—it is about like our January in New England with the exception of our snows, which we have not seen except in hail squalls. About 9 oclock we wore ship and stood SW the wind hauling a little more to the North—A vessel or bark is in sight supposed to be the one we saw the other day she is quite large, but did not come near enough to speak her, we set our colors just at night, and she hers in her Mizzen rigging but we could not make her out supposed her to be an Englishman the wind increased at night and gave us a fast run Lat  $43^{\circ} 12'$  Lon  $52^{\circ}$ .

7th Sat The wind increased last night so that we were obliged to heave too at 12 and blowed a gale till morning when it lulled and made some sail but had to take them again as the gale is not broke our neighbor is seen from aloft this morning one point off our weather quarter, continued blowing all day—tacked ship at 1 oclock and stand NW makeing a considerable lee way to the N.—A large albatross was caught today by Mr. Shailor—he measured  $9\frac{1}{2}$  feet from tip to tip—weight 19 lbs. a verry disagreeable day Lat  $43^{\circ} 45'$  Lon  $53^{\circ} 12'$

8th Sun Able to carry the Fore Sail and make some head-way to the NW the sea is verry rough to day caused by small choped contrary sea's,—the spray of which makes a continuous roaring, our neighbor was seen last night at the wind-ward—Verry cold to day and feel as if I should like right well to be in New England—and hear a sermon from one of her minister's Sunday is a day above all others that I regret being away from home &

July

29

friends, where the priviliges of society is shared to its fullest extent, and more than all the privilege of being in a country where the christian Sabbath is felt & enjoyed continues to



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blow at 9 oclock in the evening—have shiped some seas to day—the sun has shone quite bright to day which makes it a little more agreeable had a prayer meeting in the forecastle this evening Lat  $42^{\circ} 25'$  Lon  $54^{\circ} 32'$

9th Mon Still heading NW. wind has not ceased in the least thus rendering those who have felt anxious and discontented to growl a little—and could it make any the better—they would I believe curse every object that would seem to hinder us on our Journey wind not so strong at night wind allowed us to go a WNW course with prospects of a change, drew for berth to day Lat

10th Cloudy this morning, the wind hauled last night to the NNW, allowing us to go our course at a good speed, had Soft tack for breakfast, why I notice this is that I may think of the fun that No 3 enjoys at thier meals, I could not mention all the circumstances, but some one thing happens at every meal to cause laughter. This morning, the greatest note that has taken place yet come out—Now while it is so cold that one would want Coat & Mittens on deck we thought the senate to be quite a comfortable place, out of the tedious wind that is blowing outside, so all huddling round the basket on the floor partook of a couple of biscuit apiece and some coffee & meat concluded to send Shailor for more, he got six for nine of us and so we put 3 forks with the cakes and turned back and touch, causing more food for laughter than for our hungry stomaches', this is simply a touch to the general routine not because we do not have enough to eat, a large quantity of kelp has floated by us to day which is predicated as a sign of our being near land—Changed berths, had a bottom berth with Dr Yale—Shiped some seas—able to run our course with our yard square but Double reefed top sails <Lat  $42^{\circ} 27'$  Lon  $55^{\circ}$ >

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11th wed The wind headed us off last night and commenced blowing a severe gale about 12 oclock last night and we are now lying too in the most severe gale yet—the wind blows with nothing but white foam at times, and as soon as it lulls the waves run Mountains high causing us to make some most awful lurches—About noon we discovered a sail two points off our



larboard quarter—it is a pitiful sight indeed to look at her, although we are in the same circumstances, she is perhaps three miles off she goes down at times and is not seen for some minutes then she is standing on the top of a frightful wave ready to be hurled out of sight again—she is to appearance a bark or maphrodite brig A considerable hail and snow attending the squalls—We have shiped some tremendous seas to day—our bulwarks was much damaged this morning by a heavy sea. Our steward was scalded badly this morning by a boiler of hot water upsetting while he was in the galley the Barometor has not been so low since we started as it is to day one of the darkes evenings I ever saw is to night it is truly an awful night

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July 12th Thurs Found ourselves heading SE by E with the fore sail set—the storm considerably abated, and the sea not so rough—tacked ship about 9 oclock and stood W by N, the wind dead ahead, Able to shake a reef out of the top sails—Our bark seems to stand it first rate and I feel heartily thankful to God our great protector for preserving us through such a perilous storm, it may be for our good that we are thus detained as it is said (every thing is for the best) Our storms are so frequent of late, that we think but little of them as concerns our safety. Many are talking of friends at home some of our being hindered on our journey, others care nothing about it, but make all the fun for the rest possible—on the whole I think we enjoy ourselves much better than our friends at home would think they know exactly how we are

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31

situated, but time must count our destinies, and deal us our fate as we each of us deserve. This afternoon it has commenced blowing again it blows a gale from the SW—prospects of another hard night Lat  $44^{\circ} 45'$  Lon  $53^{\circ} 20'$

13th Fri The gale has not abated yet and drifts us off N—The wind blows strong from the WSW with heavy squalls which make it rather disagreeable although the sea is not quite as rough as usual. The galley was vacated this morning caused by too many wants not needed—makeing more hard feeling among some—It seams as if a certain few of us was bound on being dissatisfied with everything that comes in thier way it



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seems impossible for any one thing to suit all—thus rendering the situation of cook disagreeable in the extreme For my part I am sick at times of such a domestic gang as ours sometimes appears. If this is not a place to be homesick in then I cannot think of one But I hope matters will righted soon which I do not expect until we have a fair wind without a gale—Captain Bottom & Mr Shailor volunteered to fill the place of Mr Atwater and made up a verry good meal for supper <Lat 43° 58' South>

14th Sat The wind ceased a little last night, the Barometor has gone up some so that we may hope for better weather. They loosed the fore-sail and shook a reef out of the main-top-sail this morning, and make some headway to the WNW, the wind still dead ahead from the SW by S. A sail was seen from aloft this morning three points off our lee bow so it seems we are not the only ones that have bad weather I should like right well to be in New Preston and enjoy a sight at thier green fields—and warm luxurient air—it would revive this dul obnoxious feeling which is brought on by knocking about in this desolate ocean at the mercy of the waves. It is continually wet and cold which keeps us in rather colose quarters. We are all well at present but a general complaint is chillblains there is hardly one of us that escapes, some have thier feet badly swollen with it—The sea seems to abate quite fast—About 10 o'clock the wind hauled to the NW and tacked ship and was able to head SSW

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and towards night had all sail set, and quite a good run. The sun set clear to night which looks more favorable, it was the most splendid sunset I ever saw—All seem to be cheerful and contented to night <Lat 43° 30'>

15th Sun We have had a fine run all night and to day to the SSW—wind NW It is quite damp and chilly to day, one of our sailors struck a porpess this morning but did not save him but towards night the wind crept back to its old place in the SW and headed us off east more and commenced blowing as if we were to have another gale prayer meeting in the evening in the after cabin Lat 45 16, Lon 53, 22'

16th tues [Mon.] Was roused early this morning to see



a ship close along side, perhaps  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile heading the same as ourselves we ran by her at good rate she is a Maphrodite Brig, this was about 7 oclock. About 11 oclock we tacked ship and about 12 oclock we came near her but it was too rough to speak her but with thier glasses communicated our longitude by writing it in large figures on a board we could not fairly make out where She was from, but supposed her to be from Philladelphia bound to California—Our longitide was  $53^{\circ} 40'$  and thiers was  $54^{\circ} 49'$  we gave them three cheers for California which she returned then we gave three more which was answered by her and passed on—she is the same one we saw the other day in the storm, after she had passed to stand and look at her was a splendid sight the sea was verry rough as we could not see the top of her masts at the distance of a quarter of a mile—when we both struck the trough of a sea together—and to look at her one would think we had but little part of the rolling and pitching to do her numbers could not be large as there was not many on deck The weather to day is verry disagreeable being verry cold and such a strong wind the wind is SSW and the best we can head is West by North—rather slow getting along, our wood is sceerce so we are getting along without a fire, whic makes us keep in rather close quarters—and I guess closer yet before we get around the Horn  
<Lat  $46^{\circ} 14'$  Lon  $53^{\circ} 22'$ >

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17th wed [Tues.] The wind is in the old quarter yet—heading us NNW. in the morning—but in the afternoon it hauled into the South by East—letting us go SW by W. Last night was verry squally and verry cold, the squalls were verry severe and accompanied with snow & hail—the sea is verry rough to day we lay to till about 10 o'clock and loosed the Fore sail we lay to till about 10 o'clock and loosed the Fore sail with a reef and set the main spencer, and make some little headway on the last named course, at 7 in the evening they shook a reef out of the main-top-sail wind appears to lull a little which we all hope terminate favorably The senate passed a verry pleasant evening to night by listning to a yarn from Mr Stuart about a Vermonter going to Philadelphia and play-



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ing green, and fooling the watch-maker we must give him credit for giving the best yarns, as he always spices them with with a moral as well as wit & laughter—They are the finest things to pass away these long evenings with that we can enjoy, we have pretty much given up the idea of ever getting anywhere, where we wish to go so we pass the time as well as we can, some amuse themselves with Backgammon Checkers &c—Cards are not introduced into the Senate—not because we are too good for it Lat 45. 21 Lon 54° 04' W

18th thurs [Wed.] Found ourselves going NW the wind hauled a little more to the W, about 10 o'clock we wore ship and stood S but soon allowed us to go SSW which is the course we wish—set all sail and as the wind freshed a little bore away for the Islands at a good speed,—we broke out our chests to day and overhauled them a little—my clothes are good yet but many have had thier clothes badly wet and nearly spoiled—my tools have been damaged not a little with rust it is almost impossible to preserve steel and iron from rust at best not without great care I think if I were to take another sea voyage I should not go in this way—but have a place to keep things dry or not go at all—a tight strong chest is necessary to preserve goods on such a voyage as this. The sea is verry smooth to day and the day overhead is fine and to use the expression of some—it is “like the breaking up of a hard winter”—It at least is a great relief to be going along on our way again the Barometor is higher to day than it has been for the last 34 days which is favorable <Lat 55° 18' Lon 54° 55'>

July

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19th thurs The wind was light this morning from the WNW but freshed up about 11 o'clock and hauled to the North and we bore off to the SSW with our yards square nearly, and have a good run and a smooth sea, which is cheering to all hands, it is a little warmer to day than it has been. The fog has been verry thick to-day so that the horizon was not visible to get our latitude at noon, just at sunset the fog cleared away and left prospects of a continued spell of good weather—It is like a relief to us all to be able to get out on deck and be comfortable. Went into the forecandle this evening and we had the



regular comfort of a sailor at sea "that is" to sing & tell yarns all round which was interesting as well as new to me—I think the Forecastle is much the most comfortable place in the ship as far as room and convenience is concerned <Lat> 1849  
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20th fri Had a good run last night, and have been going finely all day, it is somewhat cold which is all that is disagreeable to day—The last 3 days good run has produced quite a change in the feelings, prospects & anticipations of every individual on board. It has invigorated the verry nerves of self reliance, and leaves us more agreeable to ourselves and to those around us. At 4 o'clock Our captain tells us he see's land a head but none of us can do as much but a hazy appearance about the horizon is the most we can make out we kept our course until about 8 o'clock eve' and tacked ship to prevent running too near I suppose they have put double reefs in both top sails, and have taken in the main s'l Lat 50° 03' Lon 58 40

21st Sat Tacked ship last night about 12 o'clock and are braced up sharp on the wind the morning we saw land ahead about 11 oclock and about 3 oclock was near enoug to know what part we were we found we had got to the lee of the contemplated harbor and and tacked and lay to off shore the land looks verry much on approaching it like our Connecticut shores and not so much like volcanic formations as the Cape De Verde's The shores rise suddenly from the water in bluffs of about from 20 to 100 feet and from the ship looks as if it was level on the top of them, some sort of duck are flying about the ship

Sun 22d Stood towards land about 2 o'clock last night, and this morning we saw we was in the same Spot we were yesterday when we tacked and are making harbor at the leeward quite fast we can

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see Bullock grazing on the bluffs, and Geese flying, no signs of the island being inhabited, the wind is blowing off shore almost a gale at times about 11 oclock the Captain and a boats crew went ashore and left us to stand off & on untill his arrival they took guns with them to shoot game should they find any, but



1849 <sup>July</sup> the main object of the cap'n I suppose was to examine the way the land lay—we saw a pole with something on the top of it on a point ahead but did [not] know what it meant, about 3 oclock they came off shore and they reported that they found a house which was uninhabited but they discovered a settlement a little to the left of where we were. After they came aboard we saw a large smoke on shore supposed by us to let us know where they were, we tried to work into a small bay but it [was] no use, the wind blowing to strong for us, so about dark we stood off again from land not able to anchor. About 2 oclock we saw a sail off to the leeward, she stood off shore she looked like a whaler

23d Mon We stood out last night till 1/2 past 2 oclock then tacked and stood back again hoping to be more successful to day, there are some of us dissatisfied at that which cannot be helped "ie" because we was not able to anchor yesterday We got off some ways' from the shore last night and are now makeing back with a fair steady breeze. We saw a fore & aft Schooner tacking towards shore we spoke her at the entrance of Burkleys Sound, East Falkland It was the Schooner *Page*, Captain Fisher, Edgarton, we passed the sound and stood into a fine bay, and stood along and found on two oposite points of a verry narrow passage was standing a wooden man on each point pointing into the harbor we followed the passage which was some 40 rods across in the narrowest place with kelp a kind sea weed extending from the shores but did not meet, it is said to be dangerous to get amongst as it is verry shallow On getting into the harbor it was the finest I ever saw, there was no roll no surf, it was as still as a mill pond—it is about 10 miles long and good proportion in width, and good anchorage, it would contain a verry large amount of shipping, there is a New Bedford Whaler lieing here the *Chili*

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Captain Dexter they have been out 11 months did not go ashore to day, commenced breaking out water casks and made bungs for them

24th tues Up earley and cleared away our whale boat and rafted 17 casks to take ashore to fill. No. 2 & 3 starbo'rd watch went ashore. I was among the number it is verry



rainy and disagreeable most of us took guns to hunt but for my part was glad to get near a good peat fire I did not get much information respecting the place There are about 200 inhabitants in all it is an English settlement and but 2 or 3 years old there are some English, Irish, Spanish, but verry few of them are natives, and from thier own accounts they was led here through exaggerated stories of the cattle which run wild here and was puffed with great suceess by emigrating, and many of them want to get away badly a fine harbor is all that I can see that could induce any one to settle here They seem to be of Good Morals, there is nothing to be had here except liquor, there are some wild cattle here, wild geese & ducks rabbits &c

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25th wed Staid on board and worked in the Galley at cooking helping Shailor Quite a pleasant day, many of us went ashore but not much success in the hunting line had half of a beef sent aboard which as a fresh was quite a treat. They stowed the water in the hold and must now wait till of fair wind had a time at Mr. Biggs this evening of social chatt

26th thurs Had my turn ashore to day it has been verry cold & rainy but made myself comfortable, by a good peat fire at Mr. Murrys, he keeps a kind of public grog shop which all the place of resort that is to be found here and in the evening Mr Spencer, Hopkins & Myself stoped at his house to play the violins & flute for a few of our crew and some of the islanders, who seemed verry much pleased with it—makeing many remarks of gratitude to us for the treat it gave them, there was but three single young ladies there which is all that is above the age of 17, they were verry healthy looking young ladies and seemed verry cheerful, and, in manners appeared much like our American ladies at home, Mr Murry is from Ireland he has a family and is one of the most hospitable men at heart we often come across

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27th fri Went ashore again to-day after fixing the bulwarks which was damaged at sea, I visited several families or at least was called (and to resist an act of hospitality here would be considered unkindness) and I stopped at Mr Biggs, Mr



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Wilie's, at either place it was hard to get away as it hardly seemed as if things they had was enough or too good for me they say it is so seldom that Ships come, that they are glad to see us, the children are verry healthy and, only a subject or to of rheumatism is all the sickness that is in the place. They have a school of about 20 small children, but there is no books that are calculated to make an easy access to the minds of youths, they have a chatachism which they are learned to spell and read from, and then the Bible or Testament consists of the rest that finishes thier education, they are all from a country of much learning and of course have a desire that thier offspring should have a little education. I had a few school books which I gladly parted with and which was most thankfully recieved I also made a present of a few books which seemed to do them more good than they did me, I called on Mr Moody the Clergyman this afternon, and found him in his room a snug wood building his room was verry handsomely furnished after the English stile, he appears like a verry fine man, after partaking of his hospitality, I had a long talk with him and found a true born Episcopalian, from the Church of England, they have meetings every sabbath, and nearly all are strongly attached to the church He tells me that he has been chaplain of an English Man-of-War, and was sent here some 7 years ago, there has been but few emigrants here since he first came, at times he says they come and soon dislike the place or get discontented and go away on board of some vessel. He has traveled about the world considerable and I enjoyed his stories of different parts more than most that travel he seemed much interested with asking me questions concering the United States, and thier mode of Government &c at the same time comparing his own, he had not a large quantity of books but

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but seemed to enjoy those he did have he made me a present of a verry fine Spanish Prayer book advising me to peruse closely that language as it would undoubtedly be of great advantage before I get around home again, and in the evening went to Mr Shalers and gave the inhabitants as they desired an entertainment with music at which they seemed to enjoy themselves verry much



28th sat Went ashore again it somewhat cold so that a overcoat & mittens was much needed to keep comfortable cruised about to day with Mr William Biggs and had his story about government work we cruised about went to the slaughter house and saw the lasso and balls used in catching cattle & horses, some of them are verry expert with them, the balls are thrown the same as the lasso, that is it is twirled about the head and let fly takeing whatever is aimed at about the legs and completely entangling them, making thier capture verry easy, horses are mostly catched in this way, they are made of hide cured raw, and plaited with three ends and a ball at the ends—I also saw a Spanish rig for horse riding which in part I think superior to ours, but not for convenience—and in the evening the fellows gave a supper at Mr Murrys which seemed a little like home, but a fellow about supper time rudely treated the company at which a knock down ensued but our crew was not among them, rum is the great vital failure that is prevalent here, and no company or any two can, meet, without takeing a little of the critter were it not for this I think they would prosper much more than they now do

1849  
July

29th Sun Not quite so pleasant to-day quite a snow storm last night. Went ashore again, and went to church we had a fine sermon and it was adapted to ourselves, there was some 20 of us, his text was taken from Isaiah 55th chapter 1st verse Many of the gentlemen and ladies come aboard in afternoon and took supper we intended to go to sea to day but the wind not right for us, to go out for the harbor is so sitted that a fair wind to go out with would be against us to go around the horn, but after any one gets in it is verry still.

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30th Mon. All hands come aboard, and about 10 oclock weighed anchor and and tacked untill we got through the narrows giveing the place a farewell as we supposed but after beating all day in a very severe snow storm we got nearly out of the bay but put back a little and drop'ed the anchor to lie up through the night, as we got out into the bay we found a brittish bark lieng here called the *Royal Mint*, Dundee, the cap'n and boats crew went ashore to night



1849  
 July

31st tues A light breeze this morning boat came off and we took our anchor but it a dead calm all day so that we were obliged to put back with a light breeze into a little bay and anchored we was obliged to drop our small anchor to prevent our running ashore during the day. The cap'n and mate and three or four of us went ashore but had a long pull, we stoped at Mr Biggs and was well entertained The cap'n of the English Bark died at 12 oclock to day, he died with the delirium tremens as I am told nothing can be worse than a drunken master at sea there is an English Brig here now whose master was verry much addicted to drinking he was 6 months comeing from Liverpool here, he run her aground and she is now under repairs in the harbor, there was ten passengers and to hear thier story was enough to chill the most stern, and thier chief desire is to get away from here

Aug. August 1st wed Staid all night ashore, the wind blowed almost a hurricane up to 12 oclock to day and then lulled but the cap'n concluded to not go to sea tonight and so went up to Mr Wilies and spent the evening. Cap'n Dexter was with us, we went aboard of the *Chili* and from there down the harbor to our own ship. The *Chili* is calculating to start today or tomorrow for California she will take some passengers. Also the Schooner *Page* Cap'n Fisher is to go there influenced by our comeing I suppose

2d Took our anchor this morning and with a verry light breeze went to sea we stood around to the Eastward of the Islands but the wind heads us off about eight oclock.

August

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August 3d fri Had the most crittical time last night we have yet seen being so near land we was every moment in danger of being driven ashore, about 10 oclock a squall struck us with our top Gallant sail set and continued to blow all night. We wore ship and scud away to the N. before the wind my tool chest was on deck last night, and this morning found it bottom up in the lee scuppers, it was upset by a heavy sea comeing aboard which caused a considerable alarm this morning we are heading west and are to try the west side of the Island there was no damage done as I can learn had a verry good run towards night Lat 51°, Lon 59° 24'



4th Sat Had a fine run last night to the WSW, and should judge we are the west side of the Island and have the wind far enough to the north to allow us to go a SSW course with a free wind and are leaving for Cape Horn and no mistake broke out the sun and took our tents and canvass and put it into casks to prevent thier being eaten by the rats which are somewhat troublesome to us. Water flies considerable occasioned by the vessel's pitching into a head sea which is now running it is quite cold to day which a matter of course in these lattitudes in this season, it seams rather odd to see so much cold weather at this season but do not think so much of it on account of our comeing into by degrees, but to see the sun so far to the north and so uncomfortably cold in the month of August is to most of us entirely new. The wind has increased so that they have tacked ship and stand a NNW course to prevent running into a point at the southern part of the Islands it blows a perfect gale but are obliged to carry the foresail with a reef in it to keep off land <Lat 50° 33 Lon 60° 30'>

1849  
Aug.

5th Sun Decidedly a fearful night last night, to think of our situation so near the windward shore of a desolate Island and a gale of wind to drive on, is shocking to the senses, and is worse than the lowest place on land among acquaintences, but we find ourselves safe this morning. The gale broke this morning but left a heavy cross sea, last night we shiped some terrible seas, one of which damaged our Monkey rail and stove the Galley door, they come with surprising force, and did not our worthy Bark ride them handsomely we should most certainly have our decks swept entirely

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This afternoon we made some sail and as the sea is going down quite fast things look more encourageing, and if we can clear the point we will have some sea room to work our way around the cape. My stewardship closes this afternoon rather cold weather to be obliged to take my trick at washing dishes & getting out coal, wood, &c and had I have known this would have been the case before starting from home, together with a great many more disagreeables we are obliged to put up with, the overland route or a comfortable passage in the Steamer would



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 Aug.

have been the only ones to have been chosen by me, but my consolation is that it is all in my lifetime and thus make myself quite contented. There are many things that cannot but make us feel verry uneasy, on thinking of our long passage and in consequence thereof to disappoint so many whome we have left behind works hard at times on most all of us, taking the probability of Mr Smiths anxiety now every week expecting us in California and the idea of blasting the expectation of our friends at home by the news of our non-arrival there, a long time after it being time, and then thinking ourselves not around Cape Horn yet cannot but tend to make us all unhappy much more than any of us appear to be      Lat 50° 20' Lon 60° 20'

6th Mon      Land ahead! or on our lee bow, it rises to some considerable hight,      had a fine run last night but the wind heads us off to the SE to far to enable us to clear the land. It blows a gale of wind this morning but was obliged to carry sail in order to keep from making leeway and thus get on the rocks, with the squalls that are so frequently comeing over us, and blowing so hard as almost to strip the sails from the yards, and so near land, puts a worse feeling on us than has yet come over us, but Our Captain is well acquainted with every part of these Islands and he says that a good harbor is ahead, but we had a hard chance to clear the point first discovered this morning. There has been considerable of a heavy sea, and could see the breakers some hundred feet above the surface of the water, there is no mistake but what they looked hard, and as if to be wrecked among them would be certain death

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At 2 oclock we sighted land on our weather bow and we shall make harbor quite soon      the wind is blowing strong but the squalls have left us and things look more and more favorable as we proceede. At dark we made into a fine bay near the south part of one of the West Falkland named Queen Charlottes Bay      as we enter the bay from the west there is a small Island at the left      it is covered with a small shrubby bog called tussuck      we anchored in 8 fathoms of water, the wind is blowing almost a gale

7th tues      The wind blowed a gale all night from the



South West, and has not changed through the day. The Captain and boats crew went ashore this morning and about noon came off with 42 geese 11 ducks 1 hair seal 1 prairie wolf, and had such good luck that, the whale boat & gig was soon sent off agin, filled with those who love the sport, notwithstanding the tremendous cold weather and tedious snow squalls. I have not been ashore myself but like the other Islands this is covered with peat with no sign of vegetation than a kind of tussuck and dwarf grass, there are some sort of herb grows close to the ground which is sometimes used as a substitute for tea by those who hunt cattle. There are some particulars relating to the place we stoped at before that perhaps would be well enough "ie, respecting labor they get from \$1.50 to 2.50 per day, and the land cannot be had short of 2 or 3 hundred dollars per acre thus rendering statements made to induce them to come here to live quite false. It appears that a man by the name of La Feon had chartered these Islands for the Beef that is on them, but it appears that he had enlarged the stories to those he wished to have settle here, the cattle have retired from the settlements and in order to get them they have to hunt on horseback, Beef is from 1 to 2 dollars per hundred although there are vast herds ranging on the Islands. Horses also run wild here but the breed is not considered as worth tameing, so that those used by the people here are imported from Patagonia or Brazil.—After dark our whale boat came off with 170 geese one fox or wolf the animal resembles the description of the praira wolf nearer than

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any thing I can think of. In about half an hour the gig came off with but 63 oweing to their haveing rifles had they have had shot guns hundreds would have been the result of thier mission, now this is what I call slaughtering not sporting they are so numerous that they do not pretend to hunt them but two or three surround a flock and drive them towards the boat and then shoot them down to save lugging them. They are different from the wild geese at home they are not as large and have a shorter neck and seldom fly like our tame geese. There is a tame bird called the Johny Rook that is a singular bird and one of the greatest thieves of all animals, he is sure to take any thing



1849 laid down by you, and to strike or shoot him is almost impossible  
 as he is verry quick, there was one came aboard of us to-day and  
 walked about as if perfectly at home. Mr John Ayers killed with  
 his double barreled gun 7 with one & 6 with the other, without  
 takeing down his gun he killed 66 in all, the worst is to pick  
 them which is rather hard sport it being so cold

Aug.

8th Wed The wind is SW this morning therefore shall  
 not start out to day, it is verry cold but, sportsmen are up, and  
 the boats are going ashore again, there is but little fuel aboard  
 and none to be had and if we are detained here much longer we  
 shall have to subsist on raw pork and hard Bread as nothing can  
 be cooked. Picking geese and breaking out the fore hold was  
 assigned to those who staid aboard, and breaking out fell to me,  
 we found to our satisfaction more wood than we thought was  
 possible. After breaking out, I went to stringing the geese that  
 was dressed, and strung 225 for hanging in the rigging, after  
 getting them up the ship resembled Fulton Market in numbers  
 if not in veerity, about dark the boats came off with 200  
 geese a few ducks and fox or wolf, in the afternoon we saw  
 a sea lion on the little Island of tussucks about a mile I looked  
 at him through the glass he is a monster though not as large  
 as the sea Eliphant but a more savage looking one the Boys  
 went ashore at night and set the Island on fire and routed two

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or three of them and came near getting run over by one, they  
 resemble the seal with the exception of a long maine like a lion.  
 The fire looked nice, the night being verry dark

9th thurs. The wind in the SW yet, a turn out ashore this  
 morning after wood. Myself with several went to the opposite  
 side of the Island about a mile in a bay where the southwest  
 winds blow in strong we found quite a quantity of wood of  
 different kinds. We found a ships martingal with a quantity  
 of iron on it with several other articles belonging to a ship  
 any quantity of whales carcass bones &c were lying on the  
 beach Mr A Shipman and Myself strolled some way up the  
 beach but saw nothing except where the water had worn  
 the rocks, where many curious shapes were represented, we  
 backed accross the space of a mile about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a cord and con-



cluded that had fatigued us enough and came aboard. A large seal came around the vessel and was captured and taken aboard. A part staid on board and picked the yesterdays game, a small party went to the little Island in the evening to hunt for the sea Lion they had a chance to shoot at him but he got into the water before they could do any further towards taking him. Drawed for Berths this Evening

1849  
Aug.

10th fri The wind has shifted up West, but not so as to be fair yet, therefore t'was not thought best to start out. Mr Webb with a boat load went ashore to stroll about to see what could be seen (as they said) but I chose to stay aboard. We all hands changed Berth to day, I drawed with Mr Focte, a top thwart ship berth and one I call the best In the Senatæ. There is quite a difference between the Bottom berths and top ones the latter being much the most roomy. The Goose question has been decided in the Affirmative, and of course quite abated. There has been 600 brought aboard and 500 are now dressed and hanging up around to be eaten a leisure, the wind began to haul to the North, and should have started before night had all hands been aboard I help Mr Ford put in wedges under the bowsprit, and thus prevent her leaking, there was a small quantity more wood brought off again to day, and makes quite a heap in all that we have picked up on this Island where not a bush is to be seen

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11th Sat All hands called about  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 5 to heave short the cable and got under weigh just at daylight with a free wind from NNW, we passed along the coast on our left and came to a small beautiful inlet with a high mountain on the right and a small bluff covered with large tussucks the shores resembled Long Island shores below Hurbgate the Captain called the name of the sound . . . . sound we soon passed through between the two Islands into the main ocean. On comeing out the shores are verry bold occasioned I suppose by the strong SW wind beating a heavy sea upon the shores. I can only wish our fair wind may favor for two or three days and then we are all right. The mainsail gave out this afternoon, onbent the mainsail and put the old Fore sail in its place, a first rate run all



1849  
 Aug. day, lost sight of land about 12 o'clock. While lying in my berth this evening, Mr's George S Foot & Levi Stuart have agreed before me to stop the most disagreeable of all practices "i e" chewing tobacco, for which I agreed to insert the incident in this Journal, this will show how long they stick too it, and how much self confidence they can exert Lat 58° 18' Lon 61° 18'

12th Sun One of the finest breezes we have had since we crossed the line, we have [been] able to hold a SSW course with a free wind since yesterday morning the time we started, the sea is verry smooth and the old bark is doing her part now towards getting to California. This is the first time she has had a chance to do the fair thing. And all feel as if good luck had not entirely forsook us yet, but had we not at a great risk last Monday made a harbor where we did near the south part of the Islands, we most probably should have knocked about in a verry dangerous place, and should have been driven far to the North & Eastward. I should like to see home now and catch a smell of new mown hay, and ripe harvest, and enjoy some of the ripe fruits which, are now comeing on there, and be among my friends, but I must be content with that which I have thrown myself into, as with this wind I shall soon see warm weather again and then throw off this dull feeling which at times comes over me in spite of all exertions to the contrary

August

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At 12 o'clock Staten Island was in full view, and in order to shun it had to stand a SSE course, but at 3 the wind died away & at 4 ocl'k a "dead" calm one consolation is we have kept off land and the current is off shore, so we need not fear getting ashore Staten Land or Island is a dreary looking place. The mountains look more like Volcanic formation than Falkland. They rise many hundred feet above the water, the tops are above the clouds and covered with snow, no trees are to be seen on this side but I have been told they grow some on the west side It is a splendid sight to look at. The shores rise verry abrupt almost perpendicular from the base some hundreds of feet from the water Lat 54° 18' Lon 63° 17'

13th mon A verry light run last night, but did not make



much headway last night oweing to a strong current from the S. Saw a sail off to the lee of the Island, she seemed to have a better breeze than we did she showed her Colers an American we had a light breeze, and we seemed to leave her quite fast she set her colors again we hove aback and let her come along side and speak us, she was the Bark *Smyrna* New York, Captain Williams, he sailed the 15th of May, she was 27 days from Rio, she seemed to have had a much quicker passage than ourselves. Our Captain went aboard and got papers as late as the 14th of May, which was a great treat, and the news contained in them gave us great satisfaction as to the route we are pursuing, for the news of the different routs as pursued by many to that place, are or have so many obstructions that they would overbalance the storms and many inconveniences we have to encounter on a voyage around Cape Horn. The *Smyrna* was loaded with lumber and no passengers that I could learn except 3 or 4, they seemed to be verry comfortable, the wind howls, in squalls, which strains Old *Anna* terribly at times Lat 54° 58' Lon 63° 23'

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Aug.

14th tues The wind headed us off SE but hauled around to the N and allowed us to come up to the WSW but just at night our Captain sung out that SW was high enough, at 12 oclock to day we

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was in the exact Latitude of Cape Horn, therefore we shall not make much more Southing, we was able to haul in the weather braces promising us a good run across the point. This is the verry place so much dreaded by all who aim at a passage to the Pacific around this way and for my part I can safely say we have had much better weather this side the Falklands, than we had from the Lat' of 30° across the La Platte River. Read the account [of] the riot at Astor Place New York which is horrid to think of as having taken place in that part and age of civilization We have passed our Neighbor since last night this morning she could be seen only from aloft so *Anna* is not behind, her for all she has had a quick passage, but I find it is more in planning a passage, and in taking advantage of winds than in a fast sailing craft. It is my opinion that our vessel



1849 is a fast sailor but it is my candid opinion that the greatest possible disadvantage has been taken of favorable winds which I shall explain hereafter.—Lat 55. 56

Aug.

15th wed A fine run part of the night but this morning the wind keeps us off our course more to the S the wind has been all the way from WSW to NW, to night we come up to the SW, we are far enough S and a fair wind will soon point us north, then we shall sail free, as well as feel free Lat 57° 50' Lon 63° 31'

16th thurs Cannot go our course yet the wind heading us off WSW to SW—Stood 8 hours watch for Mr Searl last night—almost a calm from 11 oclock to 6 this morning and then sprung up from the N but hauled to the NNW. It is verry cold and uncomfortable being up nights and a great many have hard colds or are ailing otherwise, but most of it is feigned, and did not so many willingly volunteer to help those who are hired for sailors, there would be less sickness. It is almost almost as Mr Nichols says, that if any one should ask him which is the most sickly place he ever saw he should tell that it was Cape Horn, but hardly ever prooves fatal to its subjects. <Lat 58° 36'>

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17th fri The wind increased to a gale—and at 10 oclock last night was under close reefed main top sails, and stay sail and continued to blow a gale all night and all day, about 4 bells this afternoon we tacked ship and stood NW the wind SW. It is tedious to day and no mistake as fast as the spray comes aboard it freezes and as we have no fire a good portion of us take to our berths and are seen only at meals, and not then unless we have something extra to eat, it is the best place after all for those that are not actually needed to work ship, and for my part have a first rate dry berth and of course monopolize pretty freely. I think that should I start for California again, I should not trust to a couple of selfish agents fit me out *comfortable* and stay at *hom* themselves, as fine stories are cold comfort, when it is as they say “All talk and no cider”

18th Sat We tacked ship once or twice during the night, the wind being quite variable. A verry cold night, and was all we could do to keep comfortable during the day we have had



all sail set, although wind is almost dead ahead as a west course is what we want, but cannot go nearer than SW by W but could not come up to that until near night. I slept but little last night owing to a hard cold, and causing a severe tooth ache, but our worthy Doctor being well skilled in the art of extracting, had it pulled. If every vessel has as few comforts & conveniences as ours I do not wonder at Cape Horn being a dread to all who attempt the route      Lat 59.30 Lon 67° 28'

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19th Sun      Tacked ship last night and have stood a WNW course all day. The sea has been verry rough to day, and blowing almost a gale, yet carrying sail so as to strain the Old Bark terribly, yet the more sail we carry the less lee way we make, this noon we was some two degrees south of the Horn, and we have some considerable westing to make yet to clear the land handsomely, decks are all ice and one of the water casks are froze up, and things generally are in rather hard condition  
 <Lat 58° 58'>

20th Mon      Last night is most a memorable night      the wind increased at night so that they were obliged to take in the Main Sail but notwithstanding the frequent heavy squalls and heavy wind they kept double reefed

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top sails and fore sail & stay sail, and it seemed at times as if the vessel must certainly be torn in pieces, but our bark stands it well yet and why we carry sail is that we may not make to much lee-way and get foul of land. The rigging is hard to look upon being cover with nearly its own weight in solid ice and where the spray has come over forward leaves a huge quantity of ice on deck. It has been so cold that one of the sailors has froze his hands while doing a duty this morning      this afternoon it is a little more moderate, and they are clearing the ice from the rigging and off deck,      we shall soon get her pointed North, then it will seem better to us all, I have heard many stories about the terrors of Cape Horn, but it is more interesting to hear stories about it, than to enjoy the realities. Tremenduous waves come towards us as if to swallow us up immediately but it is surprising to see them as it were die away as the vessel mounts them. This afternoon at 2 oclock our Captain says we



1849 are in the exact Longitude of New Haven, and for my part could  
*Aug.* almost wish myself in the same Latitude as far as comfort is  
 concerned, but such is life, and this must count, as "all in my  
 life time" so I shall let it pass at that Lat 56° 50' Lon 72 08

21st tues We are now gliding up the Pacific at a good  
 rate, last night it was pretty rough, yet we had a verry fast run,  
 and it has continued so through the day last night at dark  
 we was in the Latitude of the Cape, so we may now consider  
 ourselves as around the Horn. At night the wind died away  
 and the sea is quite smooth, and after so rough a time it almost  
 seems as if we were at anchor we have had for the past 5  
 months been contemplated the fine sailing that is always found  
 in the smooth Pacific, but like the calms in the Atlantic I fear  
 a change of wind. Stock is now rising at a rapid rate among  
 us, and calculations are now being made about riches—seeing  
 friends—hearing from home and many other things, and on the  
 whole it seems to me like as the old "Adage" says "Building  
 castles on air, (or as we term it) on gas[']", "ie" the way some  
 talk, however I am glad to think we are home-ward bound,  
 as I must say I am impatient to hear from home

22 wed The wind soothed to a calm last night, and about  
 3 oclock this morning the wind sprung from NNW, and increased  
 verry fast heading us off WSW, but the variation of the compass  
 is to the Eastward some 2½ points bringing

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our true course a little north of west, but this will make our  
 position better for a sou'wester, the wind increased to a gale at  
 night, and had to lie to

23d thurs The gale continued al night, and increased  
 till 11 oclock when it blew everything all out straight, and while  
 they were putting the last reef in the Main top sail the yard  
 broke in the middle, and for a short time things were in rather  
 hardest situation yet, for as soon as the main top sail was gone  
 the stay sail of course had to be taken in, and we laid her to  
 under bare poles, she lay to verry well but she swung around  
 considerable and shiped a horrid sea over the starbo'rd quarter  
 and as it came over I thought everything must come off deck  
 it seamed as if there was water enough in it to carry a stone



sawmill a half a day. The spanker was hauled out and that kept her more steady, we was every moment in danger of haveing our decks swept fore & aft which was rather unpleasant to the feelings, fear seamed to strike some in rather a strong manner, and, many promises were issued, by many granting that they never would never travel an inch by water, if they were ever permitted set foot in San Francisco, If they had to foot it home

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24th fri The wind is free to day and are going a NW by N course, turned to and fished the main top-sail yard and got it up about 3 o'clock, we have had a good run to day, and are now makeing our way again, much to our satisfaction, last night the spanker gaft hook broke but no further damage done. This morning our vessel looked quite crippled, our spare spars will work in to good advantage after a few more gales such as yesterday. A general good feeling is now existing among us and the farther north we get the more our anxiety is increased, as those big lumps are not quite eradicated from our minds yet

Lat 54° 28' Lon 78° 30'

25th Sat We have been running with a verry good breeze all night. This morning a sail was seen off our Starboard quarter, and soon, discovered two more one on windward quarter, and one still higher to the windward, but the first is the nearest. I help dress out a spar for Main-top-sail yard did not finish it, and I rather think we have a job planned for tomorrow, as our old yard is verry weak, and would not be of much

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service in a gale of wind, and it would be unsafe without a main top sail situated as we were the other day, as we have no main-spencer to depend upon. About 1 o'clock we hauled up and spoke our neighbor, our captain enquired for rigging a certain kind of which we were greatly in want, he told us to come aboard, at which we lowered our boat, and went on board, he came off with a coil of rigging such as was needed. The ships name is *Sir Robert Peel*, she is 10 months from Belfast, Ireland bound to Calio, she has no cargo only coal which is used as ballast, it seams we are in good luck in getting around the Horn as he has been three weeks when our time has been much shorter, he says he spoke a vessel bound to Calliforna which had tried twice, and



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was on her third pull to try to get around the Cape, she had put back into Monte-Vedio for repairs, she had over an hundred passengers on board, she was from Portland, Maine, U. S. he has seen several others bound on the same Errand as ourselves, but did not [know] where any of them was from <Lat 52° 45'>

26th Sun. A fine sun to day, our neighbor we spoke yesterday is almost hull down to the lee-ward. She gained on us, oweing to our carrying so little sail, we finished the top-sail yard to day, sent down the old one, and towards night sent up the new one, bent the sail, and double reefed it as the wind is blowing quite strong, and the sea is considerable rough, so we can feel more safe should it come on a gale. We have been running a W by S course to day, the wind about N, Lat 52° 10'

27th Mon Began to blow last night about 10 o'clock, had [to] take in the main S'l and before 12 o'clock we lay too in a severe gale, this morning the wind is not abated in the least, the sea is verry rough, the wind is NNW, heading us WSW but towards night hauled around more west, and tacked ship and headed about NE, I think the wind blowed harder last thursday, but I think the sea runs higher to day, It is truly shocking in such a time [as] this to watch the waves as they come towards our vessel it seems, (and if were we not used to seeing scenes like these) if the rugged hill-like wave must certainly bury us beneath its powerful embrace, but as it comes our bark will, by the action of side of it against her side favor it by rolling from it, and its power at the same time buoying her up, and thus allow it pass under

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and after it passes she slides off the other side, and comes up again by meeting with another and so on until the gale dies away, and if the sea is regular she hardly ever ships seas, but when a small one is proceeded by a very large one she is sometimes caught, by the small one getting her out of position for the larger and more powerful one. The ship we saw the other day had her bulwarks considerable damaged by shipping seas

28th Tues The gale is not broke yet, the wind headed



us off so much to the E that we tacked ship this morning, and headed WNW, the wind about NNE, having the appearance of hauling to the east. My stewardship commenced yesterday morning with Mr Shailor, and do not pretend to go out to wash dishes without getting thoroughly wet through, by the spray or seas coming over on us while at our task, deliver me from this way of living or set me on land in the desired spot, and when you catch me at sea again, acting in this capacity which I am somewhat obliged to here, it will be when my senses are extinct

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29th wed The wind blows a perfect hurricane this morning and did so all last night, and many who were on the watch last night, expected to see everything go for about 2 hours after 12. There is a tremendous heavy sea running to day, and it blows, steady and heavy from the NW heading us SW. Our officers and sailors all say that they never saw so extraordinary a gale as this, and the captain says there is not a voyage on record around the Horn that has had as many head winds as we have had so far, we have not had a lull long enough at once to allow us to touch a reef to day, and I can see no prospects of a change to night. It seems we are not alone in this for a large ship is about 3 miles off on our lee beam, lying to under close reefed Fore & Main top sails, and Fore & Main Spencers, she makes a verry little more headway than we do, she appears to labor hard in these heavy seas

30th thurs We tacked ship last night, and headed NNE, and blowed hard nearly all night but this morning it seemed to lull and the sea is running down fast so that we was able to make sail, we have had one or two quite heavy snow squalls this morning. They broke out some of the chests in the baggage room this morning, to get, wood, bread, &c, the chests look hard outside and some are wet inside but mine is as dry

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as any on board. I now see the propriety of having tight chests for clothes, to go such a voyage as this where they are constantly wet outside, towards night we were able to head NW the wind WSW going at a good rate over the rough seas, we [had] heavy squalls of wind accompanied with snow, which are rather severe



1849      31st fri      *Anna* done the fair thing last night, notwithstanding some verry heavy squalls      the officers allowed her to sweat at it without takeing in sail, as they are well assured she can stand it. The wind hauled down to about SW by S so that they were able to check in the weather braces a little. It seams as if our relief was at hand to have a free wind once more. But the wind headed us off to the NE, and has the appearance of comeing back NW      Lat 50° 48' Lon 80° 38'

*Aug.*  
*Sept.*      Sept 1st Sat      Last night about 11 oclock we had to tack ship, and stood WSW the wind NW and this morning are lying to in a NW gale again,      prospects of a tedious night. Lat 50° 52' Lon 81° 12'

2d Sun      Last night was a hard night it blowing verry hard, accompnyed by a verry heavy sea, and about 2 oclock this morning two verry heavy sea's came aboard and as both officers were below, made some who slept in the house on deck feel rather hard at being left at the mercy of the waves with only one or two of our inexperienced volunteers on deck to manage the ship, but fortunately she took no more seas, and in the morning the wind, died away, and the sea run down verry fast so that we were able to make sail, we tacked ship and stod NE through the day with prospects of haveing more moderate weather but at night the wind commenced blowing again so that we put her on the other tack and took in all sail lying her to in a heavy squall, to-day has been quite sunny and pleasant, but oweing to the change at night, does not seam as pleasant as a fair wind would. It hardly seams as if it was our good luck to have fair winds but wishing cannot alter the winds blowing or we should have had fair winds before this      We had a prayer meeting in the evening which seemed much like enjoying nature in her true light once more, for since we abandoned it on the other side of the Continent we have had bad weather, but wheather from this piece of negligence or not, I will not pretend to say, but it is truly interesting to have a meeting of this kind, as it gives

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one new interest, as well as remind him of days gone by which has been spent in a land where the gospel in its true light is known & felt, and besides this it alleviates the dull feeling which



is prevelant among us all. I shall be led (should we be detained about here much longer) to to feel the force of a joke of Mr. Barber when on the other side. The Captain one day got the Marine laws, and I suppose to enforce more deeply on our mind, our obligation to certain duties and honors to him, and to the ship, and makeing us out to be neither passengers, sailors, nor any thing that ever went to sea before, to which Mr Barber cooly asked what he would have us to be, he replied he did not know, (still reading farther) then say's Mr B, we must I should think be "sixty' live nothings" which excited an immediate roar of laughter "now this is pretty much the case with us, as we are where no one can help us, neither can we help ourselves" and all we can do is to get what we can to eat, and let all els go!

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3rd mon We were favored last night, with haveing the wind die away about 12 oclock and this morning are sailing a west course, the wind North yet. Prospects are decidedly better, I am now getting some better of a severe cold which has hung about me for some weeks. The weather is quite cold yet, but the days are growing longer quite fast. Every prospects for the better pleases us all, and I must say that I feel delighted that we are thus far saved from the many dangers which have surrounded us from the commencement of this voyage, about 4 oclock the wind died away and soon sprung out from the South and [we] squared away before it. The sea is not verry heavy and, about 9 oclock eve it blows quite fresh but not so as to oblige us to take in the top Gallant sail. This piece of good luck I hope will stay by the rest of the journey, but things must be enjoyed in the light they are delt out to us. <Lat 50° 55'>

4th tues A strong breeze from the S favored us all night and hauled to the W this afternoon but were able to keep our course, going at a good rate all day, a few days run like this will soon bring us into warm weather. Help hew out, our large spar, to day for Foretop Gallant Mast, such hewing as can be executed on board of a vessel diveing & rolling continually would make a landsman laugh to look at it but we can make them look workmanlike on takeing the drawing knife & Jack-plane to finish it with <Lat 48° 35' Lon 82° 58'>



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Sep't. 5th wed The wind died away last night about 10 o'clock, and at 12 o'clock it sprung up from the south, and then squared away before it again at the rate of 7 or 8 miles per hour making about  $45^{\circ} 43'$  for our latitude to day at noon. The wind has continued "S" all day, and just enough of it to make a fast run, and pleasant sailing. They broke out the Fore hold to-day for meat, wood, &c, so that nothing was done on the spar which was commenced yesterday. Our Captain is out around to day as it is so pleasant; he has been quite unwell for a few weeks past occasioned by the Bronchitis, and some of the time has been so that he could not speak aloud. Every member of the company is well, and in good spirits at present, and do not appear, as when we were tossing about in those terrible storms. They are now talking of home, friends, success, gain, profit, and all subjects to numerous to mention. And for my part shall enjoy a letter from my friends at home, like as great a piece of good or ill news, as I have ever been privileged with, I begin to think our prayers of Sunday are heard & answered. <Lat  $45^{\circ} 41'$ , Lon  $82^{\circ} 48'$ >

"6"th thurs. A fair wind has favored us all night, and during the day.—The Main Royal was sent up to-day, and set, also the Mizzen Top Mast, was hoisted up to its place. This morning a sail was discovered about 8 miles aft, she has had her studding sails all set, but has not gained more than 2 or 3 miles on us, where she ought to have passed us,—as we have not more than half as much sail on as she has, she did not come near enough so that we could ascertain to what nation she belongs. I helped on the Top-Gallant-Mast again to day but did not quite finish it. It is considerable warmer to-day. We were in  $43^{\circ} 41'$  this noon making a good run the last 24 hours <Lat  $43^{\circ} 39'$ , Lon  $82^{\circ} 08'$ >

7th fri A fair wind yet, and a tolerable run through the night. Mr Stuart made a Top-Mast-Studding-Sail to day. We finished our Top-Gallant-Mast, and sent it up to its place. It looks fine, and as if it would do a good service, preparations made for rigging the flying gib & Gaff top-sail &c. Our neighbor is off to the Eastward of us, and has not gained upon us,



but just before dark we hauled up and spoke her, she belongs to Sweden, 60 days from Rio, bound to California, her name is "Charles quint D'Anvers", a handsome ship but a slow sailor her passengers are all well, we had a fine talk sailing paralell for

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a short time, after which we gave her three cheers, and she returned them and rang her bell quite merrily for a while, at which we parted to run away from her if possible. Mr Webb set the Studding-Sail and as *little* sail as we have in comparison to hers, I think we shall out sail her, we have had quite a good run the last 24 hours, to day we were in  $42^{\circ}$  Lat, &  $79^{\circ} 50'$  Lon., her longitude was  $79^{\circ} 31'$ , but she was some 10 miles to the eastward when hers was taken Lat  $42^{\circ} 20'$  Lon 79.50

8th Sat Our neighbor is to be seen only from mast head to the West this morning. It has been verry pleasant & warm to day. There has been no wind all day I do not think we have made more than 2 or 3 miles from morn till night, and but verry little roll. It seems like rushing from mid-winter into a fine summer taking the change we have had the last few days,

we sent up our Fore-top-Gallant sail to-day and put out the flying-jib-boom, and the Sailors have been buisy regulating the riggings &c. Some of the messes eat out on deck for the first time. Lat 41.05

9th Sun It has been an extraordinary fine day to-day, and should conclude that I was not in the Atlantic from the extreme mildness which has prevailed for the last two or three days. I should know what to name these waters did I not already know its name. It has been calm all day till just at night. There has been no wind since night-before-last, but prospects of a gentle South wind. There has been a large ship off to the west of us all day but is out of sight at night. We broke our chests to day it being so verry fine many found thier clothes, damp & wet, but mine are not so much as damp. A large school of porpess came around us just at night, one of the sailors struck one but did not save him, there is a gentle breeze now from the S. We had a prayer meeting in the evening, led by several of our best

Lat  $41^{\circ} 28'$

10th mon The wind sprung up from the N this morn-



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ing and before night had to reef down, under almost a gale we stood E part of the day, but about 10 oclock tacked and stood about WNW, some thought they saw land before we tacked this morning. I suppose we are near shore. Changed berths to day  
 I drew in

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the lower cabin a middle berth, being the first I have drawn in the lower house. It seems that North winds must consequently blow heavy in these parts if what we have seen are those which are usually seen here. Lat  $40^{\circ} 24'$

11th Tues A little after 12 last night, the wind died away and suddenly shifted to the S and they squared away before it makeing all sail steering to the NNE, and have been going about 7 knot all day. We shall soon be in port with this wind. There is quite a heavy sea on and our going before the wind causes us to roll heavy at times, land was seen again to day tho' at to great a distance for most of our unpenetrating "or I should say" unpenetrating eyes. I saw by the chart to day that the Andes along shore here are all along interspersed with Volcanoes, one of which our captain say's he saw yesterday. This noon our latitude was  $39^{\circ} 30'$  nearly Lon  $76^{\circ} 28'$ . I worked to day at sewing some braid that I braided on the other side (of a kind of grass we got at the Cape Deverdes) into a hat, which will make a verry substantial one Lat  $39^{\circ} 30'$  Lon  $76^{\circ} 35'$

12th Wed Verry pleasant to-day—a light wind from the SSW until late in the afternoon when a strong breeze sprung up farther to the W, but it lasted only a hour or two, helped the Cap'n put a jack-stay on the fore yard this forenoon, and put a clete on the inside of one of the whale boats to prevent her from leaking. They bent the old main-sail this afternoon. The haze of land is to be seen to day, to the eastward To day is the warmest day we have had since we left it on the other side. Lat  $38^{\circ} 10'$  Lon  $75^{\circ}$

13th Thursd A dead calm nearly all night, and but verry little wind to day, until near night when a fresh breeze sprung up from the South and this evening are running at a good rate to the NNE. This afternoon land is plain to be seen on our



starboard bow, we are nearly in the latitude of Talcauhana our stopping place. Finished fixing the boat, this forenoon, and repaired a chest for Mr Webb this afternoon. It is quite warm to day which makes all hands good natured, and to appearance enjoy themselves. There has been as it were a general exhibition of likenesses, of friends at home, wives children & sweethearts. It is so long since we have seen our friends at home that likenesses so correct as these bring every

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line and feature to correct to a sensitive and feeling heart, it would seem almost to bring thier whole history with them, for in the verry picture of the countenance of a companion, or mother, or sister, it tells to the mind volums at a glance, and for a small keepsake, I think they far excede any thing that one who is fond of home and friends, can provide themselves with on such a voyage as this; To night just at night we got up the chains and attached them to the anchors to have them in readiness for port, which I think will be made use of tommorrow if this wind holds

14th fri A good run last night lay to from 3 till 5 oclock this morning, that we might not get by our stopping place, we are in sight of land this morning and in the distance can see the point of the bay of Talcahuana we have had a verry light breeze all day but just at night sprung up fresh from the NW and got down our anchor just at dark. There is two entrances a north and south entrance, so called, with quite an Island between. The south entrance is dangerous on account of a large reef of rocks, we therefore took the North one. The Captain of the Port came aboard after finding we were all well we got but little information from them to night, he left a hand bill containing the regulations, which are verry strict though not too much so, to preserve good order Lat 36° 42'

15th Sat Verry pleasant this morning An enchanting prospect before us, green leaves to look upon once more 'though the prospect is on the side of a verry steep hill yet vegetation is in a vigorous state and many plants similar to our own at home. I worked at making some steps for the man-rope to get up the



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side of the vessel in the forenoon and went ashore in the afternoon, strolled about the place a little. The people are mostly Spanish, though a few Americans & English are here. They seem to have a plenty of every thing, to live upon, and a plenty of money seems to be in circulation. Mechanics get \$3.50 per day, and in Conception (a large town 9 miles back in the country, good mechanics get more. Tradeing on the coast seems to be a first rate buisness here and many who are in it, and manage well get rich verry soon. The town is situated at the foot of a steep hill and built mostly of one story houses

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on account of earthquakes which are frequently felt here, there is a post set up, about half a mile from shore to designate the former location of the town, which was destroyed 14 years ago. It is a fine bay and a safe harbor There is, several ships in port here all of them traders. The English steamer touched until about a year ago, she ran from here along the coast to Panama There is considerable fruit here such as apples, but this being the spring of the year other kinds are not verry plenty. Peach trees are in the blossom also shrubbery. There is plenty of potatoes, and flower-wheat is raised in large quantities back on the plains which lie between the coast and the mountains. News from California are favorable as yet up to the first of July, news that the colera is rageing in the United States but no particulars. From all accounts there has been long passages made by others as well as ourselves in comeing around Cape Horn

16th Sun. Went ashore to-day and went back on the hills around with several others, fine prospects, every thing green to look, upon. I intended to have gone to the mass but was belated by arriveing on shore too late in the forenoon. Sunday is rather a day of pleasure, than of religious observances, no work is performed but whatever may seem to amuse any one Is generally allowed. There is a yankee from Mass'' by the name of Keen who has married a verry fine rich Spanish lady and of course may be considered one of the "upper-ten" Myself with several others were invited to his house, and his beautiful wife gave us a treat on the Piano Forte, I think she can excell many verry accomplished American ladies at the art as concerns aptness



& correctness, of time. Every evening many places (especially, liquor shops) the lower class have a kind of a dance called "Chingarno" which I suppose is to draw customers to buy thier liquor, some of them have a stage built up and a boy & girl dressed out with tinselled garments, which I suppose they think is quite theatrical

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17th mon Staid ashore all night, and in the morning came off to breakfast and went ashore again, & with several others started on foot to Conception we started about 9 oclock and arrived there about 12. The land is level

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and quite free from stone and shrubs with a few exceptions, it is uncultivated, and mostly lies an open range, it is verry fine soil for raising grain of any kind. Conception, is situated on a plain that is level and contains nineteen thousand inhabitants,

back of the town is a verry high mountain or hills which afford a fine view of the place. In every part of the city ruins can be seen caused by the heavy earthquake 14 years ago, the ruins of an old cathedral is now remaining which was perhaps the largest building on the western continent covering several acres of ground, some of the walls, and pillars are still standing as a relic of its former splendor, a new one is now building in its place but not so large, the walls are from 4 to 6 feet thick and with the exception of the governors house, the only house in the place that exceeds one story high. The walls are built thick & strong to prevent being shook down by shocks of earthquakes which are frequently felt here. There are many houses here that have most splendid rooms inside furnished in the richest and most costly manner possible, the most costly in New York could not excel them in taste & splendor, these are owned by verry rich men and not a few at that, a yankee mechanic can do well here with good behaveiour, as virtue is a scarce article among them and where it is found is cherished by all, I mean as concerns good manners and a strict regard to temprate habits in purse and person. On arriving there I found them verry buisily in preparing for their national aniversary of Independance, whic comes to morrow, in this evening splendid fire works was exhibited presenting much taste and and skill in thier



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 Sept. arraignment, two splendid brass bands of music were erected on a stage for the purpose in the centre of the square, thier music was verry fine and ingeneously arrainged. The square contains about 6 acres of ground and was surrounded with arches of evergreens, wrought for the occasion, in the evening about 17000 were collected to see the fire works, which looked like a solid mass of people, every heart seemed to glow with enthusiasm, which made its appearance through the shouting

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on every side from the multitude. They are much in favor withe Americans who are free like themselves, there were about 30 of our crew over there and marched around in military order arm in arm during the whole evening and after the fire works we gave the Chilians three hearty cheers which caused such a shout from the mass as to destry the sense of hearing for some minutes and were followed by a crowd of boys shouting for some time, shouting "bravo Americano" "Veva Chilano". The country is divided into provinces under the direction of a president and counsel, he is chosen once in five years. There is over each province a governor appointed to superintend the affairs of the public, but they fall far short of the true light of Democracy no one is allowed to vote but the aristocracy, and Church & State are hand in hand, public expense is supported by revenue not by taxation, and the whole taken as a body falls far short of the complete mode in the United States. Yet all seem to feel thier freedom, since thier declaration of independence

18th tues. Staid all night at the Commercial hotel and this morning started back to Talcahuano, about half way I overtook an ox teem drawing a covered vehicle which is thier mode of travelling here, there being no carriages to harness thier horses as we have, it began to rain and I was glad to except the offer of a ride with a gentleman and two or three ladies, we could understand but little what each other said, which to me was quite an inconvenience on arriving in town I found one of the Ladies to be a beautiful player on the Piano Forte, whose father (miser-like) has gone to California, which I suppose made them more interested in me as they are to send letters to him by me Yesterday a the Bark *Hannah Sprague* from New York



arrived here bound to California with 120 passengers on board, also to-day another from New Bedford the ship *Canada* with 6 passengers bound to the same place, and just at night a large English vessel a trader which makes the harbor seem like an interesting and buisnesslike place

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19th wed Staid on board last night, and went ashore again this morning. A part of our company worked at getting off water they got off 13 casks and some wood The wood costs \$2.50 per thousand which is in billets about 2½ feet long and as large as a mans arm. The Californians are predominant in this town at present for ½ of us could take the whole town, they are verry civil towards us and of course we can't complain. I strolled over the hills back of the town in company with Mr Edward C Anthony of the *Canada*, he is a fine acquaintance and I enjoyed the ramble verry much, the day being verry fine, we took it leisurely and talked of past and comeing events, and of our being so far from home which seemed like a miracle to us both, he has had a much shorter passage than we only 100 days from New Bedford. The Captain is a verry fine man and makes the best of everything therefore things must necesariably go on smoothly she is loaded with lumber principally for the Californian market. I went aboard at night took supper, and visited with a few others the Bark *Hannah Sprague*, & the *Canada*, and both had much better accomodations than ourselves for all aboard, on board the *Canada* I recieved Late papers up to June 7th, and a piece of delicious wedding cake from our yankee land which was a great treat. The *Hannah Sprague* is 120 days from New York I am acquainted with one passenger she sailed two months after we did and we are among the tardy race of beings who should have been first.

20th Thurs A fine day to day, lots of Californians Ashore to day. Almost every shop we go by it is "California by *jingo*" which expression was left here by one of the Panamas Company, while defending himself on being attacked by three officers he broke two swords and put the whole to flight, uttering those words which are over the whole town & country, and since they are afraid of any yankee who is bound for Cali-



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 Sept. 21st fri Pleasant, and warm to day, help rigg a leg o' mutton sail for our whale boat to go accross the harbor to a little place called 'Pinco, had a fine breeze over, with 9 in our company on arriving there we were disappointed at finding a large buisnesslike place, it has a large flouring mill with 4 run of stone which averages about

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400 bushels per day it is driven by an overshot wheel 40 feet in diameter the wheat is verry much filled with dust caused by being threshed with horses on the ground, wheat has now got to be the chief article of export and I think the time is not far distant when this part of the South American Continent will yield large quantities of wheat for exportation

22d Sat Went ashore to day and in company with two or three, took our soiled cloths and washed them, made them quite clean without the aid of boiling. The ship *Chili* arrived here to day Captain Dexter, from the Falkland Islands so it seems we have beat her some

23d Sun. A heavy rain last night, and a heavy N wind to day, went ashore and saw a man that had died, and the fixtures and mode of preparation for burial, which is strictly of the Roman Catholic faith, a day or two since I saw a man carrying a small box with a number of women and children following him which proved to be the corps of a small child all seemed to be merry on thier way to the burying place

24th Mon Went ashore to-day and tuned a Piano Forte, for the Captain of the Port (Williams) whose daughter is a verry fine player, put in two new strings and made the rest good, which gave her much satisfaction receiving thereby the kindest regards of the most influential man in the place. *I find there is nothing like trying.* In the evening several of us was invited to Mr Neisbits an Englishman who is working the coal mines here, gave him a specimen of our music which all seemed to enjoy verry much he allowed he never enjoyed an evening so well in his life, he has two beautiful daughters, besides there were several other young ladies in the place which were dressed verry rich, and handson



25th tues Ashore again to-day, most of time, visited the Piano and found everything good Cap'n Williams', daughter played while her two younger sisters danced to the music verry prettily. Commenced tuneing a Piano for Mr Keen whos wife is a good player staid all night with him In the evening I took the flute and played a few pieces of music which went first rate

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26th Wed Finished the Piano this morning which gave her much satisfaction it is seldom any one happens this way who can tune a piano, either from lack of patience, or confidence. In the afternoon was solicited by Mr Lewis from Torma about 17 miles across the harbor, and Mr Canfield to go with our music and spend the night we started about 4 oclock and arrived there about 7 in the evening, stoped at Mr Lewis an American

27th thurs Captain went down to the beach and said the wind was ahead, and was persuaded by Mr Lewis and others to stay and give the people some music which is seldom heard by the people, of this kind, ie such as ours strolled about during the day, the place is quite a village, and the flouring mill affords buisness for quite a number of people, Mr. Lewis came from the States near Bridgeport Conn, and is head miller and gets a sallary of 1500 dollars a year, the mill is kept running day & night & sunday through the year. The store-house contains more wheat that I ever thought of seeing in one heap. It seems that yankees do better here than the natives as thier, aptness is much admired by people of this country as concerns buisness of any kind, and a thourough going business like yankee can do well here, although they are somewhat prejudiced against foreigners. California is predicted by all to be the great centre from which the whole of the western world is to be benefited. There has been about 200 buildings shiped from this little place and from the vicinity of this bay something like 600 small frame buildings of about 14 by 18 is to be shipped immediately for San Francisco a good carpenter and joiner can get 3.00 per day, and some get more, vessels have been to California and do not lessen the excitement. Mr Lewis showed us a specimen of the dry and wet



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 Sept. diggings which was dug in California by some seamen while haveing a weeks liberty on shore. This evening, Mr Lewis superintended the arraignment of a party after the stile of this country, there was about 20 ladies and gentlemen assembled which were of the first order of the place, the ladies are verry beautiful and seem modest and temperate, they enjoyed our music verry much, expressing through (Mr. Lewis as interpreter) much wonder at our skill in the art, and seem highly delighted with the entertainment

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They also sung, which was accompanied by the guitar, they sing beautifully but thier music differs from ours, as thier songs seem to be of a verry plaintive cast, but exact harmony, and good time, is always observed among them we had a verry fine supper, and on comeing away, many thanks were given by them and all allowed that they never had enjoyed anything better

28th fri About 4 oclock this morning we started back to Talcahuana to go to sea, we arrived there about 7 oclock, the wind was fair for us to go out, but the company had appointed Mr Webb as Captain. The misconduct of Captain Bottom had provoked them to it, as in every port he had detained us more or less, which could not be tolerated any longer. I think that if he had cared for the interest of the company he would have conducted far different, since we have lain in port vessels have come and gone, and nothing has been in the way of our doing the same but now we shall be detained a few days longer to get things straight, Mr Nichols was chosen first mate, and Mr Salmon Second mate, Mr Stuart was chosen director in the vacancy of Captain Bottom. If anything will tend to make any set of men uneasy it is being unnecessarily detained after a long voyage, on such a expedition as this, with confidential news that the sooner we are there the better

29th Sat The wind being N strong, cannot go out to day. We are to take three Frenchmen as passengers from here to California, they appear like fine fellows. Dudly E. Taylor has left the company and is to go up in the ship *Chili*, also Mr Patch and his wife have gone ashore to stay, which is all our good luck I went ashore to day and strolled about hopeing and wishing to



have the wind change so that we might be on our road again, as we shall start as soon as the wind favors, the Directors are doing the clean thing, and for the first time have taken thier proper position in this company. I see I have forgotten to mention the *Neom Keag* from Providence she sailed the 3d of March makeing her passage much longer than ours, she is bound to California and I hope she may have a quiet passage the rest of the way

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30th Sun. A head wind this morning, and considerable rain. As north winds seldom last long here it will not stand in this quarter a great while it continues to blow at night

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1st Mon. The wind is N yet but has abated it has hauled several times to day to the Westward, and about 1 o'clock the passengers and Captain Webb came aboard and are all ready to go to sea, hove short the cable but the wind came out of the Northward again, but in the evening it came around to the S, so that I think we can go in the morning no going ashore to-night, as it would break the clearance. It is a beautiful moonlight evening and every thing is still except the distant bustle of the town, which renders every thing pleasant. Our directors have made some new arraignements as regards each mans duty the rest of the voyage as a set of fellows who are not mechanics are appointed to regulate the affairs of eating department, so that those that can work at the steamboat, washing machines &c have that for thier part, so that it affords all something to do, which will tend to save hard feelings among us

2d tues Verry pleasant this morning, with a light breeze from the S, weighed anchor a little after daylight, had a verry fine breeze out of the bay. The *Nahum Keag* weighed anchor soon after we did, and stood out a few miles behind us but as soon as we got outside a strong breeze favored us and we was soon out of sight of her and the land also, standing a NW course with a free wind the sea is considerable rough, yet *Anna* has done the "clean thing" to day all day. Our new passengers are considerable sea sick as well as many of our own company but sea sickness is short and beneficial as considered by many, but not verry nice to take



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3d Wed A fine run last night, and it has continued through the day. It now seems like getting to California more than usual. Every[thing] goes on pleasantly now. Captain Webb gave out a new system of regulations which I think are good and agreeable to all. They are these that from 8 in the morning till 4 in the afternoon we no games for diversion played on board, that we have three regular meals per day, and that twice a week we all assemble and have a public prayer-meeting, and from 4 till 8 P M, we can diveret ourselves just as we like such regulations as these I think are far better than too many not adhered to at all, another great relief is I have heard no swearing since we left port by any of the officers. Mr Salmon is quite unwell to night

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4th thurs A good run the last 24 hours, steering NW by N with the yards square and to day near night we think we have struck the SE trade winds which will ensure us a good run at least to the line, help work at some knees for the Steemboat a little to-day which is the first stroke towards finishing all we have planned to do aboard on this side before arriveing at California. Our Generous Captain put up a board to day on which the Latitude & Longitude is marked that we may all see, which I think is some different from Cap'n Bottums selfishness. It has been quite cloudy all day but it grows warmer every day which is plainly percieved by all Our Latitude to day is  $31^{\circ} 06$  South Longitude  $75^{\circ} 48'$  West

5th friday We are now no doubt in the trade winds and are takeing the advantage of them. Our course is NW by N, and our yards are square with a strong breeze But few of cape pigeon are now to be seen, the wind is chilly yet but we are, stretching away to warm weather finely. Our decks to day looks like quite a ship-yard, as, the knees to our steemboat have been in the works to-day, and are nearly finished, Lat  $28^{\circ} 50'S$  Lon  $77^{\circ} 44\frac{1}{2}'W$

6th Sat Our breeze holds good yet, to-day we throwed the Log a her slowest speed and found we were going  $5\frac{1}{2}$  per hour. I have worked to-day at repairing our jolly boat and cleaning up my tools a little I find them injured some by rust, but



they are not rendered unfit for use yet but have lost thier brightness, I over hauled my clothes, chest to-day and found everything as dry and nice as the day they were packed and I think pile looks as if it would last me two such voyages as this We have been steering NW by N until after they worked the Longitude then hauled up to NW. Lat  $26^{\circ} 35'S$  Long  $78^{\circ} 46'W$  from Greenwith

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7th Sun Not much wind to-day, but a fair run, just at night the wind sprung up quite fresh from the S and are now going at a rapid rate, had a meeting on deck to-day and a sermon read by Cap'n Ford which was interesting This evening we had a prayer meeting. Things go more pleasant now, as I think the one who has been the means of preventing exercises of this kind is left behind

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To-day is a day that is well callculated to lead our thoughts away to those friends we have left behind, and renews an anxiety to get to a place we can hear from them but no doubt they [are] as anxious about us, and from the length of time since they have [heard] from us, many no doubt have thier fears about us, but here we are safe "as it were", gliding up the pacific at the rate of 9 knot per hour which to us is interesting and may we be prosperd speedily and allowed to return home, which will be the happiest time in my life. A new bird called the Booby has made its appearance to day, it is verry like the Abtrross but not so large with a straight awkward bill Our course to-day is NW by W. Lat  $24^{\circ} 43'$  Long  $80^{\circ} 11'$

8th mon. Cloudy to day, and warm, I worked at rabeting the stern piece to the steamboat to day a part of the day, finished my hat this afternoon which is got up in good shape and looks well after considerable patience on my part in manufacturing it. All in good spirits to-day Mr Stuart rigged out a lower studding sail which helps considerable, to night a fresh breeze has sprung up, which happens every night about dark, our course to day has been NW by W, which makes a true NW course as there is one point variation in the compass here Lat 23.11 Lon 81.50

9th tues Warm and pleasant to day. They broke out



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the fore hold and got out the stuff for the boat. One cask of our beautiful dried peaches were dumped overboard to day because we thought the cask worth more for other uses Mr Stuart commenced the tents to day which are yet to be finished. This afternoon we [saw a] sail but she was bound the other way and was soon out of sight—We drawed for berths this evening which is the last time I shall take my hammock after this, much anxiety now exists throughout the company to arrive at our journeys end as it seems the nearer we get to it the more interest is excited among us, the general news recieved at the last port respecting the gold, and the impatience to hear from our friends at home leads us to anticipate it with interest Course NW by W. Lat  $21^{\circ} 47'$  Lon  $83^{\circ} 32\frac{1}{2}'$

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10th Wed A strong breeze to day which takes us along at a good rate. Changed berths to day, I hope for the last time as moveing of this kind is not so agreeable to me as some other things. I worked at frameing splices in the kelson to the steamboat, with Mr Brockett to set out for me. Our SE trades are strong here, and wafts us along finely which tends to impres good feeling on us all, we had a prayer meeting in the after Cabin this Evening which was quite interesting To-day they rigged the old foresail over the quarter deck which will be a great comfort to us during the hot weather. Most all trades are to be seen going on among us every day now The Blacksmith are buisy at the forge making iron work for the boat, and the Carpenters are scattered buisy at the same concern Mr Baldwin is Coopering makeing pails and and small kegs to use in the diggings or wherever they may be wanted. Mr Potter is at work at harnesses for drudge horses, Mr Stuart at makeing tents for our shelter in the country, and our machinist Mr Ellis at preparing the engines for operation and the sailors are buisy repairing the rigging about the ship, and haveing us all at work together, makes a buisy crowd, and about as thick as we can work conveniently Our course is NW by W, the wind SSE

Lat  $20^{\circ} 16'$  Lon  $85^{\circ} 22'$

11th The wind holds strong yet, and about middle afternoon hauled up to ESE, and accompanied by showers of rain.



I worked at kelson and finished frameing it Mr Wilder began on some wheelbarrows to day to use when we get to work on land. We have done the clean thing the last 24 hours. Our course has not altered from NW by W. Our Lattitude to day is  $18^{\circ} 35'$  Longitude  $87^{\circ} 33'$ . 1849  
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12th fri A good run the last 24 hours, the wind holds strong in the SSE. The sea is rough to day causeing the ship to roll considerably They broke out the baggage room to day to get iron for various purposses. They altered thier course to NW by  $N \frac{1}{2} N$  a part of the day but brought again to NW by W at night Lat  $16^{\circ} 19'S$  Long  $89^{\circ} 11' W$

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13th A strong trade wind yet which causes us to go ahead and no mistake. It seems as if our good luck had but just commenced and if it only stays by until our fortunes are completed, our former ills will be forgotten, and will only serve as a period to speak of in after days. Mr Albert M Shipman is verry sick with the billious fever, he was quite sick yesterday but is more easy to night I help rigg a lathe to turn the iron cranks to the steamboat. Course to day NW by W wind SE by E Lat  $14^{\circ} 28'$  Lon  $90^{\circ} 38'$

14th sun. A good run the last 24 hours, doing the clean thing towards getting to California some squalls of rain towards night. Considerble of a heavy swell on to day We had a meeting in the after Cabin to day Mr Ford read a sermon, and prayer meeting in the evening Our course has been NW by W the wind SE by E Lat  $12^{\circ} 35'$  Long  $93^{\circ} 30'$

15th mon— A heavy sea rolling today, and a strong breeze which takes us along in a hurry, squalls of rain with a slight increase of wind have been frequent to day. I work worked at makeing a cut-water for the steamboat to-day and a block for the Figure-head, every day now brings us nearer our stopping place, and every heart seems to grow brighter at the effect it gives, it will relieve many an anxious mind, both among us and our friends, letters from home are probably in waiting for us, and these if nothing more is enough to make us long to see the end of our journey. To think how disappointed Our Presi-



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dent Mr Smith must be at our not arriveing, and the anxiety and impatience he must be laboring under, excietes a sympathy among us all, but this wind will shortly bring us to an understanding and I hope we may reap again at last, that we may forget our misspent time The wind holds its old course yet SE x E, Course NW  $\frac{1}{2}$  W. Lat  $10^{\circ} 44'$  Long  $95^{\circ} 32'$

16th tues. A good run yet. Considerable sea to-day. We passed under the lattitude of the sun to day makeing it directly

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overhead at noon. I think it will be a long time before I see it north of me again, and more likely never. The weather is quite cool yet oweing I suppose to the strong southerly wind, but should we be becalmed I suppose it would be severely hot. Finished the cutwater and helped Mr Brockett on Figure-head. Mr Downs is at work turning the shafts to the boat. Mr Barber is getting up brands and stamps to designat the companys name, on articles that belong to us, and everything is doing that can be done on board. The Wind holds SE x E yet, our course has been NW to day Lat  $8^{\circ} 23'$  Lon  $96^{\circ} 59'$ —Imperfect

17th Wed The wind had the appearance of dying away this morning but soon freshed up and became strong again throughout the day Work going on as usual to day. I began on some wheels for wheelbarrows but had a hard sight to get the lumber suitable for them, as our stock for such use is nearly exhausted. The weather is getting rather hot but not so as to be uncomfortable, one of the dogs died and was thrown overboard to-day Our course has been NW The wind SE by E  $\frac{1}{2}$ E Lat  $6^{\circ} 30'S$  Lon  $99^{\circ} 45'$

18th Thurs Verry warm to-day though cool under awning. A fine run to-day the trade wind holds good yet. A splendid sunset which was accompanied with the New Moon, had our music out on deck, which is not bad on such a pleasant evening as this, our Captain make a remark to me that a fair wind and such music, would make any company feel new spirits "says he" it puts me in mind of home and friends there that he could enjoy happily a few moments with. There is many a heart on board that will bound with pleasure when we arrive in sight



of our destined port, where they are to receive letters & news from home. The past 7 months have almost obscured our former existence in one sense, shut out from, home, friends, and society all of which we had been highly privileged with, before, were now given for this little, floating home

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out on the broad ocean where communication could not be enjoyed with any one but ourselves, where naught save a frail plank stood between us and certain death, where the awful elements could raise their voice, in the presence of us weak and feeble beings, who are not able so much as to raise a syllable against their powerful Violence In this I can safely say that for me there are no luxuries at sea, nothing of that pure enjoyment which is felt and known among friends, nothing that can elevate and purify the very heartstring of true happiness, and make Our intellect work out the grand problem of our Nature as given us by God himself These thoughts are now realized which perhaps would never have been, had I remained at home, therefore I must call it a profitable period in my existence, one that has taught me a lesson of forbearance and patience with what I enjoy in the present moment Our course has been NW by N, Wind SE by E  $\frac{1}{2}$ E Lat 4 18. Lon 101° 05'

19th fri A very pleasant day, a fine wind to interest us yet hoping that it may not leave us this side of San Francisco. Much interest excited among some, as to the just and proper management of affairs after arriving to our post of duty. Many doubts arise as to the just manner in which the agents have treated us, and many are for forcing them to justice, which I think will eventually be the case, but what is said here can amount to nothing unless it have future influence, worked at the wheelbarrow finished one wheel which gave so good satisfaction they will take half a dozen such Some of the fellows caught a fish called skip-jack to day which weighed some 6 lbs it was most excellent eating when cooked. Our SE trades will have to leave us soon to do it this side the line. Our course today has been NNW, wind SE by E Lat 2° 02' South Lon 102° 20'W

20th Sat A very light wind near morning, but freshened



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up a little after noon, and afforded five or six knot an hour, our sailors say it is not common to go as far North as this without haveing more

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Good news

calm weather, but it seems to favor us finely, we crossed the line this afternoon at 3 o'clock in  $103^{\circ} 21'$  Longitude, it has not been uncomfortable could work verry comfortable in the sun, worked at getting out felloes for wheelbarrow wheels, have to pick up stuff for them where I can find it, take old barrel heads for spokes, and hew the hubs out of round sticks, I rather think I can shirk for myself pretty well after going through a campaign in the New Haven and California Joint Stock company, in the woods or any where els, should necessity drive me to it. There is quite a strong current setting westward on the line here which allows us to keep nearer a N course. The wind to-day has been E by S, our course N by W. Lat  $0^{\circ} 16'S$  Lon  $103^{\circ} 17'$  West—2771 miles in 18 days

21st Sun Our South winds hold good yet, and have every appearance of keeping so, as yet. It has been cloudy most of the day, and quite warm, but [not] so as to be uncomfortable. We had a meeting on deck, and a sermon was read by Mr S M Shipman, and a prayer meeting in the evening in the after cabin. A sabbath now seems more like Sunday than it did around the vicinity of Cape Horn, but still there is a difference between a sabbath here and at home. Verry pleasant under our awning, some are prepareing letters to send home Our course to day has been N by W. Wind S. Lat  $2^{\circ} 15'$  North Lon . . . .

22d Mon. To day has been verry warm, many clouds were hovering this morning which terminated in a cloudy day and occasional showers, and towards night turned into a steady rain

I did not work much to-day as my tools were in quite a hard condition—already without exposing to rust if it can be avoided The wind continues southerly yet and quite a good run the last 24 hours, these squalls will probably change the wind before a great while. The sun was obscure at noon so that no lattitude was taken at noon Our course has been this forenoon N by W, this afternoon North, the wind mostly SW by S. No observation



23d Tues. Warm, to day, and many squalls of rain, the wind has shifted several times all the way from S to West

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23d Oct

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We was becalmed once to day for about  $\frac{1}{2}$  of an hour, and have been going at a tolerable fair rate the rest of the time I forgot to mention yesterday of our catching a porpess but in eating some sausages this morning made of its flesh, which was nice and palatable, put me in mind to mention it. To day they hooked a large shark but missed him with the harpoon and lost him. The clouds to day seem to go one way and we the other which is a strong indication of the NE trades, but this evening we are whizzing with the wind SW Our course to day has been N & NNW & NW by N Lat  $6^{\circ} 03'$  Lon  $103^{\circ} 40'$

24th wed The sea has been verry rough to day. The wind variable but mostly South. This morning early a sail was seen about 4 points on our larboard bow and it was plain we were gaining on her fast, so the captain altered our course a little that we might get her longitude about 10 oclock we were up with her and exchanged longitudes, we varried but little, which was proof for our chronometers correctness. She was a Hamburg bark with a narrow red strip around her waist, her name was *Oberon*, we passed her but not without her makeing all sail to try to keep up, we had no extra sail but at night she was hull down completely out run, many are getting up sling-shots, myself among the rest but I hope we shall never have occasion to use them, but we must all do something to pass away time for we are so near the end of our journey that time passes slowly away. A hard shower this evening which poured down instead of dropping, strong indication of NE trades Cours NNW Lat  $8^{\circ} 18'$  Lon

25. A fine wind to day. It proved a thing true, that last night after the shower we took the NE trades, quite strong, tinkered a little to day for myself, with a number of others rather

25th con

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to rough to get around the stuff for working, they broke out the fore hold to day and stowed some of the stuff away that was finished. Course NW by N Lat  $10^{\circ} 52'$  Lon  $106^{\circ} 14'$

26th fri The wind to day is verry light, and some of the



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time to day almost a calm but no time but that she had steerage way, some of the fellows went in swimming this afternoon by takeing rubber beds. It has been the hottest day we have seen in the Pacific to hot to be comfortable, our water is rather warm but not bad yet worked at makeing a joint for my flute, but whether I shall succeed or not, remains to be decided. Our course to day has been NW the wind NE by E Lat  $11^{\circ} 52'$  Long  $106^{\circ} 40'$

27th Sat. Verry light winds, and verry warm, make but little headway, not an entire calm, one or two sail seen this morning from aloft. Tinkering going on as usual, some doing it up with a large display of genius. What wind we have had to day has averaged NE. Course NW. Lat  $12^{\circ} 58'$  Lon  $107^{\circ} 40'$

28th Sun. A fine day, but verry warm, our light wind lasted till to day about 10 A M, then freshened to a good 6 knot breeze, and are haveing a fine run at night, this afternoon we had a meeting on deck and a sermon read by Mr Barber, and a prayer meeting in the evening Many times to day as most of us has been noiselessly lounging about the vessel, and as we are slipping without noise through the smooth sea, has my mind been back to Old Connecticut—thinking of her many privileges and of friends there who would undoubtedly offer up prayers in our behalf, and who perhaps are anxious about us, and wondering what can have become of us, and who will be happily surprized at hearing we are safe, and all well. Many prayers from us in thier behalf are both publicly and privatily offered, and undoubtedly should prosperity attend us, and we be allowed to return safe

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to them again it seems as if we should all know how to enjoy life better than we ever did before. But we are fast nearing our destined port, and as we have reached the coast of Mexico and are gently sailing up its coast may nothing obstruct our safe arrival Our course to-day has NW x N, the Wind NE Lat  $13^{\circ} 48'$  Lon  $108, 41'$

29th mon A good breeze all day, and rather to warm to be comfortable last night the boys caught a porpess, and to day they have been plenty but none taken. Any quantity of tinkering going on not much, work. Finished the joint to



my flute, and it proved to be verry perfect in tone which was proved by trying it with Mr Spencer, verry pleasant moonlight evenings, first rate nights to sit on the rail and tell stories many of which are interesting to hear, and then it is pleasant, to muse alone, and many times anticipation works deep upon the mind, and reflections on the past the same thoughts of the present, and of the future all huddle themselves on at a glance, but soon vanish Course NW x N, Wind NE x E, Lat  $13^{\circ} 31'$ , Lon  $109^{\circ} 41'$

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30th Tues A light wind most of the night, but a strong breeze all day. The sea is smooth and the swells are are not heavy which makes it as pleasant as need be. Nothing of much notice to day, this evening quite a number of Boobies came around the ship, and many alighted on the end of the Fly-Gib Boom and among the rigging appearing very tame and domestic, they are so tame any one with care can go close enough to catch them Our course to day has been NW by W wind ESE. Lat  $17^{\circ} 01'$  Lon 111, 22

31st wed A verry strong breeze the last 24 hours and a good run They broke out the baggage room to day which has been the principal buisness of the day Things go on pleasantly nowadays

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many are prepareing letters to send home which is considered a great privilege by all, it haveing been so long since we were in a place we could send home. Our course to day has been WNW & NW by W Wind NE by N Lat 18, 12 Lon  $113^{\circ} 48'$

1st Thurs A verry strong breeze all day, and towards night increased so that they took in the Royal, and Fore Top-Gallant Sail. Last night about 11 o'clock we saw land about 8 miles to the westward of us, one of the Revilagigedo group, mechanics turned to again to-day to finish jobs such as can be done on board the vessel, but rather to much pitching and diving to work to advantage, we have been braced up close on the wind and have been whizzing all day on a NW by W course. Wind NNE. Lat  $19^{\circ} 23'N$  Long  $116^{\circ} 16' West$

2d Fri The wind was strong all night, and going along



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finely to day, the wind has headed us off a little, but soon come back to our course. The sea has been considerable rough but more even at night. Worked at finishing up the wheelbarrow wheels. Our course to day has been NW by W Wind mostly N & NNW & W by N Lat  $6^{\circ} 03'$  Lon  $103^{\circ} 40'$

3d Sat The wind headed us off last night about 2 oclock, and gradually came back during the day but our longitude is so near made that a nearer N course will probably be taken on a change of wind. Worked at finishing the wheels all that can be done to them at present. Cloudy this afternoon so that no longitude was [taken] prospects of rain, grows cool fast, a full suit not uncomfortable at night. Course varying from W to NW Lat  $21^{\circ} 25'$  No Lon taken

4th Sun Quite cool to day, and soon will have to resort to thick cloths again. The wind has allowed us to avarage a NW course but sometimes heading us off west, and again allowing us to come up NNW. We had a meeting this afternoon, and a prayer meeting in the evening. The wind to day has avaraged NNE Lat  $22^{\circ} 09'$  Lon  $121^{\circ} 25'$

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5th Mon An avarage breeze to day, and about the same old routine of tinkering as usual, all we lack is materials to make a great many curious things, genius seems to be prominent in this company and a general desire to bring it to light. We are in the exact Longitud of San Francisco. We have avaraged a NNW course to day with the wind NE x N Lat  $23^{\circ} 24'N$  Lon  $122^{\circ} 14'W$

6th tues Light wind. The weather moderate. Captain Webb showed me how to get the differenc of time between ours and Greenwich Our course to day has been NNW, Wind NE. Lat  $24^{\circ} 32'$  Lon 123, 40

7th wed Verry light winds last night, and variable to day. We had a general overhauling of the chests, and a thorough search of every mans goods for things that were missing, and as many suspicions were resting on some, it was thought best to have a thorough search, but nothing with one or two exceptions was found. A few rain squalls headed off this forenoon to the NE by E but at night tacked ship and headed WNW, Wind N Lat  $25^{\circ} 11'$  Long  $123.17\frac{1}{2}$



8th thurs Cool to day, with heavy winds, have been braced up sharp all day and could make no better than a NW course but at 8 bells evening she came up NNW. Had a letter stamp engraved by Mr Barber, which is verry nice. The wind has been NE x N Had to take in the Flying Gib and Fore top Gallant Sail Lat 26° 00'

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9th fri Pleasant to day, with light winds. This morning we saw a sail, about 10 oclock we came up with her about 2 miles to leeward, and exchanged signals she showed her private signal which was blue—a white ball—and the end red. An American ship probably bound to California, but at sundown she was directly in our wake hull down, drew for berths again this evening which I hope is the last time. The wind heads us off WNW at night W from N to NE x N Lat 27° 14'

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10th Sat The principal part of the day has been squally, and towards night the wind blowed hard, and they took in the Main-top-Gallant Sail for the first time since we left port, the wind indicates a gale Made a pattern for the felly to the Steering wheel to the Steamboat, and help Mr Brockett get out a part of it They took down the awning to day Changed Berths to day, I drew a top larboard athwart ship with Mr David Ford. At 8 bells the Wind seem not so strong as in the day-time the Wind is NW by N tacked ship at night and stood W by S Lat 28° 00'

11th Sun. Wind ahead, what has been to-day, verry light most of the time, had a meeting in the Cabin to-day and prayer meeting in the evening. Course most of the time WNW

Wind NNW Lat 28.45 Long 124.45½

12th mon Eight months to-day since we commenced this voyage and not to California yet, though the prospects are fair, a verry heavy swell on to day which causes us to roll heavy, but at night a breeze sprung from the SW, and held for an hour or two then left us again, finished my Letter Stamp today Our course to day has avereaged NNW, hardly a steerage way till near night Lat 29° 34' Lon 124° 24' West

13th Tues. The wind is strong this morning, and had to begin to shorten sail before noon, at dark we were carrying sail



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as much as she could stand and the sea was more and more rough and the gale increased they close reefed the Fore Top Sail and double reefed the Main top Sail, and the Staysail, Fore Sail & Main Sail, and it was thought the wind lessened a little, they throwed the Log and she was going  $8\frac{1}{2}$  knot per hour on a NNE course, and the wind NW by W but it was thought best to heave her to. Lat  $30^{\circ} 46'$  Lon  $124^{\circ} 20'$

14th Wed. They wore ship several times last night, but this morning the wind hauled around a little more to the west, and we set, the Fore Top sail close reefed and could head a good NE by N course, but about 3 oclock wore ship and stood West South West. The wind still continues NW, the wind is falling away at 8 bells Lat  $31^{\circ} 38'$

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15th thurs The wind died away this morning, but is still ahead so that we cannot go our course. They split the mainsail, and tore the Fore Top-sail last night but both might have been avoided had it not been for carelessness. We could not go our course, and kept a West South West course, but there is not wind enough to make much headway, wind NW by N have made some southing since yesterday Lat 31. 26.

16th fri A light wind to day from the west, the sea smooth, wrote a little in letters for home, saw a ship standing south hull down to the leeward, a good day to tinker and a plenty of it going on Our course to day has been N by W  $\frac{1}{2}$  W the wind West Lat by North starr at 6 evening  $32^{\circ} 00'$  Lon 124. 22

17th Sat Had a fine wind in the morning, and headed N by W but towards night the wind shifted up NW and headed us off and we tacked ship light wind, this morning we saw a sail to the westward, we set out colors, towards noon and found her to be what we though a Sweed bound on the same course as ourselves, help the Cap work out a lunar this evening from Saturn & the moon Lat  $33^{\circ} 46'$

18th Sun Hard times again, but from a different scourse from what any of us expected.—This morning about  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 2 oclock, we tacked ship and stood North, with prospects of the wind fair which sprung up a light breeze from the west About



3 oclock we were all suddenly awoke by a tremendous crash forward as if evevery splinter that could be broken loose from us was about to be severed, I sprung out, and found that the ship we saw yesterday was upon our decks crushing our bulwarks in a terrible manner, with her bow, at every surge of the sea. It appears that from, bad management from us both, the watch who were on the lookout, were looking the wrong side for danger. As we had just tacked ship we were on the larboard tack our boys we[re] looking to the windward when the affair took place our officers had just cautioned that a good lookout must

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be kept, and if her lookout had been attending to thier buisness it would have saved running into us, it appears that her jib boom first took our flying jib and jib and stay sail and split them all three and caught the spring stay and snap't it, which injured or broke thier fly jib boom, then run through our foresail splitting and mangling it, when her cutwater struck our starboard bows just right for the anchors to do the chawing This caused her to pay off a trifle and brought up again with her remaining bowsprit between our foremast and fore shrouds then swung round wringing her bowsprit, entirely off and at the same time caught her jib boom guys and bob stay in our anchor and crushed our bulwarks clear to the deck stantions and all and for a moment both vessells were in danger of being disabled we finely cleared her by cutting her stays which was holding her close on to us and at every surge chawing, "as it were," our bulwarks and upperworks in an unmerciful manner we all exerted ourselves with planks levers scantling &c in pushing her from us and as soon as one of our men jumped aboard of her and cut the stay that was fast to our anchor which had by this time caught by one fluke round a stantion which held it fast, after this was done she payed off and we were clear. It was evident we must leak, and the pumps were every few moments tried and the well sounded but 8 inches of water was all that was found, so concluded we were not in a verry dangerous condition, it did not happen to injure a spar on us except the sprit sail yard, and the whole time we were together was about 20 minutes, she stood off about a mile and hove to and we waited till day light



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when she ran down to us and we sent a boat aboard after our man, and found her to be a Hamburg ship, Named *America*, she had sailed from London with a few passengers for California 40 days out from Valparaiso, our anchor had nearly knocked a hole through her bottom near the waters edge but had not produced a leak, she lost her jib boom entirely and a part of her figure head, which was all her damage. In the morning we found we were not injured below the waist, or deck, and but one of the chain plates broken which after bending the spare sails in the place of the injured ones, we were not injured as far as the sailing was concerned, we went immediately at work and began repairing as fast as possible before night we got the outside so that she would stand considerable of a sea

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We picked up the peices, and found nearly all, but most of them were so badly mangled as to rendered them unfit to use again. I was disappointed at the coolness, manifested among us during the whole time we were in contact, no one was badly hurt and but one had his fingers jammed and on the whole less damage than could be expected, had we not have been favored with a light wind we must have been imediately sunk without hardly a chance for saveing a single life, and perhaps have sunk her at the same time. This mus be reconed a verry narrow escape. I thought nothing about danger untill we were clear, then it shocked us all to think how near we had been to immediate death This afternoon the wind freshened considerable and we stood a NNW course with the wind W by S Lat 33. 46 same as Yesterday

19th Mon A good run last night with a fine breeze, the sea looks a little asif we were on soundings, some land birds are to be seen, tommorrow we shall make land with a good wind, and I hope we shall be able to drop the anchor in the bay of San Francisco, this afternoon we squared the yards and headed more to the East the wind has been about W by S Course this morning NW this afternoon NE by N Lat 36. 10 Lon 123. 59.

20th tues The wind verry light and the horizon verry thick, so that objects could not be seen at a great distance saw a maphrodite brigg standing in the same as ourselves, and two



other vessels, but the wind too light to attempt making land and harbor, so had to stand off with the wind SE which the two others were doing, had the breeze been strong could have made harbor easy, but it is too late to try it to day, so at night are standing off

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21st Wed Wind shifted into the North rainy and a thick fog this morning Stood out last night till 2 o'clock this morning and are now heading east About 10 o'clock the fog clears away a little and at 8 bells a cry of land ho! is joyfully cried fore & aft but the wind is blowing directly out of the harbor so cannot to day unless the wind changes and gives a good breeze could plainly see the reef about 6 miles from us on our larboard bow. The wind blows directly out of the harbor and so it is no use to try to make the harbor

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to day, at night the wind continued E of N, and stood off and on during the night the wind blows strong and a heavy sea running, but but the wind hauled in the NW, about 10 o'clock in the evening.

22nd Thurs'' Are standing in shore this morning, under double reefed fore-top-sail fore-sail and single reefed main-top-sail, and the wind blowing a gale from the NW, and sea rough, about 1/2 past 8 A M we discovered the reef 1/2 a point on the lee bow in the distance with the weather growing more moderate, we near the harbor fast At 1/2 past 2 o'clock we entered the harbor by the Fort which is about one mile wide, there is some singular rocks as we near the entrance, which will never be forgotten when once seen, one shows a complete arch, and two rocks are plain to be seen as we enter the harbor, as we enter the harbor every one is filled with the high of enthusiasm, as the mountains and valleys look fertile altho it is November, the prospect as we near the town the shipping looks like a forest, we anchored before we gained a sight of the city and our boat went ashore to gain news, and returned without anything but a couple of papers which contain favorable news from the diggings. The first note that came to our notice was a couple of fellows in a boat offering to carry a few of us ashore (about 1/2 a mile) for \$2.00, and no change less than a dollar.



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 Nov. pensation for a jurors labor per day

23d fri Went ashore to-day to see the town and learn the fashions and for my part must confess this is a "*great country*" for there is people here almost without number, and looks like a townmeeting or a general Training. The place consists of any thing for a house, and any quantity of tents pitched in the vicinity of the village. The town lies on a side hill and it is beyond anything I ever thought, and almost baffles description and can give but a faint idea concerning it there is parties here

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of 2 or 3 pitching a tent, and over a little fire made with little sticks, a teakettle trying to make it boil, and others that are a little farther along are getting a shanty of boards, and all seems like confusion and the place looks like a thing built for the present, and merely stuck up temporarily, the quickest way possible. Joiners get at present 13 dollars and much more in summer or anything they are disposed to ask. Heaps of gold and coin are in every shop there is a plenty there are several gambling shops here, and heaps are upon the tables ready to be put up at any time, good order seems to prevail among them throughout. Board is from 16 to 25 dollars per week, provisions are in great demand, and every man for himself, one of our fellows was offered 50 dollars for his boots he had on but he concluded not to part with them,—clothing is verry dear—and in fact a man wants a fortune to moove here, as everything is dear where one has nothing to buy with

24th I staid on board to-day, and help work ship to moove us nearer up to the town, and finished some letters for homes, at night myself with four others went on board the *Ann Smith* and had a chat, and from that to the shore and went up town and saw the *Elephant*, and it almost baffles description, Gambling seems to be the only business that attracts attention. If I was in possession of one half the coin and dust I have seen to night I could start for home immediately, but woe to the poor D—ls who are so foolish as to haunt those places. It is now the rainy season and many people are comeing from the mines, and are



pretty flush and go to those shops and bet, and perhaps loose all they have gained during the whole season, and by this get discouraged and are left destitute without friends or money—and if they gain any thing again must of course labor under great disadvantage. These places have allready been threatened, and will I hope before long be extinguished from the community. There are so many ways to turn our attention that we hardly know which way to moove, but arraingments are fast being made to get to work as soon as possible

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25th Sun Went ashore to day and attended church. The Episcopal church is built on a little eminence overlooking a greater part of the city and Harbor the building is 18 x 50 feet and cost \$10,000, ground and all and is only framed and clapboarded & roofed with cloth. Mr Mines the minister is an excellent preacher, and a good congregation to listen I visited the office of Mr Hoadley from Plymouth Ct who is engaged as surveyor While comeing down to the beach about a mile from the city with a few others to come aboard we found a dead body lying on the beach apparently thrown up by the sea and tide the flesh was off in some places, but it was a hard sight to look at, whether he was murdered or drowned we could not make out as he was partly covered with sand

26th mon Finished letters for home to day and mailed them. The directors settled with the sailors and are to get ready to start for Sacramento city tommorrow. Saw Mr George Couch to day he has been here since last May from a whaling Cruise. Good luck is the fate of some, and some verry poor

27th tues Went ashore this morning and at 11 oclock weighed anchor with a fair wind and stood accross the bay but was becalmed till near night in Puebla Bay but got up as far as Benicia and anchored for the remainder of the night, the current is verry strong and in going accross the bay ran into a vessel and broke our Main-Yard, and broke her head geer, takeing her bowsprit off this was  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 10 evening turned to and fished the yard, ready to sheet home the topsail when needed

28th wed This morning the wind comes down over the mountains in squalls that are not agreeable but lulled a little



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and weighed again and stood up the bay, and run on a bar but hauled aback and sterned off, and made out to keep the channel out to New York on the Pacific and had to drop't anchor as the wind is blowing too strong to beat up, we miszstayed in but 11 feet of water but the bottom is verry muddy and not dangerous

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New York on the Pacific has now 3 houses and is situated at the junction of the San Joaquin & Sacramento rivers. A large plain is in the rear of a rich praira soil back to the mountains or rolling hills a mile or two from the shore, there are 7 square rigged vessels lying here aground and are used only to eat and lodge in. It may be a place of great importance but it hardly looks like it at present

29th Thurs Verry calm this morning a verry light breeze sprung up about  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 8 and we took our kedge anchor and hauled out into the stream and make some progress up the sacramento after getting up four or five miles we passed the Schooner *Friendship* all well, and both of us in the place we desired to be when at Cap De Verde after noon the wind entirely left us and in order to gain all we could and save the tide got out the two boats and towed to good advantage, we got against the bank in the rushes but once. Along here on both sides of the river the banks are covered with tall grass and rush for some rods from shore when the land on the left rises in rollers from 10 to 50 feet and the soil appears rich and the air salubrious, quantities of wild geese are seen flying over and around us, but one has been shot by our crowd yet the days are verry warm like a New England September, but the nights are cold, I have seen no rain yet To day has been appointed as a day of thanksgiving here, but my supper consisted of beans old hoss' and hard bread gained to day about 15 miles

30th fri This morning about 1 oclock we was called to weigh anchor as the tide is in our favor I was one to help tow, we got her along about 6 miles a fine moonlight night but verry cool to day is a fine day without wind and the river smooth strong currents set down, and light ones up this afternoon we got the kedge anchor and warped her a number of miles which is doing better than to lie and wait for a for a fair wind



Dec 1st Sat Did not have verry good success getting her along with last nights tide. A fine day again some of us went ashore last night and killed 6 geese, there are any quantity flying around and over us game seems to be verry

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plenty but exceedingly wild. The banks are more dry as we get farther up, and abound with a sort of oak resembling live oak, some of us went ashore and cut two boat loads which will be valuable on arriving at Sacramento The fishing Seine was tried, but to no effect as the shores are bad for drawing, there seems to be a plenty in the river

2nd Sun Gained a few miles by kedging and warping we are now where the water but just slacks at flood tide

3d mon Had a severe turn of the diarrhea last night but feel better to day, entered the Slough or narrows this morning and warped nearly through it, in the after noon commenced raining and rained steady until 11 oclock evening then cleared off

4th tues Pleasant this morning warped again up to the mouth or head of the Slough, and tied up again to the bank on account of the winds being strong ahead, an Indian villiage is just accross the stream the banks are abrupt and allow us to haul in near enough to step ashore plenty of oak & sycamore, line the banks, with now and then a shanty or tent of wood choppers who get \$15, per cord on the bank, and appear to make it a profitable buisness, hauled out into the main river and the wind ahead and tied up again until the wind dies away

5th wed Wind ahead strong all day and have kept ourselves comfortable in company with 5 other schooners waiting for a fair wind, 5 of our company started for Sacramento City to see Mr Smith, built a smashing fire on shore and in the afternoon got out a ridge pole for a tent and pitched one to see how it would look and I have seen none that looks more comfortable, as they are large and spacious

6th thurs A fair wind blowing lightly up the river, got under weigh in the morning and worked up the river about 16 miles The banks are thickly wooded and squatters seem to



1849 make thier appearance along the banks at night our boat  
 arrived with Mr Smith and a great rejoicing ensued.

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7th fri A fine day, a general meeting was held to day by the company and several of the by-laws altered to prevent too much trust to the Agents or to take off our obligation to send home our profits & proceeds to thier entire disposal which will not probably be done. It was thought best to hold our anual meeting, as we are just about to commence operations we accordingly held an adjourned meeting and at night chose our officers for the comeing year Messrs. Henry A Smith 1st director Henry Potter 2nd James Stuart 3d Wm Whipple 4th John Ayer 5th Chas. P Brockett 6th directors James P Keeler Secretary, H. O. McCoy Tresurer We also appointed five as judicial committee to investigate cases of disorderly conduct of any member Things were arrainged to the satisfaction of all or nearly so and as things are at present I see nothing to prevent our being as well or better agreed than ever

8th Sat This morning, two parties were formed one to go up the river and the other down, to get the correct idea as to the state of timber and such affairs we might think to our advantage We have nearly decided on going into the timber and wood buisness, as being the most profitable. I was one of the party up the river, we started about noon with 11 in the boat and arrived at Sacramento City (about 25 miles from the Bark) at dark, we pitched our tent for the night which consisted of part of a fly to one of the tents an old tarpolin and a Mutton, leg sail to our boat, provided ourselves with a good fire and for the first time in my life slept out, or nearly so, in the open air

9th sun Found ourselves in a city of tents, some not as good as the one we had and should have supposed myself in an extraordinary large camp-meeting had I not have known to the contrary I strolled out in the morning and gave \$1.25 for 3 pound of fresh beef this seemed mighty big but we shall soon get used to California prices. I went to Our Presidents place where he is engaged with Mr Fowler in the meat buisness but which he will now probably relinquish to manage our affairs in the company Sacramento City is situated at the junction of the Sacramento



and American rivers and a level handsome plain for many miles around. Sutters Fort is some 2 miles back diagonally from either river and is built of unburnt brick, the walls are some 20 feet high and surround nearly an acre of ground and looks as if designed as a retreat from the Indians. It is now used for boarding and lodging places which are greatly in demand about here. While here I saw some expert play with the lasso to catch cattle for the butchers which were buisily engaged under a large tree We did not shift till near night when we mooved up the river about 2 miles and encamped in a heavy forest of oaks plenty of Ciotas or praira wolves barking around us.

10th mon Struck our tent early and proceeded up the river prospecting again the river appears to average about  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a mile wide and thinly wooded in most places but some verry heavy oaks are along the banks and are rent out by squatters into clapboards and shingle and put on to buildings in this rough state such is the scarcity of building material that clapboards 3 feet in length and 6 inches wide are 10 cents apiece in this rough condition we arrived at the junction of the Sacramento and Feather rivers and encamped for the night on the point between the two rivers, this is about 25 miles from Sacramento City Vernon is on the right as you go up and Fremont on the left Fremont has a large beautiful plain extending back from it and exceeds anything I ever saw before The banks slope from the river to the hights of 20 or 30 feet and then extends as far as the eye can see almost back towards the mountains There are several stores here which consist of provisions principally, we made some enquiry concerning the state of timber and found that our attempts would be attended with too much cost to be profitable to us

11th This morning we started down the river and stoped about a mile from Vernon and found the Montague Companys store most of them were at the mines, they have lost some 13 of thier number which is one of the greatest of misfortunes however they seem to be getting along more healthy after getting used to the

climate they arrived in the hottest season and through im-

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prudence and want of proper knowledge got sick and died. The remainder seem to be doing well we arrived at Sacramento City a little after noon and thought best to proceed down to the barque as there is prospects of rain, we got down about 8 oclock hungry and tired which made the old barque seem more like home than ever leaving Mr Smith as he had not settled up his buisness

12th wed Rained nearly all night, and to-day also the wind blowing strong from the South. The conclusion now is to drop down the stream on the main branch of the river to work at wood and timber build our boat &c relinquishing the idea of going to the diggings this winter get ourselves climated ready for spring, set a tent on shore and put a stove in it and made things quite comfortable for a rainy day

13th thurs. Started a boat this morning for Sacramento City for Mr Smith, unpleasant and rainy to day wind still south yet attempted to ride the current down but the wind being the strongest had to lash her to the bushes again and make ourselves comfortable

14th fri. Cleared up a little last night but cannot expect clear weather with the wind south it has blown to day in squalls with rain, and a little thunder in the afternoon saw two deer while rambling back but was not near enough to get shot at them the boat arrived at night with Mr Smith

15th Sat Clear this morning but the wind upstream yet but not so strong but that the current would take us down stream we made the attempt and got about 3 miles and tied up

16th Sun. The wind blowed heavy last night and to day up the river and cloudy with a strong SE wind wind with some rain, it has been quite cold to day pitched our tent on shore and built a fire and made out to keep ourselves comfortable

17th mon Wind up the river strong enough to make quite a swell in the river a party of 16 of us including Mr Smith fitted out to go down the river in

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boats and on the bank afoot I walked as far as the Indian Village then took the boat soon after we started it rained power-



fully but we kept on and about 2 oclock landed about 7 miles below the slew on the place we design squatting to cut wood the timber is quite thick on the east bank and saveing a few live oak handy to work up at night we got our tent pitched and being thouroughly drenched luxuriated by a good fire and a little fried pork & hard bread.

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18th tues A fine day, and quite hot at noon, commenced cutting wood close on the bank. I find a man after lying up 8 or 9 months has got to take things easy to begin with, for all of us got thoroughly tired long before night and it seems to be a general complaint among all who come to this country about 8 oclock in the evening heard the bark comeing down the river she got nearly down to us before we discovered her as we intended to have had her stop 4 miles above us

19th wed A light wind up the river and some cloudy, and increased to a storm of wind & rain towards night This morning mooved the bark up to the desired spot and cleared away and hauled her into the bank and set a tent and began to make preperations for discharging the vessel rains hard at night this is the main river along here and nearly straight but oweing [to] a sand bar at the lower end of the island on the west bank steam boats and other craft go through the Slew instead of this way

20th thurs. A severe gale from the south last night but no damage done in our camp. It has rained quite hard all day so that no work could be done, a warm rain for this time in the year wrote a little to send home next mail if I have a chance

21st fri Not so much wind to day but rained hard a greater part of the time I fixed a cross-cut saw this forenoon sett, filed, and rivetted on handles. This afternoon help get ready to put up at tent verry muddy the river is riseing fast and is within 21 inches of the top of the bank to night

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22nd Sat. Calm this morning no rain prospects of a clear day water rose  $10\frac{1}{2}$  inches last night This morning got the things that had been thrown ashore aboard and dropt down stream within 20 rods of the other camp and cleared away a spot on the bank which is a much better spot for our



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buisness there is considerable live oak just about here the water is now within 8 inches of the bank but has the appearance of falling at night, worked at makeing ridge poles for tents this afternoon, others were breaking out lumber &c.

23d sun. A verry fine day but the sun has been [obscured] some part of the time by a fog. All verry buisy with writing letters home

24th mon Went to work with Mr Denny to day and built a fire place and chimney for our tent we built it of logs and filled the cracks with mud, this makes a comfortable piece of furniture for a tent

25th tues Worked at putting up the tent the tents are a superior article 14 x 18, & 4 feet walls, these we raise some 18 inches from the ground and make a kind of floor of the butts of logs rent out like boards. Yesterday and to day a party have been buisy discharging the vessel and come to pile it on shore it looks like something of a heap for us to devour, some part of the cargo is valueable but there is some that at home would be useless Mr Brockett commenced a scow boat for a lighter for our wood from the vessel at San Francisco

26th wed Worked at tent to day some rain towards night, but a verry good day to work. The river is risen a little to day a little more and we are in the water. Mr Stuart is verry hard sick with dysentery but has symptoms of a recovery many are poisoned verry bad, and for ought I see, will continue to be so during our stay here. Lobelia is the great cure but some are against it as the cure is not the same [on] one as on another

27th thurs Worked at finishing tent got things fixed quite comfortable The Galley was taken ashore and arraigned for cooking for the crowd

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1849

Several of us was employed in getting knees for the scow boat and are getting along now to a beginning

28th fri' Worked at fixing a table, and putting things in order around the shop, which is covered with an old sail set upon crotches with poles laid across, find our tents to be quite comfortable and for my part feel it a luxury to sit down to eat my meals The day has been fine and I believe the only clear



day in the past week, river full banks yet, but this afternoon a strong wind down the river

1849  
Dec.

29th Sat A pleasant day, and a clear balmy air with no wind. Filed and set saws in the forenoon and help get the house on deck (Senate) ashore. The Steamboat *Senator* made her first trip up this branch to day, as the river is verry high, and no difficulty in getting over the sand bar a little below here This is much the best branch to navigate as it is more strait and no short bends. Towards night our boys brought in an Elk which was verry fat and nice he was judged to have weighed over 300 lbs he was about the size of a two year old heifer our sick is some better

30th Sun Clear & pleasant to day, but little wind, to day has been more homelike than any Sunday since I have left home

I now have things where I can get at them and it is quite a luxury to look over ones "duds" and see how many things he has got that he does not need in this country and how many things he needs he did not bring, the *Senator* went down again to day and we are in hopes she will continue her trips this way after this

31st Mon To day has been clear and pleasant, excellent weather for us to work but the river is now so high as to run over the slews and low places above & below us so that it rather limits our range for hunting. I help set up the scow to day and are forwarding her some Another year has past off and am situated quite contrary to what I was when it commenced. THE END.

Jan 1st New Year

94

1850

1850  
Jan.

Tues' Rained verry hard this morning, but cleared off towards noon and was sunshiny and pleasant the rest of the day, worked on the Scow a little. We moved the sick ashore into the "Senate" which we have laid a floor in and made verry comfortable for a hospital. Our sickest is Arthur W Seeley he has the dysentery bad and verry sore mouth Mr W Welton is about the sam Mr Stuart some better Mr Hobart was taken yesterday and is quite down to day Mr Spencer was quite sick yesterday but feels better to day Apart from this we are generally well but there are but few that say they can do as much in a day as when they left home



1850  
 Jan.

Thus begins a New Year with me, and as I am here on the shores of California for the purpose of getting gold, it may probably begin a new Era in my life, health holds good for which I am thankful and although there are fortunes to be made around me yet none of them would buy my health, but how soon I may be sick in the attempt the kind disposer of all things only knows—

[Pencil drawing, 2 x 3, of the interior of tent as described.]

A view of the inside of our tent as arrainged on our arrival. This is new years night and I am amuseing myself with this sketch which is the only luxury of interest. Were I home I could be laying back in a armed chair enjoying an easy repose among my friends but here I am as you see in the corner of the log fireplace in front of my berth sitting on the ground with my ebows on my chest, makeing this and thinging of *home!*

Home, that sweetest of all words,  
 Hath charms without disguise;  
 It is the place that hath no odds,  
 For mortal man below the skies.

Tis there, where manhood first begins;  
 Tis there, true hapiness is found;  
 Tho many troubles seem to reign  
 Yet home's the place where comfort's always found

But when we grow to riper years;  
 We seek for wealth in foreign lands  
 Our fondest friends we leave in tears  
 To serve *Ambitions* selfish ends

My Dearest friends I'll think of thee,  
 While in a land so far away  
 Hopeing, (tho I must brave the sea)  
 My welcome there some future day.

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1850

Jan 2nd wed Clear this morning but clouded over and rained for an hour or two at noon, and cleared off in the afternoon Worked at putting bottom on scow our sick are some better Mr Johnson has been quit sick but has not got over a severe emetic which was given about noon The river rises a



verry little but is now at a stand as there is an immense back country to overflow before it can over the bank where we are. 1850

Jan.

3d Thurs To day has been pleasant and clear all day got the bottom on the scow and they commenced caulking. The boat arrived towards night from San Francisco all well with considerable news but none for me. Mr Smith learned many things which at this time are of some importance to us. Our wood operation is of no use as people buy in so small quantities that a cargo would not pay, families buy 2 dollars worth at a time which is about as much as a man would carry in his arms at twice, mud is knee deep, and it would cost more to deliver it in this way than would pay although it would amount to about 50 dollars pr cord, timber and lumber are in great demand, spiles &c for building docks, vessels are comeing in every day verry numerous and it is astonishing to see the quantity of people standing idle about the streets A heavy fire was sustained a few nights since but is now building up again at a rapid rate. Things are fluctuating as ever and it *will not do to depend upon a future market*

A man must get into some buisness where he can have his profits in money at night or it is no go more likely than not, labor is about the same as when we left, they brought up about one bushel of potatoes which cost \$17.00 which are low as things are at present

4th Fri Cloudy and rainy most of the day, washed out some cloths in the fore noon, and help splice the Main-Yard that was broke comeing up the river in the afternoon. We are to prepare the bark for going down the river with wood to do the best we can with it

Jan

96

5th Sat Cloudy, and rained some part of the time today. Worked a little on the splice on the yard. They mooved the Bark down to the wood pile about 30 rods and began loading her with wood for San Francisco. Mr Hobart and Mr Seely are no better to day Mr Hopkins is hard sick Mr Stuart Mr Welton are better Mr Spencer about the same. It is sad that so many of us are sick and no better conveniences and accomodations for them but we must make the best of it situated as we



1850  
Jan.

are. What of us are sick is a lesson for us all to be prudent and careful to prevent disease from catching hold by exposure keep as dry as possible when it rains, never wear wet garments, keep a good eye to the warmth of the body, that perspiration may be healthy and regular, and takeing all in all, I see that one must be governed as near to the rules of health at home as possible, but how soon I may break the simplest of these rules my carelessness will not allow me to state

6th Sun A pleasant day but clouded and rained some in the evening All of the sick save Mr Seely & Hobart are better Seely is verry low and his Chance seems doubtful, but do not give up hopes for his recovery yet

7th mon Considerable rain last night but pleasant part of the day cloudy & damp at night finished the yard and commenced repairing the rail that was damaged at sea The sick about the same as yesterday. *A curious country this*

8th Cloudy and rainy could work a little at the rail help send the main Yard aloft. To day is my birth day and verry different from what I ever spent one before, I am hearty & well which is the greatest thing I can have to comfort me, I have written some letters for home to go down with the bark to be mailed for the next steamer home.

9th Wed Cloudy and rainy last night whith a heavy south wind but cleared up this morning and have had quite a pleasant day

Mr Arther W Seely died this morning about 5 oclock and to day I have made his coffin and about 5 oclock this afternoon his funeral, after which we took him down the river about

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one mile and a half, and buried him in an Indian Mound which is a much better place than I expected could be found about here, his burial was executed the best that circimstances would allow, he had a verry decent coffin and a dry place for the grave, several bones of those that had been buried there were dug up and a pestle and some little round stones, from this we supposed that it must have been a squaw as it is the custom among the indians to bury the implements to which the individual was accustomed to along with them Mr Seely during [ . . . . ]



was verry patient, and endureing and until a day or two previous to his death was perfectly sensible of all that took place around him, even to the smallest grain of medicen He would often while in the room with 3 others that were sick crack many a dry and witty joke and make many pithy remarks

1850  
Jan.

10th thurs Rained nearly all day worked at finishing the rail on the Bark this forenoon and attended a meeting of the Company this afternoon at the lower tents the buisness was to hear objections which it was said some of the company had made relative to the barks leaving with her cargo of wood for market which finally had no scource. A vote was taken to allow the directors to engage in a bargin or contract for spiles and timber for a dock which after being strongly favored was recinded, and another was to have the bark return immediately provided she should not find profitable freight for Sacramento City to take the avails of the company on board and proceed immediately for Sacramento City except hands enough to finish the steamboat which after being finished should immediately follow her, which did not get a hearing, and so it goes what one would do another puls down and could the company dissolve and let each man take care of himself a share of us, or the ones that would now make the company rich would do well and there are others who would be obliged to go to work or starve and those that are sick is all that holds us together

Jan 98 1850

11th fri A verry rainy night last night watched the latter part of the night with Dr Yale, the sick all seem to be better to night. This morning the scow was launched and the Bark started down at a good rate with the current, I went to work on the steamboat, laid down the kelson and got the timbers spiked on for the bottom we shall put the bottom on and caulk it then turn it over before putting on the stantions & sides, sent down some letters by Mr Smith

12th Sat A pleasant sunny day. Worked at putting bot-  
tom on the boat I find a variety of opinions in takeing charge of such a piece of work as this with a number of 8 or 10 persons to lay out work for, and some two or three unwilling to be governed by any opinion save his own, but make the best of it and let them see thier errors as they run against them



1850

Jan.

The river has risen some 2 inches above the bank which brings the water into our tents and to appearance will continue to rise for some time to come. A schooner just from Sacramento City reported to us that the place was inundated to some 2 & 3 feet and that people were leaving as fast as possible, the country being so much lower back from the banks along here that thousands of acres must overflow before it can disturb us immediately on the banks in the highest places, the woods back of us are full to the depth of several inches so that our boat went out back in the tula swamp and the boys killed a verry fine Buck and found no difficulty to get a long way above and get into the stream. It makes things look rather dubious but we have got to make the best of it and build up out of the water as fast as it rises.

13th Sun Pleasant sunshiny day all day, watched with Dr. Yale last night. The sick are all some better to day. The water has risen fast all day it is now 7 inches in our tent, and good going anywhere in the woods with the boat, the boys went down the river about a mile and as they were floating

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1850

down with the current, a large grizzly bear stood reared up on the bank within a few yards of them and made a dive in the water towards the boat, they shot at him and hit him back of the fore leg and then shot again at this he turned for the shore again and made the best of his way up the bank and got out of sight so concluded he was not fatally wounded at any rate they did not go ashore to see, as I guess they did not fancy the looks of the Critter verry much. They got shot at an Elk but could not capture him.

14th Mon A pleasant day again till near night when it clouded over and threatened to rain again. Worked at putting the bottom on the boat, shall get her ready to turn over tomorrow. The water still is riseing to day, rather a hard look and still harder to get about the water is now about one foot deep in our tents, and has now completely covered every spot and cannot get about without the boat, it looks to night as if we should have to be out of this, for to be around here over the tops of my boots in water not knowing but that it may rise yet to the hight of



several feet, begins to seem like presumption but we have no better place to flee to the Bark has gone down the river and no better way is there left but to take it as it comes hoping to be delivered soon

1850  
Jan.

15th tues A rainy night last night, but cleared up a little and has not rained during the day finished the bottom of the boat, and pitched it and turned it over, ready to put the stantions on and her sides, the water is no higher than it was yesterday but so high as to need a good staging to walk about on. The sick are on the gain

Jan 100 1850

16th Wed A comfortable day to work, cloudy and a slight mist once or twice during the day. Worked at putting on the stem & stern posts and trueing up the bottom for the stantions & deck timbers find it is some bother to have a dozen or fifteen hanging around looking to me for a job when I am quite sure a thing would be spoiled if it was not closely watched, and wadeing mid-leg in the water at every step, but make things go the best I can under the *circumstances*. The water seems to be falling to day

17th Thurs The past 24 hours has been almost clear and no rain. To day has been fine the sun is warm and the air fresh & healthy. It now seems more like a fine spring time than any time I have seen. New birds seem to make thier appearance and every indication of the commencement of spring, worked to day at putting up the stantions & deck timbers to the boat I find that some of the timber framed at sea (where the two had to hold on and the third do the work) is correct by the moddle and some is not. Give me "*Terra Ferma*" to do any kind of work on, and it will be more sure to be correct. The water has fallen some to-day it is now six inches under my berth which is just six more than is aggreeable. We spoke the Schooner *Odd Fellow* to day a going down, she said that the water was just over the levee at Sacramento City and some six feet back from the bank of the river. Our sick are decidedly some better which is some comfort to us Mr Hobart is out, of his right mind most of the time but accedes to nothing but simple questions, and strange & laughable anecdotes



1850 Jan  
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18th fri A verry fine day,—sun shone warm,—last night some slight showers—Worked at framing and setting out work on the boat find everything goes well so far. Our sick are about the same Mr E Keeler is quite unwell but hope nothing but a cold. The river has fallen some 2 or 3 inches and begins to leave the banks dry where we are little slews are running through the camp yet A large bark went down to day and report that Sacramento has 4 feet of water yet, so that I am satisfied where we are at present

19th Sat A fine clear day, with a cold fresh breeze from the NW. The water has fallen and the ground dried verry fast to day leaveing our camp quite dry worked at fitting the bot- tom board to get the first streak or course on the sides, sprung one plank to its place—3 schooners have past us to day and the *Senator* going up, she seems to have a number of passengers up but few down It is now comeing spring and people are flocking to the mines as fast as possible to be ready for the dry season—

20th Sun One of the finest days that I have seen in Cali- fornia A verry clear healthy breeze and just warm enough to be comfortable, Mr Eaton & myself took a tramp in the woods up the river but considerable water stands in places yet saw some game. Our object was to initiate ourselves in the *luxuries* of a life in California a'hem!

21st Rain most of the day but towards night cleared up a little, this forenoon went into the woods & cut a black wal- nut block for the barrel to the steering wheel, worked a little a the planking towards night watched a part of the night in the hospital Mr E Keeler is quite deranged, Hobart no better

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[Top  $\frac{1}{3}$  page a pencil sketch of a forest camp scene, dated Jan 20th, 1850. Trans- versely, at the right margin of the picture is a pencil note, occupying the remainder of the top of the page:]

A California Stew. As we journey through life there is many incidents as they transpire are interesting & sometimes deeply so, one of these took place to day. In the picture are myself & my friend Eaton back from the camp some 200 rods to which place we have been nearly over our boots in water to get to,



and are privately enjoying ourselves over a dish of *mollasses candy* the one sitting nearest represents myself and the one stirring molasses Mr *E* at the same time talking of home & Dear Friends

1850  
Jan.

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22nd tues Pleasant and warm to day with a light breeze from the south. Worked on the Steamboat, put the streaks on her sides, but have used up the nails and shall have to wait until we can send for some, we got on about half of the sides. The sick about the same—

23d Wed A cloudy day and some rain, with a strong SE wind towards night, worked at hewing some sticks for horses to use the Pit Saw, as this may with some labor pay well to saw some of the oaks that stand near us into stuff suitable to use about the boat. Five started for San Francisco for nails and other articles

24th thurs Rained all day, and a strong wind this morning from the SE it has rained uncommon hard until just at night whent it partly cleared away but soon blew and rained again Went into the Hospital to take care of the sick with Mr Eaton, it is a task for two persons to do it as there is five to attend to

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and sometimes there is many things to be done at the same time no money would hire me to go in and stay but duty compels, and necessity calls it, that all must be done to assist nature that can be to save life. Many are the wishes & wants of those who are so unfortunate as to be sick in this country no good bed no experienced phycian, no dainties to touch a delicate appetite, and so far from home & friends makes many of them worse in thier disease than they would be with a free mind, and kind friends to sooth the pillow of affliction But such is life and vain is the help of man when God so wills it, so it renders it the best way for us to wade through the mire of misfortune to gain a "better land" in days to come, and seek to do the will of an all-powerful Creator & Preserver, that we may gain an eternal rest in the kingdom prepared for those that love and serve him

25th fri Cloudy with but little rain, worked at fix-



1850 <sup>Jan.</sup> ing the Pit-saw, but little interest in the camp to day as far as work is concerned, as no man is or seems to have any interest in thing as far as work is concerned I hope that different time will appear before long or *all* must stop.

26th Sat Some rain to day weather comfortably warm which is & has along back no extremities of heat & cold as in the Eastern states A boat came down the river with four men in it going on a hunting excursion one of which had been in the mines on the Yuba. He gave flattering accounts of the gold in that

Jan

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region at the same time allows that it is work to get the gold, got the pit-saw in operation to day and sawed a little with it just to get the hang of the thing Mr Eaton and myself were the first to try it and of course mad it hard awkward work to begin with

[At left of page a pencil sketch 2 x 3 ½ inches, showing the saw in operation.]

Here we are at it in the woods trying it for the first time, on a short Buckeye stick which is celebrated for its handsome curl in its grain. Some half a dozen standing around looking at us & laughing thinking I suppose that [they] could do better.

27th Sun Quite a fine day, just warm enough to be comfortable One cannot stroll away back on account of the water which is prevalent back of us yet, and the only way to spend the time sunday is to read and pass off time the best way we can Our sick remain about the same and for all I see will continue to do so for some time

28th mon A cloudy day but no rain, and quite warm Another period has come that death has come among us. This morning about 8 oclock Mr Edward Keeler died after about 10 days illness of a sort of brain fever. At first he was entirely deranged and was not at times all through his sickness in his right mind. His loss will be deeply felt by his two brothers William & James, and not a little among many of the company. He was of stedly good habits, and on the voyage displayed considerable ingenuity in the way of tinkering He the youngest of the brothers was the first to be taken away from dear parents



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whome he had left at home to come to this country      Went to  
work this morning and made the coffin and and commenced a  
skiff to take the corpse down to the mound where we have good  
dry ground to use as a burrying place

1850  
Jan.

29th tues      A cloudy day with some heavy showers in the  
afternoon. This morning about 4 oclock Mr S W Hobart died,  
which makes two corps now lying in our camp. His disease was  
similar to Mr Seelys and has been deranged at times during his  
sickness. His fever has raged verry high some of the time and  
to appearance was getting better of a verry sore mouth. His race  
is run and during the voyage has appeared as if Shattered in  
mind, and not the same soundness of body and mind as when  
he started from home—, as one of the watch he was destined to  
bear the blunt of a sailors *joke*, as a musician was of grand  
imitative talents      Worked at his coffin with Mr Eaton at the  
same time finishing the skiff      got them all nearly done, with  
exception of the finishing one oar and pitching the sides

30th Wed      A fine day and warm, finished the skiff this  
morning after which we took the corpses down to the Indian  
mound which is perfectly dry yet, and is a fine place, for a  
burrying place      In digging thier graves several pieces of wam-  
pum and some beads, and one perfect skull, with a basket but  
the latter fell to pieces on comeing to the air, the several small  
articles were brought up to the camp and though they were rude  
yet were looked upon with curiossity      In the afternoon went  
out with a gun for the first time, grey squirrels are quite plenty  
but too much water to hunt them

Jan

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31st Thurs      A verry warm & pleasant day      This  
morning Mr Evans Mr Eaton & myself took the skiff and went  
back into the woods & endeavored to get out to the Mound but  
the water had fallen so rapid that the Tulas were to thick &  
formidable for us to get the boat through so gave it up & came  
back, our object was to get some ducks but did not see any. This  
afternoon, we took the saw frame down to lower camp and Mr  
Eaton & myself fixed for sawing arms to wheels for steamboat.  
Towards night the boat arrived from San Francisco, bringing



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 Jan.

more sad news of the death of Mr Wm H Harrison He died of the scurvy which disease seems to be the most prevalent in this country on the arrival of the bark down there Dr T P Beers just from New Haven came aboard and found it too late to help him, Mr Harrison was a stout robust fellow and has acted the capacity of sailor on the passage out. All through he has most faithfully performed his duty, and his character was such as would in this country be courted as a companion on any enterprizing operation. He died on Saturday the 26th which makes three deaths within one week which to us seems hard, Mr Jennings is verry sick and it is thought that he will not recover verry soon if ever Things are in rather a hard state for this company just at present everything seems to work against us and a fair prospect for it to continue so. Our Bark is or will not be unloaded to come up in some time and one man is of one opinion and another of a different opinion and such is the state of things in our camp The wood buisness is a poor speculation, and the Steamboat will labor under immense opposition if we undertak run her on the river, and the only recourse left

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is to get to the diggins as soon as Spring opens, and run our chance with the rest At San Francisco things are changed wonderfully since we came up the river the place is building up verry fast & imigration is on the increase, people are now hurrying to the mines and hundreds are wanting to labor to raise means to get there, a mass of people must evedintly be scattered over the country the comeing season of mineing, our fellows say that it baffles any reasonable mans ideas to see the fluctuation things are in at present among everything that is bought & sold, lumber, flour &c is now less than half the value it was one month ago and other things some of which are lower and some higher than when we were there, but such is California & such is man that lives a life in it A few letter only were brought up by the boat one most *expressive* or rather *impresive* letter was recieved from our agents showing thier refusal to the payment of the debts & a draught made on them at Talcahuana Verry much disappointed at not receiveing funds in the shape of gold from thier *beloved* company in this country







1850 Feb

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1850

Feb.

[A pencil sketch 3 x 8 of the encampment, signed NK Feb. 6th 1850, and underneath, the legend:]

The place of encampment of the New Haven & California Joint Stock company on the Sacramento about 80 miles from San Francisco, and some 40 below Sacramento City as taken from the opposite bank of the river February 3d 1850.

4th Mon Foggy this morning but cleared up and was clear part of the day, but looks like rain towards night, worked at putting in bed timbers. Things seem to go along better to day than for some time back as there seems to be less sojering than usual

5th tues A fine day again—finished putting in the bed-plates and the work goes on nicely and at this rate will be ready to launch in a few days

6th Wed A drizzling rain in the forenoon, but cleared up and pleasant the after part of the day, worked at putting in timbers to support the engine house and boring the holes for bolts to fasten the bed-plate & cylinder The river has fallen about 4 inches in the last 24 hours and things about camp is getting dry & comfortable once more a fair wind up the river from the SW

7th A clear air and fine day to day, finished up the stem & stern, and began to lay deck. A small boat with 12 persons in it went up past us to day on thier way to the diggins but as yet take it leisurely as it is early in the season

Feb

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1850

8th A warm day a light breeze down the river.—Two small boats with parties for the diggins went past us to day—Worked at putting in Bitt heads for brest lines to the boat

9th Sat Set out to go to work on the boat, but finding a party going down the river to San Francisco and I concluded to go with them we rigged out with provision and got down [to] the Montezuma house about 4 oclock kept down to a point of land across to a light which we saw it now being dark and fetched up among the tulas and encampt for the night got our supper about 8 oclock, the fire was made of some wood which we took the precaution to get before getting out of its vicinity



we had forgotten to bring our fly to the tent and had the *big* 1850  
 bedroom for our lodgings, and used a sky blanket to put over us Feb.

10th Sun Started this morning at day break and went across the bay to Benecia, some Am. men of war were lying there and government was employing a number of carpenters at 11 dollars pr day and found, and common laborers at 5 dollars and a ration and a half, some vessels were lying at anchor, and a few were hauled into the bank for store houses we stoped on the opposite shore in a little valley between the rolling hills which are now quite green as the sun is quite hot and the rainy season is just over, we passed the sisters about 3 oclock and found several vessels standing up towards the river and among them we saw the bark we found that Mr Jennings had died and the rest were on the gain, they have turned wood into 17000 feet of pine dressed lumber which they paid 95 dollars the took it from the *R'bt Pulsford*

11th mon To day is fine and the green hills around the bay yealds a charming prospect, a fresh breeze sprung up from the WNW and being flood tide we weighed anchor and stood across the bay went about half way across Pueblo Bay and anchored for the night, in the evening stood up the bay at flood tide

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12th tues A fine morning but the wind is against us being down the bay however we beat up and passed through the straits about 3 oclock after supper we went ashore and rambled about I see through the glass that farming is com-mence at a ranch on the opposite side and the soil looks quite promiseing for agriculture but would have to be attended by irrigation and during hot weather the soil looks as if it would bake hard but when broken and tilled would be mellow and dry

13th wed Nearly calm this morning but at flood tide drifted up Suisan bay and had to anchor at ebb saw two elk among the tulas but could not get them

14th thurs Last night the boat came up that I came down in and this morning being Ebb tide we did not start until after dinner we started up and rowed till dark & built a fire & encamped for the night about two mile blow the junction of the slew & main river



1850  
Feb.

15th Got breakfast early and started up the river found the *J. Walsh jr* we stopped and I found several with which I was acquainted one was Mr Wm Warren he informed me that they had been detained a considerable on the passage, and had met with a serious accident since thier arrival some time before they started up the river some of thier men had repaired a boat outside the entrance on a sand beach and had repaired it and five had borrowed a boat and took the first mate for pilot and have never been heard of since, they suppose that they must have been drowned or driven out to sea. The company are going up the river as far as they can get and many are then going into the diggins, they have had no severe sickness as yet we arrived at the camp towards night

Feb

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1850

16th Sat A pleasant day, but all hands seem to be standing & looking at each other, they have launched the boat and she now lies in the water in an unfinished state and things look as if she would continue to rather than be finished as or in a com' Mr Ellis the Engineer has quit this morning & has given up his certificate of stock and is to leave Monday in company with Mr John Bodge Jr, and I have now concluded to follow them as soon as opportunity admits,—had a general time wassing up my duds and overhauled my chest of cloths and sorted out my mineing clothes and packed the rest away for future consideration

17th Sun A fine day heard the bark was up as far as the slew and may a fair wind favor long enoug to get her up here and so that we can be making our way up the river went out back and found the water gone except in places

18th mon Pleasant and warm Mr Colton & Streeter, Ellis & Bodge started for sacrament city and will start for the mines immediately to try thier luck seperate from the company and have given up thier certificate of stock Went to work on the boat got the boilers in on the ash pans, had excellent luck in getting them in as the weighed about 1700 and were bad things to manage

19th tues Warm, worked at Pillow block & cap for journal to the shaft and fitted them on while others are going on with



other parts, but it will be some time yet before she will get so  
as to have a trial

1850

Feb.

20th wed A strong south wind and a little rain towards  
night, the day has been cool worked at Pillow Blocks

Feb 113 1850

21st thurs Cloudy, and considerable rain. Worked be-  
tween showers what we could, worked at the shaft bearings.  
The Bark drop't down to the camp this afternoon and hauled  
in to the bank abreast the provision. She will probably be  
loaded and start up the river the first fair wind as far we can  
get up.

22d fri A pleasant day, quite a buisy time in the camp  
all at work helping get the provision aboard the bark, and  
the steamboat going on at the same time at a good rate The  
whale boat arrived from Sacramento City the boys have  
started for the mines in good shape, a good hit for them as  
they are early and will get a good location

23d Sat A fine day. Some pleasant moonlight nights,  
and if I were among friends at home, I could enjoy them.  
Things go on verry brisk and hopes are now entertained of our  
getting up the River

24th Sun A fine day and in going around in the woods  
I see quite a change the past week in vegetation, gathered some  
wormwood which grows verry rank and plenty the old stalks are  
now standing which measure from 4 to 7 feet high Com-  
menced a letter home to New Preston this afternoon And a  
good trick played under an old sail in the evening

25th mon A good wind up the river but we are not ready  
to improve it some rain to day with the South wind, cool  
at night went to work at the paddle wheels at putting in arms

26th A south wind yet and some rain to day, the weather  
is quite warm but cool at night, worked at the wheels, shall  
get her ready to start in a few days

Feb March 114 1850

27th Wed A damp rainy day, worked what we could  
on the boat but the rain drove us off part of the time. The boys  
are haveing good success at killing ducks now-a-days as they are  
quite plenty in the marshes or pond holes, they seem to be of two



1850 kinds the large English duck and a smaller wood duck, the  
 Feb. English kind resemble our tame ones in New England

28th thurs. Quite a fine day. The weather more chang-  
 eble than it has been for the past two or three weeks, the air  
 cool saw ice in a pail this morning but so thin that it did  
 not extend accross the surface. Finished the wheels, and as they  
 have got the starboard engine ready to be run she will be tried  
 probably to morrow.

March March 1st fri A fine day, with variable winds. Worked  
 at the Starbr'd wheel house, this afternoon they fired up and  
 tried the starboard engine which needs some little tinkering to  
 set the valve as one of her exhaust's are much longer than the  
 other, but has the appearance of working well

2d Sat Wind SE the right way for rain in these parts,  
 it has rained so that we could work but part of the time  
 worked at the larboard wheel-house

3d Sun Qute a fine day, nothing of much interest in  
 camp to day

4th mon A fine day. Finished the wheel houses to-day  
 and all the joiner work that is necessary in order run her  
 and I think all that I feel interested to do at present. Got up  
 steam again to day and tried the larboard engine and have got  
 both in running order and look now as if they might do good  
 execution

## 115

5th tues. A strong wind up the river to day, but not  
 quite ready yet to go—picked up things as close as possible and  
 shall start as soon as possible I hope Tried the engines again  
 to day had them connected but the pumps are backward in  
 doing thier duty and do not supply the boilers as they ought

6th wed Rainy in the forenoon got up steam and  
 tried the pumps by takeing out the clack valve but to no effect  
 as they are set in an inclined position the same as the cilender  
 and the pump valves all work diagonal to a perpendicular which  
 with the slow motion which the engines give, is not sufficient to  
 force down the valve to its place after seeing that they did  
 not work and haveing a good wind up the river we thought best  
 to leave a few willing men and the rest go aboard the Bark and



start for Sacramento, which we did and got started about 4 o'clock P M and at 9 o'clock eve are going up the river before the wind at an astonishing rate and shall be there before morning, and have left enough to fix the pump and come on after us

1850  
March

7th thurs Got up some 15 miles beyond the slew and anchored last night. And this morning had a SW wind and went up until we came to a bend in the river commonly called the Devils reach about 12 miles below Sacramento which runs in a WSW direction for about a mile and was not able to weather it so had to anchor and lie up for the night

8th fri The sch'r *Sea Witch* lay along-side of us last night and this morning we have a fair wind and after breakfast got under weigh and was in Sacramento about 12 o'clock. Business is now verry brisk here, although it has been dull for the last two months New buildings are going up all around and the shipping which

March

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line the bank and thier huge piles of lumber and stuff of other descriptions which lie on the levee and the numerous teams which are employed in one thing and another make things look as if considerable enterprise was on foot and as if at the rates here that any quantity of money was stirring

9th Sat Clear and warm, went about town and made arraignements to start for the mines, and have learned to our satisfaction what to do and what place to try

10th Sun Think of starting to morrow if the weather will admit, made a little preperation for it

11th mon Cloudy & rainy so that we shall not start out, staid aboard & finished up a letter for home to go next mail to E W

12th tues A fine day to day. Finished the rocker this morning and started about noon for the mines. Mr Caleb Fener of New Haven takes our things up for us at 10 cents pr pound to Negro Bar about 25 miles on the American river we got out as far as the Half way house kept by Mr T. G. Salisbury prospects of a rainy night

13th wed A verry severe rain all night which came through the cotten and wett us all through & through and dur-



1850  
 March

ing the night it was laughable to hear one & another singing out *a man overboard* or that the jib-sheet had parted, or some other kind of sea phrases those who were lucky enough to have bunks had to turn out and give place to the water but Eaton & myself took the ground and slept comfortable all nigh hauling our blanketts snugly around our heads as the rain

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came through, a man & his wife Mr & Mrs Houser are here from Warsaw Benton Co Missouri they came over land accross the plains and arrived here in Sept', they like many others had a hard time of it being 4 months from home to reach this place she seems to have bourn the fatigue with remarkable fortitude and patience, and is now liveing in a manner that would sicken the hearts of the most stern & endureing females of the Eastern Ladies her health is not verry good, we arrived at the bar in time to pitch our tent and get supper &c which consisted of flippers & fried pork

14th thurs A showery bad cold day went down & set our rocker and began to do the same as the rest around us were doing found the shining stuff was '*dar*' but not verry plenty The business seemed like a new way to make money, and should one of our Eastern Mothers see one of thier little boys doing a thing that look so simple & foolish as this they would *give them a whipping*, and send the in the house

15 A rainy day went over this morning to the road about 1 $\frac{1}{4}$  miles to leave word with Mr Fenner did not work much to day

16th A good day to work got about five dollars worth which will pay our board and a dollar more the river is fall-ing and there will be better digging soon as they say it is better farther in

March

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17th Sun A pleasant day quite warm. Mr Evans & Myself went up to Mormon Island about 4 miles on the south fork, the bar is well dug and we conclu it was best to stay where we were at present

18th Worked down on the bar Mr Fenner brought us down another rocker so that there is but two to a machine, went farther up to day and found better digging



19th tues Pleasant but cold nights mooved the other 1850  
 rocker up on the bar to day March

20th wed A warm pleasant day, doing some better  
 to day, went over to the road & got some things that was left  
 there for us

21st thurs Good weather to work, the river is falling and  
 leaving the good places so that we can come at them. Eaton  
 & Evans went out hunting this afternoon and killed some pigeon  
 & quail the Quail of this country are of a beautiful kind have-  
 ing a plume on the top of thier head which gives them a hand-  
 some appearance when running the game is verry shy

22d fri Showry this morning but cleared in the after-  
 noon so that we could work, our hole pays well but we have  
 to moove some verry large stone, to get the dirt. After getting  
 down from one to three feet we come to a soft rotten granite the  
 top of which we take off & wash as it pays the best. I have a  
 bad headache at night

March

119

23d Sat. A pleasant day, done verry well got about  
 35 dollars worth which is better than the average at the presant  
 time

24th Sun A warm day. Wrote a letter home to my  
 Father and sent it down to go next mail. Mr Eaton killed a  
 verry large hare two pigeons two quails, which will make a few  
 excellant meals of fresh, and not bad to take where there is  
 nothing but pork & flour to live on as is the case here

25th mon Cloudy & began raining about 9 oclock did  
 not do much to day toward Gold digging

26th Mon [Tues] Pleasant the river has risen largely  
 during the night Worked in our old hole took out about  
 20 dollars worth but shall have to give it up on account of water,  
 we find the best digging near the rock or soft Granite

27th tues [Wed] A fine day with a strong West wind  
 rather think the line storm is over, as the wind has changed  
 and a warmer air is felt, not so good luck in the old place  
 prospected towards night.

28th Wed [Thurs] A pleasant day and quite hot at mid-  
 day The water is now riseing fast which will not allow us  
 to dig on the bar, some are trying below and are doing well



1850 March Messrs Whipple, Taft, Spencer, & McCoy arrived here to day and bring news that the Joint Stock Co' have come to a close, and everything is about being sold & settling up as fast as possible, and leaves every member to do for a livelyhood that which seems best. The famous Steamboat *Etna* was sold under the hammer at 5200 dollars people gave us the praise of a pretty moddle which reflects a little credit on its builders

**March, April**

120

29th fri Clear day and good fresh healthy air worked down on the bar but with not as good luck got only about 3.50 apiece. Shall try a new place as I think there are better places

30th Sat A hot day, prospected and found good places but too far from water to do much Eaton & Sommers done well on the bar

31st Sun Cloudy & some rain, a little news from the bark via Johnson, Foote, & Steward. News that the steamer had got in but no news for me, I would give money for news from home but oweing to irregular mails, I suppose it is chance work

April April 1st Mon. A comfortable day. Opened a new place but it proved to light & fine for profit Voted to day for the first time in California at this place Bell was 55 over McKinney, but McKinney was elected I believe for the County

2nd tues A warm day. Went prospecting with Mr Taft over to Rhode's diggings saw some that were doing well among the slate. It is about 7 miles from Negro Bar. In going there we passed some ravines that were being worked which seemed to pay well We struck the stream about 3 miles below our point and prospected along up, but found nothing promising The ravines have been prospected to a considerable amount, we saw several places opened which contain a soft slate in which gold is fond in an irregular form We saw men at work who showed us some verry pretty specimens

**April**

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in comeing back we saw some of the most beautiful flowers I ever looked upon the field as far as the eye could extend presented one vast bed of these natural beauties some wild clover was found in places which at this season would afford good grazing



3d. A fine day and not so hot as usual. Worked up on the bar in our old place and two of us got 24.45 which is better than our average 1850  
April

4th thurs A cool pleasant day worked in the old place & done middling well

5th fri. A fine day but worked ourselves out of a job yesterday and tried down on the bar near the water Mr Geo.' Hotchkiss came up today and brought me a letter from home dated the 16 & 17 of Jan. which was a rich feast for me as it is the first since June from E W

6th Sat. A rainy night last night Geo' staid with us over night worked in the fore noon and done our washing in the afternoon We weighed our Gold and found we had 307 dollars which makes with 49.24 we have paid away makes \$356.49

7th Sun A wet day, lay in the tent

8th mon A verry rainy night last night and some showery to day. commenced carrying dirt 20 rods to the river from near the celebrated Drift Wood found it paid about 12 cts per buckett

9th tues. Pleasant. Worked in the place we did yesterday but it did not yield as well news that Sac' City is about to be overflowed agan

April

122

10th wed A fine day tried a new place to day but did not have as good success only got, an ounce 4 of us and the finesst particles we have seen yet

11th thurs Went down and began in the hollow below and dug in the forenoon and made up my mind to start for Sacramento city and stay a spell and if Joiners business is good to work at my trade if not to go up on the Yuba as soon as the water gets down

12th Fri A pleasant day, started with Johnson this morning about sunrise for the City and walked there about 3 oclock a good 25 mile on arriving we found the slews filled and had to get ferried over some of the streets the Mayor has kept the water back by makeing a temporary [ . . . ] on the banks of the river and stopping the slews most of the streets are passable yet but teams are seen mired every few rods,



1850  
 April

and loaded waggons just loaded for the mines in up to the hub. I met many on the road to the mines and it surpasses description to see the numbers that are flocking to this country and its mines

13th Sat A fine day. Strolled about town enquired a little the price of labor and found Joiners wages low on account of the overflow

14th Sun A fine day overhead, but not verry pleasant getting about town. Went to church to day for the first time in Sacramento City

15th mon Warm to day, went to work for Messrs. Scranton & Smith at putting addittion on thier store

April 123  
 at 14 dollars per day & roast beef

16th tues A strong west wind worked at Scranton & Smith again to day

17th wed Started this morning and went up to our camp on the bar to bring my things down to the City to remain a few days

18th Pleasant. Started for the city with Mr Fennor. Heard of Mrs Housers death on the road down left them doing verry well on the bar, got down about 3 ocl'k

19th fri Sorted some stuff out of the pile of lumber and sawed up stuff for six rockers

20th sat Fine weather yet the water seems to abate a little though the slews are filled yet and most of the principal streets did not do much to day as a diarhea has troubled me to day

21st sun A fine day Rather under the weather to day commenced a letter to Marble Dale. The greatest sport that I have had in california was last night it was in fishing Mr John Ayers & E. B. Sommers, are makeing a business of fishing and last night they made a great haul and no mistake

they went out and shortly returned with 23 fish that would average 20 lbs apiece. The next haul Mr Smith & myself concluded to see the fun so got in the boat and help row up, we went up about a mile & a half and drifted the seine accoss the river and floated down with the current occasionally a fish would strike the net and before we proceeded to haul in there was nothing [but]



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one continual splashing on the water, at this haul we got 20, they drifted once more and made up the number of 51 salmon making a little over 1000 lbs or half a ton of solid fish, the prettiest sight I ever saw in the fish line was this, they sell readily at 50 cts pr pound

1850

April

22nd A fine day. Made a box to put fish in to take down to San Francisco, Mr Smith went down to see to them on board the *Senator* I am some better to day Mr Smith went to San Francisco on board the *Senator* with salmon

23d tues Warm to day, feel a little better to day quite an affray took place at the Humbolt last night in which two men were badly cut with knives, it was caused under influence of intoxication it is thought that one will not survive Sawed out stuff for six rockers but have not worked verry hard

24th wed Worked a little at planeing stuff for the rockers [thumb sketch of rockers] exceedingly warm Smith arrived here this morning from San Francisco the Panama Steamer is now in port and will distribute her mail soon

25th thurs Pleasant, finished my letter for home and pressed some flowers and sent a specimen of the dust. Workeed at the rockers a little

26th Fri A hot day, the river is falling fast, Mr Julius Bassett staid with us last night he has just come down from the Yuba he is to start for his home in Humphreysville Ct in the next steamer, we have availed ourselves of the opportunity to send letters by him worked at rockers

27th Sat A fine day worked at putting together rockers

April &amp; May

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28th Sun Rather hot to day, heard of a man being shot at Mormon Island in trying to extract the contents of a safe, went to the play at the Theama Theatre last evening, lay about decks reading &c just as any set of lazy fellows would

29th Mon Warm again today. Worked at helping Mr Smith get things ashore from out the vessel and regulate and clense the hold



1850 30th tues Fine weather. The river is falling by littles so  
 that the sloughs out back ar fast drying up some places are  
 verry offensive and must be unhealthy Worked at my rocers  
 some to day

April

May  
 May 1st wed A beautiful day again only rather hot at  
 midday, worked at Mr Baldwin & Mr Hubbard came  
 down from the Yuba last night and report Mr Potters crowd  
 well except Mr E. Ayer who is considerable ill at present  
 went up town and bought some screws & sheet iron for riddles  
 and paid 1 1/4 dollars for screws pr gross and .50 cts pr lbs for  
 damaged sheet iron

2nd Thurs Warm, worked at my rockers today,  
 went to Rowes Olympic Circus in the evening at the New Pacific  
 Theatre Mr Rowe is a splendid rider and is also his wife the  
 history of whome is characteristic of the kindest virtues in the  
 female character. The whole Troupe came up on the ship *Tasso*  
 from panama. The ship made a long tedious passage from that  
 port to San Francisco and an inhumane unfeeling Captain for a

May

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Mr. Smith came up on the same ship & says that her conduct  
 on board was that of a philanthropist, the sick in the Steerage  
 & Forecastles she would go to, & sympathise with, and even share  
 the own little dainties which she was priviliged in the Cabin,  
 and take her ration of something coarser, that they might have  
 something they could relish, not only once but during the whole  
 passage were her sympathies connected with those who suffered  
 under her observation, and would most willingly lend a hand  
 to thier aid & comfort

3rd Fri A warm day, worked at finishing the riddles  
 & aprons to the rockers

4th Sat Pleasant, finished the rockers this forenoon  
 & this afternoon began a quick silver machine to take up to the  
 Yuba some time next week

5th Sun A fine pleasant, day, not much stirring  
 about town

6th mon Worked a little on the quick silver machine  
 sold two of the rockers for 46 dollars

7th tues Finished the riffles to the machine to day a  
 strong S wind



8th wed Warm, and somewhat sultry to day worked on the riddle to Machine and frame 1850

9th thurs A fine day finished the Machine Messrs Norton & Pearl arrived from San Francisco to day and brought a couple of letters for me one from E W & one from Le Raysville C P Lines both gave me great satisfaction and no mistake as there is not a more pleasing satisfaction for

May

127

a man in this country than to receive good news from his native home. Worked a little on a pump to the machine, &c in the afternoon help take lumber aboard and other stuff aboard to move up into the American River to save a heavy tax that was issued a short time since by the city on vessels along the levee employ'd a small steamer to tow us up but the current was too strong for her power to stem the current so we had to anchor without doing much towards getting up

10th fri Found ourselves too near the middle of the stream and hauled over the other side and lay till near night when a little breeze sprung up so bent a main-top-sail to try again but the breeze was soon gone finished the pump shall hardly get started this week for the Yuba

11th Sat A beautiful day, but little wind can do nothing towards moving the bark so made all hast to get ready to go up the river on the *Gov Dana* at 9 oc'lk Got our things together in a hurried manner and Mr Smith, Summers & myself started leaving Mr Ayers to fish, we find the banks of the river above sac' city overflowed for some distance which continued overflow does not speak well for the country at least its agricultural aspect we had a fine dinner at the little town of Nichaloss, and landed our things at Eliza another town of importance and sudden growth stay over

May

128

in Eliza start with our things as soon as we can find a team to take our things along

12th Sun A warm day, Smith & Summers started on and I stop with the things got a place for them on a load to go to the blue tent near Corduas' Bar where our Boys are got out about 5 miles and broke the waggon, had to stand in to



1850  
 May

Eliza again for another waggon which came near night and we proceeded to the Carrell and put up for the night find that they have verry comfortable places of accommodation along the road

13th mon A fine morning and a fine place the huge oaks rather thicker than thier usual scattered position close along of the river and a level country around makes the spot appear lovely indeed, went on as far as the blue tent and left the things and started on foot for Corduas' found instedd of three miles as much as eight went back and staid all night at the blue tent

14th tues Pleasant this morning left the things to come up on the first team bound up by us went back to Pot- ters camp. The boys were not at work today on account of the water being too high that it drove them out

15th wed A fine day went up and help dig a little today but had to leave off on account of a headache and debility which has haunted me for some days and I think if I had staid on the river at Sac' City much longer I should have had a fit of sickness as I can feel a sensible change in the atmosphere which I brethe and the water is much colder & better

May

129

16 thurs A strong wind last night and somewhat cold Smith & Potter came down from Union Bar Smith has bought a claim in thier daming operation there he was appointed President of the company yesterday. Worked in the ravine above with a common rocker done middling

17th fri Stoped down to day and made a panning trough to pour quicksilver from the riffler into and fix the pump. Cor- duas' store took fire and was soon consumed together with many valuebles and trinkets for the Indian trade had to work hard to save Baldwins tent we should have saved more things but there were loaded guns, pistols & a keg of powder and all went off but did not injure any one

18th sat A cool night but a fine day went over in the ravine and help on the Quicksilver Machine and had about 25 dolls for my share

19th sun A lovely day Mr Smith started for Union Bar this afternoon to go to work in the morning



- 20th mon Five of us went over in the ravine and worked 1850  
 21st tues Hot days & cold nights Smith came back May  
 last night
- 22 wed Verry cold towards morning Fixed up tools  
 in the Forenoon and 7 of us went up on the river this afternoon  
 and got over 5 oz of amalgam
- 23d thurs Verry windy last night worked on the  
 river
- 24th fri A fine day to day to work being a few clouds  
 to obscure the hot sun in the afternoon
- 25th sat The weather cool except at midday the river  
 is falling but seems to be at a stand at night

## May June

130

- 26th sun A warm [day] the boys retorted the last  
 weeks work made a dividend of 65 dollars Smith & Ayers  
 went up to upper camp as they commence to morrow
- 27th mon Hot noons & cold midnights six of us went  
 to work on our old place. About 200 Indians & squaws came  
 down and began to pan all around us, and dug the dirt with thier  
 hands, or sticks old pieces of iron and such lik seemed to be  
 verry friendly and behaved verry well
- 28th tues Warm, worked on the river
- 29th wed Worked on the river and got 10 1/2 oz of amal-  
 gam
- 30th thurs Quite cool to day Mr Wm F Keeler staid  
 with us last night and has worked with us some to day  
 started with Mr Geo Kippen for Union bar on a mule and got  
 there about dusk found Smith & Ayer well
- 31st fri Went down to where they were building a  
 race found a pretty rough looking spot, the camp seems to  
 be hemmed in on every side with high Mountains and the  
 river is tumbling trough between them in a wild frantic manner,  
 started back this afternoon go back to oncupy E B Sommers  
 claim on Monday Went down to lower camp afoot with Mr  
 Elihu F Baldwin got there about dusk
- June 1st sat Clear & warm river verry high yet. June  
 Went up to Roses Bar in the forenoon with Mr Keeler & saw  
 some of our acquaintances from Conn & took a general look



1850  
June

Roses Bar is situated on a large bend in the river and is verry rich in some places A large company is formed and a race nearly completed for turning the river which bids fair to thier prosperity

2nd sun Warm started in the afternoon for the upper camp packed my things on Mr Kippens' mule, got there

June 131

about sundown

3 mon Did not go to work in the forenoon as the stock has not been transfered, the company met at noon and the stock & interest was transferred to me for which I am to give one thousand dollars in the fall if we do well went to work in the race in the afternoon board with Nortons Co for a spell

4th tues A pleasant day went to work rolling rocks out of the slue our rules are verry good I think for such a set of men as this appears to be we work but 7 hours in a day 4 in the morning & 3 in the afternoon leaveing out from 10 till 3 in the afternoon

Names of the Union association

Harry A Smith, Pres	New	} Directors	Denis U Norton	Madison
Haven Ct			Conn	
Obadiah Davis	Mass		George Kippen "Sect"	Bridge-
Wm Foster	Mobile		port Conn	
Peter Platt	"		George Brisco	Newton
Thomas Reynolds	do		Charles E Blackman,	do
John Foster	do		Moses Botsford	"
Elijah Chadwick	Mass		Joel S Blakeslee	New Haven
Lincoln Fish	Mass	Edwin Ayer	Saybrook	
		Nelson Kingsley	New Milford	

All a strong hearty looking set of men and look as if they were able to stand a hard summers work

5th wed Worked in the race at rooling out rocks & stone

6th thurs Verry hot to day worked in the lower end of the race to day as the water has driven us out above

7th Warm to day water verry high not verry good working to day on account of the water comeing in upon us

June 132 1850

8th sat Worked in the forenoon and in the afternon adjourned until next thursday started for Marysville to buy



provision for the summer & get articles preparatory to liveing by myself went as far as Potters camp and put up 1850  
June

9th sun Took an early start this morning down & got to Marysville about noon being about 25 miles Put up at the St Louis Hotel kept by Mr Peck & lady from St Louis Finished up letters for home two to Marble Dale one to Le Raysville Pa

10th mon Verry warm Started out to get my things so that they will be ready for the first team traded mostly with a Mr Sartwell of Boston Get things reasonable for California Flour \$12 cwt, beans 40 cts pr lb Sugar 50 cts pickles \$3.00 pr Gall Dried apples 50 cts Ham 40 cts &c &c, Stay over night

11th tues Quite a row on the placer last night between two Judges got my things carried out as far as Fergusons about 20 miles & got up to lower camp about sundown

12th wed A warm day Started for Union Bar got permit to see to my things up here & went back with Norton

13th thurs Got Mr Baldwins Mules & packed my things up to our camp Cloudy with a few drops of water

14th fri Warm days & cool nights began to day to keep an account as I bought a thermometor below Therm 59 morn (noon 68 shade 78 sun) 65 eve

15th sat Worked in the race all day just had our tools all sharpened as our bellows & forge has been put in operation commenced an arbor for my tent to day Thermometer 50 morn (noon 78 shade noon 98 sun) 68 eve

16th sun A warm day at midday cleaning up & reading has

**June** 133 1850

been the business of the day mixed with many thoughts of home Therm 54 morn (noon 72 shade 83 sun) 68 eve

17th mon The coldest this morning of any morning yet worked in the race Therm 44 morn (noon 75 shade 90 sun) 67 eve

18th tues Pleasant. Worked in the race, six or eight Frenchmen came into camp today to stop Therm 46 morn (noon 86 shade 100 sun) 69 eve



1850

June

19th wed A fine day, a beautiful breeze springs up about 11 o'clock which is a luxury it being so hot at noon Worked in the race Mooved into my tent to day and am now takeing it all alone in an old batchelor California style do my own cooking

Therm 48 morn (noon 78 shade 88 sun) 71 eve

20th thurs A fine day to work worked in the upper end of the race the middle is now in verry good shape

Therm 51 morn (noon 77 shad 100 sun) 72 eve

21st fri Rather hot at midday worked at rolling stone out of the race tried makeing an apple pie for the first time done well at it

Therm 51 morn (noon 81 shade 104 sun) 72

22nd sat Pleasannt day a cool breeze, the river rose so last night that it drove us down to the lower end of the slue the water rose so that we could not work in the afternoon

Therm 53 morn (noon 82 shade 100 sun) 68 eve

23rd sun The hottest day yet but kept cool under our brush awnings went down to a store about 4 mile below here

Thermometer 54 morn (noon 90 shade 110 sun) 79 eve

24th mon Went down to the race and found the water too high to go to work there so the president divided the men and part went over the river & part to blasting at the lower end of the race to day is our first attempt at the dam we commence by rolling rocks & stone in & and keep it a going until they come

June

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above the water so that we can walk on them to throw more over the end held a meeting to day and admitted Mr James Benet of Mass in place of D W Norton and with the rest held an indignation over delinquent members complaining of too many Billy Fishes being the Company or that some did not do thier share

Therm 57 morn 95 shade 113 sun 85 eve

25th tues Worked on the dam accross the river it is quite cool in the forenoon to work as the steep hill above us affords a shade until about ten begin at 1/2 past six forenoon & 1/2 pas 3 afternoon to day Therm 60 morn 93 shade 108 sun 78 eve



26th wed A cool breeze about noon the hills are all parched and it seems as if the very trees must soon follow the vegetable matter being such a continued hot, dry spell and to think we shall have no more rain till fall makes it seem still worse worked across the river

Therm 57 morn 97 shade 104 sun 76 eve

27th thurs Worked in the forenoon and for the rest of the week shall not worke in the afternoon read Charles Chesterfield by Mrs Trollop find her quite an interesting author

Therm 59 morn 94 shade 106 sun 79 eve

28th fri Worked accross the river in the forenoon

Therm 62 morn 97 shade 114 sun 86 eve

29th sat Extremely hot to day, worked in the forenoon and by a meeting of Co we adjourned one week the next being the week of the 4th of July I was appointed to go down to Sac' city to get stuff for makeing our quicksilver machines went down to the lower camp & staid all night

Therm 66 morn 104 shade 123 sun 87 eve

30th sun Breakfasted early and Mr Smith, Foster, Kippen & myself started for sac' city verry hot travelling over the plains, got to

**July** 135

Marysville about two oclock and I think the hottest time I ever experienced no steamboat leaves to-day so put up at the St Louis Hotel have rich meals Therm 68 morn 105 shade 125 sun 89 eve

1st mon Staid about town all day find nothing new but that they established a government Post office at this place since I was down before which I think will be beneficial to the northern mines Therm 72 morn 105 shade 124 sun 88 eve started down at six oclock P M to Sac' City on the *Gov Dana* *July*

2nd tues Found ourselves in sac city about 1/2 past 10 last night went to the Globe Hotel & put up over night in the morning after breakfast Mr Smith and myself made a visit up to where the bark lays in the American river she looks rather hard to what the rest of the vessels do we wen aboard found Dr Yale well but Mr Smith visited the safe where had



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July

been deposited som four thousand dollars and on opening it found it gone, to his no small surprise & how could it be the safe well locked and he (Smith) in possession of the key and the other key he had carefully locked up in his trunk and the key to trunk in his possession the next thing was to search the trunk no second key was to be found the the rascal had somehow picked the trunk lock & knowing the key to the safe was there, saw his way clear, we came to the conclusion that it was some one who knew how things were aboard the vessel and concluded to make the thing a secret untile he could get some trace in the afternoon he started for San Francisco in the st'r *Gold Hunter*

Therm 72 morn 104 shade 120 sun 84 eve

3d wed Staid on board the Brig *Ruth* last night & board there hauled over the pile of lumber by the bark to day and got my stuff for machines excep the frames not much going on in town a little fireing in the evening but of no account

Therm 68 morn 95 shade 114 sun 84 eve

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4th Thurs A verry fine day This day has been spent quite different from what it was by me one year ago I mad a small chest to put my tools in to take up to the mines, and in the afternoon went about town to see what was going on but found but little stirring and all that I know of was the Sons of Temperance had a dinner over on Washington side and a large ball at Brighton some six miles from here Apart from this one would have been puzzled to have distinguished this day from most others Therm 68 morn 95 shade 112 sun 79 eve

5th fri Mr Smith & Foster came in on the boat this morning Mr Smith has found verry reliable information concerning the robbery & the guilt is now placed upon Mr Wm F Keeler who has remitted money home and has appeared to have plenty of money by him of late, he has left some time since for the Sandwitch Islands whither he said he was going to farming & should send for his family to meet him. Circumstances are strongly against him and our suspicions must rest there until the truth is known to the contrary Finished picking out lumber to day to go up the river tomorrow



Therm 65 morn 94 shade 110 sun 78 eve  
 6th sat Got the things together this morning at the *Gov Dana* landing had them put aboard Mr Kippen came in on the boat this morning from San Francisco and we three left for Union bar Mr Foster went up last night on the *Dana* a 9 oclock A M & got to marysville about 5 P M stoped at St Louis Hotel after landing our things & bringing them up the steep bank by the river

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 July

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7th sun A warm day Engaged a teemster to take our things up to our place and about 8 oclock four of us took the stage as far as long bar 16 miles paid \$5 apiece and got up to lower camp about noon leaveing Mr Wilder to come up the other side of the river Mr Foster & myself went on up to upper camp and reached there before sundown I found that John Wrights mule had made a depradation on my eatables during my absence but was arrested too soon to do much damage

Therm 64 morn 94 shade 109 sun 75 eve

8th mon Company did not go to work this morning but in the afternoon Smith & Kippen came up and they went up on the hill and fixed a ravine so that the teamster could come nearer the camp with our things. I worked at building a brush arbor to work under Therm 63 morn 96 shade 115 sun 80 eve

9th tues A fine day all but me went to work in the race and I worked a finishing my house & making a bench &c

Therm 54 morn 94 shade 110 sun 78 eve

10th wed Went to work at sawing up stuff for the riffles & getting them out the rest worked in the race

Thermometer 60 morn 99 shade 114 sun 76 eve

11th thurs Went to work with Mr Chadwick to getting out stuff for frame work to machines by cutting down oaks & splitting them out Therm 62 morn 100 shade 116 sun 78 eve

12 fri Worked to day on the timber in the forenoon & had the headache in the afternoon so that I did not do much, the people worked over accross the river to day at the dam

Therm 60 morn 98 shade 113 sun 80 eve

July 138 1850

• 13th sat Verry dry hot weather vegetation is now



1850 all parched and the trees seem to feel the dry weather not a  
*July* little The co' worked over the river to day I worked at  
 the bench getting out stuff Therm 60 morn 100 shade 114  
 sun 80 eve

14 A cool airy day. A fine day for a sunday I have  
 enjoyed it verry much but should have enjoyed it much better in  
 Old Connecticut where the sabbath is fully observed and society  
 is priviliged with the great measures & uses of divine worship,  
 here, all is the same one day as with another only a general  
 suspension of business on sunday but for no other observance  
 than merely to rest, of course this is dull but a plenty of books  
 & an established principal of reading them may in a measure  
 suffice for it I am almost come to the conclusion that I shall  
 return this fall whether my object is accomplished or not but  
 it is hard to tell what one will do in this country

Therm 58 morn 91 shade 109 sun 76 eve

15th mon Verry pleasant day Mr E Ayers is quite  
 down with the dysentery The Doctor came up to see Mr Som-  
 mers and thinks his foot will recover without amputation it at  
 first was bad being blown throug with a charge of heavy shot  
 Worked at the riffers to Machine am getting up four at a  
 time to split out the rockers & stantions is no small job &  
 hew them ready to saw into shape for the joiners Therm 58  
 morn 96 shade 115 sun 75 eve

16th tues A warm day, worked at riffers. The rest at  
 work on the dam Therm 62 morn 101 shade 117 sun 82 eve

17th wed Another hot day repaired a wheelbarrow  
 in the fore noon & whittled riffles in the afternoon

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finished a letter for Marble Dale this noon. Mr Smith Quite  
 unwell to day with a kind of gripeing

Therm 65 morn 104 shade 123 sun 84 eve

18th thurs The warmest day yet. Finished putting to-  
 gether the riffers in A M & went to sawing out stuff for the  
 riddle and its frame work in the P M The Co worked some  
 at floating down logs for the dam

Therm' 68 morn 108 shade 129 sun 85 eve hottest at 4 o'c'lk

19th fri A hot day, worked at getting out stuff for



frame to the riddles, at noon wrote a letter to my Bro' 1850  
 Henry They are getting along into shoal water with the July  
 dam

Therm 70 morn 106 shade 120 sun 80 eve hottest a 3  
 oclk a fine breeze sprung up at 1/2 past three

20th sat The weather is growing cooler than it has been  
 along past worked at setting out & framing the stuff, in the  
 forenoon Co did not work in the forenoon fixed wheel-  
 barrows in the afternoon

Therm 62 morn, 95 shade 120 sun 80 eve

21st sun A fine day, done washing this morn A  
 little against what I thought to be doing right but in this place  
 it is thought nothing of

Therm 57 morn 92 shade 112 sun 76 eve

22nd mon Worked at the rockers The changed the  
 hours of labor to day commenceing at 6 oc'lk and work until  
 10 A M, and commence again at 4 and work till 7 oc'lk eve  
 makeing 6 hours now

Therm 56 morn 91 shade 108 sun 76 eve.

23d tues Worked at putting together the franes had  
 quite a sick spell this noon at

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the stomache but did not last me long The are getting along  
 finely with the dam Therm 56 morn 88 shade 104 sun 74 eve

24th wed A pleasant day to work worked at the put-  
 ting together, finished putting together. The Frenchman that  
 shot himself died this afternoon

Therm 56 morn 86 shade 100 sun 75 eve

25th thurs A cool morning again Made a Coffin in  
 the forenoon, the man was buried at noon there was but one  
 solitary mourner & he could not understand a single word of  
 English Neither could we understand him—and the scene  
 which took [place] as we assembled to assist in conveying the  
 remains of his brother to its last resting place was truly affect-  
 ing It seamed the two brothers had come to this country on  
 the general errand that others come, and to part now just before  
 they were to leave for home' was hard indeed. It seemed to  
 break his heart almost to see the Coffin-lid close that was to



1850 July separate them forever, and he to be left alone here among strangers. He thanked us kindly or we supposed from what he attempted to say that he did after the ceremony.

Therm 56 morn 97 shade 110 sun 82 eve

26th fri Not quite so cold last night yet Comfortable with two & three blanketts over me all night worked at fitting the irons on the frames

Therm 62 morn 110 shade 115 sun 84 eve

27th sat Finished fitting the plates and rigged an apparatus for punching them none worked this afternoon

July, August 141

The waters is falling all the time and has now got so that we can see the bottom of the river in some places Therm 62 morn 104 shade 128 sun 86 eve

28th sun The day is fine and like all others warm but a fine breeze favors it - vegetation has dried up some the past week. The water in the river grows warmer but is as yet cool & nice to drink went across the river to day with E Blackman went down on the point below the bar to get a view of the dam & camp, did not succeed well sent my letters down yesterday by Mr Kippin

Therm 60 morn 100 shade 118 sun 80 eve

29th mon Punched the iron plates for the machines in the forenoon & went to putting them on in the afternoon

To day the Doct' came up from Roses Bar to see Mr Sommers had to open his foot in a new place I think his case may yet be doubtful he suffers largely with it Therm 63 morn 96 shade 110 sun 78 eve

30 tues Worked at finishing the machines fastening on the plates, &c They are getting on finely with the dam

Therm 60 morn 93 shade 109 sun 77 eve

31st wed Finished the bed frames to the machines in the forenoon & went over and worked on the dam in the afternoon, which made a growl for a little as most of them expected me to keep on making the rest of the machines, they got in the last bed timbers to day which when covered will allow us to walk across the river Therm 57 morn 92 shade 105 sun 74 eve

Aug. Aug 1st thurs Went to work on the riffers to the other



fours machine have to put on a piece to make the bottom 1850  
 wide enough the dam has raised the river on this side so that Aug.  
 it nearly enters the race

Therm 57 morn 93 shade 104 sun 71 eve

August

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2nd fri Finished the bottoms, and got out the sides &  
 riffles Not so hot to day The dam raises the water con-  
 siderable Mr Ayers started for Sac City to get canvass for  
 the dam

Therm 58 morn 91 shade 106 sun 76 eve

3d sat Worked at setting out stuff for riffles in the  
 forenoon Made a wheelbarrow wheel out of pine board  
 The company did not work in the afternoon <Therm 60 morn  
 95 shade 114 sun 82 eve> Heard Mr J Wright tell of what  
 he saw on his rout to California last year he came by the  
 northern rout so called and saw the spot where Donnaldsons  
 [Donner] party perished in '46 in comeing through to settle  
 here he saw the bones lying around and it being in the hottest  
 part of the season when he was there he had a chance to see the  
 ruins of the huts and provision house which was put up by  
 the party and now was nearly demolished oweing to the snow  
 being melted away upon which they were built, stumps of trees  
 were standing which was 20 & 30 feet high which was cut prob-  
 ably close down to the snow The history of this party is  
 thrilling. They started from the state of Missouri about 150 &  
 was divided into smaller parties of about 50 after leaveing  
 Salt lake they divid seperated and Donnaldson thought he would  
 come a nearer rout. After getting into the Sirra Nevada on  
 the east side it came on to snow and snowed so that it entirely  
 impeded any farther progress so they were obliged to prepare  
 for the worst they killed thier cattle & mules and these not  
 being sufficient to last them out of the difficulty they began to  
 perish by starvation no one could come to thier relief, no  
 one knew of thier whereabouts and suffering condition as fast  
 as one

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died the flesh was taken to sustain the last spark of the survivors,  
 thus one day after another passed away and death must soon



1850 Aug. overtake every one that had life      The men & women liveing almost entirely on each other      husbands eat the flesh of thier perished wives      the children that of thier parents or the Parents that of thier children      Previous to this last resort the party from [which] they seperated had arrived in sacramento and Cap'n Sutter hearing the story of these, concluded that the other party from thier none-arrival must be in a suffering condition on the Sirra Nevada      either prevented from comeing farther by the great quantity of snow which he knew fell very suddenly and in great quantities, or must be robbed by the Indians      he accordingly dispatched some indian's & a white man or two well provided with provisions snow shoes &c after travelling some 250 miles they found the sufferers and there only remaned a man one woman and a small boy the rest had all perished      The snow was some 30 or 40 feet deep and the started back for Sacramento which place the remaining three arrived after a few days travel, the only ones to tell the sad tale of thier journey. He speaks of many interesting natural curiosities on the rout among which are the boiling springs, the soda springs—and a spring called the steamboat spring, the boiling springs are sufficiently hot to boil meat which was done by some of the party and gushes up out of the ground in considerable quantities      the water has the taste when cold of fresh water after being boiled      The soda he thinks was the greatest curiosity      it was

Aug

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pure soda and possessed all the qualities of a soda fount      they all drank freely forom it      the spring was a complete foam the same as soda taken from a fount, they raised some bread with it which he said was the best soda bread he ever tasted. A few yards from these was the steamboat spring      a curious thing indeed      it came out of a solid rock      the hole in the basin of the rock is about six inches accross it and a column of water will rise out of it to the hight of about 2 feet and settle back again out of sight and will keep doing so at regular intervals incessantly,      he says they put thier pocket kerchiefs in to it and in about half an hour they would come up out thoroughly washed, the water was about blood-warm and a flattish taste



several other incidents were mentioned which were interesting  
 4th sun A fine day nothing of much interest more  
 than common Hope that by the next sabbath that I shall  
 recieve letters from home

[Therm] 62 morn 97 shade 116 sun 80 eve

5th mon Worked at riffers to day the worked as  
 usual on the dam progress with it finely

Therm 62 morn 100 shade 121 sun 82 eve

6th tues Worked at putting together riffers this after-  
 noon

Therm 62 morn 100 shade 120 sun 82 eve

7th wed Finished putting together in the forenoon &  
 went to getting out the frames to riddle afternoon

Therm 60 morn 102 shade 126 sun 83 eve

8th thurs They have now got the timbers on so that one  
 can go across dry footed shall now be working at loose cor-  
 ners until the canvass comes

Therm 61 morn 97 shade 111 sun 80 eve

Aug

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9th fri Finished getting out stuff for the riddles and  
 went to setting out stuff

Therm 60 morn 97 shade 118 sun 78 eve

10th sat Framed and put together the parts to the  
 riddle Company did not work in the afternoon. They now  
 have got the dam so far advanced that but little more can be  
 done until they have the canvass Mr Pearl came down the  
 river he says that all good claims are worked out and are  
 doing no more there than we are here but little is being done  
 in the banks along here As it is heavy work to prospect thour-  
 oughly, and those that pass over the ground do not try it in  
 the right manner Therm 58 morn 99 shade 120 sun 80 eve

11th sun. A warm day spent the day as is usual on  
 sunday but a parcel of us went down the river to John's store  
 and broug some provisions Mr Ayers not arrived yet

Therm 60 morn 98 shade 117 sun 79 eve

12th mon Went to setting up the riddles to day The  
 canvass came in to night—Mr Ayers brought me four letters  
 three from New Preston & one from Illinois they were daded

1850  
 Aug.



1850 Aug. Apr'l & May They afforded a rich feast especially here in this country and must say that I hardly know how to reward the kindness of thier authors Therm 62 morn 99 shade 114 sun 80 eve

13th tues Worked at the machine to day they commenced on the canvass for the dam got enough sewed together for the end of the dam on the bar and it was taken down & put on

Therm 64 morn 100 shade 116 sun 81 eve

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14th wed Worked the same as yesterday they filled the space in the dam so that it raised the water considerably nearly into the race. To day the eighteen months expires on which a company was formed to act in this country called the New Haven & California Joint Stock Company and many other things of a different nature expires also. I am with the opinion of Mr Smith that take the company together that we could not raise money enough to take ourselves all home so that it is bad for the ones who fitted out its members but those will fare the best I suppose who fitted out those of a strictly honest & upright disposition

Therm 62 morn 100 shade 122 sun 82 eve

15th thurs Worked at the machines They have got the stone & gravel accross so that it is ready for the canvass

Therm 70 morn 102 shade 116 sun 84 eve it has been cloudy to day or the fore part of it and a verry few drops of rain the first clouds which has been seen in the sky since the 13th of June, but it is clear, and a pleasant moonlight night

16th fri Another hot day, finished setting up the riddles and went to getting out some small timber for bed pieces The canvass is nearly ready to put in

Therm 66 morn 106 shade 118 sun 85 eve

17th sat Went to cutting & getting out frames for the machines to stand on they worked all day put in the canvass in the afternoon all but about 15 yds which they thought best not to do to night for fear it might raise the water over the dam

Therm 64 morn 102 shade 114 sun 83 eve



Aug

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18th sun A fine pleasant [day] A few went over & let in the remainder of the canvass which raised the water nearly over the dam, it is about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  feet deep in the races and runs through it quite swift nearly  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the water runs through the race the canvass does all we thought it would, we see now that we shall have to make the dam one tier of logs higher & shall have to put on another breadth of canvass to be able to stop the water entirely and raise it high enough to all waste itself in the race. Wrote a letter home to E to day Therm 62 morn 103 shade 120 sun 84 eve

1850  
Aug.

19th mon Went to work this morning at the bed frames, the rest of the company have done nothing to day Mr Davis started for Marysville after more canvass a few weeds were cut & put in at the bottom where the canvass cannot come down tight but they had to desist as it was like to raise the water

Therm 63 morn 102 shade 116 shade [sun] 85 eve

20th tues The men went up the river about a mile & one half to cut timber for the dam I worked at getting the machine finished a job which I hope this week will accomplish Recieved a fine letter from Miss W a great treat and must give a full answer

Therm 65 morn 98 shade 113 sun 83 eve

21st wed They finished getting timber up the river which was floated down to the dam and lodged against it, the water raises a verry little and just runs over in one place but that was soon stopped

Therm 64 morn 100 shade 112 sun 83 eve

22 thurs Worked on the Panning troughs got out the stuff & put the bottoms in the water to swell them before putting them together, it requires great care in making both these and the riffler boxes in order to have them hold quicksilver Therm 63 morn 102 shade 120 sun 83 eve Sent down a letter to Marysvill to be mailed to Miss W

Aug

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23d fri Made spattering boxes in the forenoon & put together the panning troughs four in number in the afternoon, the rest of the company worked at putting the timbers on the



1850 dam & at filling in with dirt the timbers are laid on the same  
 as the others were under them 'ie' a log laid each side of the  
 dam and these connected with ties fitted well, and pinned firmly  
 between these ties and logs stone are put firmly chinked  
 with dirt carried wheelbarrows from the bank, the rocks are  
 more plenty there than the dirt

Therm 63, 102, 119, 84

24th Put the irons on four of the machines. The Co did  
 not work in the afternoon as some refused on account of haveing  
 too "slim a team" but I think at this time every hours labor  
 ought to count 'till we get into the river, Mr Wm Foster &  
 myself took our pans and went up the river about about two miles  
 prospating we tumbled down some rocks and got a little dirt  
 from the crevasses and panned out some 4 or 5 dollars worth in  
 a short time, the country up through this is extremely wild &  
 romantic the river is hemmed in on both sides with huge masses  
 of rocks and makeing down to these on the right hand side is  
 the steep mountain which is rocky & precipitous in places with  
 some tall straight pines shooting up towards heaven as if  
 unconcious of the steeps below & above them, on the left the huge  
 rocks rise perpendicular overhanging in some places & jutting  
 out as if ready to tumble from thier places into the stream below,  
 these rise to the hight of several hundred feet from the surface  
 of the water presenting a black frightful appearance in going  
 along beneath them the water of the river along here is set  
 back by our dam and runs silently as if affraid to disturb the  
 tomblike silence of the place the water

Augusto

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is verry deep along here, and the rocks near the water are worn  
 high up smooth by the freshets that take place here in the spring

Therm 64 morn 103 shade 118 sun 83 eve

25th sun Nothing of much interst to day except I had  
 good luck in bakeing a loaf of Ginger-bread, should like to  
 hear a good sermon in a pulpit much better than baking.

Therm 63 morn 99 shade 121 sun 84 eve

26 mon Not so hot to day went to work with the  
 rest over the river wheeled dirt & stone in the morning and  
 cut weeds & young willow sprouts to put down to the bottom of



the canvass to keep the water from sucking the dirt through, the weeds are put down with a pike pole and the pressure of the water keeps them to thier place the timber is now all on and nothing remains to be done but to stop the water as fast as possible we have raised the water in the dam to day about 4 inches begun to day at 3 oclock

1850  
Aug.

Therm 62 morn 97 shade 112 sun 80 eve

27th tues Cut a few boat-loads of brush this morning and worked the rest of the day at boating dirt to fill in at the bottom of the canvass have raised the water within 12 or 14 inches of the top of the dam & some fears are entertained that the dam is not high enough now, but the water is now going through another sluc beside the race, so that all that is now raised by throwing in dirt & weeds will have a free passage via the race

Therm 58 morn 94 shade 114 sun 78

28th wed We all worked about the same as yesterday We have lowered the water below the dam some 5 inches which gives us some encouragement Therm 60, 99, 116, 80

August

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29th thurs The water in the dam has fallen during the night and raised a little showing that it washes some during the night we have got into a place of more substantial stuff to fill in with being more turfy recieved a New York Herald of July 13th which contained the death of the President Taylor. This news was truely sudden to us all and at this crisis in congress when the slave question— and other matters of so much importance are to be finished or decided I was truly in hopes we could have had his wise old head in determing and adjusting them to the best interests of our great nation but it seems we have a man that *bids fair to be a man* to take his place I like the views of Mr Filmore much in respect to slavery, and his conduct generally through life and through him I cannot but suppose that we shall have just & impartial decisions throughout his career

Therm 60 morn 101 shade 120 sun 83 eve

30th fri Worked at shovelling dirt & sods to put the upper side of the dam We have raised the water so that it is



1850 as high as the top of the dam. We hear big stories of a place  
 Aug. below here about 9 miles at Segars bar where it is said they take  
 out from 20 to 60 pounds pr day but I dont beleive it

Therm 59 morn 96 shade 110 sun 78 eve

31st sat Shoveled dirt from the bank into the boat to  
 day five went down to work in the river and begun a wing-  
 dam to turn off what water remains in the river and are to get  
 a machine started as soon as possible to see what there is in the  
 bottom or bed of the river

Therm 59 morn 96 shade 115 sun 80 eve

Sept. **September** 151

1st sun A fine day to day, should like to be where I  
 could enjoy the benefit of a good sermon, but I hope I shall be  
 prospered so that another year I can enjoy fully the the true light  
 of good society, some fellows came down from *Boston Bar*  
 and we had a fine sing in the Evening which put me in mind of  
 home

Therm 60 morn 99 shade 112 sun 83 eve

2nd mon The company held one of thier disagreeable  
 confabs this morning concerning selling one or two of their  
 machines some were strongly for & some were strongly  
 against it they finally resolved not to sell any but keep them  
 against we should want them all but four of us went down  
 to work in the river fixing so that they can prospect, the other  
 four myself among them carried dirt in the boat to stop the  
 water in the dam. I recieved a letter from my brother Henry in  
 Ill, he speaks of my fathers' being with him and all well

Therm 64 morn 96 shade 110 sun 78

3d tues We all worked the same as yesterday except Mr  
 Smith worked in the dirt gang with us to day we make slow  
 progress with it in stopping the water but I think we gain on it  
 some Mr Smith catched a salmon that weighed 14 lbs which  
 was trying to work up among the rapids below the dam he  
 made a fine meal around and of course a great luxury Therm  
 62 morn 96 shade 110 sun 77 eve

4th Worked at boating dirt we have stoped the water  
 a little The company have sunk a hole at the waters edge  
 about eight or ten feet but find nothing, and will give it up &  
 try some other place this in not



**September**

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Sept.

a verry good look but it proves nothing against the rest of the river so no one is discouraged yet news came up to day that 501 dollars was taken out of the bed of the river at Roses Bar about 4 miles below here Therm 64 morn, 95 shade 110 sun 78 eve

5th thurs Worked at shovelling dirt to day, the rest began a sink down the river in a new place but gave it up and began up near the dam and will try the rapids, I should like to see some stability in what they undertake and not shift so much as it is not profitable in my estimation

Therm 63 morn 96 shade 111 sun 79 eve

6th fri Worked at getting dirt & sods to fill in above the dam The rest worked at the wing dam below the dam, to night they took a vote to work for ourselves tomorrow to get money to get provisions as many of us are rather "hard up"

Therm 63 morn 94 shade 110 sun 78 eve

7th sat Worked at clearing off a claim to get at some dirt to work a machine, it was rather a hard sight to go to work at but three of us Mr Platt, Blakeslee & myself effected an entrance to some dirt that would pay about 12 cts but did not stand about getting down into it so much as we did for the after convenience of working it. It is a disheartening sight for a stranger to come along & undertake to prospect one of these claims and it never has been done thouroughly until this spring and it is found that on getting down well that the dirt is quite rich some of which will pay from \$.75 to \$1.50 pr panful the stone are large & as heavy & worn smooth as glass by the water which makes them

**September**

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1850

the worst kind of slippery things to handle. The Fosters & Reynolds made out of thier claim just below us about 60 dollars today Therm 63 morn 96 shade 112 sun 80 eve

8th sun A cool day the air is verry clear and not a cloud is seen to speck the azure of the deep blue sky The stillness around brings many things to mind that would not otherwise be thought of, but I am too far from home to only enjoy it alone & in solitude, the hills around present only thier



1850  
 Sept.

time-worn rocks, and parched vegetation—with nothing to relieve the eye but the trees that are scattered over thier sides, the lofty pines on the other side and the evergreen oak and Nut Pine are all the varieties of trees or timber a few grapes the size of our frost grapes in Conn are now beginning to ripen in a ravine above us a load of provisions providetially made thier appearance last night and will of course be distributed to the hungry & needy they were brought up by Mr H C Waters & Co

Therm 56 morn 87 sun 105 sun 76 eve

9th mon Some cooler than yesterday worked at cutting sods to put in the dam to stop the water, one gang of five commenced sinking a hole down the river—four on the wing-dam & three of us putting in dirt & sods above the dam had a fine sing last night with two from Boston Bar about 11¼ miles above here The general news from above & below are good many places they are doing first rate, but many stragglers there are that are glad to hire at any price, but 8 dollars pr day is the average price

Therm 52 morn 80 shade 102 sun 69 eve

**September**

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10th tues A verry singular day the sun has been obscured all day and a cold wind blowing up the river, the clouds at times looked as if ready to drop thier watery particles upon this parched region and again revive vegetation Worked at shovelling into the boat, the rest are at work the same 13 at work 3 unable how much we need all our forces at this time, at night Mr Whitmore & Mr was down and gave me a strong & urgent invitation to go up to thier bar and have a sing which of course I did not refuse, the wing-dam above about two miles above is to be abandoned without success, which I hope will not be the case with ours but every day our doubts grow stronger

Therm 54 morn 62 no sun to day 66 at eve

11th wed Some warmer to day a few clouds and the sun quite hid at or near night worked at the same as yesterday, the Company that were sinking the hole knocked off and all but us three went to work on the wing-dam Therm 56 morn 77 noon 69 eve



12th thurs Warm to day, but not uncomfortable. 1850  
 Worked at the wing-dam at wheeling dirt to stop the water we Sept.  
 put in canvass on the wing, and have nearly stoped the water so  
 that it is quite dry the water is colder to day than it was last  
 week by 6 degrees, it is 63 to night the water has raised so  
 the dam is full tonight

Therm 58 morn 82 shade 93 sun 63 eve

13th fri Worked at hauling down dirt off the side hill  
 and loading wheelbarrows, a part of the company went in to  
 prospect below the wing dam on

September

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verry spot where our main dependence lies but nothing has been  
 found of any account shares have been offered for 25 cts  
 to-night but come to pin them to it they want these yet I  
 think our case a little hopeless and some are beginning to get  
 the blues on most horribly many or all who thought to return  
 this fall will have to try it another season to make unless they  
 have extra luck the remainder of this Therm 56 79, 97 64

14th sat Today is a day of *remarkable events*. The com-  
 pany are discouraged by not finding the gold as plenty just in  
 the spots they have expected, and in fact it does look scaley for  
 us at present, every one has worked well, and worked hard, and  
 worked long no pains have been spared to do the work well  
 and now to have it prove a faliur is hard but most of us have  
 good claims on the bar and shall work them the remainder of  
 the season to get all we can. The liabilities of the company are  
 1100 dollars and the back time of delinquent members (which  
 is ten dollars pr day) will more than balance accounts there  
 has been 1320 days works done to get it where it now is which is  
 82½ days to a single man I have since I came on the claim  
 worked 71½ days which if lost will hurt me some, so I have  
 about made up my mind to stay until another season, the tools  
 were prized the machines at 150.00 dollars, and other

September

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1850

things in proportion to thier first cost to what they had been  
 used. I have lost no time and on the other hand found credited  
 to me one day extra that I done while others were lying still  
 we have adjourned two weeks and it is so left now, that the



1850  
 Sept.

river is open for any company to make a *spec* by comeing in & working it on shares as we can agree no one has given up his claim and we calculate that another season we shall be better able to go on with it or speculate by selling out I think it is a foolish idea to give it up as it is not prospected nor begun to be I believe that there is gold enough in some places and so does every candid mind so it is the interest of every one to Stick by

Therm 56 morn 85 noon 62 eve

15th sun Cool and pleasant. Mr Blakeslee & myself started down to Corduas Bar to see how the rest are doing, some are doing well, and others like ourselves cannot do anything. I have seen a number of dams and see none that eaquel ours for strength & durability I have not seen one that might be called finished, and like ourselves have great difficulty in stopping the water. When we started back we visited the graves of the deceased members of the Montague Company I think the style the graves are fixed reflect credit to the company the graves six in number are laid out in a row about four feet apart and a strong neat fence encloses them, each grave has a plank with the inscription of the name carved into it with a neat cap on the top of it and well painted & sanded to imitate

September

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1850

granite these will stand many years. There was only one of the deceased that I knew which was Mr Josept T Benedict of Huntington Conn. whose Father & Brother live in New Preston Conn. To night is a remarkable night since sundown it has rained quite a shower attended with distant thunder which is the first I have heard in some time

Therm morn 55 no observation noon & night but about avarage heat

16th mon Cloudy some of the time to day, last night might be called a rainy night as it rained in squalls nearly all night Went to work down on the bar with Mr Platt, James Bennet, I S Blakeslee, we got the claim ready to go to work on to morrow with a quicksilver machine the top dirt under the large rocks which are so thick as to touch each other—seems to pay well enough to wash, the rest that are at work on the claims



below are doing well, I worked at repairing a pump and fixing a machines spattering box in the afternoon

1850  
Sept.

Therm 54 morn 76 noon 68 eve

17th tues. Went to work on the bar washed some of dirt which we had to moove that had been once washed in a common rocker and got 14 dollars in amalgam it took us about four hours the rest of the time was occupied in mooveing stone & throwing out useless dirt & gravel

Therm 53 morn 79 noon 69 eve

18th wed Today has been extremely warm and it's heat presents a great contrast with yesterday. Worked in our claim and washed a little of the dirt which does not pay well enough to spend time to wash it so we shall throw it behind

September

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1850

us until we strike the vein such as the rest below us have done a company about 20 yards below us have the vein about four feet thick, they have taken out about 21 ounces of gold in the amalgam which when retorted will leave 18 ounces or 288 dollars I do not expect to strike the vein before the last of the week as we suppose that it is much farther in the bank than we have yet gone. The Quick-silver machine works beautiful Got one ounce of amalgam

Therm 56 morn 102 shade 120 sun 85 eve

19th thurs Another warm day. Commenced work at sunrise and made nine long hours to day. We have washed no dirt in the machine to day but have cleared out the hole to prospect deeper & further under the bank and to our great satisfaction have struck the vein that the rest are makeing well in, we tried the earth and at the place we first struck we got 92 cts or 1 p'wt & 4 grains of gold to about two quarts of dirt, we could see the scales plainly in the undisturbed earth which looked like a pretty sight to so hopeless a case as ours looked to be yesterday, I took the claim adjoining us yesterday as Mr Baldwin the man who held it previous has forfeited some days ago by his neglegince therefore I am justly by right and consent of the people of the bar entitled to it, as a man cannot hold a claim after being absent from it ten days we have now got three claims together and shall work them as profitably and speedily as possible we



1850  
 Sept.

cleared a little on my claim adjoining during the hottest of the afternoon, and begun a drain to take the water away from where we dig as the water comes in before we get down below the vein of rich dirt This streak or strata of earth is about from fourteen to 18 feet from the top of the bank

Therm 67 morn 102 shade 119 sun 82 eve

**September**

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20th fri Some cooler than yesterday, but sufficiently warm to work in the bank Work at finished the drain, and cleared off top stone & dirt on the upper end of the claim A pretty hard job to get off the top down to the rich dirt but if we get our pay for it as well as those do below us it will make the hard labor seem light Mr Baldwin sent some men up to work his claim but on getting here found he was too late, and poor negligince had thrown him out of a rich claim.

Therm 61 morn 95, shade 105 sun 74 eve

21st sat A drizzly, rainy, day and part of last night it did not rain so as to stop our working—Rather bad making a fire & cooking such a day as this, it also puts one in mind of changeing his summer habitation for one that will turn the water better than the one I now have, but men tell me that know or think they do that we have some time yet for dry hot weather between this and the rainy season this is supposed to be the line storm We washed this afternoon and got 5 oz 13 pwts 12 grs or a little over 89 dollars, this was washed from dirt that was somewhat mixed with the loose gravel and I think that after we get it properly cleared off we can take out one pound pr day but I hardly think we shall average this

Therm 58 morn 72 noon 64 eve

22nd sun A pleasant day, finished a letter for New Preston to E, made some bread from yeast which was first rate being more like bread I used to feed upon

Therm 61, 86, 100, 76

23d mon A pleasant morning but a cloudy afternoon & a rainy evening with prospects of a wet night

**September**

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1850

Worked to day in the hole helping to sink it below the rich strata the water came in after getting below the drain so



that we had to pump to keep it dry enough to dig have sunk 1850  
 it so that we have about 5 feet of this rich earth and pays well Sept.  
 yet we want to see how deep we can find gold which will satisfy  
 our minds in the future we washed the dirt taken out which  
 was about 20 wheelbarrow loads and got 5 oz 9 pwts 12 grains  
 of amalgam Therm 59 morn 84 one oclock 78 eve

24th tues A cloudy morning but no rain to day. A verry  
 memorable day about 1/2 past 12 oclock to day while we were  
 at dinner the dam broke about in the center and left each end  
 It of course left a large space for the back water in the dam to  
 suddenly go through We all started and was not long in going  
 across the bar to save tools which lay scattered about near the  
 water Mr Platt & myself got down in time to save everything  
 of ours by swiming the rest lost machines tools &c with con-  
 siderable quicksilver, but good luck favored most of them as  
 most of the things lodged on the rocks below. I think so great a  
 force of water must injure the dams below if not entirely sweep  
 them away, we had got up a small pile of dirt in the forenoon  
 which we supposed was lost by washing away but it did not  
 injure it as our claim was in an eddy of the river we washed  
 it this afternoon and got 4 oz 3 pwts 12 grs amalgam we were  
 about the only gang but what lost something we had some  
 sport out of it in catching fish I caught four small salmon in  
 my hands among the rocks where the water had

Sept 161

run down but I think fishing is about done up this season here.

Therm 64 morn 75 noon 70 eve

25th wed A pleasant day The river rose verry sud-  
 denly again this morning & has been verry riley all day I  
 think verry probable some dam has given away above the  
 water arose last night about 18 inches. Worked at rolling stone  
 to clear off the claims. Mr. Baldwin came up to day to plead  
 his claim We had but little altercation and I think no hard  
 feelings about it, I gave him to understand that I intended hold-  
 ing the claim and that according to the customs of mineing he  
 had long ago forfeited it if he ever held it, what he will do or  
 what course he will take do not care as I think that if he makes  
 any cost he will pay it in this case

Therm 55 morn 86 noon 64 eve



1850  
 Sept.

26th thurs A clear air to day. Worked at clearing off the rocks & top dirt on the claim that Mr B disputed yesterday. This noon the company went over and took the canvass off the dam it is verry rotten and was torn bad in some places It has proved to be good for nothing for the purpose of stopping some of it will do for tents and will be sold at auction to morrow to the highest bidder Therm 56 morn 90 one ock 72 eve

27th fri Worked down on the bar at shoveling off the top dirt, we have got another weeks work to do before we can wash to much advantage. The canvass was sold to day under the hammer by Mr Potter of Saybrook it sold for over seventy dollars which was much more than we thought it would bring Therm 59 morn 93 noon 70 eve

Sept & Oct

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1850

28th sat A warm day. The river has fallen now to its old place so that we can all work to good advantage again Worked at clearing off to day got down on one end of the claim A load of provisions came in to night brought by packers to sell the first time any competition has shown itself to our high priced store-keepers

Therm 58 morn 97 noon 68 eve

29th sun A fine day. I bought a few provisions this morning which was some cheaper than is common on this bar. I got potatoes for 30 cts sugar 35 cts Ham 50 cts flour 23 cts &c. Sunday is getting to be a busy day as the women sometimes say at home. I have baked bread to day with great luck for me, had a fine sing in the evening accross the ravine

Therm 56 morn 97 noon 74 eve

30th mon Warm enough to sweat freely in the holes down on the bar. Worked at clearing off to day They have now got down so as to prospect the claims above us and find them rich they do not have to go down quite so far to get to it as we do lower down on the bar

Therm 62 morn 96 noon 76 eve

Oct.

Nov [Oct] 1st tues Too warm to work with comfort in the middle of the day, worked at wheeling off top stone & dirt, we are laying out much more to clear our claim than most of the others around us but we shall have so much the more that



will last us to wash when it is once done      Get pretty tired      1850  
 about these days      Therm 60 morn 103 shade noon 118 sun      Oct.  
 76 eve

2nd wed      Hot work down in the hole about 11 oclock,  
 about noon a refreshing breeze springs up which makes the

October      163      1[8]50

air more comfortable. Worked at clearing off the top dirt  
 had some lumber come up to day for a pump cost 20 cts pr  
 foot      1 gross 2 in screws cost 3 dollars in Marysville

Therm 64 morn 99 at one oclock shade 70 eve

3d thurs      Beautiful mornings & evenings these days, as  
 the air is clear & salubrious, and the sun is far enough south  
 so that the high mountain on the other side of the river shades  
 till about nine oclock and it strikes the hill about one hour before  
 sun-set      worked at makeing a pump to day      did not quite  
 finish it as I had to go cut stuff for trimmings and work it out.  
 Setteled the dispute with Mr Baldwin about a claim      we finealy  
 gave him five feet off another claim aside one which his com-  
 pany is now working on the bar

Therm 60 morn 96 noon 77 eve

4th fri      Worked at the pump to day and finished it all  
 but putting the iron straps on it, which will take but a short  
 time      the boys are makeing good headway at clearing off  
 we shall start fair again next week

Therm 61 morn 96 noon 75 eve

5th sat      Finished the pump, and repaired the wheel-  
 barrow, it will take another day or two to get the claim in good  
 shape

Therm 60 morn 96 noon 74 eve

6th sun      A verry beautiful day. The clear atmosphere  
 at sunset reminds me of the many pleasant evening that was simi-  
 lar to this which I have enjoyed with my friends at home, but  
 I hope as I ever hope that my stay here in this country is short

Ther 59 morn 94 noon 72 eve

October      164      1850

7th mon      More of a breeze to day so that it has been more  
 comfortable working in the bank, worked at clearing off      Set  
 the pump this noon, she works first rate



1850  
 Oct.

Therm 58 morn 93 noon 70 eve

8th tues A cloudy day with, two showers in the afternoon Cool and rather chilly towards night did not quite finish clearing off today, find a plenty of the "Oro" sticking to the stones as we come down to the good dirt Therm 56 morn 67 noon, 63 eve

9th wed A cold morning which always happens just after a shower Worked at washing in the afternoon washed 25 barrow loads and got 5 oz 15 pwts or 92 dolls of amalgam we panned out in a small iron pan \$4.75 cts this afternoon in picked dirt some fresh meat came on the bar to day the first in a great while Therm 44½ morn 84 noon 58 eve

10th Cloudy in the forenoon, but cleared up in the afternoon Worked at washing all day got 17 oz 15 pwts 6 grs of amalgam which will make us when retorted over 50 dollars apiece to day this is good but not big for this country this is \$284.80cts.

Therm 46 morn 74 noon, 62 eve

11th Cool nights and not so hot as to be uncomfortable days worked at washing did not run through so much dirt, as yesterday we run through 80 wheelbarrow loads and to day only 65 got 14 oz 19 pwts 12 grs or \$239.60 cts in amalgam the rest are doing well on the bar and I believe that all will get well paid who are engaged in getting gold here Things bear a little different appearance now to what the did two months ago as the bar has more than threbled its population in that time

Therm 50 morn 77 noon 63 eve

Oct

165

12th Sat A pleasant day worked at washing to day did not get quite as much to day as we washed considerable of a kind of sand which resembles saw-dust that has but little in, this strata is from 4 to 12 inches thick and is placed rather irregular so that in some places it may be thicker and some scarcely any we got to day 13 oz 19 pwts or \$223.20 cts in amalgam Therm 46 morn 84 noon 63 eve

13th sun A fine day, retorted and divided The gold to day retorted away more than ¼ from 839.70 down to 565.20 but it was allowed to be the nicest quicksilver gold that is com-



monly seen in circulation. I find that one does many things here that in Conn would be termed sabbath breaking, but custom guides conscience in this country as well as others but small jobs are the only ones that appear even here, on this day.

1850  
Oct.

Therm 50 morn 83 noon 63 eve

14th A cloudy day with strong wind up the river, and some rain this afternoon washed all day, we hiered a man this afternoon Mr Andrew J Bunch of mishegan our dirt does not yield as well as we go back in the bank as it does nearer the river washed a hundred Barrow loads and got 14 oz 14 pwts or 235.20 in amalgam there seems to be too much of the loose red sand with but little in to pay large

Therm 48 morn 72 noon 58 eve

15th A pleasant day but cool worked at washing as usual got 13 oz 15 pwts or 220 dollars in amalgum from 100 barrow-loads Therm 42 morn 68 noon 57 eve

Oct

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16th A cloudy day and has threatened rain but has not, worked at washing got 15 oz or 240 dolls amalgam have got some one or two days more before going under water

Therm 52 morn 69 noon 63 eve

17th thurs A pleasant clear day not a cloud to be seen Worked at washing our dirt is not as good as it has been but got from 100 barrow loads 13 oz 7 pwts or 213.60 in Amalgam we shall have to sink down some to morrow to get dirt to keep

Therm 50 morn 84 noon 66 eve

18th fri Another fine day The water is verry cold which indicates cold rain and snow above the river has risen the past two or three days some two or three inches Worked at washing today but it has been out of too much of the refuse of the hole we got 9 oz 8 pwts 18 grs or 150.94 cts we shall have to work down after this to get good dirt

Therm 51 morn 90 noon 67 eve

19th sat A clear pleasant day worked at washing got in the forenoon 9 oz 13 pwts and in all today 14 oz 15 pwts 12 grs or 236.36 which makes in all this week 1296 dollars amalgam and ought not to retort off more than  $\frac{1}{4}$  as great pains has been taken to flirt it off dry from quicksilver this is the



1850 largest most profitable weeks work that I ever help do

Oct.

Therm 60 morn 91 noon 65 eve

20th sun A pleasant day started to day in company with Mr Henry A Smith for Sacramento City to purchase goods for the winter I took about 900 dollars to lay out for winters provisions for four of us we started on mules and have come as far as Ousleys

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ranch or Ousleys Bridge, on Bear River rideing is new business and leaves me tired & sore

Therm 58 morn 93 noon 70 eve

21st mon Started this morning after takeing our breakfast and paying for our lodgeing (on a pine board with a full accompanement of flees to comfort us during the night) and feeling somewhat refreshed we rode on over the plain which is level as far as the eye can see as we ride along the dusty road we can see the line of timber bordering the Sacramento on the right and the mountains on the left the plain appears parched and dried up as far as vegetation is concerned except on the banks of the rivers, it is generally level without much roll and is mostly overflowed once a year were it not for the latter some of it would make beautiful land for cultivation saw several heads of wild or Spanish cattle which were in fine order We forded the American River about 2 miles from its mouth and got to the city about four oclock went to the vessell and found a considerable number sick aboard she being used as a hospital by Dr Yale who is about to leave for home some report of the cholera now being here but to no great extent

Therm 54 morn 93 noon 72 eve

22nd tues Looked about town to day to find the best places for trading &c made but few purchases to day the Levee is in a state of progress and looks a little as if it might answer the purpose for which it is

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intended they have quite a number of hands at work on it, but will as it now looks, keep them busy to finish it by the January freshet Therm 58 m 96 n 73 eve



23d wed A pleasant day any where but in the city an ordinance has been passed to clean the streets of all filth & rubbish and fires are sending up thier disagreeable smoke in all parts of the city makeing the atmosphere thick and light and to me being used to the pure air of the mines it seems verry disagreeable we have bought some of the things to day

1850  
Oct.

Therm 54 morn 96 noon 70 eve

24th thurs Passed a restless night last night and this morning had a severe turn of the Cholera Morbus I went to the vessel and they tried to have me take lobelia but I thought nature had done her duty in the line of purging and concluded not to try it and was well in the afternoon Our teemsters arrived last night that are to haul our goods commenced loading them but did not finish

Therm 58 morn 94 noon 68 eve

25 fri Finished loading the waggons to day have two heavy loads I should think near 80.00 lbs commenced a letter home Therm 60 m 95 n 69 eve

26 sat The teamsters did not start until afternoon on account of looseing a yoke of cattle in the morning finished my letter for home I have received this time down some four letters from the states Dr Yale starts today for home via the Isthmus

Oct 169

he is to go as physician to Panama

Therm 57 m 89 noon 69 eve

27th sun Started back accross the plains to day About noon we got off the trail and rode about over the plain in rather a promiscuous manner the greater part of the afternoon in search of the waggon trail that goes by Johnsons ranch some of the time we were riding entirely by course without the faintest trail and again only a faint trail made by the wild cattle We saw several wild bullocks which were fat and nice, saw some wild turkey, and any quantity of chiotas or praira wolf which are verry impudent did not get out on the trail until after dark soon found a tent to put up to where we fed our mules & staid all night

Therm 59 morn 89 noon 68 eve



1850

Oct.

28th mon Started early and got Breakfast after riding about five miles, saw nothing of importance to day arrived at Corduas about 5 oclock got into camp after dark

Therm 58 morn 75 noon 69 eve

29th tues Went down on the bar and worked in the fore noon did not work in the after noon feeling rather indisposed Therm 50 — 76 — 64

30th wed Expected the team to day but they failed us worked a little at leveling off a place to

Nov

170

put the tent on when we get it up here

Therm 63 m 71 61

31st thurs Started out this morning to meet and pilot in the teams kept going till I got to Long Bar about 10 miles below here when I met them found all things safe as far as I could see they will go in to night Therm 51 — 70 — 56

Nov.

1st fri Went up on the hill this morning to hang on to the upper side of the waggons to keep them right side up, as the road is verry steep, and difficult for waggons to come down the mountain so bad in some places that a rope is necessary to ease them down with they got in about sundown all safe with the exception of upsetting one load

Therm 50 — 65 — 64

2nd Sat Worked at getting the provisions down the hill and dividing them which leaves us two Mr Bennett & myself quite a snug pile of eatables to work at during the winter

Therm 46 — 70 56

3d sun Looked a little like rain this morning so fixed the tent over the things to prevent thier getting wet quite a a busy day here today as people are fixing around thier winter tents & shantys for fear they will be caught in the rain

Therm 40 — 74 — 49

4th Washed down on the bar all day did not do verry well as the dirt does not pay well the deeper

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we go down but we are in for seeing the bed rock all along the bottom to satisfy our minds about its richness

Therm 32 — 81 — 50



5th tues Worked at fixing up bunks in the tent and arraingeing things a little to live the way I build bunks (the way common to all) is to fasten four stakes in the ground for posts and nail on two sticks or poles for rails, and stretch my hammock over them this affords a verry nice place to sleep for this country

1850

Nov.

Therm 34 — 82 — 51

6th wed Went to work today at makeing a pump to go in the hole to keep the water out while we are digging it is made longer than usual and is 12 feet

Therm 35 — 76 — 52

7th thurs Worked on the pump to day, have to go and cut and work out all the geering but one good thing we do not lack for "natural crooks" in this country so it is easy finding pumphandles

Therm 36 — 80 — 50

8th fri Finished the pump in the forenoon and washed in the afternoon and got  $2\frac{1}{4}$  oz which is rather diminutive to what we have been in the habit of gitting

Therm 31 — 76 — 51

9th sat A pleasant day repaired tools in the forenoon and help wash in the afternoon got 4 oz 17 pwts 12 grs the dirt seems to pay better as we get farther down

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in the hole, but it is attended with some trouble at present as the water comes in verry fast

Therm 32 — 77 — 55

10th sun A beautiful day tinkerd around the stoves to day find it quite handy to cook by provided one knows how to do it, some thoughts and reflections of home and its priviledges, what a contrast! it well nigh saddens me sometimes when I think that I am to keep myself away a longer time than I ever anticipated, I am sorry to think that I have decided to stop, but I come here to make money and therefore hate to give it up without a thourough trial, then I think I can enjoy home so much the better when I do get there

Therm 36 — 77 — 56

11th mon A clear day worked down on the bar in



1850  
Nov.

the hole—the water troubles us some so that it takes an hour or so in the morning to get the hole dry and rather busy after we once get it dry, it is slow getting dirt and it is not verry rich when we do get it      ours to day gave us 4 oz 16 pwt 6 grs we wash only the afternoon and only a small share of that

Therm 38 morn 79 — 53 eve

12th tues      Worked in the forenoon and feeling too much indisposed by a bowel complaint I hired a substitute in the afternoon to work in my place      they did not wash to day

Therm 34 morn 75 noon 56 eve

13th wed      Feel pretty much down today      am verry sore accross my bowels, am takeing some of Mrs Kidders Cordial so much reccommended by some but I think dieting to be the best

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remedy unless the disease is too severe. They washed this forenoon and got over two ounces amalgam

Therm 31 morn 76 noon 59 eve

14th thurs      A fine day and I feel some better but not entirely mended yet, to day noon our boys came up and say they have found the bed rock but no gold therefore further labor among uncertainties will be dispensed with      they commenced clearing of the remaing 50 feet adjoining which will take us some time

Therm 33 morn 71 noon 60 eve

15th fri      Cool to day      a little hazy towards night      I feel well but not strong so have concluded to not work the rest of this week and be ready to start strong again Monday      the Boys are clearing of on the Bar

Therm 35 morn 70 noon 56 eve

16th sat      Tinkered a little at Pick handles, putting door in the tent—the rest have been clearing off down on the bar. I feel quite recovered now and shall go at it again monday as it cost too much to hire a man at 8 dollars pr day when they are not washing

Therm 36 morn 68 [noon] 54 [eve]

17th sun      A verry pleasant day      wrote a letter home to send by Mr Smith to Marysvill to have it ready for next steamer. The leaves are now fast decaying and falling from the



trees except on the Pines & Ever Green Oaks we may look for rain the next full moon

1850

Nov.

Therm 34 morn 70 noon 56 eve

18th mon Went to work down on the bar at clearing off The Bar as a general thing is well dug out

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and looks as if labor had been freely and arduously bestowed since the damming company adjourned I think it has paid verry good wages and no more Therm 38 morn 66 noon 50 eve cloudy

19th tues A cloudy morning and showers all day with verry strong wind which make the trees bend on the hills, the wind does not trouble us under the lee of the hill, worked between showers and a little when it rained it acts as if we must have some rain this time

Therm 50 morn 58 noon 54 eve

20th wed A tedious night last night. As bad a storm of wind & rain as I have seen in California, to day has been cloudy but nearly clear at night the river has risen about 2½ feet which drives many out of thier claims, it will fall away again soon if we have no more rain game is getting to be more plenty 4 or 5 deer was seen on the hill to day

Therm 50 morn 58 noon 54 eve

21st thurs Commenced raining this morning and rained all day a mild rain without wind I put on my Rubber Coat and built a chimney outside the tent to run the stove-pipe into, to make it draw better got well wet through no work to day on the Bar Therm 54 morn 55 noon 55 eve

22nd A cloudy bad day but no rain, it is clear in the evening did not work to day as the river is a little too high but is falling the boys in the next tent, went out hunting to day and brought in a fine buck which is the first that has been killed by any one on this bar this season Therm 55 morn 58 noon 56 eve

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23d Sat Rained hard all the forenoon and in showers this afternoon so that no work has been done to day we mooved the things up to the top of the bar so if the river rises



1850 they are safe several started off the bar to day for home  
 all missourians I wrote a letter home to John Hungerford  
 Therm 51 morn 52 noon 50 eve

Nov.

24th sun A verry quiet day as a large portion have gone  
 gunning in the afternoon I went up to Boston Bar which  
 place is now entirely deserted rambled about a while with Mr.  
 John Grew and Lewis Swift no rain to day Brisco came  
 in with a fine deer at night therm 44 morn 55 noon 52 eve

25th mon A fine clear day worked down on the Bar  
 cleared off in the forenoon and washed in the afternoon  
 Got 2 oz 5 pwts or 36 dolls amalgam have not got down low  
 enough yet to have it good

Therm 33 morn 57 noon 44 eve

26th Tues A clear cold day, worked down on the bar,  
 washed in the afternoon Mr Edwin Ayer arrived to night  
 from Sacramento Citty brought news that the cholera had sub-  
 sided and people generally well, brought no letters for me which  
 was different from what I calculated got 3 oz 18.10 62.75  
 dolls

Therm 28 morn 56 noon 42 night

27th wed Some clouday and looked some like rain,  
 worked on the claim washed to day and got 3 oz 14.pwts 15  
 or \$58.26 this is not as good pay as we looked for but I think  
 we are not deep enough yet to find it good for it is invariably  
 found good on the bottom where it is poor on the top

Therm 38 morn 58 noon 46 eve

Nov Dec

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28th thurs Cloudy all day but no rain worked at get-  
 ting out dirt in the forenoon and washed in the afternoon only  
 got 2 oz 13 pwts 20 grs or 43 dolls this is tapering a little too  
 fast for profit Therm 32, 54, 42

29th fri Commenced raining this morning and has been  
 rainy all day so we could not work nothing of much interest  
 is going on to interest one when not at work

Therm 46 morn 54 noon 54 eve

30th sat A verry rainy night, this morning the ravine  
 is full the waters tumbling down by, and the river has so swollen  
 during the day that it is about 4 feet higher than at its lowest



stage this season, completely inundating all the claims so that it renders working to gain anything about out of the question, the river to day is running with such force over the falls below the dam that it is continually mooveing rocks in the bed of the stream makeing a considerable noise & rumbling Therm 52 morn 54 noon 53 eve

1850  
Nov.

Dec 1st Sun A verry pleasant day to-day. Mr Coleman started for home at Falmouth Mass, he has been sick nearly all summer and has but just got smart enough to go home he has been among kind friends which is verry desireable in sickness had a fine sing in the evening with Messrs Whitmore, Grew, Herndeen & Swift

Dec.

Therm 42, 45, 45.

2nd mon A fine day water too high to work in the hole so cleared off the old claim of Platts

Therm 35 — 52 — 41

3d tues Another pleasant day it now look like settled weather, pumped out the hole and got out dirt enough to wash in the afternoon go  $1\frac{1}{2}$  oz or 24 dolls amalgam *no great, rather discourageing* Therm 28, 48, 39

Dec

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4th wed A fine day but quite cold it has not thawed in the shade, it froze ice  $\frac{5}{8}$  of an inch thick last night, which is more than I saw last winter Worked at digging in the hole have considerable pumping to keep the water out sufficient to work at getting up dirt, washed in the afternoon and got 6 oz 17 pwts 12 or 110. dolls amalgam

Therm 24 morn 45 noon 36 eve

5th thurs A clear cold day again worked at getting out dirt and washing same as yesterday got 8 oz 12 pwts 12 grs or 138 dollars in amalgam Therm 23 morn 52 noon 34 eve

6th fri A fine day rather cool in night one needs a plenty of blankets to sleep warm with nothing but the thin walls to a tent to keep the cold out. Worked in the hole today did not do so well—only got 4 oz 1 pwt 6 grs or 65 dols amalgam, not more than 40 feet from us Mr Turner has taken out this afternoon 30 ouncees of amalgam which I think is some for this



1850 bar I do not think we are far enough back any of us to  
 find the best diggings we shall work out as far as we have  
 cleared off then work back farther in the bar  
 Dec.

Therm 25 morn 47 noon 38 night

7th sat A pleasant day. Worked down on the bar at  
 clearing off to be ready for washing on monday, they are doing  
 it up brown and no mistake alongside of us Mr Wrights party has  
 taken out of the claim adjoining us 37 oznes in amalgam which  
 speaks well for our claim

Therm 27 — 54 — 40

8th sun Weather clear but more moderate, Mr  
 Wrights party have been at work to day and have outdone any-  
 thing yet they have taken out 59 ounces 10 pwts

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in amalgam which when retorted will make them about 4 pound  
 of gold I hope it will continue good it certainly is an  
 incentive for us to go farther back towards the bar in our claim  
 as I believe it to be there as it is not 15 feet from where they  
 are doing it up the best

Therm 32 — 55 — 45

9th mon A clear day worked at washing the good dirt  
 above the red sand got out 10 ounces 17 pwts 12 or 174 dolls  
 amalgam they are doing it on the big scale in the two claims  
 next below the one we are on so our next clearing will I think  
 determine whether it extends into our claim

Therm 32 morn 55 noon 40 eve

10th tues Cloudy to day but rather cleared up at night  
 washed all day the water troubled about getting dirt  
 some got out 9 — 18 — 18 or 151 dolls amalgam

Therm 38 morn 57 noon 41 eve

11th wed Clear and pleasant to day worked at get-  
 ting out dirt in the forenoon and washing in the afternoon, the  
 water comes in where we dig verry fast so that it is slow getting  
 dirt we throwed off the layer of red sand that pays us nothing  
 in the forenoon and had better kept throwing all day as we only  
 got 2 oz 3 — 18 which does not pay us wages

Therm 36 morn 55 noon 43 eve

12th thurs A good day to work 'though some cloudy,



washed about an hour in the morning and got 1 oz 13 pwts 18 grs or 27.00 dollars amalgam worked at shovelling poor dirt & sand out of the hole and got up a small heap at the machine to wash to-morrow

1850  
Dec.

Therm 38 — 53 — 44

179

13th fri Went to pumping out the water in the hole and furnished dirt for machine some verry good dirt under the red sand we took out 9 ounces 8 pwts 18 grs to day in the forenoon and in the afternoon it rained so we did not work they have done a handsome business in the claim adjoining us to day as they have taken out 59 ounces 36 ounces of which they took out in the forenoon and had it been pleasant all day would have done the greatest days work yet, one of thier hands to[ok] a common pan the size of a large milk pan and got 12½ dollars “no wonder they do well”

Therm 39 — 55 — 40

14th sat A stormy day so that not many worked to day, the river has risen about 2 feet today which brings the water up into the claims

Therm 48 — 53 — 50

15th sun A cloudy day but no rain. Staid in pretty much to-day drawed and wrote a little to send to Marble Dale

I find that there is plenty of time to tinker or read or do any kind of “Scrimshonging” any one feels disposed to do

Therm 44 — 55 — 49

16th mon A bad night, last night about 1 oclock a gale passed over us which threatned to blow the trees up by the roots, and tear every tent into ribbands it blew down several flat but mine stood it finely, give me a good log house in a gale, but a tent will do verry well at any other time. The Dutchmans large tent blew down with his wife and several others sleeping in it at the time which was rather hard for her but she is a woman of strong constitution and will stand as much as most of us

Therm 46 — 48 — 48

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17th tues Stormy today, wind in the south yet another Buck brought in to day this makes four that has been



1850 killed this season by Boys on this bar, the Doe's are fine eating  
*Dec.* but the Bucks are a little strong or what the western people term  
 musty at this season of the year

Therm 45 morn 50 48

18th wed Cleared off fine this morning and has been a  
 fine day all day went to work at clearing off at the lower end  
 of the claim next to Fosters water verry high but not so high  
 but that we can clear away & roll out dirt & stones Therm  
 44 — 57 — 47

19th thurs Clear & fine worked at wheeling off top  
 dirt the water is so high that little els can be done on the  
 bar Therm 32 — 55 — 45

20th fri Nothing has occurred to day more than com-  
 mon I sent a letter home to Marble Dale, Mr Lawrence  
 brought me a letter from home Dated Sept 23rd and ought to  
 have brought me an October letter but the bad work with dis-  
 tributing mails when they arrive here I suppose occasions these  
 delays Therm 34 — 57 — 45

21st sat Hazy to day but rather clears away at night  
 worked at rolling out stone & dirt The river has fallen some.  
 A fine Buck brought in to night by Mr Arnold & Brisco  
 Therm 35 — 53 — 48

22nd sun A fine day, nothing going on of much account  
 Wright has been at work to day and has taken out 42 ounces  
 with 6 hands I think it is hardly right to go as far as they  
 do and cannott think they will profit by it in the "long run" it  
 is bad enough to do what one is necessiated to do, or allow them-  
 selves to do such as wash mend & c

Therm 34 morn 57 noon 48 eve

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23d mon Clear today worked at clearing off. They  
 have not been doing as well to day in the hole joining us as  
 they are too near the river which has been proved more than  
 once so it seems to fail in all cases that when we get so far towards  
 the river the vein of dirt that is the richest runs out

Therm 32 — 54 — 47

24th tues A clear fine day worked at clearing off  
 again to day—shall not wash much this week.



To night being so pleasant, and the night before christmas I almost wish myself among my friends at home I can however imagine how they are doing. The choirs are chanting hymns of praise. Many an able sermon is written to enlighten the minds of the people, and all is bustle & confusion, sleigh bells perhaps are pealing forth thier merry tones, to many joyous hearts, but here am I away from all these lovely scenes toiling away, for what, that which may yet afford me comfort at some future day. Still I but little know what use may be made of it. Therefore I will spend as little time here as possible Therm 30 morn 59 noon 48 eve

1850

Dec.

25th wed

Christmas Day

A beautiful day, not a cloud hardly to be seen, I hardly think they have had a more pleasant day in New England. I worked on the bar at clearing off today and have now got so that tomorrow we shall wash

My luxuries to day are limited as far as eatables is concerned for breakfast fried-ham—doughnuts & crackers

December

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& cheese &c for dinner about the same, and for supper stewed Oysters which were fresh & nice they come from Boston, in sealed tins and taste as fresh and delicious as they would have done the day they were put up The evening I spent at Mr Potters—was entertained with A Mr Smith from New Haven. He came from there the last of September. He gave me all the news from there which was highly entertaining. The people of New Haven are all alive with internal improvements—churches have been remodded & new ones built—other public buildings have been built of superior beauty & taste—durability &c. All in the short space that I have been absent, the place will seem odd say's he when you return to see the changes that have transpired, he seemed like an old friend, tho' I never before spoke with him. Many a pleasant "yarn was spun" during the evening which made the time pass away pleasantly Therm 30 — 55 — 43

Thursday 26th Worked at washing to day, got 13 ounces 11 dollars in amalgam George Brisco worked with us today The greatest days work that has been done yet on the bar was done by Mr Turner, with 6 men in all, he took out over 80 ounces in amalgam this is some & no mistake



1850  
 {  
 Dec.

Therm 29 — 54 — 38

Friday 27th A fine day worked at washing, got 14 ounces 7 dollars in amalgam. This is fine for the rainy season

Therm 30 — 60 — 42

Saturday 28th Clear, not a cloud to be seen and as

December

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warm as summer. Worked at washing did not get as much to-day only got 9 ounces 13 dollars in amalgam. We shall if it holds clear find out whether our claim will be as rich as the others have been along side of us next week

Therm 40 — 72 — 46

Sunday 29th A beautiful day and no mistake, and for the last ten days the weather has been most delightful such as I never anticipated for the rainy season. The thermometer has not been but three degrees below freezing and most of the time a coat has not been needed for comfort. My business for to day has not exceeded getting down a little wood fixing my tent a little against a storm of wind and cooking a little. One or two gangs at work on the bar but a general stillness prevails in camp

Therm 34 — 69 — 42

Monday 30th A fine day. Worked at clearing off some of which had cave'd in yesterday, but the greater part was the strata of red dirt that we throw away as worthless. Therm 36 — 66 45

Tuesday 31st Fine & pleasant to-day. The river has risen a verry little the past three days, Worked at clearing off in the forenoon and commenced washing in the afternoon got 6 oz 14 dolls Therm 34 — 64 — 44 Old Year Out

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1851  
 {  
 Jan.

Wednesday Jany 1st 1851 To-day is the first of another year, not a cloud has been seen all day, and the atmosphere most clear & salubrious. I can't say that I ever saw a more pleasant day at this time of the season in my life. All that is lacking to complete tranquility of mind is friends far away. I they one and all enjoy the day in health & prosperity all is right, but it is beyond my power to know at presant, wait a little and I shall know all. My Commencement on the new year I must say has far outstriped anything in the line of prosperity that have begun to



do since I have been in the country We have been Washing to day and got 29 ounces & 15 dollar's amalgam which is verry near a hundred dollars a piece in clear gold. I think we shall do even better than this when we get farther down towards the river. We are now following the bed-rock and the farther towards the river we go the deeper the strata of rich dirt it slopes down verry suddenly and is irregular on its surface, pockets or hollows are frequently found that are rich, all the formation from the rock to the top of the bar (20 feet) indicates haveing been formed by being washed by the water, and the gold if not washed down the river has been influenced by currents of water at some former period

Therm 35 — 64 — 43

Jan 1851 1851

Thursday 2nd To-day opens fine, a little cooler but pleasant There was a little haze this afternoon but it soon cleared away. We worked at washing and done a better days work than we did yesterday, we got 41 ounces & 15 dollars in amalgam this is the best days work that I ever help do but it is not half what I expect to do before many days if the weather holds clear— Mr Wright Jackson & Lamar, & Foster took out this forenoon 66 ounces and this afternoon enough to make up 109 ounces in all to day there has been more gold taken out on this bar today than there ever was in one day before Therm 34 — 59 — 44.

Friday 3d Fine weather yet, all hands busy to-day, beggining early and working late not quite as much gold taken out to day as yesterday. Worked at washing to-day got 43 ounces & 6 dollars in amalgam to day, we are following the bed rock down but it slopes to fast to find it verry rich, I like its appearance as it is now shaped but there is no guessing how it will prove Therm 32 — 58 — 42

Saturday 4th Warm to day clouded over towards night and the wind in the right quarter for rain Worked as usual today took out 50 ounces and 4 dollars which gains on our days along back we had another hand C E Blackman to day which allows us to do some more Therm 36 morn 59 — 46

1851  
Jan.



1851 Jan 1851

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Jan.

Sunday Jan 5th Showery in the forenoon and rained some in the afternoon The boys worked part of the day down on the bar at washing they got 17 ounces & 10 dolls I felt more like lying still than working as I considered six hard days work in a week enough. I retorted our amalgam we had 3654 dollars in amalgam and it retorted away to 2546 dollars all at 16 dollars pr ounce which after paying hired help left 600 apiece this we consider good if we keep doing so Therm 38 — 45 — 40

Monday 6th Rained some to day. The river has risen through the day but not fast. We worked at clearing off some stuff in the hole, and saved some of the top streak to wash if the river does not save us the trouble by riseing to take off downstream a verry hard shower at night or rather it poured down Therm 43 — 48 — 46

Tuesday 7th The rain has prevented most from working to day, but we washed about 3 hours and got 4 ounces & 4 dollars in amalgam this afternoon. The river is about the same as yesterday. Therm 40 — 44 — 42

Wednesday 8th To-day has been fine, being clear & pleasant I have not worked much to day feeling a little unwell— Platt & Bennett worked at clearing off some in front of the hole we have worked in but whether it will pay to go so near the river remains yet to be found out sent a letter to Father Therm — 40 — 50 — 44.

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1851

Thursday 9th A pleasant day a light haze at noon I did not work on the bar feeling a little indisposed, with a touch of the diarrhea tinckered a wheelbarrow which Blakeslee brought up last night on his return from Marysvill he brings news that the Steam Ship *Panama* has arrived in San Francisco he brought no letters for me, I suppose that mine were aboard the *Panama* and will be along by & by. Therm 32 — 54 — 40

Friday 10th Clear & fine to day. I went down and tried to labor but I thought prudent to give it up and so got George Brisco in my place. They are working out the hole in front on



the middle claim but to night they say it does not prospect verry well they got out some dirt to wash tommorrow but cannot judge as to its richness Therm 31 — 56 — 42

1851  
Jan.

Saturday 11th Did not work to day, the boys washed to day and got out 6 ounces & 4 dollars they have given up the hole so that we shall clear off back on Monday Therm 34 — 57 — 45

Sunday 12th A warm day, feel about the same to day a dul pain accross me, hazy at night—bought an almanack for '51 paid 1 dollar

36 — 65 — 47

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Monday 13th 1851 Pleasant to day, but hazy at night worked in the forenoon at clearing off, and got a man in my place this afternoon. Mr Miles Thomas came up from Roses Bar today says times are somewhat dull there just at present. The Steamer *Tensa* has just arrived and has probably got a plenty of news from home Therm 33 — 60 — 44

Tuesday 14th A fine day The boys are throwing off top dirt I worked a little in the forenoon but gave it up feeling not strong enough to stand it yet

Therm 34 — 59 — 43

Wednesday 15th A clear and pleasant day lay by to-day feeling rather week, and as if I should gain it by so doing The boys are clearing off I think they will get ready to wash next week They have commenced washing in some of the claims below, but find nothing extra

Therm 32 — 64 — 45

Thursday 16th Clear to day but a little cooler. Worked in the forenoon but lay off in the afternoon with the headache I do not like this strain of ailing that has prowled about me the past week, but as my diarrhea has left me I hope soon to be myself again as I find comfort in idleness Therm 26 — 60 — 44

Friday 17th The day has been a fine one. I worked to day with

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the rest feeling considerable better, we washed to-day most of the time and got 10 ounces & 5 dollars

Therm 28 — 58 — 43



1851  
 Jan.

Saturday 18th The sky has been hazy all day and thickened at night so that it looked like rain again, six of us have been at work to day some wheeling out stone & dirt and others washing, we got 10 ounces & 12 dollars this is from the dirt above the red sand. The others below us along are doing nothing extra Therm 36 — 59 — 45

Sunday 19th A fine day again, and looks like good weather for some time yet, nothing going on of much notice some packers came in to day with a few goods to sell Potatoes are down to 18 cts pr lb which shows quite a difference between now and the price last season then they were sold below here for three dollars a pound, the packers bring news that another great excitement now prevails in all the cities below concerning some new diggings that have been found about two days sail up the coast several vessels are about to go up with passengers & provisions, one man they say has took his oath before a justice that he discovered a large level place on a bluff next the sea shore (I will not pretend to say how large) that was covered to a considerable depth with black sand that would yield from 4 to 10 dollars pr pound. They say that the excitement is ten times as great as the Gold Lake excitement ever begun to be *it looks a little too large to believe* Therm 36 — 57 — 42

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Monday 20th January 1851 The day has been fine and warm. We set a pump in the hole and got the water out at night but did not get out any dirt from it, we kept the machine running on the top dirt in the last clearing and got 13 ounces 11 dollars in amalgam give a couple of fellows 20 dollars to keep the hole dry so as to have it ready to go into in the morning

Therm 33 — 60 — 44

Tuesday Jan'y 21st Clear & pleasant, worked in the old hole to day 7 of us part of the day, the water comes in rather fast but not so fast but that one pump can keep bothe Mr Wrights hole and ours dry, we have washed most of the day, and have got 33 ounces in amalgam, we have come to where the bed rock pitches down suddenly and a kind of coarse gravel is deposited but it pays to wash while in our other holes it did not

Therm 32 — 60 41



Wednesday 22nd A fine day again, something of a haze over the sky but not thick, a fine evening. We worked in the hole to day 7 of us, it rather fails us as we work down towards the river, and I think we shall get through with it tomorrow we got 13 ounces & 10 dollars in amalgam which shows quite a decrease from yesterday, the water water comes in on us verry fast for two nights we

1851

Jan.

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have hired a man all night to keep the hole dry also to night so that we will have to spend no time with it in the morning to get to work

Therm 35 — 62 — 46

Thursday 23d Clear and pleasant. Went to work in the hole again to day and worked it out or rather run out the rich streak towards the river so thin that it would not pay eight dollars pr day so we quit it to night to go on the other one to morrow, we got 14 oz & 10 dollars 7 of us again to day Brisco is not well to day

Therm — 34 — 68 — 48

Friday 24th A fine day & a cool night last night but not so as to be at all uncomfortably so I cannot find aught against such weather as this and it not only is as good as we can wish to work in but it allows me to cherish the idea that we can work our claims out before spring opens, or high water drives us out and if this is accomplished I think I shall "*vamosé*" We worked washing the top streak to day & clearing out red sand we got 14 oz & 9 dollars

Therm 37 — 68 — 50

Saturday 25th Clear to day work at clearing and washing got 13 ounces & 7 dollars Retorted to night and had 1256 dollars which we divided after paying about \$180 expenses Therm 34 — 69 — 51

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Sunday January 26th 1851 A fine day, but gathering clouds at night, I took a walk of eight miles to day over the hills down to Roses Bar with Mr Blakeslee we went down accross Deer Creek and found a number of frame buildings and it rather presents the appearance of haveing quite a quantity of



1851  
 Jan.

business done there in the way of trade it is a general crossing place I believe to the mines on the south & Middle Forks of the Yuba. A little farther on we stoped at an Indian rancheria and amused ourselves with looking about among them as they were verry friendly, but the general style of the buildings I think presents as striking a contrast to our mode of liveing in tents as tents do to the best modern architecture the wigwams are made of sticks and weeds about four feet high with a hole in the top to let the smoke out The entrance is a little hole big enough to crawl in on ones hands & knees—the women are filthy looking and go naked save a few rags about the loins, the children are entirely naked—the men—boys and some of the young squaws have on some clothes, but these they hardly know how to put on the same as they should be, some will have on an old shirt and nothing els—some a verry good coat or a pair of pants—and some as many old rags and clothes as they can make hang about them, on the whole I think these digger indians are the lowest, most ignorant and degraded of any race of beings I ever read of.

There does not seem to be much a going on on Roses Bar at present in the way of mineing some are doing something

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on one bank of the river there are holes dug in under the mountain some from 30 to 100 feet or more in some of these they have done well—I took dinner with Mr Miles Thomas an old New Haven acquaintance. There is a company formed for daming the river there next season & I hope they will succeed in getting thier “piles” as such things are getting to be a scarce article in this country. I had left my name with an express man to bring up my letters but he had not arrived so I come without any thing but a late New York Herald of Dec 11—I got home a little after dark and refreshed myself with a slice of Cold Ham some bread & butter and Hot tea—which my worthy partner Mr Bennett had taken pains to keep nice & warm for me

Therm 35 — 60 — 46

Monday 27th It rained considerable last night and some this forenoon but cleared at night, six of us worked at clearing out the red sand

Therm 44 — 58 — 49



Tuesday 28th A fine day, worked at washing to-day but find that that our good and rich dirt did not pay us verry well we only got 7 ounces & 9 dollars all day I would sell cheap to night or for 500 dollars but yet I think it cannot fail us entirely Therm 39 — 66 — 52

1851  
Jan.

Wednesday 29th Pleasant to day Worked at washing to day got 6 oz & 4 dollars which is rather small pay to what we

## 194

anticipated last week and judgeing from the way our other hole paid us. Mr Platt sold out his share to day, to Messrs Whipple and Blackman. He got 500 dollars for his share which takeing the show as we now have it I think was a plenty I think I would sell for that to night if any one felt disposed to take the offer but as I am not over anxious to start for home just yet I will hold on a while longer

Therm 42 — 65 — 49

Thursday 30th Cloudy this morning but cleared away without any rain. I went down to Longs Bar to pack some things for Platt who takes the stage from there to Marysvill—he has left with about 1700 dollars, and will soon be with his family in Mobile. The boys have been clearing off some that was left of the red sand, and washed some, and got 5 oz 14 dolls Therm 43 — 67 — 54

Friday 31st A fine day. Temperature verry even and mild now-a-days. As pleasant a winter as ever I expect to see again. Worked in the hole at digging in the forenoon and on the machine in the afternoon got 10 ounces 6 dolls and I think must yield better tommorrow

Therm 38 — 65 — 50

Saturday February 1st Pleasant to day worked same as yesterday washed all day got 25 ounces 12 dolls which pays some better than it has done but it is so near worked out that it will not last verry long

Therm 36 — 65 — 50

## 195

Sunday February 2nd 1851 A fine day not much business on hand to day retorted the last four days work and after paying expence for help divided 125 dollars this fell a



1851 little short of 12 dollars pr ounce had a fine sing in the even-  
 ing with three or four other "hombres" Therm 37 — 67 — 52  
*Feb.*

Monday 3d A warm pleasant day, good weather to work  
 and no mistake, washed as usual and got 35 oz and four dol-  
 lars in amalgam this begins to pay as we anticipated the  
 whole clearing would, but it is almost worked out now, we have  
 two hired men to keep the machine going as we find this the best  
 way to do it not knowing how long this good weather may last  
 Therm 38 — 68 — 49

Tuesday 4th Another beautiful day the crickets are  
 singing as merrily as in midsummer at home. The hill look quite  
 green, and all seems to indicate the opening of spring without  
 hardly a storm to adorn a winter but as there is time yet we  
 will not doat on the latter We worked at washing this fore-  
 noon and got 13 oz 2 dollars this afternoon we worked at  
 getting out dirt, the shell or wall being broken between the two  
 holes, the water keeps a good pump busy, the hole is nearly  
 worked out

Therm 36 — 65 — 45

## 196

Wednesday February 5th 1851 A verry fine day, morn-  
 ings appear somewhat hazy but it soon clears away and the most  
 beautiful of days present themselves, the atmosphere of which  
 together with the temperature, I think will compete with any  
 other on the globe we washed the dirt which we got out yes-  
 terday afternoon, finished the hole and gave it up just at night,  
 we have a little dirt for tomorrow we had 9 oz 13 dolls to day

Therm 43 — 68 — 54

Thursday 6th Pleasant to day, we washed the dirt  
 that was got out yesterday and got 9 oz 4 dollars out of it, all  
 hands worked at clearing off in the afternoon on the remaining  
 35 feet, are makeing a big clearing this time Cloudy at  
 eve

Therm — 48 — 62 — 55

Friday 7th It threatened raining last night but cleared  
 away again so that the day is beautiful. Worked at clearing off  
 to day 5 of us, find the same old sort ie a plenty of hard work.  
 Offered my claim to night for three hundred dollars and as I am



to start for home so soon or as I think now the middle of March, I will give them a good bargain at that but all it is worth so neither me nor they will loose anything Therm 36 — 65 — 50

1851  
Feb.

Sabado 8th A clear handsome sky to day and as clear an atmosphere as was ever brethed by man

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worked at clearing off again to day, I find that the middle of the day is a little too warm to be comfortable when at work but take the day through I never saw so pleasant weather to work

Therm 38 morn 68 — 50.

Domingo 9th Warm & pleasant, nothing of note to day we retorted and had in clear gold 816 dollars. It seems now as if the time could not slip away too fast till the middle of next month the time set for starting home. I think I enjoy the prospect if for nothing els to get out of the country

Therm 45 — 74 — 60

Lúnes 10th A fine day again. Worked at clearing top dirt find a plenty hard work as usual, but I think our prospect is rather more "slim" this time than at any time before, yet I hope it will proove different five of us have worked today Therm 42 — 72 — 57

Mártes 11th Pleasant & warm again to day, beautiful moon light nights now which I suppose are attended with good sleighing in Old Connecticut, but by the appearance now I shall see no verry cold weather until another winter We have worked at clearing off again to day shall probably wash some to morrow

Therm — 38 — 68 — 58

Miércoles 12th Fine weather to day, some wind and light clouds from NW. Worked in the forenoon at clearing off

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top dirt, and washed in the afternoon got 3 ounces and 11 dollars in amalgam, our sight for getting much more here is rather poor but must hope as long as I stay I can see no prospect to induce me to stop here another season. To day men have come along "dead broke" and have gone to work for 4 dollars pr day to get enough to take them to some other place when I see so many roveing about the country without a cent as



1851 <sup>Feb.</sup> it were, trying to find it but cant I think that I am a lucky chap and had not better stop to spend what I have got trying to get more, at times I feel sorry and a little disappointed to think that I have laid up no more but I cannot blame myself, and must try to do the best I can on a little Therm 36 — 58 — 43

Juèves 13th A clear day, and cool with blustering wind which puts one in mind of Old March We worked at washing to day and got 8 ounces & 5 dollars

Therm 30 — 54 — 38

Viernes 14th Clear. Worked at washing to day got 9 oz & 4 dolls in amalgam, this will just about pay us wages from the time we commenced clearing off

Therm 31 — 57 — 39

Sabado 15th A clear, fine day, Several delegates from this bar to Roses bar to witness the drawing of prizes at lottery some prizes came on the bar but of course

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the most valueable was destined elsewhere, we finished washing top dirt to day, got 11 ounces 7 dollars, now the rest remains under the red sand Therm 35 — 64 — 43

Sunday 16th A pleasant & warm day, hazy in the afternoon but little of interest going on to day both interst in labor and pastime are getting dull at this place. I have made up my mind to start for home the first of the month if I can sell this week Therm 37 — 60 — 47

Monday 17th A fine day again to work worked at clearing of red sand to get to the bottom streak which we are in hopes will pay to wash, but as all things in california have doubt attatched to them I think this may have also Therm 34 — 63 — 50

Tuesday 18th A rainy day to day nearly all are knocked off from work so that there is but little going on to day

I sold my claim to day for two hundred dollars, to Mr Samuel O Whitmore

Therm 42 — 58 — 54

Wednesday 19th A fine day again the other boys have sold out and settled so that, we are all ready to start in the Steamer the first of next month, we have decided to start



from the mines next Friday to get down to San Francisco in time 1851

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Thursday February 20th 1851      A cloudy day and considerable rain, have been arrainging matters to start to-morrow

Mr Botsford has given up going home at present so that we shall not have his good company on the passage

Friday 21st      To day has been rainy but to me a verry pleasant day. Messrs Whipple, Brisco, Blackman and myself started for San Francisco to take the steamer home      Mr Theodore Turner packed our things down to Longs Bar where we took the stage to Marysville      We got to the city about 4 oclock and put up at the Southern & Western Hotel where we find ourselves well accomodated and cared for      It was quite like leaving with a regret to start from a place where we were by habit wonted and was sorry to leave thinking to start home with so small a pile, but as my sight was small to induce me to stop longer I thought now to be as good a time as any to leave. I have promised corrispondence to a few when I get home as they are all desireous of knowing what gold is selling for, also what kind of passage, fare &c I have on my way home. Marys Vill seems like quite a business place and the Steamboats and other shallow craft, together with teems are busy bringing stuff up the river for trade in the mines. A number of new and substantial buildings have gone up since I was here in July last. The plains between here and long bar are in spots fenced in and some beautiful

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farms are now going forward and bid fair to pay well for the labor that is being laid out on them      If this valley only could have frequent showers to invigorate the growth of what it is capable of produceing I think that the world could hardly produce another better section for agriculture

Saturday 22nd      To day has been verry fine, we started from Marysvill about 9 oclock on board the steamer *Lawrence* and got snaged just before we got down to Nicholols and did not get off till after noon. We got to Sacramento City about 9 in the evening, went to the Globe Hotel and stopped over night found verry good accomodation      Fare from Marysvill \$5.00



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Sunday 23rd Pleasant & fine today. Find some little alteration in the city since October. Several splendid public gameing & liquor shops are here which always have some most splendid music in them performed by persons of no ordinary talent & skill I went aboard the bark which lies in the American stream, and found a few of the old company on board who are in the fishing business I arraigned what little I possessed aboard & left for San Francisco in the steamer *Hartford* The fare is down to one dollar and will not soon be up again to its old rates as there seems to be a plenty of first rate steam-boats for conveyance of passengers on the rivers in this country

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Monday 24th Rainy this morning, found ourselves alongside Long Wharf, took our things and went ashore to find and await our next course to pursue in the shape of obtaining a passage to Panama, spent the day in looking about and found many vessels up for Panama but done nothing towards purchaseing our passage, the maile steamer *Columbus* came in to day and anchored off Rincoln Point a great number of people are in San Francisco at present and business seems verry lively in all parts of it

Tuesday 25th A Fine day. Went about town and find that since I was here last, that a verry great alteration has taken place. The wharves have been built out among the shipping, and building lots are laid out, and many fine wood buildings have been built, and are in progress along either side of the wharves, buildings on the water lots from 16 x 20 to 20 x 30, rents for 600 to 700 dollars pr month All kinds of gameing is going on from Faro & Monte to French Monte & Thimble-rig. Great excitement prevails and raged even, last sunday about a Mr Stuart who had committed murder somewhere up country, the citizens were for takeing him out of the station house and hang him but the long rigmarole of law fineally prevailed and quiet restored The city is full of rascals and men who are doing

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business will not stand and be trod on by such Murderous Villainous rascals as are at present prowling about the city, the only way is to make an example of all thieves &c by showing them as



an example becaus a man in a country where all can get a good & honest liveing if so disposed deserves no better punishment than the halter 1851  
Feb.

Wednesday 26 A fine day. Staid at the Globe Hotel last night, find luxuries which will compete with most any other country for sale in this market and things generally bear a brisk appearance I went off aboard the steamers that are now lying in the harbor to see thier accomodation and find that the steerage does not look so inviting as might be expected The difference to in price betwen them and a sail vessel has turned our minds to look at some vessels that are now up for Panama we found one which we take to be a fast sailor and looks as if she would be comfortable to make a passage in, we according paid our passage of 50. dollars and selected our berths and went aboard to live, the steamers steerage is 125 dollars so we save 75 dollars but do not go through so quick

Thursday 27 Pleasant to day. Every day is set to sail but if we get away in one week I will feel

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quite well satisfied, the name of our Brig is *Annah* of New Buryport. She is only two years old and has the credit of a fast sailor, which I hope she will merit in this trip to Panama, several more vessels are up for that port and each one has a runner who stands by to hail every body they think looks the least like being bent for home I had two or three offers to go in-to business and use my money where it looked like being safe enough, but risks and inexperience, led me to look twice

Friday 28th Verry warm to-day done nothing but run about town our principle resort seems to be at the fruit store of Messrs Norton & Pearl oranges sell for 25 to 37½ apiece, and lemons bring any price Limes Bananas, and a few poor apples are in the market and sell for large prices, as it is verry difficult to get fruit here as nice as we do in the Eastern states. There are some splendid fire-proof—substantial buildings going up and are now completed which adds to the beauty of the place. Most of them are gambling houses of fashionable resort and in some of them some three or four as good musicians are playing as I ever heard in any place which is calculated to



1851 draw crowds into the spacious saloons, where every inducement  
 is held out to try our luck at most all kinds of games but it is  
 hard to beat any man at his own studied game so I never thought  
 it best to even try to win

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March Saturday March 1st 1851 Nothing of much importance  
 going on to day about town, a man was caught in a small line  
 of stealing and hurried off to the station house by the officers  
 of Justice to hinder the citizens from lynching him Staid at  
 my new lodging aboard the brig, we are to start every day but  
 I think it does not look much like it just yet. The fare on the  
 boats between here and Sacramento has risen to 8 & 12 dollars  
 by a compromise I suppose

Sunday 2nd A warm day ashore all day to day seems  
 more like sunday than any day yet The gambling saloons are  
 idle and business seems generally slackend, but pleasure seems  
 to be a higher occupation, than going to church however there  
 are several denominations and thier churches seems generally  
 well filled

Monday 3d A catastrophe close too us last night. This  
 morning about 4 oclock a fire broke out on the steamer *Santa  
 Clara*, which lay along side the dock a few rods from us to the  
 leeward and burnt her nearly to the waters edge and it com-  
 municated to the *Hartford* and damaged her severely and for  
 a time the mass of shipping close too, was thought to be in a  
 hopeless condition but as fortune favored no other damage was

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done only on these two boats the most heart rending was that  
 two persons who was sleeping in the after part of the boat was  
 burned to death as the flames had spread before its discovery to  
 much for thier rescue, the firemen were verry prompt and suc-  
 ceeded in subduing the fire entirely

We have got our provisions aboard and hauled out a short  
 distance from the dock and are now waiting for to be jamed I  
 suppose with passengers as no mercy is shown as a general thing  
 in a passenger ship especially in a little Hermaphrodite Brig  
 like this

Tuesday 4th A smart breeze last night about 2



oclock we were awoke with another alarm of fire but found it was too far up town to damage us so I turned in again till morning it burnt several buildings near the wharf but was subdued with much less damage than was thought could be possible when it first brok out. We droped down a littl this morning and anchored, to let the captain go ashore to get his clearance, lots of grumblng is going on among the passengers many of them have never been to sea and probably have yet to learn to bear with things that seem verry disagreeable in a voyage like this we are crowded far too much for comfort, but the Captain seems a verry agreeable man and probably will do

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his best to make us comfortable. We raised our anchor about 4 P M and droped down around Clarks Point to be ready to go to sea to morrow, things generally in a peaceable condition to-night Night













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