Ship Addison. Nov 25th. 1856.

As this is my first experience in Sea-faring life, I have thought it advisable to attempt keeping a journal. not for the purpose of interesting any one out of my own private family. but thinking it might be useful to myself or my child for future reference. We left New Bedford on the morning of the 25th of Nov" 1856 with a sad heart knowing not whether we should ever behold the faces of friends near and dear to us again on earth, God grant we may all meet in that better land, where the parting tear is never shed, the word "good bye" never spoken. We had a good wind from the Eastward and a fine sail down the Bay, out into the wide Ocean which is to be my home for months and years to come.

Went on deck before dark to take my last look at my native land. With what different feelings shall I behold it, should I be permitted to return.

The next day, was sick more or less throughout the day, got over it before night, but Minnie's sea sickness lasted through the next day. We were very fortunate in getting over it as we did, for we had exceedingly rough weather for ten days, a constant gale from the West. Not much transpired during that time, except the ordinary duty on board ship, Each one had as much as he could do to look out for himself. As for Minnie and myself, we were obliged to sit in our bed the whole time except as we went on deck, it was of no use for us to attempt to sit up in the Cabin for we were tossed from one side to the other without the least mercy.

27th Thanksgiving at home, what a pity we could not have remained at home until after that event, for all thought, we should relish a plate of Grandma's stuffed