

At the Parker House, New Bedford, Massachusetts, Edwin Pulver

Tuesday Sept 1851
16 for the past few days we have had rather cool weather for comfort but I can enjoy life better with the thermometer at 48 than at 24. But a temperature to suit me would not admit all hands for could I wish it there must always be a difference feelings and opinions or the world could not stand. As the bible says when mankind all a great time shall be or change. Oh tired I am of New Bedford. No amusement nor any thing off the theatrical kind here nor is there likely to be very soon and perhaps I should save money if there never was any that I could get to. But I shall soon be out of reach of them for a few years and perhaps forever and why shed I care if it should be so few as the friends we have in this world and none I expect in the West. Let that be as it may I hope to have a speedy return and find what few friends I have got enjoying good health and some of the comforts of life around them. But God's will be done. Not mine I willing to abide by judgment which I believe to be just and impartial. I often think I should like to look so years into the future and see what it waits me there but it is for the best as it is for if we have our destiny was a great many would commit suicide or some thing worse.
Wednesday evening made another great purchase in the shape of a fur hat for 4.50 a coat 39 gold watch and chain 60 in all 94.50 almost a hundred for trunks that will never be of any benefit to me. But the hat I must have for it is getting late for a light. I want the gold watch I wanted and am in hopes of disposing of it to a good advantage. The coat is more of a costly instrument than I ought to of taken. But if I have ambition enough in me I can make my self master of the necessary racks of navigation to work a ship I do not know that slavery will ever do me any good but there is the chance for me there is for a others as we have ships they must have some one to command them at least I can't last forever. So good night to have pleasant dreams.

Wednesday Sept 1851
17 I commenced this day with buying books of labor I purchased 118 volumes for 18 dollars. Now I believe I have all I want of books.
Thursday Evening in good health and every thing at hand I could wish the weather cool and breezing.
Friday commenced with fine weather I had some exercise at a bowling this morning which has excited me so much I cannot write with any speed. New Bedford seems to be all life to day a great deal more so than common. The greatest thing I have to tell me is the slowness of the chambermaid in doing my work in the morning & afternoon. No news what I have heard of I ought to of had a letter before this from my relatives in the west but I hope for gotten me or they would of wrote never mind I will keep time with them for I shall write till I get an answer to the one I wrote them till my ship sails then I'll bid them gooby for a few years if not for ever.
My mind to day is roving to my friends in the west oh may I once more meet them I shall I will.
It's all that I'll get I have spent so much time at reading since I purchased my books that my head aches so if I had been having a spree on Cold water.
Friday a beautiful morning as New Bedford ever saw or ever will for there can be nothing pleasanter than a morning like the present one. The sky is clear from clouds and there is not enough of it to make us all comfortable all day.
After noon all is well at present so I could wish every body seems to be enjoying good health that comes under my observation which is a goodly number in the course of the day I have had another spell at the bowling and got badly beat from cause or on I rather think it is because I don't do it done I know old other things that is enough I think.