

On Board Ship Columbus

December 1851

Here we are in the middle of the long  
fall month almost dead with heat  
I heard one of the boys forward remark  
that it was the warmest weather  
he ever saw in December the fellow  
spoke the truth

Why are we so depressed in spirit after  
the committal of some or any petty sin  
I can say for one that I never committ  
a sin of any kind without feeling a  
remorse of conscience and all ways prompts  
my self to do better But how soon are all  
my vows for the better forgotten when tempta  
tion comes in my way But I hope  
the day is not far distant when I shall  
be able to withstand temptation let it  
come in what ever shape it may

God grant that when my trials are over  
Upon the sea and land  
That I may find a resting place  
A midst thy chosen band

God grant that I may faithful be  
What time I am on earth  
Unto thy great and just commands  
Which are of the greatest worth

God grant that when my time hath come  
To leave this vale of tears  
That I may be in Redines  
To meet thee without fear

God grant that I may feel thy power  
As time doth reel as long  
And at the great and final day  
Along join the heavenly throng

God grant that I may meet the pious  
And scoffs of sinful men  
And bless them when I here their cries  
And offer Prayers for them

O Lord my spirit is depressed  
My heart is very sad  
And yet O Lord I live in hopes  
Thy hand will not be lost

On Board Ship Columbus

27 December 1851

Monday  
15  
commenced with fine breeze from S.E. steering  
by the wind to the S.S. under all sail  
Saw a small break to the westward  
distant 5 miles ran for it but saw  
nothing 2 vessels - one brig and a bark we can see it rather  
faster than the which is some satisfac  
tion to the crew of the Columbus for  
she has the clame of being a dull sailer  
I hope she will get her clame up before  
she gets home this time. She has  
commenced well may she keep it up  
Middle part fine wither and good breeze latter  
part the same the brig and bark in sight  
the bark has gained some of us but  
we made up in the brig she is 15 miles  
astern saw porpoises and a grampus  
employed at taking down the rigging  
The Captain and carpenter are very busy  
at building a larger skylight to the  
cabin All of the crew are in good health  
but the boatsteerer french and I fear  
that he has been all the well days he does  
will it seems hard for a man to be  
stricken down with some lingering  
disease just in the prime of life  
But if we deserve the punishment we  
should bear it without a murmur for  
the same power that gave us sickness  
can give us health

Wednesday  
16  
commenced with strong breeze from  
S.E. steering by the wind to the  
S.S. under all sail Middle part  
squally we had several squalls from the  
Southward with but little wind at 1 o'clock  
I noticed a black mass of clouds  
rising from the S.E. thinking it was  
like have a more wind than those that had  
just passed I waited untill the wind came  
old he began coming before I started tack or  
shot the squall struck her a bap the  
beam and for 3 minutes the old Columbus  
was down more than I ever saw her before  
in a squall the top gallant halliard was  
let go fore and aft which let her right  
up some