

Friday November 23rd

Took our gun into overboard.

Friday Morning Nov 23. mist light and baffling. Ship going along slowly through the water. Land in sight all round and breakers under our lee at day light. Put the ship off and stood out. Expecting to make Valparaiso before night but at 12 o'clock was 54.40. n miles to the southward. About 3 o'clock made the Light House & at 4 1/2 o'clock we came to an anchorage off the City of Valparaiso. The Customs House officers and Harbour Master having been on board. Our Captain with ten of the Passengers went on shore, and soon after the crew took punch beer and went also. I myself went in a boat with the Lt. Com. Long W. H.

Saturday - Sunday - Monday November 24, 25, 26th
 San. Port. Valparaiso is a place containing from 50,000 to 60,000 inhabitants. The harbour if it can be called so, is perfectly open and it would be nearly impossible to land men if not for a pier or mole built within a few years. Immediately on stepping ashore, one is struck with the ancient and romantic appearance of everything. The houses are built of mud and straw whitewashed & the roofs tiled with earthen. There are some splendid houses there viz The Governor's American Consulate & Admirals. But the majority are low dirty buildings fit only for the things who inhabit them. The inhabitants are a dirty race, ignorant & jealous of foreigners. Some of the women are beautiful others frightful to look at. Some of the men are handsome and well formed others are loathsome to the sight and their language harsh to the ear. Some are at all communicative or sociable, unless drawn out. Still all are hospitable and accommodating. The men dress as with us except the wearing of the Poncho or Spanish Cloak. The women the same as ours, except they wear no bonnets, but in their place shawls. Both men and women are great riders on horseback. The better ride both with and without habits. They have Oaks (Coffers) and diligences with Postillions on horseback. They are all fond of dogs and every member of a household owns one or more, which are allowed to run at large. There are mostly little miserable curs, but I saw some very fine. Setters, Spaniels, Greyhounds & Newfoundland dogs among them.

31
 Their heavy loads are either carried on mules backs or in ap carts some of the mules I saw with very heavy harness on, more I should think, than a horse could stand under. Their horses are smaller than ours, and shod the same. I went to ride with two others back into the country. During the ride, we were on the edge of precipices certainly 300 or 400 feet high the sides perpendicular, and the passage but just wide enough for one horse. Thus we rode along looking over the edge into the chasms and gullies, thinking that one misstep would be the last of us. I for one thought that, if I could get out of the scrape without a broken neck, it would be the last time any one would catch me there; We all got back to the City safe after a three hours ride. The soil, the natives say is rich and fertile, to me it looks anything else, (but I must confess I am not much of a judge.) It had the appearance of being nearly all rocky. But on a nearer inspection, the rocky substance proves to be a hard brittle kind of dirt, crumbling at the touch. I saw no grass or feed for cattle in or about the City, but they tell me that there is a species of clover in the interior which grows very strong. I saw what we call Butter Cups and Androsace also sweet fern. in the plains without the town and numerous other flowers which grow with us (viz Foxglove, Blue Bell, forget-me not pink and white daisies & Dahlias) We rambled about the City till Monday P.M. at 8 o'clock when having got our water men all came on board and sailed for San Francisco California we had it calm the rest of the afternoon till evening when a light breeze sprang up. I don't know how the rest feel about it, but for me I don't feel paid for stopping so long when one is in a hurry to see the Golden Pigeons. We left several American vessels in port when we sailed most of them bound to San Francisco U.C. Some were regular traders between Valparaiso & the States. Their names were as near as I can recollect. The Ship Europe or Europa. Ship Rose of Natchez Cal. 37 tons out 100 - Apron - (They had been offered \$12,000 but had not concluded whether to sell or not when we left - the crew were in the Calabrese for refusing duty) Bark Philina Cal. Brig Elm-Tiske Cal. Ship Medford Cal. Bark Laura Cal. Horn. Brig Republic Cal. Scho. St. Marys - Cal sailed from New Orleans last March. Others The Ship Olive Branch. Place for Cal. which sailed from Natchez the same day we did. Came into Valparaiso the day after we had left.