

the magic quickness with which it disappeared around the table went as far to confirm the assertion.

Dinner being over and cigars passed around we adjourned on deck where important matters concerning the voyage were freely discussed and the best wishes of all for our welfare and speedy return were gratefully received.

Thus the time passed as pleasantly as circumstances would admit having so recently bid farewell to home and friends and it was not until while the sun was fast sinking in the west and our Capt. hailed a pilot boat which was to take our friends back again that I was again roused to a sense of the separation which must now necessarily take place.

The struggle with my feelings was indeed a hard one and only with difficulty could I subdue them. But at length I succeeded and after saying farewell to the others took my father and brother alternately by the hand and with an air of affected apathy, bade them 'good bye'.

How those little words rang in my ears. how sweet and yet how sad. How many heartrending sighs how many tears all wrung forth at their very mention when those who have hitherto met the changing vicissitudes of life together are about to part perhaps never to meet again.

on earth. Yet these simple words are sweet to me for they come from the deep recesses of the heart.

The boat was quickly out of sight the last struggle over and I had now firmly resolved to adapt myself if possible to rules usages and customs differing in nature altogether from any I had previously known. In short I concluded to keep perfectly cool, cheerfully perform any duty assigned me and turn every thing to its best account.

Having books and writing materials in any quantity with which to occupy all leisure moments I already felt quite consoled for the loss I had sustained and favorably considering the chance of future events began to look upon my position as truly an enviable one.

But whilst consoling myself with these reflections and speculating on the benefits most likely to be derived from 'keeping cool' the sun had gone down behind a bill of purple clouds night was fast spreading her dark mantle over the waves and the bowa went shading on with the increasing wind. Feeling tired and slightly seasick therefore I sought my bunk and turned in. I soon fell asleep while visions of home and friends flitted before me.

Thus ended the 24 hours which were connected with the most remarkable events of my life.