

myself in various ways. First in breaking out and packing away clothing for future use. But this did not occupy much time and of course afforded but little interest and no amusement. So after having had the satisfaction of seeing things stowed snugly and to the best advantage packed in my chest and partly in the room which I occupied with the 3<sup>d</sup> Mate situated on the larboard side and second from the entrance to the cabin I concluded to overhaul my books and papers of which I was fortunate enough to have with me a goodly number and among them some very choice ones.

O what a blessing in the absence of society! Who can tell the value of these tried and true friends the same today and forever? Selecting several for more immediate use the gifts of friends highly esteemed and held in grateful remembrance the rest I carefully laid away in an extra trunk which I bought mostly for this purpose.

After this I passed an agreeable hour in reading sundry sweet notes and letters which were frankly and confidently entrusted to my keeping with strict injunctions "to be opened and read at sea" which orders I dared not to disobey however great my curiosity to know the contents therein. This would have been

to great a violation of conscience proving a confidence misplaced.

But when the time at length arrived when having as I thought passed the boundaries of seasickness I might consider myself at sea you may believe it was not in my nature to allow of any "postponement on account of the weather" and great was the comfort and sweet consolation I received in the perusal of each precious line.

It is particularly pleasing on such occasions to examine these little presents from those who hold a dear place in our memories; to read sweet words of friendly advice to comfort us in our absence from home and trace the best and heartfelt wishes for our health and success from those with whom we have passed many happy hours and it causes us to look forward to a seeming prospect of happy hours to come. The world is made up of trifles and such characteristic trifles are ever to be remembered.

June 1<sup>st</sup>

The storm continued without ceasing until just after dinner when the wind changed to East and somewhat lighter it began to clear away. During the forenoon I again