

independence doubly to be remembered
 We were early awakened this morning
 by the firing of crackers and other
 articles of combustion which some of
 the foremast hands had carefully treasured
 up for the coming time. They had no
 doubt previously anticipated the only
 convenient mode of celebrating the fourth
 at sea and had made such small
 purchases with limited means as were
 best calculated to insure the greatest
 degree of enjoyment for a short time at
 least. And why should they not when
 better means are out of the question?

Who does not delight in the recollection
 of his 'boyish days' when a few pennies
 generously bestowed by some doting
 relative and as generously laid out for
 sweetmeats and toys afforded more
 pleasure than a handsome fortune could
 possibly do at an older age?

What a host of recollections crowd
 upon the mind at the very mention
 of this day and how strongly are we
 reminded of the blessings of our Country
 purchased at so dear a rate by those
 "heroes of the times that tried men's
 souls". All liberty loving people
 cannot fail to cherish with overflowing
 gratitude the memory of those who
 struggled for the possession of the blessings
 and privileges we now enjoy.

Being at sea luxuries of course were
 out of the question we have had
 therefore to make the best of a provision
 which we were so fortunate as to catch
 yesterday. This was disposed of in
 a variety of ways but the chief article
 of consumption manufactured thereof
 were pies which reflected much
 credit on the cook and officiating
 Steward. Although I am sorry to say
 the former has lately shown signs
 of an illtempered and dishonest
 character. He has several times during the
 Stewards illness performed the office
 of both cook and Steward and having
 been more than once reprimanded
 for taking liberties that belong not to
 him he reveals a disagreeable disposition
 which makes it very evident that
 he will not hold out true to his
 calling. Among the officers several
 guns were mustered and discharged
 as a whaler of course we are not very
 well manned with firearm yet the
 few belonging to individuals served to
 imitate the 'bang! bang!' of the big
 guns at home only with less sound.
 After the last fire and the disappearance
 of a multiplicity of pies the day
 terminated in quiet while this evening
 I have ruminated on thoughts of home
 and incidents of a fourth of July at sea.