

April 1st 1854

With a very light breeze stood in this morning and at 8 A.M. dropped anchor in Jamestown Roads. There are some 15 or 20 other vessels of almost every description also lying here chiefly Merchantmen of different nations

English, French, Dutch with two or three of the American. After the Custom house officer came on board the Capt. started for the shore where he will remain all night. The boat returned at 11, since which all hands have been quite actively employed in various duties making things as snug as possible which is quite necessary as we have concluded to stop here some little time send home oil if there is a chance paint ship and enjoy a few days run on shore. 2 English barks arrived this afternoon. Find the Don Bartol of New Bedford the Tenedos of New London and the Osseola of the same port all whole Barks lying here. The Second mate and myself have been on shore a little while this evening but could form but little idea how things were there as the town is lighted by only a few street lamps. drank ginger beer and took in at a Soldiers rendezvous where there were some dozens of them making merry over their battles

of wine. Believe there is a brass band here. Have not yet heard it. I am in hopes Capt. will bring of letters for me tomorrow. Am all impatience in anticipation of them.

April 2. Sunday

The Starboard watch all on liberty to day and I have had a fine view of the town and some of the surrounding scenery which presents a fine appearance from where we lay. It has been much calm only occasionally relieved by puffs and cat's paws from over the land the trades making the lee side of the island. Capt. came off this forenoon but unfortunately for me had found only one letter and that for himself. This is a great disappointment I wonder if I shall ever get a letter from home. Doubtless they have written long ago but how unfortunate that I could not get one? However this shall not deter me from writing or at least from finishing those already commenced for there will be a capital chance for sending as I learn the Willwage lately arrived and the Osseola are both soon to sail for home. I learn also that we are to send our oil by the Willwage. Some of the vessels there bring coal for the Steamers that touch here. One is even now taking