

As yet I have only caught an occasional stray note as it came floating on the wavering breezes from over the hills but even these few as they came to my ear brought vividly the memories of home and richest music before me. As it was getting late the different points of interest now drew but a passing gaze as we trod on and when we reached the lower part of the town the sun had sunk behind the western hills. On the Eastern side of the street where it divides into two stands the office of the American Consul. Here we found our Capt. and part of the watch on liberty with a boat crew from the Bark waiting for orders. For though our liberty was up at sunrise next morning some chose to go on board at night and for this purpose the boat was in waiting at the pier. Others were roaming about as if not in the least tired but for my part I felt after an unusual walk altogether unwilling to go on board till I had stolen a march on time by improving a portion of the evening in visiting some of the shops and seeing whatever was to be seen. As the Mate confessed to a similar feeling we concluded to stop till 9, after which according to the regulations we could not go on board without a pass. Visited first a coffee shop and called for cataplasms and coffee the former consisting mostly of warm bread and butter after having partially satisfied the

the inner man. Lighted cigars and took a short stroll which ended at the pier just before 9, where we found a boat waiting and were soon on board. The Mate has turned in and is doubtless by this time forgetful of everything else in a journey to the land of dreams. I have sat up till 11, writing out this imperfect account of our researches on shore and as a feeling of drowsiness comes over me all powerful I will not longer attempt to resist it but turn in also.

April 8-1864

With the exception of 2 men reported to have deserted us the watch came off this morning and the other has gone for liberty. Been employed in breaking out the hold for the reception of water. Painting &c. 4. Merchantmen came in today and several left. "Music by the band" rendered quite intelligible owing to the stillness of the atmosphere and more than once I found myself listening to sounds which were only long ago familiar but it loosed more of its charms on that account.

Sunday April 9.

Our watch have again had liberty. On town found it rather dull music though I am sorry to say there were several grog shops open to customers who did not fail in many cases to visit them as a proof one