

back. Found him and thanked him for his generous intentions but observed that I did not feel justified in taking it as it was only to accommodate that I consented to come and not for reward. I told him it was but a short time I had played and if I had been instrumental in completing the evenings enjoyment the happiness I should feel in that assurance would be a sufficient recompense for my slight service. Come I come replied he I must still press it upon you for it is but a trifle and I could not now take it back and besides if I should ever have occasion to ask you to play Yankee Doodle I should feel that I had at least some claim on your memory if not upon your actual service. Here he laughed heartily and I found he was at heart about as much of a Yankee as myself and even some of those in the boat might confess as much. Finding he was bound that I should take the money I thrust the crown into my pocket with many thanks and hoping I might have the pleasure of serving him again with a hearty shake of the hand bade him good night and got into the boat. They took me round to the Iowa and with many good wishes I saw them depart for the shore.

I record this little event because it is the happiest social time I have met with since I left home and one that most vividly recalls similar ones there.

But though these bright spots serve to remind us of the many happy hours spent among those who are ever dear it is not difficult to realise how many thousand miles intervene between us and that many many months must intervene past away ere we meet those warm hearts at home.

To night Capt. came off and said a proposal had been started for a ride into the interior tomorrow. Several of the Skippers were attending a picnic a few days ago in the country but on account of rain were obliged to adjourn and went to the house of an acquaintance who pressed from them a promise that they would visit him again before they left the island. Among others who shared this visit were our Capt. and mate and I had also an invitation to "come and play for them" but as it was not convenient for me to leave I did not go which was as well as it turned out to be a rainy day. The invitation to night has been renewed for me to accompany the mate to morrow. Capt. thinks he shall defer his visit a few days as he has business in town. The travel on horse back and I shall leave the violin behind thanks to it for being instrumental in procuring me the invitation. I am all anticipation of a pleasant ride in the country where everything is fresh and green and I suppose I shall not sleep much to night in consequence.