

the town. The wind soon fell away however and soon after as the tide was running out this way got our boats down for a tow but it was no go with the bark and we began soon to have suspicion that her keel was pretty near the bottom which was confirmed about 10 A.M. when she was found to be fast in the mud so we had nothing to do but to wait for the turning tide. While lying on the bottom we painted one side of the Bark. At 1 P.M. we began to swing round a breeze springing up soon after and trimming our sails we again steered for the town. Passing through a narrow passage where on the island side is a fort we were soon anchored off the City. Here we found several vessels chiefly Brigs and one Man of war Steamer belonging to the Brazilian Station lying at anchor. Opposite on the main land numerous houses skirt the beach interspersed with groves of trees while farther back green hills and fertile plains with forests intermingled greet the eye with pleasing sensations. From our anchorage the city or town forms another fine picture of neatness and comfort. Several Churches and other large buildings rise above the rest giving it an imposing appearance and the scenery round about is varied and beautiful. Every thing to our longing eyes looks lovely at a little distance and there is such a sweet smell

coming from the land - the flowers and trees that it is truly invigorating beyond description to us who have been inured to the sea breeze and the consequent hardships of a sailor's life. An officer having been placed on board as is the custom to prevent any contraband trade Capt went on shore at 4 P.M. has not yet returned.

March 13.

Capt. was on board last night and went on shore this morning soon after the S. watch went for liberty. The other watch employed in painting etc. An English Merchant brig came up to day and there are now 10 lying here - Dutch English French and Brazilian besides a Yankee but in here in distress having in a gale carried away nearly all her spars. The whale ship Barclay Capt Fuller from Bedford has also anchored down to Santa Cruz. A boat crew came up and are now on board of us. To night here Skipper came on board with ours and will I think stay the night - as the current and a strong wind are both against them if they pull down. The clouds look dark and boding and presage a rain storm.

March 14.

Our watch has had its turn to-day and I have been gratified by a fine stroll