

August 21st 1885

Experienced slight changes in wind hauling 2 points each way and back into the old quarter. Have repaired 3 of 4 sails this afternoon. In regard to fish dull prospect. Some signs of rain visible tonight. Pico bears N. by E. 40 miles and 2 other islands in sight.

August 25

An extraordinarily warm and pleasant day which like most others till night passed quietly enough. But we must always in some measure enjoy such a bright night as this even if it is quiet enjoyment. Could almost wish it were never day if we could be assured the moon would always impart such a cheering light as it does now.

Oh we have never known at sea a pleasanter evening. I'm sure I can't tell when it was.

The water seems all aglow with light and scattered over with diamonds sparkling and dancing on the merry waves. While the boys with hearts made lighter by the illumination are "renewing their ages" by dancing on deck.

I have just done amusing them with fiddling but they don't appear to be disposed to give it up on that account.

Pity they would not always be as happy as now.

It is on such evenings as these that I am most strikingly reminded of home and its pleasing associations. More than one

could if present bear me witness how it used to enjoy such for how could it help it when kind hearts were met on every side striving to make me happy. But all that has long since passed away. I am now forced to content myself with that to which I condemned myself and for which there is no present remedy. Yet hoping still hoping that ere long that time will come when waters will not divide nor distance interpose between me and those to whom my thoughts so often tend with prayers for their safety.

Have had very little wind. Pico tonight bears N. N. W. about 30 miles off.

August 26 Sunday.

Fair light breezes from N. N. W. still keeping the islands in sight. Pico bears N. N. W. and Chagal partly seen. Have read considerable today.

August 27

Have been trying to beat up to the island with wind from N. N. W. Made several tactics but finding could not fetch by night stood off under short sail with a good breeze which we hope will change in our favor so we may go in. Pico bears N. E. by E. not more than 20 miles distant.