

Tuesday Nov 5th 1861

We turned out the traps that belong to the Kensington to day I am very well satisfied with the selection made by Capt. J. B. Wood. We sold the ship too cheaply but we thought it was the best under all the circumstances.

We are selling a great number of our whale ships and the effect is that we must engage in other pursuits or live "idly and unemployed" or there must be other enterprises to keep the population from leaving and going elsewhere to find work for their skill and their energies which will most assuredly take place unless we bestir ourselves in creating this source of employment and a field for the real life of our beloved city. A business which takes the time and attention of men from 4 o'clock in the morning until six at night is better in my opinion for any and all men than that which occupies their mind to all its powers for 3 months and then ~~rest~~ ^{rest} ~~unusually~~ ^{unusually} till a voyage of 4 years is ended for results. I trust we shall find something better and more remunerative than this whaling business has been for the last forty years at least.

Sunday Dec 29 1861

The close of 1861 is fast approaching and we have not had but one snow and that but an inch or two deep. The river is not frozen and the weather generally has been mild. We had a letter yesterday from Capt. Brown of the "Bk. Barnstable" I was well pleased with the spirit he showed in the letter which was an honest and sincere desire to act up to all his knowledge and belief of what is right and for the best ^{of all} ~~of all~~; and his economy also pleased me very much. I wrote for him to ship his sperm oil and the bone but it was quite inconvenient to ship the sperm oil and he let it remain on board which I think was very wise under the circumstances, and too, he said I shall not draw till the last season (i.e.) unless some accident should happen and then I will make them ^{the best} ~~as light as~~ possible and the whole tenor of his letter shows a right spirit and I am very much pleased with the letter. As there are no vessels to come direct home he will send the Bone to San Francisco which is very proper more I think. The rebellion is still the great thing in the country and all persons are looking anxiously and in the hope that some fatal blow will soon be

given in that direction. Great Britain seems to be rather disposed to make a great matter out of the Trent affair. I cannot think at present the two governments will get involved in a war (at present) at least I think at this time if we do not have any thing else to take care of we shall get this rebellion where we can control it in the next four or six months but no one can tell certainly about the future but I trust we shall get some of these matters settled soon, the foreign affairs at least; but it may be they cannot be settled except by arbitration or war. I have full faith in the President and cabinet. I believe them to be honest and sincere lovers of the country and will try to ~~advance~~ ^{advance} its best interests and will avoid a war with Great Britain if it can be done ~~consistently~~ ^{consistently} with our national honor.

Monday April 28th 1862

To day there is nothing especially new. I received a letter from J. B. Eaton in relation to the ship "Uncas" and her master which I will try to answer to the best of my ability just as I would like for any one to do for me under the same circumstances and sent the letter to night. This evening went up to Miss Root, she was sick with headache saw her cousin and passed 1 1/2 hours with her very pleasantly. Home at 10 o'clock left there about 20 to 30 miles East foggy & cloudy. I hope we shall grow wiser as we grow older in all things.

Tuesday April 29th 1862

Raining a letter to day in the evening went to the Parker House on my way I stopped a moment at Dr. Hooper's Office and he gave me a prescription and I came home at 10 o'clock and ~~went~~ ^{came} to this room and am writing here at 10 1/2 o'clock. Saw Capt. Fletcher at the Parker House.

Thursday May 1st 1862

To day has been quite cool this morning a little cloudy at 2 o'clock it began to cloud over the horizon and at 5 it began to rain in the evening I do not go out at home in my room at 8 1/2 o'clock Barometer 29.95 and 9.30 rain retired at 10.

Friday 2nd

This morning raining wind 8.8 Bar 29.88. Nothing new to day cloudy & raining this evening went to Dr. Hooper's and sent to Mr. Butler and came home before 10 o'clock Bar 29.83. I retired at 1/4 before 11 o'clock wind 11 and foggy.