

20th day from N.Y. Latitude Longitude

Friday, December 26th 1862.

This morning we arose at 7 o'clock. during the night we were
wakened several times by the violent pitching of the ship -
on going on deck found every thing about the same as when
we left the evening previous - We are still on the Starboard tack
and heading E by S - 7 E. S. E. - Capt thought of taking ship this
morning - but did not - We do not have much conversation
together - He does not seem disposed to be very communicative
and myself do not urge him the other way - I think on the
whole this is the best course - all I wish is to get to Calpurnia
safe - and there with me - I do not think as well as I
thought I should of going on a Sail vessel and sometimes
wish I had gone by Steam - - - 1 P.M. The watch
has been on deck at work at Ship's duty - Had the Cabin Carpet
shaken - and to get out of the dust - Carry Mary - Charly -
George & myself have had a nap on the Couch - a Sail
was spread over the boats - and in it we got and had
a comfortable time until dinner - - - 2 P.M. While at
dinner I have often seen the 24th at times offend the 2nd
Mate's something which he has graciously refused - Shall take
no more notice of him - Soon after going on deck Mr Evans
after some talk with the Captain had a dispute with
the 2nd Mate - and some hard words passed relative
to the Sailors - the communication of which I imperfectly
understood - Mrs Morey has been quite sick to day and has
taken some Calomel - She scarcely sits up at all - Mrs -
W. lies down all the time during the day - but do not know
that she is sick - George has been in his berth all the
afternoon - the rest have been on deck most all the day -
Charly has got a thump on his groin - which is quite
gone with this exception he is perfectly well but want of
Exercise makes him rather nervous and cross - and he begins
a good deal of venting upon -

Thus ends the day

21st day from N.Y. Latitude Longitude

Saturday, December 27th 1862

8 AM. This morning is a duplicate of the others - wind blowing
fresh with occasional squalls of rain and wind - heading
E by N - last night took on Ship and we are now on the
Port Tack heading E. S. E. - 10 AM. Cabin has cut one
of her Cabins and gave it to the children and Passengers - It
lashed like home - and put on in mind of old times - 1 PM
have had dinner - This PM all hands are at work
on deck and not allowed the usual afternoon to sleep - on
board of some ships the afternoon is always spent on labor on ships duty
by the whole crew - This however I imagine is brought about in order to
train the crew their duty - When we left N.Y. men for Sailors were scarce
and most of the crew we ship^d were formerly Men of War's men - and
not thoroughly acquainted with the duties of a Merchantmen - One of
the crew named Turner has been at work making a Kammoak for the
Captain - This man seems quite intelligent and informs me he has been to
Sea some 33 Years - He is 42 years old - To day the Mate Mr Evans
let us have a chart of the world on which in future we will track off
our course and the Ship's position on the chart - This will prove a
power of qualification to us each day - I think the Capt does not like to
us - his "Orders" and is very chary of his favors - 7 PM while at
dinner with the Mate the Capt came in and informs us that a
Steamer could be plainly seen from our weather Quarter bearing directly
down upon us - Being on deck we could discern by the eye from deck
the upper parts of a Steamer apparently standing towards us - at
this time great excitement prevailed and the Cabin was soon changed
of sick ones and all anxious to see the "Stranger" - Different views
of the Conjectures of all and the names - 290 and Albatross - was freely
quoted - We closely watched her from Mast Head and finally
concluded that she was standing across our stern bound from
the Cape de Verde Island to the West Indies - Night coming on
we soon lost track of her and pursued our way alone - To night
we are having some very severe squalls Ship going at our time
13 miles by the log - Have remained on deck until 9 PM
and will now retire Tomorrow another day on my
Mummadam