

24 days from N.Y. - Latitude 12.56° - Longitude 42.10° W

Tuesday - December 30 - 1862

Arose at 7 o'clock found Mary and George already up. Some of them coming to our window. - Charley was awake some time before and amused himself by singing - and playing with his cards. - Part of this day has been pleasant. Sun occasionally shining brightly. - went aloft to see if I could make out a sail and after looking about half an hour gave it up. I then came down and went out on the bowsprit to watch the ship. - saw it out of the water. - Sometimes it would seem as if she was coming right out of the water bodily. - and then again she would bury herself up again. - so that the water would most come over the bows. - The accustomed duty of making and taking in sail has been performed. - and lies now easy. - the wind is blowing steady. - and we are moving at the rate of 11 miles per hour. - The Mate says - that he never was on a better ship or a faster sailer on the water than this ship. - I am glad to hear this. - As we have yet to experience some very heavy weather. - We all feel anxious to get across the line. - as then our journey is about 500 miles. - besides we will fall in with vessels bound homeward. - and perhaps can then find news from home. - I am tired of the voyage. - and wish myself in Valparaiso. - I think this is the most tiresome and disagreeable. - that I was ever with. - for reason that I will give hereafter. - As most of the passengers have left the deck I have spent some time in meditating. - and will also retire. - and go to sleep if possible.

Thus ends this day -

25 days from N.Y. - Latitude - W. Long -

25

Wednesday - December 31 - 1862

The last day of the year - !!! - This day commences with strong breeze but cloudy. - The Trade winds still continue strong and favorable. - heading now - E.S.E. - Should the trade winds continue will be about the Equator the last of this week. - Ship laying over. - considerable makes it with the greatest difficulty that we can make. - The ship having now been close hauled for a number of days past. - The Mate watches on deck. - myself busy reading Midshipman Easy. - one of Capt. Maygates works. - George at work making a wash board. - George is very busy. and is very persevering. - The watch on deck mending sails. - &c. - washing much to do. - Spent much of my time looking around reading mending washing &c. - I do not intend to be very ambitious while on board ship. - but make up (as they say) for lost time. - have been reading most of the day. - 9 P.M. - Another beautiful evening. - And New Years Eve. - How I wish I could call among some of my friends - and say "how are ye?" Just to see how it would feel to "them and me" - I sometimes think I wish I had a photograph of 218 Market St. - but I have enough to call my mind back to those scenes. - "How is Father?" - Shall I get the photographs sent me - as promised. - Put him on the Ocean. - we have much time for reflection "Ye" for meditation and repentance. - Who knows what a day may bring forth. -

"New Years Eve." - The old year out! -
The new year in!!