

26 days from NY. Latitude 6.30 Longitude 38.40

Thursday - January 1st 1863.

This day opens the commencement of a New Year which is destined to be for me a year of Prosperity - or perhaps one of Adversity - !! Turned out at 7 o'clock - found decks washed and every thing snug - Wind blowing fresh Ship heading S.E. - we have made this course during most of the night - and should the wind hold we will be across the line by Sunday - Many salutations were exchanged - as is customary on shore - and "Wish you a Happy New Year" was expressed and exchanged - among the passengers - !! Watch on deck busy - on ship's duty - Capt. has swung a hammock under the boats - and the children are out enjoying themselves finely - - Charley has gone to sleep on it - and is very much contented - 1 P.M. have had dinner - Carrie - Mrs. Morey - George - Mr. Evans - Mr. Levi - and myself set down. This is the third time I have eaten with any Ladies since coming on board - Carrie says she enjoyed it more than any meal she has taken since coming on board - Mrs. Morey also eat very heartily for her - all seemed to enjoy themselves very much - 2 P.M. was on deck myself - swinging the children in the hammock Mrs. Morey's daughter fell out and hurt herself from where Charley and Emma again asleep - Have lunch & Brady Mashum easy - Miz. still continues strong and we are going 10 miles per hour - Porpoises in sight and around the ship - Call & Carrie to see them - this is the first we have seen since we started - Have now all sail set - and moving along finely - am in hopes that this wind will last - 9 P.M. another beautiful evening - and have been sitting on the chairs on deck looking at the moon - New Years is nearly over - wonder who is drunk and how many calls have been made - "Wish you a very happy New Year!!"

27 days from NY. Latitude 4.50 Longitude 37.70

Friday - January 2nd 1863 -

6 AM - Was awakened from a sleep - which I had scarcely commenced by the Mate's voice - giving the order to stand by "Top Gallant Halliards" Another signal - says I - 1 - when it struck the ship - The Top boats in which was Carrie and Charles - gave away - letting some of the boards down - This caused me to vacate my position - as a lot of men doubt quite time - I could then hear the confusion which followed and putting out my head - just in time to see the Main top Gallant sail fly in ribbons - some of them landing a few miles from the ship - It was blowing very strong - and all hands turned out - The Capt. going on deck found the Mate in high words - the purport of which I could not understand - But the Capt. gave them to understand if any more of that took place - "One of them might go to their rooms - After doubt preparing the Topsails - finding the Main sail - order was again restored - Wind much reduced - took Breakfast - and the watch went below - For some nights - and in fact ever since we left New York - a part of the Lady passengers have during the day constantly slept or laid down - and as soon as the Main sail went with their husbands laid down for the night - a constant laughing - and carousing - was kept up until sometime 11 1/2 o'clock this morning - Carrie spoke to the ladies about the impropriety of so doing and was given to understand by the Captain that - no one was under obligations ^{to the other} and each one could do as they wished - ye - Mrs. M. & Mr. are particular favorites with the Capt. and of course it is of no use to remonstrate - They lay extended on a bed made for them by the Captain - on bunks &c - and also on the two easy chairs in their staterooms - all day - and most of the evening when the rest of the passengers are on deck - Sometime the three Mrs. M. Mrs. N. and the Captain were set in the dais - After the rest are all in bed then commenced a round of entertainment eating drinking &c - until 11 1/2 at night sometime making such distribution as to keep all hands awake - on the Cabin - Perhaps it is all right - But I cannot see how 2 ladies going to join their husbands can act on such a manner & to call the attention of all - and especially the deck hands