

Sunday January 1st - 1863

57 days from N.Y.

Latitude South Longitude West

Came on deck at 7 o'clock - Ship bore a sharp to the "wind", - but going - her course - SW-by-W. - The decks were cleared up - and every thing was a Sabbath look - This is now the end of 8 weeks, this morn. since we left - N.Y. - We are in hopes to - get to Valparaiso, in four weeks more. - We have had a good breeze - and have averaged - from 9 to 10 knots in hour - - George has been reading "Beatrice Cenci", and is on deck. Mary - came in our room and stand - sometimes - looking over present "Mentors" - They are "company" to "make a change" - on in other words turn over another leaf on our history. After dinner - took a book - to read - and laid down - - Charles J. - came fast asleep - - laid - into - the - bell struck for 4 o'clock. At 5 o'clock - came and Mary - made their appearance - in thick dress with collars &c. - Since coming from N.Y. - came has even her hair combed back plain behind her ears - - and with - Mary - has worn no collars - over their plain Calico dresses - To day dressing as they do at home makes quite a change in their looks which was remarkable. After supper - went on deck - - set down on the main mast - to read. Mrs M. - & Mr. - was down to bed. The Capt. looked at them with a very evil eye - - The wind is now hauling and keeping the ship off - SW by S. - have set "Studding Sails" - time about 6 PM. Shortly after as George and myself was standing in the watch - A sea came over - and hit us both!! - Nearly all of the passengers are on deck and Mrs M. - comes out occasionally to look after the Capt. - - Have been sitting by the myn hatchway talking with Mrs Mary about home - Valparaiso &c. She is very anxious to be through with our voyage - - Soon after went in our room and had some "Berry and Crackers" which tasted first-rate. Afterwards - we went to bed - Mary - went on deck and talked with Mrs M. and the Capt. - At this time Mrs M. - and Emma - had been on the after deck - for an hour waiting for the Capt. to join them - which he had promised to do (as soon as he should change his boots -) as he had sent them there - I imagine their chagrin when they returned to find Mrs M. talking with - Mary & Mrs M. - It now commenced to blow quite strong - and an ominous looking Bank to the westward.

Monday February 2nd 1863

58 days from N.Y.

Latitude South Longitude West

and ahead of our ship - gave certain signs that it would soon blow from that quarter - We are now - midway - the River La Plata - and we are on the look out for the "Pampero" - that occasionally blows from the Pampero on Plains - near Montevideo - Studding Sails were hauled in and the light sails taken in - The moon is now shining beautifully - About 12^{midnight} the wind hauled ahead - and - strong SE - About 6 o'clock AM - George came to our window - to have us look at - the heavy clouds which portended a Thunder Storm - On the horizon far to windward - streaks of lightning were playing - and darting across the black clouds - - Fearing that it would be something serious - The fore-topmast was doubled reefed - and the main Sails masted - hauled up - it is feared - Spent the day - 40 - as to present as little resistance to the approaching storm as possible - But the storm passed ahead of us - and after breakfast - took the opportunity to get some things - During the morning the water was a greenish - blue - giving certain indications that the depth of water was less - and that we were approaching land - Since speaking the Whalins - and company their compasses with our own - a difference of - One and a half degrees - was found - This has led the Capt. - to think that possibly his "Chronometer" may be out - and his reckoning wrong - The Chart on which we have fixed our course - and position does not - make mention or doubt our being on soundings - as indicated by the looks of the water - So the ship was now abreast - but our depth sound of 100 fathoms gave no sign of reaching bottom - So we started again on the same track - "Starboard" - The wind heavy headed the ship - off - East - at 4 o'clock - we were ship - standing - W. SW - and running into the land - After supper came on deck for a walk - The wind blowing fresh - Mr Evans - took Charles in his arms - Mary & Mrs Mann - and Mrs Mann with myself - took up our line of march - in imitation of a lot of Emigrants - just landed - en route - for the Cars - It is now very cold - Uncomfortably so - And after a game of Chess with Mr Evans - left the deck for warmer quarters - - Mrs Mary has been quite sick - and uncomfortable all day - The pitching of the ship - makes her sick - as not to get up - The Steward had put in Mary's room - part of a Pie - So we adjourned to my room to eat - and with some Pickles - took first rate - - 1 So ends this day -