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Friday - February - 27th - 1863 -

83 days from N.Y. -
Latitude South Longitude West

Friday commences with - Squally weather
and making but little progress toward getting to Valparaiso
Presumably the Dock is now looking for us - and anxious
awaiting our arrival - - - - - since Tuesday no off shore ships
now showing - on the Standard track - - - Nothing of importance
until - now - ! - Had a conversation with Mrs Newman -
about 3. A heavy squall struck the ship, which nearly - sent
us on our beam - ends - It came on so fearfully - the Capt -
called at my window to "land a hand" - went on deck - and
found all sails flying - Cloud up main topsail - as it was
only single reefed - and - down reefed it - also furlled - Main topsail
and - by night - The ship was here to under main
sprit, and - down reef - Main topsail - - During this time the wind
continually increased - and by 9 P.M. - It was blowing as violent -
as I ever heard it - The Ladies was much alarmed - and nothing
could induce them to go to bed - The wind howled through the
rigging - something and screaming - as if endeavoring - to destroy the ship
and sent its fury - on our little party in the Cabin - 10 o'clock - all
retired - George and Mary had been gone some time - and finally all was
still - I laid down on my berth with my clothes on - ready for any
emergency - But the rolling of the ship became so violent at times - that
I got up again - to secure some Trunk which had - come from its
fastenings - This time 11 P.M. The Pinnace lamp sputtered - and set fire to
the house - which however was quickly - extinguished - "Emma thought the
Pinnace lamp was on fire" which afterwards caused no little laughter - at her
mistake -) - The ship - lay heavily on the trough of the sea - during some of the
time - making it fearful that the sea would come on board - And I was the
decks - - 12 P.M. came (Midnight) - The wind had lulled somewhat for the
last 2 hours - but seemed to increase - now - and was more furious - than
ever - The Capt. laid himself down before the stove - giving orders to the officers on
deck to call him should it be necessary - also - to have the Men kept well
aft - so as to be out of the way of the sea should it come on board - -
The wind now freshened up - to S.W. - and it was obvious that the
wind was inclined to haul from the SW -

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Saturday - February - 28th - 1863

84 days from N.Y. -
Latitude South Longitude West

After 12. the wind again increased - The Capt. had lain down for a
moment's rest - expecting to be called out - - I laid down on my berth - and washed
for day light - - Charles and Sam were awake - - About 3. Shot a pair over the
quarter which nearly washed away the men at the wheel - - After this it
soon moderated - and the ship rolled heavily - which at one time - during a heavy
roll - scooped up the water - - completely filling the deck - lifting the spars on
deck - putting out the coals from the stove - - However by morning - the sun
shone - and both wind and sea continuing to go down - - Everybody resumed their
natural expression - - and our more settled - - - The sun shone by
intervals - - between the squalls - which are now not so heavy - - Have not
been on deck - but twice during the day - - Have seen no sail to day -!
but as we are on the track will - in long - - wind light all day - !
In the Evening - all got around the stove - and engaged in
telling riddles - - and the utmost good feelings prevailed - - "Emma" introduced
a game - which consisted - in the most person to you - finally you
with a present - (naming it) - - and yourself to the next and so on -
until the circuit was performed - when - the instructions when to find your
present - is given to each one by - the person who received the present - You
are then - to say - in the hearing of all - what your present - was - and when
you were to find it - As the person who tells you where to find your present
knows nothing of what your present consists of - The Continuation is at once
ludicrous in the extreme - - Mrs Morry's - was a Polish sausage - and
she was to find it under the Captain's coat - - Mary's - was a Pot
she was to find it under the Bed - &c &c - - So the time passed very -
pleasantly - until after 10 - when we all retired - - The gale of wind
the preceding night had - gave us all but very little sleep - now the ship
was lying quiet - in fact - nearly a calm - Before retiring had -
a little Cher - of the Coventry Production - Tomorrow is Sunday
making us - 12 weeks from N.Y. - This is the time we
all calculate to be in Valparaiso - But in a sailing ship it
is no use to make calculations - and Boats of tomorrow - for one
knows not what the day may bring forth -
"Saw the 'Whaler' this evening -
- Do. Ends -