

April 1880

It is now evening, and I feel very tired. We dined today at the Consulate, and about six o'clock returned to our lodgings, and shall have tea at nine P.M. Capt went to the office this morning and got one letter from the Consul, also several letters for the crew. But none from our friends. It makes me feel lonely. But two mails are due next week and I will try not to despair of hearing until they arrive. The Consul has written for us to go to New Zealand if unsuccessful here, so I suppose we shall not be there again at present, and if we do not get our letters soon I know not when we shall hear from home. Capt has been to see Mr. Fisher today. He is going better, and cannot go out with us. I do not know what we shall do for a recreation, but I hope we may be able to get one. There is considerable excitement here now on account of the close of the war between Brazil and Paraguay. The troops are returning. Two steamers packed with troops came in last night. The troops came on shore and this afternoon, just before they returned to the steamers. The pack-trail the steers and went through the hills, their drill directly in front of Mr. Lindberg. The few fellows are glad to get back. Probably many that went out with them are somewhere with the hills and wounded. They are now on their way to Rio Janeiro to be discharged. I would like to get a letter to Father this morning and shall write to him and tonight in the evening. This morning brought some clothing for Freddie and some suits of clothes for Freddie had to pay 65 cts for food, also 25 cts for rent for myself. I want to get a few more letters to take home with me. For we may not be here again. This is strange.

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Thursday. We have had a severe gale today. Capt sent for a boat to come ashore today, and we were going off to the ship this afternoon. The boat arrived at twelve, but it was so rough they were obliged to leave the boat on the other side of the Point and walk across here about half a mile distant. It blew so hard that we cannot go back. So I have had the boat pulled up and found lodgings for the crew. We shall go early in the morning if the weather is suitable. This morning immediately after our ten o'clock breakfast went to the Photographic and had a picture of Freddie taken to send home to Father. It cost the enormous sum of \$1.87 at home it would have been thirty cents. The wind blew so hard that we could scarcely get across. Michael had brought ashore today, but the Doctor he wanted to see was out of town. Capt tried to get him a lodging opposite us, but the landlady refused to take him because he was sick and that he got a permit, and sent him to the Hospital to stop the night. Mr. Fisher called on today. He looks feeble. This week is the Catholics' Holy week, and they are having great times. The family we board with are interested and Sabbath and two daughters are dressed in their best ready for the Circus where there is a mass as a mass or some thing else. I know not what. This evening tomorrow is good Friday, so we shall have no break if we remain here, but if suitable weather I shall go aboard in the morning. Freddie is covered with mosquito bites. The clerk back and I know they must feel so. and it makes him very cross. and I cannot think strange. I wrote to Father last night, and shall write to him again to send in the next mail that leaves about the twenty sixth. It is nearly eight o'clock and we have not had supper yet.