

1830

St. Brig. Barbarta

March Friday 5th Fresh gales and frequent squalls of wind and rain. The wind inclining to the N & E.

True Course S 78° E Variation 1° 36' E. Lat N 28° 45' Long W 65° 14'

Saturday 6th Moderate breezes from N to E & E and pleasant weather.

True Course S 56° E Variation 0° 45' E. Lat N 27° 52' Long W 63° 52'

Sunday 7th A serene sky and fair weather. The winds light and Sol pouring down his rays with uncomfortable heat, which makes old Time hang heavily. We have at this time got as well regulated, as the room we have will permit. The Captain has his lodgings in a small coach house or cuddy on the Starboard side the deck abaft, and the first off in another one opposite, on the larboard side. Don Andres has a cot slung under the sky-light of the trunk and the 2^d & 3^d mate and boatswain make their bunks on the cabin floor and for myself I spread my mattress upon the trunk, and sleep as undisturbed as if on a bed of down. The above named constitute the Cabin Mess. The Steerage Mess are the 2^d Boatswain, Armourer & Carpenter.

True Course N 23° E no variation Lat N 29° 13' Long W 63° 13'

Monday 8th Fresh breezes from S to South with flying clouds.

True Course N 62° E Variation 0° 45' E. Lat N 30° 00' Long W 61° 31'

Tuesday 9th Fresh breezes from the Southward and flying clouds the first 18 hours and the remaining 6 cloudy with thick mist.

True Course E 31° Variation 1° 36' W. no obs. Lat S 30° 13' Long W 59° 04'

Wednesday 10th Fresh gales from SW to NW and disagreeable weather.

True Course East Variation 2° W. no obs. Lat 30° 13' N Long W 56° 18'

Thursday 11th A clear atmosphere and pleasant weather. Wind N to NE.

True Course E 1° Variation 3° W Lat N 30° 11' Long W 53° 17'

Friday 12th A smooth sea and fair weather. The wind from N to E.

True Course S 85° E Variation 4° W Lat N 30° 15' Long W 51° 49'

Saturday 13th A clear atmosphere and strong breezes. The first part the wind from N to E & latter part from E to E. I find that although having a knowledge of Latin & Greek rules, and some few Spanish words & phrases, I am as ignorant as yet in Spanish. True Course N 57° E Variation 4° 45' W Lat N 30° 36' Long W 50° 54'

passage to Africa.

1830

March

Sunday

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Fair weather, brisk breezes and flying clouds. Being now well initiated in a new scene, I will give a little description of our fare. In the first place the personage who superintends the cookery, is styled the Major-Domo, who is a tall, stout made, good natured Castilian. His business is to prepare the different dishes, have an eye to every thing pertaining to the Cabin, and is Captain General, Commander in Chief of the Galley. Under him as working cook, is a thick set, thick lipped, curly headed, lump of stupidity, and in my imagination, the complete counter part of Shakespeare's Caliban. The next is a lad of about 17 as Cabin boy, who waits upon the table, cleans the tumblers, secures knives, forks and spoons, and other wee jobs, and is like most boys of his office, inclined to be roguish. The next is Mesa a Steward of Don Andres who also assists in waiting on the table. Having introduced these persons of consequence, the next thing to know is what proceeds from their operations. Well then, At day break the Major summons the Cook to repair to the Galley, and kindle a fire, which having done, the water is put on to boil, and by sunrise those ^{officers} on deck have their strong Coffee and Sea bread & butter. The Coffee is kept hot and handed to the others, as they come on deck between that and eight o'clock. At this hour the crew who are divided in two Messes, each send one to the Galley for their allowance, with a large Kid and bread basket to the latter is put two junk bottles aquadiente; beside this a tin pot of coffee is allowed each man. Their breakfast is either meat & rice, peas, beans or lobster, and no allowance of bread or water. At 9 the Cabin & Steerage Messes are waited upon, each separately, with always something to please the taste of any one, who is not too nice. Delicacies occasionally, such as preserved meats, fish &c. Two junk bottles Catalonia Wine to the Cabin and one to the Steerage Mess, each meal. In the cabin locker, and Decanter of Spirits, Brandy, Gin & Cordial, which any of the Cabin Mess, can make use of at pleasure, but very little of those liquors are touched, as only the Captain,