

265 day out

Lying at anchor at Owyhee

Sunday September 4th 1853

The Sabbath has passed pleasantly we have all been thinking of home and the probability of hearing from them soon as we expect to arrive in port by tomorrow when some of us will have letters and some will get disappointed. We were in hopes of getting in before so as to go to meeting to day but we shall have to wait till next Sunday. It is a great while since I have been so long from meeting and am glad that our people have established such a work amongst their poor natives. May it ever prosper.

Lat 20.25 N.

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Monday September 5th

At four o'clock ^{yesterday} the Islands of Owyhee towering above the clouds with the wind N.E. Steering S.W. for the land got the anchors off the bow and hauled up our cunning little cables and bent them. Lay at with the ~~bow~~ yards aback through the night. The morning was pleasant but the wind was off shore and we made but little progress.

The Pilot
fee \$10.00
each way

About 11 the pilot came on board with a boat crew of five knackers. The Pilot is known by the name of old John and is a rare specimen of a human being from the old country and has probably seen his last days yet he appears to understand his business but we was not so glad to see him as we shall be when we take a pilot for the port of N.B. We soon took the off shore breeze though light. Lowered 3 boats and towed about 4 hours the breeze up and the boats was hoisted up. About 5 P.M. dropped anchor for the first time, in 5 fathoms of water. Oils is a very pretty place from the ship its landscape scenery is beautiful.

Many falls are seen as we as we passed the shore and we know how to appreciate the value of fresh water. Several canoes came from the shore and the natives had milk to sell in common junk bottles charge the very moderate price of 12 cents per bottle but we concluded to have a little. One Mr. Pitman came on board who

The foremost appeared to be Capt. of the port and custom house officer. He and Capt. O'Leary went on shore with him. At 6 P.M. the wind freshened. Mr. With and Sherer takes one Mr. Manchester takes some. Mr. Lohmeyer another and Mr. T. Pitman and Mr. O'Leary.

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Lying at anchor at Owyhee

Tuesday September 6th 1853

The night was rainy and a part of the morning. Called all hands at 12 in the morning sent 6 casks for water one boat for meat and another for potatoes. Leather arrived in time for breakfast. The water came off at 9 and we commenced washing ship. If I should say no more about it you could realize a little about the work. But if I say that the ship is 100 ft in length with a rail 5 ft high well covered with gurry and that every part must be washed till it is perfectly clean and not only the inside but the outside also washed with cloth and fresh water and lye it will be plainly seen that it is no small job. But we all went at it and used water sparingly and got her as clean as a new pin a little before sunset. Our sick men were taken on shore and returned at sunset much refreshed.

Wednesday September 7th

Very pleasant all day. Sent a raft of 15 casks for water the first thing after breakfast which returned about 11 o'clock. At 2 sent 8 pipes of bread on shore for safe keeping where it will probably remain till we want it for the passage home. Last night the watches were changed. The 3rd and 4th mates stand all the watch on foremast hand the foremast changing every hour or 2 while the 1st and 2nd stand 3 nights in succession alternately with the 3rd mate. The 3rd and 4th mates do nothing else but spend their days on shore. The 1st mate carries a revolver with him through the night thinking he has made for himself enemies though he is not a bad man but this appears a little queerly. The Capt. comes on board once or twice a day and gives orders.

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Thursday September 8th

Had a little rain during the night. The day very pleasant. Took of a raft of 26 casks of water and stored the most of it on the (back) end. A small schooner came to anchor this A.M. 21 days from Owyhee a long passage I believe she belongs to Mr. Pitman of the port. She reports the death of about 6000 who died of the small pox but it has taken a more favourable appearance. Several cases have occurred at Owyhee. The 6 1/2 lb. revolvers are still in constant use by ourselves as 2nd and 3rd mates. Sent off a half of a small bullock.