

Laying at Anchor at Cape St. Lucas

406 days and

Monday January 23rd 1854

To day the great company was to be received on board from the Great preparations had been especially so as we expected to be favoured with a visit from the fair sex. The deck and the bulwarks were all swabbed off before daylight, the starboard watch was sent ashore on liberty, seats were fitted on the quarter deck, the port topmast shrouding post fitted as a curtain for the purpose of keeping the vulgar from seeing the Ladies, the steward was seen running too and fro in his best clothes and everything seemed to say we will do all we can to please. At 11 we took dinner in the storeroom as well as the foremast hands and Mr Lambert did not choose to wait for the quality so he dined with us. At noon a boat was dispatched for the company but to our great surprise there was not a lady with them. They all began with one accord to make excuse as they did in the parable of old. I believe there was about 8 mostly Mexicans one or 2 called themselves Americans one was a doctor, I made a chum for the latter gentleman instead of going on shore on liberty for which he paid me two dollars. They all left us at 4. At sunset the boat went in for the liberty men. The most of them was drunk and a dispute arose as they were getting in the boat something about a gun which Pierce (Bastard) had borrowed of the Capt. when Jewett and Gloat showed fight in which nearly all participated some however were trying to restore peace. The Capt. heard the scrape and soon appeared to them with a cane and used it severely till they were all glad to get into the boat. When they got on board the ship Jewett and Gloat were put in irons. If any one wishes to know the cause of this tell them it is *Reem!!!* *Reem!!!* Would not a Main Law be good here O how I wish I could see it all over the world. I saw Philo all hands come off sober, No *Reem* there. The Blacksmith is moping again it is supposed that he has dissented, this is the second time in this place and I hope he will get clear and save himself a sore back for the *Reem* told them if any should run away he would stay a month but what he would catch them when he should punish them most severely. He is a good man and has been abused. I gave the bones and wals a second coat of paint.

A terrible time when the Blacksmith ran away

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Tuesday January 24th 1854

The ^{watch} ~~board~~ ^{lost} ~~three~~ ^{watch} ~~liberty~~ to day in consequence of the trouble last night. Got up the bobstay and repaired sails. Gloat and Jewett in irons and keep house in the rummer house, live on bread and water. Poor unfortunate fellows. 1st Mate whose gunning. There is a report in circulation that they have caught the blacksmith.

Wednesday January 25th

Great trouble ashore and the blacksmith is on board again. It appears that the blacksmith was coaxed away by an English and the Alcalde. But the Capt. offered a reward and he was soon taken. The Capt. suspected foul play bribed one of the Mexicans and got the whole story, this made something of a time before it was all known and I don't know how it will end. The Capt. knocked down one man in the scrape but he was advised by the Blacksmith to make up with him because he could get much valuable information of him and could be used as a witness against the Alcalde so the Capt. availed himself of this opportunity. If it is proved fairly against the Alcalde it will cause him some trouble and expense. The Capt. ordered a boat to take him on board at 10 o'clock this evening. Took of a cow and calf 3 sheep 1 goat 4 turkeys 3 hens and some things belonging to a man by the name of Paine who is expected to take passage with us to the islands.

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Thursday January 26th

At 1 in the morning weighed anchor and started with a light breeze for St. Jose. But as the steamer (Uncle Sam) came to anchor the Capt. went on board and got some papers 20 days from St. Jose. The steamer put in to repair machinery and would sail for San Francisco on 2 or 3 days. She has 600 passengers some of our men were nearly low sick and crazy on seeing some of the ladies on board they looked so good. The Capt. agreed to take a captain and his wife to the islands. The wind left us at 3 PM so we lowered the boat and the Capt. with me and 4 other started for St. Jose a distance of 25 miles and as the wind sprung up to almost a gale ahead we arrived there at 8 o'clock after the hardest pull I ever had and it was not over when we got there for we had to wade a distance of a mile to the town through mud and water barefooted. Well we arrived at last and a Chinaman the Capt. of the port and custom house officer gave us with a kanty supper and lodgings in a ramshackle bed on the ground under his piazza I forgot cooking but there was no sleep for me though I fell asleep at 3 PM and turned awake at 4. See description of a similar trip below.