

Thursday 2 P.M.

The weather continues fine - and we are spanking along with all sail set and have been doing so for more than a fortnight past.

Tomorrow the Steamship sails from N.Y. to San P. and I hope that she will carry ~~new~~ my letter written at Pinal. ^{going}

~~It is a little amusing to hear the challenges that are sent~~

There is one thing for the want of which I suffer, ~~books~~ a book to read. Owing to my ~~shipping in~~ my being obliged to ship myself, ~~get my chest and outfit~~ ^{since} the articles have a protection taken out for me, select my chest and entire outfit, write four letters, eat my dinner and get aboard all in the space of 2 hours and a half it may be supposed that I had not much time to buy books even if I had had the money. and twenty cents I am doing to say was all I had left out of several dollars with which I landed in New Bedford three days before.

On fact for some time even after the last faint outlines of my native land had faded from my view I could hardly persuade myself that ~~it was~~ what was about me was real and not a kind of dream.

As I was saying I suffer somewhat for the want of books - I had set up

pages to have had at least a days notice before sailing and had determined if possible to get about \$5 cash from the owners ^{with} which to purchase some book not for amusement but something solid which I could dig into either mathematics or languages -

One book I had intended to get at all events and had in fact made the bookseller put it away that I might be sure to get it. This was a second hand copy of ~~this~~ a Wolferd's Roast by Washington Irving ~~the American edition~~ which I was to have for 75 cents. I had not read the book and had a great desire to do so as I believe there never was a line penned by that great man that is not at once delightful and instructive. This life of George Washington which was being published when I left New York I considered on the whole (though if I dare express an opinion) to be ~~one~~ the most noble work ever yet attempted in America - I mean no offence to Mr Bancroft or Mr Prescott but and amper I confess partial to Mr Irving's style but I still hold to my opinion.

The bronze monument in Union Square is a magnificent work of art and an honor to our nation as the most prejudiced foreigner must confess but I believe that the life by Irving will live and be spread