

1830

Spt. Brig Barbarita

Saturday
May 1st

A little to windward of a small village called Winnetah is a singular mount called the Devil's Hill which is a noted landmark. The shores are a long white sand beach and rise roughly back to hills and dale, interspersed with small trees and shrubbery, and the distant view is high land with woods. At 10 P.M. anchored off the village of Winnetah. Ends light air and pleasant weather. At daylight weighed anchor and made sail with a light breeze from S.W. Left Schooner Fairy Queen at anchor. At 10 A.M. was off Barro Colorado Point. Here is a small village of huts situated near the end of the point. A canoe came off and the Captain traded for some trifling vegetables. At meridian saw the town of Aca. As you approach it the land lies low near the beach but you can see some distance back where it is mountainous. To the N.W. of Aca is a large leaf mountain called Cook's Leaf which may be seen a long distance at sea. At 3 P.M. anchored in 6 fathoms off Aca, the English Fort Flag Staff bearing N.W. the Dutch North, and Danish S.E. all by compass. The Brazilian Brig Carolina lies anchored N.E. from us the only vessel here. The English fort and settlement is the westernmost. Adjoining Eastwardly is the Dutch and a mile further Eastward is the Danish. The English and Dutch are middling sized fortifications and in the former settlement are many well constructed buildings which being white make a very pretty appearance. The Danish is of a larger construction and has more huts to be seen in the settlement than at the others. At this place is also a windmill N.W. of the fort. The land around is in a high state of cultivation and the whole presents a beautiful picture. A canoe came from shore at 4 P.M. and Don Andres returned in her to English Aca. One beautiful weather and light air with passing clouds.

on the coast of Africa.

Here is a fort and flagstaff and a few small buildings. To the westward of it is about a dozen Palm Trees, and when 2 or 3 leagues off, appears to the eye to stand 12 or 20 feet apart, in a direct line. To the Eastward on the low land which looks like a sand beach, with here and there a tree and shrub, are 4 tall palm trees, and appear to the eye at 2 or 3 leagues, about 2 or 3 feet apart, the next to the westernmost being shorter than the other three. At 3 P.M. was abreast another small settlement called Little Olmina where they showed Dutch colors. After passing this the shore appears quite regular, being low and a long reddish white sand beach and in the distance back thick low woods the tops of the trees appearing of an even height. This similarity is continued as far as Little Popo, off which village we anchored at 8.30 P.M. in 10 fathoms 2 miles from shore in company with the Carolina. Saw a Brig beating up and at 10 P.M. coming within hail. Don Andres spoke her and was answered it was the American Brig Orbit Captain Woodbury of and for New York. Ends fair. Wednesday 5th At Lunaise fired a gun and hoisted the colors and shortly after two canoes came alongside. After breakfast Don Andres and servant Mesa, and Capt. Felix went on shore taking some goods &c with them. Warm weather during the day and moderate breeze comfortable at night. Thursday 6th Pleasant weather and cool refreshing breeze this day. The Carolina weighed anchor and sailed for leeward. There is nothing remarkable about Popo being a small village of huts near the shore inhabited entirely by native blacks. They have three flagstaffs on which they hoist English and Portuguese colors and use them to signalize with vessels in the roadstead. Hazy dusk at night. Friday 7th Warm pleasant weather and a beautiful moonlight night. Saturday 8th Warm weather until near noon when there were some refreshing showers, which cooled the air and made it more comfortable the remainder of the day and night.