

1830. *Departure from Whidah (Africa)*

Tuesday 21st September. In the morning packed up my baggage to go on board. Capt. Felix came from the *Barbante* having arrived from Princeps Island. At 11 A.M. took leave of Capt. F. and Edward Fernandez and reclined myself in a hammock for the beach. Don Francisco, Don Andres and Don Nicholas having gone before. The distance as I have before mentioned is about 3 miles. In some places the negroes were up to their middle in water, in the paths, and in little more than half the distance, had to cross a river, half a mile wide, when the water was up to their breasts, and had to take up the clue of the hammock, before crossing, to prevent me from getting wet, but as they were well fortified, they carried me over safe and dry. After partaking of some refreshment together, at 1 P.M. embarked in a canoe, to go on board with Don Nicholas, and bid adieu to Don Francisco and Don Andres and to the shores of Africa. On arriving alongside the Brig, found her to be a better looking vessel at a distance, than near to, as the rigging is in a miserable state, and copper off the bottom in several places, having been on this burning coast two years, without any repairs and not a drop of tar to her rigging. The complement on board is four Officers, eighteen men, cook & cabin boy and with Don Nicholas and myself, and a Spanish sailor that was the Chief mutineer when the Brig was taken possession of, makes the whole number twenty seven. After dinner went on board the *Seminole* and *Barbante*, who are at anchor in the Roads, and bid adieu to the officers on board, returning on board at sunset, to take the land breeze & depart with morning.

Wednesday 22nd At daylight the Brig was got under weigh, and proceeded to beat to windward with moderate breezes, and fair weather. The decks are covered with fowls, ducks, pigs & hogs, sheep, goats, and 3 bullocks.

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Arrival at, and Departure from Little (Africa)

1830
Thursday 23rd September. Continuous fair weather. Beating to windward and no land in sight. Don Nicholas has concluded to run for Quitta, to purchase some more provisions, and to get a further supply of good water, as much of what we have, is very brackish. Recollected that this is my honored father's birth-day, which completes his fifty eighth year. My prayer to God is, that he may enjoy many more with health and contentment, and be blessed in his children.

Friday 24th Much squally weather the first part of the day. At 12 P.M. saw the land, and found ourselves near Cape F. P. P. P. away, and at 5th 30 P.M. anchored in 8 fathoms off Quitta.

Saturday 25th At 8 A.M. Don Nicholas went on shore and sent off two canoes in the course of the day with water & provisions. Two Brigs at anchor at Little Elmina & Lt. Manuella's place.

Sunday 26th Fresh gales and fair weather. Making preparations on board, for our final departure from the coast.

Monday 27th Light breezes and pleasant weather. At 2 P.M. the *St. John* Marianita anchored here from leeward. Took the last of our water on board, pigs, poultry &c. At sunset Don Nicholas came on board, and the vessel was put in readiness to improve the land breeze in the morning to depart.

Tuesday 28th At daylight weighed anchor and stood to the Southward by the wind, with the starboard tacks aboard and the wind from N.W. and N. At Meridian I judge Cape Islands to bear N.W. & W. 10 leagues distant. The water being agitated and strong ripplings, considered there is a rapid current both E. & W.

Wednesday 29th Moderate breezes from the N.W. & pleasant weather. We have a large family of live stock on board, and plenty of salt, but not any salted provisions. It consists of 24 hogs and pigs, 3 bullocks, 6 sheep, 4 goats, 2 turkeys, 32 ducks and 116 fowls. Instead of hard bread, we have cakes baked from Corn meal and the flour made from Cassada Root. Also as a substitute for bread, we have about a hoghead of Yams & sweet potatoes. About half a barrel of Eggs, and an abundance of "weed things".