At sea on board Ship Wild Hunter in the lower part of the Bay of Bengal March 14th 1838
Sat 3:30 N Sun 83:30 E

My dear beloved Wife & Daughter and in fact all the Family that may feel interested in your Wishing & plans,
I now commence to write you another letter to send you from Falmouth, should I not have the pleasure of meeting you there or in London, or hear that you have in some part of Great Britain on my arrival there. Though sometimes I don't know hardly what to say or to myself about it, whether I wish to meet you there or not. I don't want you should let the slightest thought creep in edgeways, but what I Should rejoice with Owing great delight to meet me and have you go north with me as long as I go to the Highlands of Skye down back to London and think of anything that I shall send you the result of Consequences be what they may. If we live still together as long as we live. Don't you cannot tell how much I suffer in my feelings, sometimes I think that I had gone back. As live, as if I could have the Ship the Ocean and in fact the whole world at large, I feel like an outcast, banished from all Society, that is death, any thing to me. It's true that I Enjoy myself very well in Algaj. I had plenty of good Company, I thank the Steady set of fellows that I have dealt with from my going Master, I wish that I could always treat with such ones. When I got land staying on board my own Ship, I should go and talk with Capt Winman a while. Then we would both start off and Count 1000 Lea a while. But in all my ramblings I could not find Winman, she was not there nor any equals either. The Ship arrived at Algaj about a Fortnight before I left the Capt had his Wife which was a very Lady like Woman, but I did not get to much acquaintance with her as I did with Capt Winman. The Ship arrangement here had 4 Row Boat Sailors, of Which the Harbour is well adapted for, and we used to send a great deal of our time in the Boats. 

So they had rather easy times of it didn't they go.
On the last page, I only complained of my grievances, troubles, trials,
and tribulations going to sea without you. Now let me look on
the other side of the house as far as I can see around the corner.
And that you know is not far, known to the point. (Oh I must go
and smoke a Cigar first) Now Minna if I take you to sea with
me I can take you away from your good home. From your Mother,
Brothers & Sisters, to bear out a few pitiable and miserable years
conspired on this board cooped up in a little small place. Opposed to
tell the dangers of the Seas. While at Sea, To Richness and Changes of
climate. When in port and on shore. Then there is our house and
furniture that we have spent so much money to get, will be lying
idle, not only be doing nobody any good, but he going to decay faster
than if it was occupied. It seems to bad that so much property
should lay idle. And then again it seems to bad that we should
be separate from each other. So long. Only think it has already been
one whole year more since we have seen each other faces. Minnie
I can tell you has grown old about 6 or years this voyage.

I can fancy that I see you looking just the same as when I
left you, always dressed neat. and looking as bright as a buck. and
I hope feeling as jovial. As well as I was saying it has been one
year. And I cannot see any way to prevent it from being one or
three. More before we see each other unless we meet in Europe
Do. If you make up your mind to come and if the both arrive then safe
I shall be very glad of it, but if you think it is best for you to remain
at home then I shall not be sorry. So I tell you the truth I do not
much expect to see you here. You know that you went often to stay
on the last voyage that you never would go to sea again, sometimes
we would have hard gales ship rolling & pitching so that you could not
sleep. Then we would have a supply of Moderate, Moderate & Calm
and you would fancy that you could scarce get any sleep during
the Night. And then you would say Joshua I never was intended to go
to Sea I am too sick. And then that heavy gale on the coast, but then I
think you stood it like a brave sailor. These few days was
brought the dister most any one from the Sea. It makes me Shudder.

Now Minnie if I think of it, as hard headed as I am.
Speaking of Stewart's, I think that I am so bad as you need to be in Calm weather; I have not had 3 hours sleep of a night the last 4 nights. We left Abaj on the 19th of Feb., and have had very light Eights all the way down the Bay; the last 4 days we have had it nearly Calm. And I can tell you what it is tedious enough, all dark alone, the Wife to grumble at and paint with. The little Lulu to plague; it's play with, is it not a hard one, but bear up Christian friends.

The Carpenter and I have been putting a wire rail around the top of our house, and it is long now to walk up there, even Sundays, and a fine place for Lulu to play without falling off, and I think it looks very pretty. I got some hard wood in Singapore, and the Carpenter is making me a French Bedstead for my room; I am taking the bath down in our room, and both of them down in Lulu's room, and am going to put the new bedstead in there; it is to be a movable one so that it can be put any part of the room. Where the head of our bed is now, I am going to make a nice closetroom for your Dresses to hang, what do you think of the plan, dear and let me know.

The boys are learning navigation. They have got so that they can think the Time well, and Edwin is as correct as any of them at it, he takes hold of navigation very quick. And they all of them increase in seamanship, too. But I suppose they are homesick but not more so than I am, I will let a goose about you. Then I think that I have written enough to day. I did not mean to write more than half so much before I began, but the Spirit moved, and I could not stop.

Sunday, May 7th. My Dear Wife, only think it has been just one year to day since I left Boston, and only think how many changes have taken place in the world since then, and in our neighbourhood that I have heard of, and no doubt a great many that I have not heard of. Remember that you and I are one year older than when we parted. Consequently, have one year less to live in this world. Now don't you think that we ought to live together the rest of our lives, I think that we have lived Apart enough. For my own comfort I certainly have. So why not take these glorious Sundays, if you wanted you used to say that you wished you could have all our friends here to enjoy it with us. The sky is clear the breeze refreshing as a brisk wind, and about a half hour before, the sky gliding along beautifully, but not half fast enough. We are 10 days out to day, and only crossed the Equator last night, for 5 days past. We are only Made 70 Miles. Was not that tedious, but I did not fret much; I except you would have grumbled some.
if you had been here, I often say to myself that if I can get you with me again
I never will complain a fund any fault with you for marrying at Eble, geables
a head wind, it seems almost as if I should see you in ten years of my life if
I could have you here to day, but I think that I should feel any fault to part with
you about the house that you ever getting ready to play your things and be off
the things that I should like to have in mind now's busy men and slip your things
then you could not fly away could you, and I could have you all to myself.
I think that if ever I get hold of you again I will not let you go out of reach
if you will not go to sea with me and I will stay all alone with you, and you shall
Mountain one. I shall go in partnership with Nathan Black in the Valentine business
and do what I can towards pay off your account as long as my health is good, after that
you shall have to look out for me altogether. But tell Luke that the most
I learn to teach us to do to help support father when he gets old, now you in a rise,
I should like to know how the other brother David is and how his health is
Hagar that it has improved, but sometimes I fear that he doesn't live long, he has
had to pass through many diseases in sickness batch, it seems as if it had broken his
constitution all down. As for your husband he seems Expert to be check
but once that will be the first a last time, as soon as I am taken Abode
back I shall make up our mind that this end is pretty near, enough of that
you have at written me twice to me this be away about brother Thomas children
I suppose you don't think them worth mentioning, I should like to see him
standing one on this place when I get home. I should think he ought to stand
one out on the border, if the cannot get any other else I know the power
out things in almost any kind of shape, just ask him if he don't,
Tell him not to get it deformed the shape as all of David are

Shed Adam I hear in Algak that Mr. Toppan had sold all to Hope Wheeling and
that most of all the town rights smoke living on board the ships but I do
not know for what reason. I should not think that Wheeling would be a very
good place to keep such a house as that should you. I forget whether I
told you that John Ulrich was married not before I left home. I suppose he
was married while we were in Galacca last year at a lot of Margaret, a Pilot
Dixon, County born with friend, cousin, have been living with him 20 or 3
years before the married him. That was the last thing, that I should thought
of Lieve Marger & lady last, Do you see it is no use for us to listen
about our Neighbors for we don't know what are coming to ourselves.
So I suppose that that he intends to spend the rest of his life in London for
nearly he would not take such a woman among his Christian friends at
home. He himself is at home now on a trust, but his wife is in Galacca.
It is next dinner time now. I have been taken a lot ofSERUMO. This precious Tom makes
the time for me after dinner. I am going to book them, then I am going
to have a little nap and dream about you. I have dreamt about you almost every
time I have been asleep since leaving Algak, and they have all been pleasant
dreams. May your life be as pleasant as your dream been good day here Josue.
Page 5

Sunday, March 17th
day out Sat 5/12 True Long 11°40' W

I have had many pleasant dreams of you all home since leaving the last but it has not been so pleasant in my watchful hours for we have had our continual calms about all the week in 8 days I only made about 300 miles and for 5 days I only made 50 miles. I have seen so much calm weather at one time before since I have followed the sea. The sun has been entirely shut and the sea as smooth as a sheet of ice and it looked like one great ocean.

Since yesterday we have had a breeze from N West and specially north with the first point of pain that we have had since leaving Singapore 1st day to-day it is specially with rain. I was in hopes to keep up with some of the others of which there were 3 or 4 to sail about the same time from Pusan and Kyoda all bound to Portland for goods.

I dont feel much like writing to day so I think that I will get a sleep for I have to be up now straight in all hardaste weather during the squally weather and dont get much sleep. But knowing all hands do pretty well but Im not keen do fast as a proof of his age and experience ought to only think he is 24 years old and here an officer on board this ship two years. He ought to be capable of taking charge long going right straight ahead not very thing about ship work. But instead of that he is weak and can not wonderfully lacking.

It is very unfortunate a man that is rather hard of hearing, and I think that he grows worse. It is very bad for a man that goes to sea especially an officer.

Sunday March 18th
day out of Madagascar it has been a dead calm since you last wrote that time we have had pretty good sails. We got the trade in 40° South lived had them strong but the damn old ship would not go over 250 miles in 30 days. Last year she would go 350 miles per day. I think she is rather too much by the stern now to sail well; there she is drawing nearly 30 ft of water last year she only drew 28 ft that of course will make some difference. However that she is very cranky for 3 or 4 days running with a heavy breeze, north west & southwest let her lee plantage should be under water half the time, once in a while her upper planks should go under water. So it was very difficult getting about particularly chalk spaces. I expect you would grumble some of your weather but I know you would not complain if you were here 16 days. So it is beautiful the wind right aft for smooth and about 5 knot, hence if you were here now it seems as if you happiness would be complete. However I ought not to complain and I dont think that I should if I thought one should be spared to want again. But perhaps there is many days
...not years of hardships in the far we get, let me hope so at least. With I think the Wild Mermaid is an absolutely dreary job for cats, just our old Black cat that was too near to death in the Hallows, and the grey cat that you picked up in the streets in San Francisco, and was lost up north coming down theN Borough. This voyage in San Francisco I got a beautiful Black & White kitten, it grew rapidly, and was a Capital Mouser. In the Passage out among the Islands I caught a Small bird on dock one night, and Let it, then she was like a Tiger. She had got taste of the blood, and hunted home. So we taught she made a jump at a bird that sat on the Bumpkin, and over Sears the next, so that was the last of her. In Singapore I got 3, but they were really wild, one of them is on board now, and is ten about once a week, the other one don't know what became of her. In Hirok I got a nice little gray kitten, about a week age one night. She was working around on the deep sail, she praised a Skip, and overboard the went. So that is now the end of cats, except our third one, My Skip that I got in Singapore grows rapidly, and I think she will be a good girl. She is now nearly 5 months old, and she is about 3/4. as large as Billy. I keep him bed up almost all the time, and he is getting quite precious already, but he has not yet such a fine head, and intelligent look as Billy had, and long few days here. Enough about cats & dogs. Writing here Darling, Mother are feel homesick, how I wish I could see you and Sally to day. Tell Sister that Father don't forget her. And the thanks of her most all the time. I hope she is a good girl, if she is not Father will feel very bad about it. I think I shall get her a hat just in Europe from the Deguari, as I can get it done cheap. There owe a Capt. Hall in Yokoh in the Sea Horse, he is quite a Chronologist, one day I was hearing him the Deguari, and he gave me your character of Missonpion are a T, than the same people he says there is a smart man, whoever he is and what run his occupation is he will not allow any body to go ahead of him. He says I have really been a fine head than that. Only look says he, and the the go aheadness there is in him. I told him that he never put a hat a poor Carpenter, he said he didn't care he was no degree to her profession let it be that it should. Sister she said they rather to spring to seem much of an opinion about but if other than 15 or 18 years old with that head en her shoulders he would say that she was a very remarkable person. Capt Hall of the ship Ho Rosa thought it was the most picturesque of a child that ever I saw by the Way Capt Hall and a Capt Gibbs both belong to both and knew the famous people, perhaps Frank may know them, Capt Walls says more maybe Cathy it was a child. She died about a year ago. I have 3 children. This page is finished and it is most from don't know whether I shall make any more to stay in not yet one. Page 550
Tuesday, 27th April. Nearly up to Cape Bar. This last week we have had very good winds mostly from SE/NE. With pleasant weather to-day. We have got a strong breeze from N/East. The old ship is going 16 knots and running the water up some I tell you. This morning Mr. Scott was standing on the top gun. Precaution. Where the upper学生 [seems to be cut off] part of the upper gun came in like lightning. And stuck there on the right shoulder. Lucasen him down as stiff as a pole. He brought him up and away he lay. I believe there is no bone broken but it was a great wonder that it had not killed him. He shouted him down over board.

Yesterday I was in trouble again with our tank. The stream of the cargo between decks coming through the L.E. trade has lag'd the tank over to starboard so much that it has broken the pump out of the plunger on deck. It was with great difficulty that we saved it from going down into the tank altogether. If it had not been to have had to discharge the water, I have heard it now. So that it would do for the passage. I think I have not seen but one vessel bound the same way with no leak having any of them. And the leak is for off that I could not tell what the leak was. I suppose that it is getting to be very hot here at home now. I am I wish that I could be there with you. I tell you what these good fellows that are at home all the time with their wives and families. I don't know how much comfort they take at home, for I mean. To let them know how good it is. What they have... It is I tell.

So I must go and look out for the sea, Luke right Luke say to me.

A black Sunday afternoon I have just awoke from a good sweet sleep and in my rest. I dreamt of our old house Joanna. Our old house that we had this Farmer's house here kept us. But still she is going down. On & Scott, Mr. Scott's shoulder is much better. But he has to carry his cases in a ring, and probably will have to for some time yet.

Ask Luke if I miss dances any more. How I should like to pop in and have a look at you now. For I feel really homesick to-day. It is to bad that I have got to change. A different scene from what I have been used to after I got around the Cape of Good Hope. But I should not care anything about it if you were with me. Then it would not make any difference to me. What part of the world I went to. Alone until I see you again next Sunday.

Ever yours affectionately, Joshua Day.
Saturday, April 11th In the Atlantic Ocean About 4 P.M.

For all my India voyages I have never had so quiet and pleasant time around the Cape of Good Hope before. We have not had 12 hours bad wind since we took the S. E. Trade. While we have had a great deal of Moderate Breeze. There have been but 6 entire days that the breeze never varied all these boiled. The ship so to speak that I never think of taking in Hopkins until the ice plant house goes under water. I told you what I would not do to be back in a boat. Leave more than the ship is on the wind. So far the voyage on the lounge have all blown down. So I have to keep in the boat and I feel it. I shall feel better tomorrow if I had not found it out before, however it was a very thing else one ever knew how to enjoy it until the sea done with it. I was more than I could. I take down you are with me. But when I come without you I can look back. And see it and see also that I did not take such as much as I ought to.

Only think how I am all stuck where I put in the other cabin all day and all night except that little time I am on deck. Oh how lonesome I am.

The only companion I have is my Dog. I should have kept him but I would not have got here if he was 5 months old. There remains 2135 lbs. when he left home he weighed 185 lbs. So you see how much I have lost. He is a pretty modest boy. But a good dog.

South Down is a fine boy too. He is the first to go home again the days that he does not like his home and I don't know about his owner at all. I have had one once. I have one boy from the county that is as smart as a Shetland. It is his first voyage to the land he is as good as sometimes. That I have had.woman. I have a horse, too. It is a smart fellow. But young and I think in a good boy too. Some say he told them that the same thing he does not like his home and I don't know. There are more than one, there are many.
Page 9th, April 17th, 59 days out—Another 6 days made to see Jonathan Hackett as usual. We have had very hard luck this last week—light head winds and calms all the week. With a tremendous head wind from the Westward. Ship polling so that I could not Perry the Some Tailsails. When I had a fair wind yesterday afternoon I let them and last evening she rolled one of them round windward and cargaed away the two Ordinary Tailsails down, and the ship dashed terribly all night. To day it is forecast with a fine breeze from SE East. Cool & Cloudy, fine & clear 11 days from the Cape of Good Hope, and one got 700 miles from St. Helena. Shall probably pass it in about 3 days from now. We shall go more enough in to be reported if it is Day time, there may be some vessels there round about, as yet I have been none.

How is our little Suse? I hope her is a good girl. Only think she is most 6 years old. She ought to help you a good deal about home now. She ought to brush the chairs as well as Bruno does it. Tell her that Father thinks of her a great deal, and wants to see her very much. Tell her I must learn to write so that she can write him some letters. Perhaps I shall not be at home to see her for a great long while. When I do get home I hope she will be able to read the newspaper to Father, close the room any how till in the If you are at home alive and well when you get this letter I was going to try to you about getting some Tuck Set out but it is too late this spring season. I believe the Fall of the year is a good time, the wheat as well get some Station if we dont keep the hunger of them ourselves, Our grand children being, and if the present generation dont do any thing for the improvement of future the world will come to a standstill. I dont intend to go in the Wills Unused all May days but I intend to keep her just the same as if I was. But my Home I expect to find my Days in, if I should be so fortunate as to shuffle off this mortal coil on Shore, but I think that is very doubtful. However it is no time to talk about that. When our time is up then we shall go. Let us be above the Wall, and it wont make any difference. Whether the waves eat our name up in the ground, or the Fish in the Sea. According to the latest accounts from the sport would it will be all the same.

Sunday, Again, April 25th, 6 days out—Friday Morning just before daylight me passed St. Helena it being early for any Boats to be off. So I did not have a chance to leave any letters. I told you about St. Ellen. It makes me feel homesick to think that I have got 8000 miles to the Eastward for England instead of following up my old track for home. I would give a little dollar more if it was bound to any part of the United States. And I really hope the Wall come down from Europe if we do not shall probably get some about longest than I must either stay at home or go. I must go to sea with me. Which of the two shall it be a stray.
Last Tuesday I commenced with the assistance of one of the mates that is a bit of a Jack ship carpenter to make a turning block and finish it at sunset Friday afternoon. And it is a capital one. I now turn any thing listing and 11 inches in diameter one of the boys turns the crank case it goes like lightning. Yesterday I turn'd some Belaying pins and a lot of deck laths. I expect I could turn a little ship all but the lugs and some other little pieces that it would want to make it perfect. Thank I shall try at some time the hands around town come to it. Next week I am going to turn out a lot of Belaying pins for the ship from a piece of hard Red Wood that I got in Singapore.

If you know here I suppose you haven't bought some Cricket log stuff, and perhaps a lot of other little things that you could think of.

Since we passed the Cape we have seen very few at the old kind Betty, rapit rigging; nothing during the night. But now all through the day things went well since. Have had all the boys up, painting the foremast of the gallant rigging and they do it as well as any of the men. I am happy to say they are all pretty good sailors. Tom is going to make a top top sail and when she gets over this calmsness, Edson is equally good and much thinner.

I think Kelly missed it very much leaving the ship. She would have been a good sailor at the end of the voyage. But perhaps he will learn as much in the bargain. By the way I expect they will be writing again from the next port that I have not them on lettering, Singapore. Last week they gave a barrel that does not very good, and I did not know that it was bad for 3 days, then the look like very that the men had most got any of it. So I have it now burnt. The other day I gave to the look about thanks you gave me if we were going to Boston,icago. It is on me for a man to keep what he should give, for when the gets there he treat you nothing. Thought that was very true, and buy Charcoal from the Negro.

The Keps along just about the same, Tell Tallee he is just as black as Ever. I suppose it is only to hang in the gory so much. Among the Smeke I could not get any kig in Allah and I miss my readings divine very much. While meals are not so good as a rare piece of Roast Pork or a Roast green lettuce. However I suppose that I ought to content a little these long times for I dont expect the ship will be more than pay her expenses the voyage.

Sunday 19th May 50 days out in Lat 8 60 Neth. It has been a perfect thing since I have written any thing and now I cant find any thing to write about. Would hope that I had 30 helping pins of some fine little thing! This last week I have not done nearly anything. It has been calm being & sluggish mind. If I have more

Am 2 Men Well about all the time. The Newer is quite sick now with a kind of a cold. I have got one man sick with the Director that I dont think will live long.  
Across the Newer's Services boy.
Much down to Acting in his Head and does Ast his well, last-
Wednesday I lost the 18; trades since then I have all kinds of weather.
A hour past a great many Pintvaid round Bessie but now that I
have acquainted with, Friday we took the 1 East trades to day.
We have a good smart Royal breeze on the wind. If I find
Brindanes now I could keep her up about 3 pts out all blue
Sails and I should expect to see you in about 3 wks from now.
As to rain this course the Lord only knows when I shall get a sight
of you at home again. It must be looking very beautiful at home
now how I wish I was there, how I'mick I am. an month
from the day I shall be 11 years old, it is quite time that I was
punished for and allowed to stay at home. But I am afraid
that I shall end my days at sea. I love my life getting my living. I
expect you and Sula are getting ready to go to Church about this
time. While I fear fellow are composing here in my cell delirious
confusion. It seems as if I had never felt the wind of Company.
So much as I have this voyage I have not got a single Book
or Newspaper but what I have read and some I have near the next
again. Tell Sula that her Laying bird things beautifully now and
skrimps music all the time. I hope that it will live to get home,
to then I think she will be pleased with it. I wish I could tell
her now. If I expect you will be able to give me a very good
account of her, tell one that I shall expect can answer in my
letters. That I have written her I tell one she must get Egan
Fremenn & little Egan to write some to or to help her guess
the letters. I want any more. The old Ship is playing
on to the Sea like a most Horse. So by
Sunday again the 16th May Sat about 24° N Long 88° W
This is one of the finest days that has ever been my lot. To see
the Sea is so smooth as a Mill pond. And about 8. O'Clock there
is not a bit more wave but we have had very good W E trade the
past week but they are about done now. The weather that I had
since the doing was got better and is Acting as neuron.
the Swann has been very sick the last week I did not think he would
cive for a day or two but he is getting a little better now. His complaint
is in his Belly & right side. The Sailmaker is poorly, for he has a
very bad cough and a pain in his right side. I think he has
got the Consumption. He ought to have some active Exercise.
the rest of us are all well. Myself & your husband including.
I expect you have very fine Weather at home now and all others too.
Now I should like to have you and Jolly here to say that I
wouldn't mind having a Doz men of the Family here, but I think they
would enjoy it, and I think that I could manage enough for them
to eat & drink if I don't think I have got quite strong Gin enough
to get them all drunk, but part of the Ginmen we could
dispose with, I've ought want to go round the Company a three
and then lay down and have a good Snore on my lounge.

They at first a little they day at our Tommy Stale I have good
wood enough to turn a set of pens from oat as far as the lane
both sides and I shall consider them as handsome a set of pens as
our was put in a Stale rail. We have seen the last week Cleaning
Ship have help from the outside from the Watch rail to the Water Edge
and she is as smooth as the Winter's Bottom. Next week I am going
to paint outside it in, wind and weather permitting. Then I shall Be
all ready to go in, but I expect we shall be about 100 days on the
passage & will be fair but nothing extra. Have seen hard sleeting
and so little Rain before in an Indian passage there has only been
7 Entire days, but what all 8 Ship's have been at this passage.
Oh for a little Sleeting Wind! It is a smooth day that I could float
a Stage round the Ship and paint, due to the Water Edge.

Sunday 18 May Oh how pleasant it is and how
some one I am. It has been heavy Moderate all thus last week but
over a & Knoll here any time, we have painted the Ship all
over outside since, and we have not had a drop of rain on it and
have it good to know a Brooke and the Thames seem like a bigger
eye. I will give same prep if the ears coming to Boston in
Head of going to some outlander store or other in we must provide
shall, Before all our fine weather will be like testing Pearls before
Chaine, We have had 4 and 5 books in to all last week and
they all sail as fast as we do and some of them outcast so I don't
know what is the with the old Ship, we keep looking Portuguese
Bill right on, the handest looking deuot that ever I saw.
I have been almost angry Enough to sink the Old Ship, Sometimes
well, Minniva! I don't know as I have got anything done. I say
I feel rather down in the mouth lately I think that I had matter
for the Bush it sent another boat to take the Ship, and I would
have come, but if it is too late now I shall have to go, but then the
Ship does. I hope business will be better on my arrival to the Ship
Can Make Some Money. It is hard for the Ship to be away 18 months
And only make enough to pay her Expenses. But we are not alone
in the same predicament. Such is Life on the Ocean.
So Good by & stay, give some a good Kiss for me and then the must give
you all for me, &c.
One hundred and one days out

June 10th. 1st. Lot 24th. 31st. 30th.

After waiting last term I lay down on the sofa and fell asleep. Awoke there was a large ship in sight coming towards us. It was the Star of Hope 9 days from New York. The Capt. very kindly sent his boat down. Some papers to me which were very acceptable. I can assure you. I looked among the list of Passengers for Europe. Column of Deaths & Disembarkations, but could not find your name among them. So I suppose that you are at home yet. And of course I know that you were well and in good health. I should feel easy, if I could be assured that business is getting along better. I see the ship Basque fires. Master has arrived at New Haven from Boston. I wonder if it is Cyrus. This last week we have had light winds and cold weather. I have been out twice that the house had a good fire. Home letter from N. West. We are now 1200 miles from Plymouth. I am in hopes to get in the letter part of this week. Thus if I should see you I shall feel easy and if I do not I shall not be disappointed for I don't expect it. I have not set my heart on it at all. But mind when I do get hold of you again you must get away from me easy. Now I tell you, I may not write any more until I arrive in fact I may not arrive at all the orders may come outside to me to that I shall have but very little time to write them. And of course I shall not think of any thing. I shall try to think to Array where we are going and I want you to write me immediately on the receipt of this. I will arrive before I get away without doubt. You had better send it to Ships Boston, while it forward it for me. They will send it by the most direct route. I really hope the ship will come home from Europe. If she should go another long voyage without coming home I shall lose her down and then we will be nothing of me but a very small person. If you are lucky with a distant home I have got the Blues the worse kind. Like for a bit in some lonely wilderness, but oh blessed will be good night I think I shall not write any more to night. I have got a good tawter and am going along pretty. Only think when you get this letter I shall be 49 years old time to hang up my harp. Give my love to all of our relations I hope they will find them all here and well. Tell Lulu that Father has put 3 kisses in this letter for her.

From your affectionate Husband Joshua.
Sunday again. My dear Wife, and I am out in Falmouth
yet, but pray close to it. It is a beautiful Sunday, and it seems
as if we have had all good Sundays this passage, and in fact
all the week days have been fine. We have had so much
fine weather altogether for making a good passage.
We are now about 8 hours from the Land and about 50 mils
from Falmouth, and I tell you what it does look beautiful
on shore the hills & valleys look green enough and lovely with
orchard looking white villages and I can see in the distance, far
I can see plainly over the Arm of Sea & Townships, land to
add to it there is about 100 sail of coasters going in all directions
and in a large out ward bound Ships in Sight,
all picture seems to rejoice my comrades is singing delightfully too
and I suppose that I ought to feel thankful too that we have got
so far along on our journey, and I am getting along on the
Tummy of life too. If ever you notice it it days mere makes me
41 years old do you believe it. I think there must be some
Weasle tomorrow, I must ask another Will you. She ought to know
after Dinner Falmouth is in sight about 10 miles off it has
just sprung up a fine breeze right ahead but I think
that I can get in by 6 in the evening and then if I do
have the extreme pleasure of finding you in Falmouth or if you are
even in England know which I shall be, I have not had the slightest
thought that you would be here all the passage until the last
week. and all the last week something has kept telling me
that I should meet you here, and now if I don't I shall be
disappointed, because I tell you the plain truth I don't expect to see
you here, But I shall expect a great long letter from you and
That will be Home Comfort, for I am dreadfully homesick
My Boys are all alive and well I am ragged I don't
All that I shall have to add to this is our destination and I must
you to write me to that please the same as you see this
I expect that you will grumble like an old skivvel because you have
not sent a long letter to read, but I did not know of any other way
please you so I took this one just going about one so good by I am
June 17th, 1838

Dear Beloved Wife,

I am happy to inform you of our safe arrival here last evening, Passage 107 days. This afternoon I am writing you this letter, but I have been far more happy to embark upon the sea than I am now in the hope of seeing you again before we shake off this mortal coil. It has been a great pleasure to know that your health is as good as it was, and I hope that it will continue so.

I think that your reasons for not coming to Europe are good and, perhaps, a legitimate excuse for not coming. As much as I would like to sacrifice my health to save you, I am also much pleased to hear that my health is improving at the same rate. Perhaps you will be a comfort to us in our old age.

Would you like to see that home? I hope that Richard has made a good journey. Please to give my love to our new relative.

I am rather surprised to learn that Isaac White had gone to sea. He has a hard life before him, but perhaps it is the best thing that he could do. I hope that he does not be like my boys, have the first pot he gets into. But I am further glad that he has gone North with such a good man. I consider they will find Tom B. more about these things. Woman, I tell you, Tom has got home an is cutting quite a dinner. I expect that he tells some hard stories about his voyage on board the Wild Hunter. May he get better.

I have written for Tom to come home, and I expect that all the rest of the boys will go with him. I do not know if I expect to be left all alone. Clock, sword, blanket, etc., are all ready for me, and they all want to go home. But I fear David will not. If I had half that David would have him at home. I would rather have Brown Bush & Bledis to have both him to relieve me.

I am very glad that his general health is so poor, but I hope she will improve. I should really like for him to leave the Wild Hunter for.

She is on the Donnie boat, I don't know of but one fault, and that is her constant longing to go, she is always poking it under water, and I am afraid it will be long until off again. How you know that a bound child is afraid of the fire. She is as tight as a cup and pumps her one a block than the ship 6 inches as far. We did not pump then since leaving Singapore, until leaving Aden. Then the had but 9 inches, but because people in the back of health are often tires taken enough.
circle A and B to the highest degree, many springs a sudden shock of a
down at once as in the case of the Titan. I think John Dillinger
has put his foot in it that time, I don't think they will take the trouble
of sending to New Orleans for him again in a hurry. I think he must
have a bullet in his back about as much else as a spoon belonging pin
you knew that each B and A was on them would see to me
I don't know that I could put up with it all around if the was not a
relief. Thank Joseph made with me as energetic I would give
them B 350 on account of the same time to go to the Indians and were on the next
Cape, keep better that there is nothing for ships to do at home now
and that I cannot go back to India or Australia. If I can get any thing
that will pay, I see Tom in just another year at least, but keep
up it level part of earth in praying for happen days to come
The ship Archer that left 100 days after I left, Alajah arrived here one
day before me and now awaiting orders. I have been on shore to day with Captain
of the Fry and after we got through with our business we took a short drive
in the country, I just could not enjoy the thing much because the
beasts are all shaven and walk on earth with a lady of Shinn of Tarbar
8 to 10 foot high, but that all company built chimneys, all the places are
paved with the same way it is very expensive here, way of Jenny the
just but it will last as long as the world stands, the country in
this neighborhood is very pretty and in the highest state of cultivation.
If you had been here this time I should have shown you

Last night I heard at Stephen's court I was on board the Archer on the
evening and Capt. Fry told me that he knew that the crowd of the Omani
had made I gave may imagine some bad I felt kind of funny
on seeing my letters and not seeing any thing in them at that
After all my mind at once I shall send home my account to you
And them from the post of discharge so that you can collect all my pay
up to that time, If Davis should succeed in getting a vessel to sail
I am willing for you to take one sixteenth of him, or I should be
willing to buy an in some ship you can send him some money if you
should require it I am willing to do all I can to help Davis. I want
the could have better luck, I gave notice that you must a horse if you
just like taking care of one and can find one to do you, you had
better get one. I want you to have every thing that will add to your
comfort and enjoyment. I am glad that you have got some horses but
don't mind a little expense in having good care of them so that
they will live I think that you have done right in painting the house
for the winter, keep up appearance as well as from the house
Then I think that I have enough until I get the order
June 10th We have A got any orders yet the mail leaves this
Afternoon So you will have to wait until next mail I know where
You are going. I am 42 years old to day a foot descendant from
A ship nothing more to say. I love
J.D.
At Sea on board Ship Wild Hunter
in the Lower part of the Bay of Bengal       March 4th 1858.
Lat 2° 50 N   Long 85° 30 E

My Dear beloved Wife & Daughter and in fact all the Family that may feel
interested in a Poor wandering & forlorn Sailor. I now Commence to write
you another letter to send you from Falmouth, should I not have the
pleasure of Meeting you there or in London, or hear that you were in some
part of Great Britain on my arrival there. Which sometimes I dont know
hardly what to Say to myself about it, whether I wish to meet you there or
not. I dont want you should let the slightest thought peep in Edgewise, but
what I should rejoice with Exceeding great joy you to meet me and have you
go with me as long as I go to sea

Sometimes I sit down and think to myself that I will send for you let the
result & Consequences be what they may, and we will keep together as long
as we live. For you cannot tell how much I suffer in my feelings.
Sometimes I think that I had just as leave Die as live, if I have got to live on
in this way much longer. I feel as if I could curse the Ship the Ocean and
in fact the whole world at large, I feel like an outcast, banished from all
society that is worth any thing to me. Tis true that I Enjoyed myself very
well in Akyab. I had plenty of good Company, I think the steadyst set of
Capts that I have met with since my going Master. I wish that I Could
always meet with such ones. When I got tired staying on board my own
Ship, I would go and talk with Capt Winsor a while, then we would both
start of and court Mrs Cole a while. But in all my ramblings I could not find
Minerva, she was not there (nor her equal either) The Ship Monarch of the
Sea arrived at Akyab about a Fortnight before I left  the Capt had his Wife
which was a very Lady like woman, but I did not get so much acquainted
with her as I did with Mrs Cole. The chief ammusement we had was Boat
Sailing, of which the Harbour is well adapted for, and we used to spend a
great deal of our time in the Boats. Tom & Edwin was my Boats crew all
the time there, so they had rather Easy times of it   didn’t they [--]ou [over
page]

On the last Page, I only complained of my Grievances, troubles, trials, and
tribulations, going to sea without you. Now let me look on the other side of
the House as far as I can see around the Corner, and that you know is not
far. however to the point. (oh I must go and smoke a Cigar first) Now
Minerva if I take you to sea with me I am taking you away from your good
home, From you[r] Mother, Brothers & Sisters. to wear out a few pitiable
and Miserable years confined on Ship board coop’d up in a little small place,
Exposed to all the dangers of the Seas   While at Sea, to Sickness and
Changes of climate when in Port and on Shore. Then there is our house
and furniture that we have Spent so much money to get, will be laying idle, not only be doing nobody any good, but be going to decay faster than if it was occupied. It seems to bad that so much property should lay Idle. And then again it seems to be that we should be seperated from Each other so long. only think it has already been one whole year now since we have seen Each others faces. Mine I can tell you has grown old about 6 years this Voyage.

I can fancy that I see you looking just the same as when I left you, always dress’d neat and looking as bright as a lark, and I hope feeling as joyous. Well as I was saying it has been one year, and I cannot see any way to prevent it from being one or two more before we see Each other again unless we meet in Europe. So if you make up your mind to come and if we both arrive there safe I shall be very glad of it, but if you think it is best for you to remain at home then I shall not be sorry. For to tell you the truth I do not much expect to see you there I mean in Europe. You know that you used often to say on the last voyage that you never would go to sea again. Sometimes we would have hard gales Ship Rolling & Pitching, so that you could not Sleep. Then we would have a spell of moderate weather & Calm and you would get so nervous that you could scarcely get any Sleep during the night. And then you would say Joshua I never was intended to go to sea I am to figetty. And then that heavy gale on the coast, but then I think you Stood it like a brave heroine. Those few days was Enough to deter most any one form the Sea. It makes me Shudder now when I think of it, as hard hearted as I am. [next page]

3
Speaking of nervousness I think that I am as bad as you used to be in Calm weather, I have not had 3 hours sleep of a night the last 4 nights. We left Akyab on the 19th of Feb, and have had very light winds all the way down the Bay. the last 4 days we have had it nearly Calm. And I can tell you what it is tedious enough, all stark alone, no Wife to grumble at and find fault with. No little Lulu to plague & play with, is it not a hard case. but bear up Christian friends

The Carpenter and I have been putting a nice rail around the top of our house, and it is very nice to walk up there now Evenings, and a fine place for Lulu to play without falling off, and I think it looks very pretty to. I got some hard wood in Singapore, and the Carpenter is making me a French Bedstead for my room, and both of them down in Lulu’s Room, and am going to put the new Bedstead in there. it is to be a movable one so that it can be put any part of the Room. Where the head of our berth is now I am going to make a nice clothes room for your Dresses to hang. What do you think of the plan, speak and let me know.

My boys are learning navigation they have got so they can work the Time well, and Edwin is as smart as any of them at it, he takes hold of Navigation very quick. And they all of them improve in Seamanship to. But I suppose they are homesick but not more so than I am, I will bet a
Goose Wont you. There I think that I have written enough to day. I did not mean to write more than half so much when I began but the Spirit Moved and I could not stop

Joshua

Sunday March 7th   My Dear Wife only think it has been just one year to day since I left Boston, and only think how many changes have taken place in the world since then. and a great many in our neighbourhood that I have heard of, and no doubt a great many that I have not heard of. Remember that you and I are one year older now than when we parted. Consequently have one year less to live in this World. Now dont you think that we ought to live together the Rem of our lives. I think that we have lived apart enough. For my own Comfort we certainly have. To day is one of those Glorious Sundays, if you recollect you used to say that you Wish’d you could have all our friends here to Enjoy it with us. The sky is clear the water as smooth as a Mill pond, and about a 4 Knot breeze, the Ship gliding along beautifuly but not half fast enough. We are 17 days out to day and only Cross’d the Equator last night. for 5 days last week we only made 80 miles Was not that tedious, but I did not Fret much. I expect you would have grumbled some [over page]

if you had been here. I often say to myself that if I ever get you with me again I never will complain or find any fault with you for murmuring at Calms, gales or head winds. It seems almost as if I would give ½ Dozen years of my life if I could have you here to day but I think that I should feel very loath to part with you about the times that you were getting ready to flap your wings and be off. I thing [sic, think] that I should be like Patience in Uncle Moody’s Song run and clip your wings then you could’nt fly away could you, and I would have you all to myself.

I think that if ever I get hold of you again I will not let you go out of reach. if you will not go to sea with me I will stay at home with you, and you shall maintain me. I will go in partnership with Nathan Black in the Claming business and do what I can towards my own living as long as my health is good, after that you will have to look out for me altogether. But tell Lulu that she must learn to work so as to help support Father when he gets old, now give her a Kiss.

I should like to know how & where Brother David is and how is health is I hope that it has improved, but sometimes I fear that he wont live long. he has had so many spells of sickness lately, it seems as if it had broken his constitution all down. As for your Husband he never Expects to be sick but once, that will be the first & last time. As soon as I am taken Realy sick I shall make up my mind that my End is pretty near. Enough of that

You hav’nt written one word to me this voyage about Brother Hemans Children I suppose you dont think them worth mentioning. I should like to see him dandling one on his knee when I get home. I should think he might pound one out on the Anvil, if he cannot get one anywhere else. I
know he pounds out things in most any kind of shape, just ask him if he can’t. Tell him not to get it deformed the same as all of Davids are.

I heard when I was in Akyab that Mr Tappan had sold out his boarding Establishment at Calcutta to Capt Wheeler, and that most all of the Amer Capts were living on board their Ships; but I do not know for what reason. I should not think that Wheeler would be a very good man to keep such a house as that should you. I forget whether I told you that John Linzee was married or not before I left home. I suppose he was Married while we were in Calcutta last year I did not know it untill in Boston to a Mrs Haggatt, a Pilots Widow, Country born with 3 Children. Linzee had been living with her 2 or 3 years before he married her. That was the last think that I should thought of Linzee Marrying a half Cast. So you see it is no use for us to criticize about our Neighbours for we dont know what we are coming to ourselves. So I suppose by that that he intends to spend the Rem of his life in India for Surely he would not take such a woman among his aristocratic friends at home. He himself is at home now on a visit, but his Wife is in Calcutta. It is most dinner time now. I have been taken a lot of Lunars this forenoon Tom marks the time for me After dinner I am going to work them then I am going to have a little nap and dream about you. I have dreamt about you most Every time I have been asleep since leaving Akyab, and they have all been pleasant dreams. May your life be as pleasant as my dreams have been

good day love Joshua

Page 5th Sunday March 14th 24 days out Lat 6°00 South Long 81.40 East

I have had many pleasant dreams of your & home since writing the last but it has not been so pleasant in my wakeful hours for we have had one Continual calm about all the week in 8 days we only made about 300 miles, and for 5 days we only made 60 miles. I have never seen so much Calm weather at one time before since I have followed the sea. the Sun has been intensely hot and the sea as smooth as a sheet of Ice, and it look’d like one great Mirror

Since yesterday we have had a breeze from N West and squally with rain the first shower of rain that we have had since leaving Singapore 140 days to day it is squally with rain. I am in hopes to get the trades in a few days so that we can go along some. I have given up all hopes now of making a short passage, but I am in hopes to keep up with some of the others of which there were 5 or 6 to sail about the same time from Rangoon and Akyab all bound to Falmouth per orders.

I dont feel much like writing to day so I think that I will get a nap for I have to be up now nights in Mr Handrens watch during the Squally weather, and dont get much sleep. but however Mr Handren[42] does pretty well, but he dont learn so fast as a person of his age and Experience ought to, only think he is 24 years old, and been an officer on board this ship over a year.

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[42] This is, no doubt, Minerva’s brother Joseph Handren, who was born in Harwich 14/18 August 1823.
he ought to be Capable of taking Charge any [sic, and] going right straight ahead with Every thing about ship work, but instead of that “No man” Ambition and care are wonderfully lacking. It is very unfortunate for him that he is rather hard of hearing, and I think that he grows worse. It is very bad for a man that goes to Sea expecially an officer.

Sunday March 28th, 38 days out off Madagascar it has been 14 days since I wrote you last. Since that time we have had pretty good winds. We got the trades in Lat 10° South and had them strong, but the dam’d old Ship wouldn’t go over 260 miles per day. last year she would go 280 Miles per day. I think she is rather to much by the stern now to sail well, then she is drawing nearly 21 feet of water, last year she only drew 19½ 06in, that of course will make some difference. Another thing she is very crank, for 2 or 3 days running with strong trades, with Royals & Studsails Set her lee planksheer would be under water half the time. once in a while her upper Channels would go Under Water. So it was very difficult getting about deck particularly dark nights. I Expect you would grumble some if you was here. but I know you would not complain if you were here to day, for it is beautiful, the wind right aft, sea smooth and about a 6 knot breeze. If you were here now it seems as if my happiness would be complete. however I ought not to Complain, and I dont think that I should if I thought we should be spared to meet again. But perhaps there is many days [over page]

6 if not years of happiness in store for us yet, let us hope so at least.

Cats I think the Wild Hunter is an unlucky ship for Cats. first our old Black cat that was smothered to death in the Sailroom. Next the Gray Cat that you picked up in the streets of San Francisco, and was lost Overboard Coming down the Hoogly. This voyage in San Francisco I got a beautiful Black & White Kitten, it grew finely, and was a Capital Mouser. On the Passage over among the Islands it caught a small bird on deck one Night and Eat it. then She was like a Tiger, she had got a taste of the blook, and wanted more. So one night she made a jump at a bird that lit on the bumpkin, and over board she went. So that was the last of her. In Singapore I got 2, but they were both wild. One of them is on board now, and is seen about once a week, the other we dont know what become of her. In Akyab I got a nice little Gray Kitten, about a week ago one night she was walking around on the Poop rail, She missed a step and overboard she went. So that is the End of Cats, Except our wild one. My Pup that I got in Singapore grows finely, and I think he will be a good dog. he is now nearly 5 months old, and he is about ½ as large as Billy. I keep him tied up most all the time, and he is getting quite ferocious already. but he has not got such a fine head, and inteligent look as Billy had, and very few dogs have. Enough about Cats and dogs. Sitting here writing makes me feel homesick. how I wish I could see you and Lulu to day. tell Lulu that Father dont Forget her. For he thinks of her most all the time. I hope she is a good girl, if she is not Father will feel very bad about it. I think I shall get her
Portrait painted in Europe from her Daguerotype, if I can get it done Cheap. There was a Capt Horton in Akyab in the Soo Choo, he is quite a Phrenologist. one day I was showing him the Daguerotypes, and he give me your Character & disposition to a T. When he saw Josephs he says there is a smart man. Whoever he is and what ever his occupation is he will not allow any body to go ahead of him. He says I have rarely seen a finer head than that, only look says he, and see the go aheaditiveness there is in him. I told him that he was nothing but a Poor Carpenter. he said ne didnt care he was no disgrace to his Profession let it be what it would. Lulu he said was rather to young to form much of an opinion about but if she was 16 or 18 years old with that head on her shoulders he should say that she was a very remarkable Person. Capt Hall of the Ship Abby Langdon thought it was the prettiest picture of a child that Ever he saw by the way Capt Hall and a Capt Goss both belong to Bath and know the Emmons people, Perhaps Frank may know them. Capt Halls Wifes name was Abby Langdon She died about a year ago he has 2 Children.

this Page is finished and it is most noon dont know whether I shall write any more to day or not, got no Pigs this Passage

7th
Sunday 4th April 45 days out Nearly up to Agua Bay this last week we have had very good winds mostly from S Eastward with fine pleasant Weather to day we have a staggering breeze from the N East the old Ship is going 12 knots and tearing the water up some I tell you This morning Mr Scott was standing on Top gall Forecastle when the Lower Studsail halyards parted the L. Studsail yard Came in like lightning and struck him on the right shoulder knocking him down as stiff as a poker We brought him aft and he Came too I believe there is not bones broken but it was a great wonder that it had not killed him or knocked him over board

Yesterday I was in trouble again with our tank the strain of the Cargo between decks Coming through the SE trades has sag’d the tank over to Starboard so much that it has broken the pump rod off from the flange on deck it was with difficulty that we saved it from going down into the Tank altogether. If it had we should have had to Whistle for water. However I have it now so that it will do for the Passage I think. Only think I have not seen but one vessel bound the same way with us since leaving Akyab and she was so far off that I could not tell what she was. I suppose it is getting to be fine weather at home now, o how I wish that I could be there with you. I tell you what those poor fellows that are at home all the time with their Wives & Families dont know how much Comfort they take do they. They ought to be Shipped off some where for 2 or 3 year so as to let them know how good it is What say you... It is 7 bells so I must go and look out for the Sun. Lulu bright Lulu gay &c &c &c –

4 oclock Sunday afternoon I have just awoke from a good sweet sleep and in my sleep I dream’d of our old Horse Jenny. Our good breeze that we had this Forenoon has partially left us but stil she is going along 7 or 8
Knotts  Mr Scotts Shoulder is much better, but he has to carry his arm in a sling, and probably will have to for some time yet.

Ask Lulu if Fly Fly\[43\] dances any now.  how I should like to pop in and have a look at you now for I feel really homesick to day  It is to bad that I have got to Steer a different Course from what I have been used to after I get around the Cape of Good Hope   But I should not Care any thing about it if you was with me.  then it would not make any difference to me what part of the world I went to   Adieu untill I see you again next Sunday  Ever yours
Affectionately

Joshua Sears

[next page]

8th  51 days out

Sunday April 11th  In the Atlantic Ocean about Lat 28 00 N

In all my India voyages I have never had so quick and pleasant time around the Cape of Good Hope before.  We have not had 12 hours head since we took the SE trades altho we have had a great deal of Moderate weather  there has been but 6 Entire days that we have not Carried all three Skysails.  The Ship is so Crank that I never think of taking in Skysails Untill the lee planks near goes under water.  I tell you what it would not do to sleep 2 in a berth when the Ship is on the wind.  by the by the Springs in my Lounge have all broken down So I have to Sleep in the berth and I find it much better  Wonder I had not found it out before.  however it is just like Every thing Else we never know how to Enjoy it untill we have done with it I never know how much Comfort I take when you are with me but when I Come without you I can look back and see it   And also see that I did not take half as much as I ought to

Only think here I am all Stark alone, shut up in the after cabin all day and all night Except what little time I am on deck  Oh how lonesome I am The only Companion I have is my Dog.  I weighed him just now he weighs 37lbs is 5½ months old.  Tom weighs 140 lbs, when he left home he Weighed 130 lbs so you see hard work & hard bread agrees with him.  He is a pretty smart boy but dreadful Careless  Joseph Doane is a fine Boy too but to moderate altogether  no force at all, no go aheadiveness in him.  Edwin remains about the same  he could not run if the Mainmast was falling on him.  But however they do pretty well I have had worse ones I have one Boy from the County that is as smart as a steeltrap  it is his first Voyage to se and he is as good as some sailors I have had..  Heman S Kelly was a smart fellow but dreadful careless and I think rather a bad boy too  Tom says he never intended to go home again  he says that he does not like his home but I don’t know what his reasons are.  However he may turn up all right yet.  I suppose I was as bad as he is once.  they have all got a certain quantity of Wild Oats to sow  some have more than others and of Course it takes longer to sow them.  Tell Olive not to despair  he may be her only support in her old age and a very good one too

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\[43\] Transcriber believes this is the name of Lulu’s pony that was obtained in Calcutta.
Minerva if the Ship should go to India or any long voyage from Europe I Shall go in her Even if you are not in Europe to go with me. But if she comes home from Europe I shall not go in her unless you are willing to go with me. If I do Stop at home at all I mean to stay a year or two if I should live so long. but if I should go another voyage right off and should live to get home again I mean to Stay altogether if I should not be unfortunate in money matters There has been so many failures in the United States the last year that I am afraid that Messrs Bush & Wildes are among the number but I hope not if they should fail I shall loose all this voyage Except what you have drawn from them All that I have used out of my Wages since leaving home is $159 I have now with me in Gold $330 income of the slop Chest there was $200 more due me in Singapore that I did not draw but wrote to Mr Bush & Wilds to pay it to you I wish you to write me whether they have or not, also the amount of money that you have drawn from them since I have been away And also what you have done with it Times are so treacherous that I dare not tell you what to do with it Except to dig a hole and bury it up like a Miser I suppose that may be the safest way – by by (Lulu bright)

Page 9th April 18th 59 days out Another 6 days work is done Another Sabbath is begun. We have had very hard luck this last week light head winds and Calms all the week, with a tremendous heavy swell from the Westward Ship rolling so that I could not Carry the Lower studsails when I had a fair wind. Yesterday afternoon I set them and last Evening she rolled one of them under water and Carried away the Fore Topmast Studsail boom, and she rolled dreadfully all night. To day it is Smoother with a fine breeze from S. S. East, Cool & Cloudy. We are now 11 days from the Cape of Good Hope, and are yet 600 miles from St Helena. Shall probably pass it in about 3 days More, I shall go near Enough to be reported if it is Day time. there may be some vessels then bound home, as yet I have seen none.

How is our little Lulu I hope she is a good girl Only think she is most 6 years old She ought to help you a great deal about House now. She ought to Brush the Chairs as well as Bruno used to. Tell her that Father thinks of her a great deal and wants to see her very much. Tell her she must learn to write so that she can write me some letters. Perhaps I shall not be at home to see her for a great long while. When I do get home I hope she will be able to read the Newspapers to Father. does she grow any how tall is she

If you are at home alive and well when you get this letter (I was going say to you about getting some Trees set out but it is to late this spring) however I believe the Fall of the year is a good time. We might as well get some started if we dont reap the benefit of them ourselves, our grand Children may, and if the present generation dont do anything for the improvement of futurity the world will come to a standstill. I dont intend to go in the Wild Hunter all my days, but I intend to keep her just the same as if I was. But
my House I intend to End my Days in, if I should be so fortunate to shuffle off this Mortal Coil on Shore, but I think that is very doubtful. However it is no use to talk about that. When our time is up then we shall go, let us be where we will. And it wont make any difference, Whether the Worms Eat our Carcase up in the Ground, or the Fish in the Sea. According to the latest accounts from the spirit world it will be all the same.

Sunday, Again April 25th 66 days out Friday Morning just before daylight we passed St Helena it being to Early for any boats to be off so I did not have a chance to leave any letters. I tell you what Minerva it makes me feel homesick to think that I have got to steer off more to the Eastward for England instead of following up my old track for home. I would give a whole dollar now if I was bound to any part of the U. States And I really hope we shall Come home from Europe if we do we shall probably get home about August then I must Either stay at home or you must go to sea with me Which of the two shall it be go or stay [over page] Page 10th Last Tuesday I commenced with the Assistance of one of the Sailors that is a bit of a Jack Knife Carpenter to make a Turning Lathe, and finish’d it complet Friday afternoon. And it is a Capital one I can turn any thing 4 foot long and 11 inches in diameter one of the Boys turns the Crank an it goes like lightning. Yesterday I turn’d some belaying pins, and a lot of Door Knobs. I Expect I could turn a little Baby all but the legs and some other little fixins that it would want to make it perfect. I think I shall try it some time see how near I can come to it. Next week I am going to turn out a Set of Belaying pins for the Poop Rail from a piece of hard Red wood that I got in Singapore. If you was here I expect you would want some cricket legs turn’d, and perhaps a lot of other little things that you could think of.

Since we passed the Cape we have been very busy at the old trade setting up Rigging, Ratling, tarring, &c. We got all through with Every thing aloft last night. I have had all the Boys aloft Ratling the Topmast & Top gallant rigging, and they do it as well as any of the men. I am happy to say they are all pretty good sailors, Tom is going to make a Tip Top Sailor when he gets over his Carelessness. Edwin is Equally good only much slower. I think Kelly missed it very much leaving the Ship, For he would have been a good sailor at the End of the Voyage. But perhaps he will learn as much Elsewhere and be better treated in the Bargain. By the way I expect they will be writing again from the next Port that I have fed them on stinking Beef again. Last week they open’d a Barrel that was not very good, and I did not know that it was bad for 3 days, then the Cook told me that the men had not Eat any of it So I hove it over board. The other day I says to the cook what would you give if we was going to Boston. Says he, It is no use for a man to say what he would give, for when he gets there he wont give nof’in I thought that was very true. And very Characteristic of the Negro. He keeps along just about the same. Tell Lulu he is just as black as Ever I suppose it is owing to being in the Gally so much among the Smoke I
could not get any Pigs in Akyab and I miss my Sundays dinner very much seal’d meals are not so good as a nice piece of Roast Pork or a Roast goose Either. However I suppose that I ought to Curtail a little these hard times for I dont Expect the Ship will any more than pay her Expenses this Voyage.

Sunday 10\textsuperscript{th} May 80 days out in Lat 8°00 North It has been a fortnight since I have written any thing and now I cant find any thing to write about Week before last I turnd 50 belaying pins & some other little things this last week I have not done scarcely any thing it has been Calm Rainy & baffling winds & I have had 3 or 4 Men sick about all the time the Steward is quite sick now with a kind of Cholic I have got one man sick with the Disentary that I dont think will live long I miss the Steward’s Services very

Page 11\textsuperscript{th}

Much Edwin is acting in his stead and does very well. last Sunday I lost the SE trades Since then I have all kinds of weather & have passed a great many outward bound vessels but none that I was acquainted with. Friday we took the N East trades to day we have a good smart Royal breeze on the wind. If I was bound home now I could keep her of about 3 pts out all stud Sails and I should expect to see you in about 3 weeks from now but steering this Course the Lord only knows when I shall get a sight of you & home again. It must be looking very beautiful at home now how I wish I was there, how homesick I am. one month from to day I shall be 41 years old, it is quite time that I was pension’d off and allowed to stay at home, but I am afraid that I shall End my days at Sea {loose my life getting my living &C} I expect you and Lulu are getting ready to go to Church about this time While I poor fellow are confined here in my cell solitary confinement. It seems as if I had never felt the want of Company so much as I have this Voyage I have not got a Single Book or Newspaper but what I have read and some I have read and re read again. Tell Lulu that her Canary bird sings beautifly now and Sings most all the time to I hope that it will live to get home to her I think she will be pleased with it I wish I could See her now & I hope you will be able to give me a very good account of her. Tell her that I shall Expect an answer to my letters that I have written her & tell her she must get Ezra Freeman & little Josy to write some to, or to help her guess the Words. I cant write any more the old ship is plunging into the sea like a mad Horse So by by

Sunday again the 16\textsuperscript{th} of May Lat about 24° N Long 38° W This is one of the finest days that it has Ever been my Lot to see the Sea is as Smooth as a Mill pond and about a 3 Knott breeze so we dont get along very fast We have had very good NE trades the last Week but they are about done now. the Sailor that I had Sick with the disentery has got better and is Acting as Steward the Steward has been very sick the last week I did not think he would live for a day or two but he is getting a little better now, his complaint is in his Belly & Right Side. The Sailmaker is poorly too he has a very bad cough and a pain in his Right Side. I think he has got the
Consumption. he ought to have more active exercise. The rest of us are all well, Myself and Your Husband including I Expect you have very fine Weather at home now and all nature looks Pleasant

Page 12th

How I should like to have you and Lulu here to day, and I would mind having a Doz more of the Family here to I think they would Enjoy it and I think that I could muster Enough for them to Eat & drink I dont think I have got quite strong Liquor enough to get them all drunk but that part of the Evening we could dispense with. Joe might want to go round the Corner once or twice and then Lay down and have a good snooze on my lounge

I keep at work a little Every day at my Turning Lathe I have good Wood Enough to turn a set of pins from abt as far as the gangway both sides and I shall consider them as handsome a set of pins as Ever was put in a Ships rail. We have been the last Week cleaning Ship have Holy Ston’d her outside from the Monkey rail to the Waters Edge and she is as smooth as Hope Howes’s Bottom. Next week I am going to paint Outside & in, Wind & Weather permitting then I shall be all ready to go in but I expect we shall be about 110 days on the passage that will be fair but nothing Extra. I have never had so little Wind and so little Rain before on an India passage there has only been 7 Entire days but what all 3 skysails have been set this passage Oh for a little more Wind. It is so smooth to day that I could float a Stage round the ship and paint her to the Waters Edge

Sunday 23d May Oh how pleasant it is and how lonesome I am It has been very moderate all this last week not over a 5 Knott breeze any time We have painted the Ship all over outside & in. And we have not had a drop of rain on it and havn’t had to touch a brace And She Shines now like a Niggers Eye. I would give ½ months pay if We was coming to Boston instead of going to some outlandish hole or other as we most probably shall, where all our fine work will be like Casting Pearls before Swine. We have had 4 and 5 Vessels in co all last week and they all Sail as fast as we do and some of them outsail us I dont know what is with the Old Ship. one ugly looking Portuguese Brig Kep Co 3 days, the darndest looking dugout that Every I Saw – I have been almost angry Enough to Sink the Old Ship sometimes

Well Minerva I dont Know as I have got anything more to say I feel rather down in the Mouth lately I wish that I had written for Mr Bush to sent another Capt to take the Ship, and I would Come home. But it is too late now I shall have to go wherever the Ship does. I hope business will be better on my arrival So the Ship Can Make some Money It is hard for the Ship to be away 18 months and only Make Enough to Pay her Expenses. But we are not alone in the same predicament Such is Life on the Ocean

So Good by to day. Give Lou a good Kiss for me And then she must give you one for me. Joshua

[Next sheet] Page 13th One hundred and one days out
Sun May 30th  Lat 41º00 Long 31º20

After writing last Sun I lay down on the sofa and fell asleep When I awoke there was a large ship in sight Coming towards us It was the Star of Hope 9 days from New York the Capt very kindly Sent his Boat with some papers to me which were very acceptable I can asure you I look’d among the list of Passengers for Europe Column of Deaths & Elopements but Could not find you name among them, So I suppose you are at home yet. And if I knew that you was well and in good health I should feel easy I see by the papers that business is getting a little better. I see the Ship Visingia, Sears Master has Arrived at New Orleans from Bath I wonder if it is Cyrus

This last Week We have had light winds and Calms untill yesterday Noon Since that we have had a good strong breeze from N West We are now 1200 miles from Falmouth and I am in hopes to get in the latter part of this week. Then if I should see you I shall feel glad and if I do not I shall not be disapointed for I dont Expect to I have not set my heart on it at all. But mind When I do get hold of you again you wont get away from me Easy now I tell you. I may not write any more untill I arrive in fact I may not arrive at all the Orders may Come outside to me So that I shall have but very little time to write then and of Course shall not think of any thing. I shall try to think to mention where we are going, and I want you to write me immediately on the receipt of this. It will arrive before I get away without doubt.

You had better send it to Messrs Bush & Wildes to forward it for you they will send it by the most direct route. I really hope the Ship Will come home from Europe. If she should go to another long voyage Without coming home I shall settle right down and there will be nothing left of me but a very small grease spot I am lonely Lonesome disconsolate & low spirited And have got the blues the worse Kind Oh for a Cot in some vast Wilderness...but on Cape Cod will do

Good night I think I will not write any more to night We have got a good breeze and are going along finely Only think when you get this letter I shall be 41 years old time to hang up my harp Give my love to all of our relatives I hope this will find them all live, and well Tell Lulu that Father has put 9 Kisses in this letter for her

From your Affectionate Husband Joshua

[Over page]

Page 14th June 6th 1858

Sunday again My Dear Wife and I am not in Falmouth yet, but pretty Close to it. It is a beautiful Sunday and it seems as if we have had all good Sundays this passage, and in part all the week days have been fine to. We have had to much fine Weather altogether for making a good passage.

We are now about 6 miles form the Land and about 30 miles from Falmouth And I tell you what it does look beautiful on Shore the Hills & Valleys look Green Enough and Covered with neat looking White Cottages and I can see 2 or 3 Churches, For we Can see plainly over the Space of 2 or
3 Townships. And to add to it there is about 100 sail of Coasters going in all directions And 3 or 4 large outward bound Ships in Sight.

All nature seems to rejoice My Canary is singing beautifully too and I suppose that I ought to feel thankful too that we have got so far along on our Journey and I am getting along on the Journey of Life too if Ever you noticed it 4 days more Makes me 41 years old do you believe it. I think there must be Some Mistake somewhere, Just ask Mother will you She ought to Know.

After Dinner Falmouth is in sight about 10 Miles off it has just sprung up a fine breeze right dead ahead but I think that I can get in by 6 in the Evening and then If I do have the Extreme pleasure of finding you in Falmouth or if you are Even in England how happy I shall be. I have not had the slightest thought that you would be here all the passage untill the last Week. And all the last week something has been telling me that I should meet you here, and now if I dont I shall be disapointed. however to tell you the plain truth I dont Expect to see you here. But I shall Expect a great long letter from you and that will be Some Comfort, For I am dreadful homesick

My Boys are all alive and Well Fat Ragged & dirty All that I shall have to add to this is our destination And I want you to write me to that place as soon as you rec this

I Expect that you will grumble like an old sailor because you have got such a long letter to read. But I did not know of any other way [to] plague you so I took this one I am going about now So good by J S

[Next sheet]

Page 15th Falmouth June 7th 1858

Dear beloved Wife

I am happy to inform you of our safe arrival here last Evening Passage 107 days. This morning I rec your letters and it is no use telling you the pleasure that I Enjoyed reading them. But it would have been far more pleasure to Embraced you here but however I shall live in hopes of seeing you again before we Shake off this Mortal Coil. It has given me great pleasure to hear that your health is so good I hope that it will continue So. I think that your reasons for not coming to Europe are good and perhaps a sufficient Excuse for not coming, as pleasure ought to be sacrificed to health any time. I am also much pleased to hear Such a good account of Lulu May she keep on improving at the same rate and perhaps she will be a Comfort to us in our old age should we live to see that time. I hope that Richard has made a good bargain Please to give our love to our new relative

I am rather surprised to hear that Isaac W White had gone to sea he has got a hard life before him but perhaps it is the best thing that he could do. I hope that he wont be like my boys, leave the ship the first port he gets into. And I am furthermore glad that he has gone with such a good man. For I Consider my friend Tom P. 2nd to none about these times. Heman S.
Kelly you say has got home an is cutting quite a swell I Expect that he tells some hard stories about his voyage on board the Wild Hunter May he get better

P. S. Crowell has written for Tom to Come home and I Expect that all the rest of the Boys will go with him. I do not know yet to what port I shall go but when I arrive to that port I Expect to be left all stark alone. Cook, Steward, Sailmaker, &C, are all Married men and they all want to go home. But I poor Devil just because I am Capt must stick by the Ship let her go where she will. If I had been sure that David would have been at home I would written to Messrs Bush & Wildes to have sent him to relieve me I am very sorry that his general health is so poorly, but I hope he will recover it yet. I should really like for him to have the Wild Hunter for She is a Bonnie Boat. I dont know of but one fault, and that is her Bowsprit laying so low, she is always poking it under water, and I am afraid it will be snapping off again. For you know that a burnt Child is afraid of the fire. She is as tight as a cup we pump her once a Week then she has 5 inches in her We did not pump her from leaving Singapore untill leaving Akyab then she had but 7 inches but however People in the best of health are often times taken suddenly

Sick & die So the tightest ships may spring a sudden leak & go down at once as in the Case of the Titan. I think John Dillingham has put his foot in it dont you. I dont think they will take the trouble of sending to New Orleans for him again in a hurry. I think he must have a bully 2nd Mate About as much use as a spare belaying pin you know that such 2nd Mates as them would do for me

I dont know that I could put up with Mr Handren if he was not a relative. I wish Joseph was with me as Carpenter I would give him $35 pr month if he was here to go to India with me on the next voyage. Messrs B. & W. say that there is nothing for ships to do at home now and that I must go back to India or Australia If I can get any thing that will pay, so you see I am in for it another year at least, but keep up a lively faint heart & pray for happier days to Come

The Ship Archer that left Rangoon 2 days after I left Akyab arrived here one day before me and is now awaiting orders I have been on shore to day with Capt & Mrs Osgood and after we got through with our business we took a short drive in the Country but we could not Enjoy the scenery much because the Roads are very narrow and wall in with a hedge of Stones & Turf from 8 to 10 feet high and that all overgrown with Shrubery All the fields are fenced in the same way it is very Expensive way of fencing at the first but it will last as long as the World stands. The Country in this Neighbourhood is very fertile and in the highest state of Cultivation If you had been here with me I should Enjoyed it very much

Last night I had a sleepness night I was on board the Archer in the Evening and Capt Osgood told me that he heard that the owners of the
Charmer had fail’d & you may imagine how bad I felt but this morning on getting my letters and not seeing any thing in them to that Effect set my mind at Ease I shall send home my account to you & to them from the port of discharge so that you can Collect all my wages up to that time. If David should succeed in getting a vessel to suit him I am willing for you to take on sixteenth of her, or should he want to buy in to some ship you can lend him some money if he should require it. I am willing to do all I can to help him I wish he could have better luck. You write that you want a horse if you feel like taking Care of one and can find one to suit you, you had better get one I want you to have every thing that will add to your Comfort and Enjoyment. I am glad that you have got some trees set out dont mind a little Expense in taking good Care of them so that they will live I think that you have done right in painting the House for we must keep up appearances as well as preserve the house

There I think that I have written enough untill I get my orders June 10th We have not got any orders yet the mail leaves this afternoon so you will have to wait untill next mail to know where we are going I am 41 years old today a Poor disconsolate Man

I have nothing more to Say

J Sears