

I first thought of going to sea about
the first of Sept. 42. The vessel called
The Franklin proposed sailing in a fortnight.
But instead of sailing that we had to
wait a whole fortnight after the ap-
pointed time for the old sugar box,
which our vessel was, to be brimstoned
out of the yellow fever which she had
caught while plin ting in New Orleans
the last trip & for the wind to veer into
the N. west or north-west or N. E. which
of all things it seemed least inclined
to do. At length on the 4th of Oct.
notice was given that if the vessel
held fair we should be underweigh
the next morning at any early hour.
But it struck 2 o'clock P. M. before
I found myself walking down State
St. with the owner of the Miss Frank-
lin - the Supercargo & Mr. - to the
dock. I shall never forget my feelings
when I turned round at the bottom
of the street & looked back over the
crowded sidewalks where moved
many whom I knew, & up at the
blue faced clock in the tower of the
Old State which I had been familiar

with from early boyhood. I might
never see those old friends or those
old clock again. I sensed that
that of just separation from home.
But it was no time for an expression
of ^{feeling} - stifling therefore every
unnecessary emotion & forcing
my heart down to its proper place.
I turned the corner & hurried along
with my companions over sides
& molasses barrels to the ship
waiting to be cast off from the
pier, impatient to begin her voyage.

I have been asked to read before
this society & from time to time
portions of a ~~very~~ journal I once
kept on a voyage to S. A. The
journal was thrown into the form
of letters to my uncle - which is
a very definite statement & worthy
of being kept as it is - But I will
add that I fear these pages will
seem garrulous & trifling to this
serious & old wide company. Even
I only offer this for their amusement.
I trust they will overlook this

Safe
9.20.4
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Cambridge Jan 1st/67

My Dear Sir -

You have asked me to
~~write~~^{for} some account of my voyage
to ~~the~~ South America & of my residence
in Brazil. I at length ⁺⁺ having the leisure
& the inclination, & ~~at~~ ⁺⁺ ~~now~~ propose writ-
ting you a series of letters - rather
lengthy & diffuse perhaps - but still
presenting an unbroken ^{course} ~~road~~ to Rio de
Janeiro, ^{& back again to Cambridge} & ~~an~~ agreeable one withal, which
some strangely adventurous thoughts of
yours may ~~some times~~ ^{with} safety travel.

~~It was in the summer of 18-~~
You may remember that I was com-
pelled, in the summer of 18-, by the
failure of ~~my~~ health, (never very
vigorous) to suspend ~~my~~ collegiate

~~Starting~~ ^{starting} operations, & to run away in to
the country ^{in search of} ~~after~~ strength & illness.
The latter if anything was a too
early acquisition - but the former
^{keeping me on}
kept ^{prying} out of my reach, like a
bird which hops beyond the fingers
^{that} ~~reaching~~ to drop late on his tail -
So ~~at~~ ^{after all}, when autumn came - I
^{returned} ~~came~~ back home with no rubber
check & no prospect pit. What
was to be done? (Sure enough!)

The morning after my arrival
^{home} was cold & stormy - The air - light
in our little parlor, hardly un-
derway for the season, ^{wonderfully} whereas
emitted more smoke than heat,
frequently the case with those com-
modities, where the lamp is ~~is~~
& now then the expanded sheet iron
would give a ^{strong} ~~strong~~ something less

loud ^{repart} than a pistol, but sufficient to
make my mother start round &
look ^{timidly} at the ~~black~~ monster. His
lights were novelties in those days
& thought dangerous. I lay extin-
guished on the sofa - my mother
filled the rocking chair - a few
feet of unoccupied distance between
us & a solemn silence - Nearly
an hour had gone & not a word
had been spoken - Neither mother
seemed likely to hazard a remark
for a reason peculiarly its
own - My heart feared a ~~down~~ ^{were}
rebuke for not ^{nonetheless} getting well & ~~the~~
^{wishing} ~~desiring~~ to suffer ^{such} ^{reproach} as long as
possible ~~as I should~~ ^{else} ~~express~~ my
lips. ~~the~~ that so what, they would
they ^{sh} ~~could~~ not ^{first} break the spell of
silence. My poor Mother, on
the other hand was ~~the~~ ^{too} anxious &

I don't know - there was a diffi-
 culty in coming to a conclusion.
 So many ^{openings} courses to pursue, it
 was ~~very~~ hard to make a choice.
^{quite} too big a remark on such an occasion.
 In fine I thought things looked
^{rather} ~~rather~~ dim just then, with which re-
 flection my Mother apparently
 agreed - for she got up - turned
 the register - opened the window
 a crack, as if at this crisis the
^{dimness of the} room had ^{risen to blood very} ~~badly~~ ^{been} ~~grown~~ ^{exhausted} ~~dark~~ -
 (when ^{which} ^{very much} ^{as a rule} ^{it} had not been quite warm
 before, & was ^{really} little better now -)
 She moved about the room ner-
 vously for a moment, & then re-
 suming her seat said quickly
 "I have considered two projects -
 You may take your choice. ~~between~~
 I will not ^{is not worth mentioning} mention the first plan."

since it was ill suited to my
tasks & capacity & made ^{little or no} impres-
sion ~~on my mind then or afterwards~~

The second surprised me out
of my ^{apparent} coolness & engrossed my whole
attention. A voyage! Where?
to Calcutta? or round Cape Horn?

No! to Rio de Janeiro. A half
second & my composure was re-
stored - a half second more - & I
had ^{mentally} closed with the proposal - &
was bent on an outfit & eager
for departure.

It was a strange affair - a very strange
affair - Thus I lay - a scape goat,
a cut-gallows (enslaving names I
had received in my youth) - thus
I lay, who a week before would
have turned with disgust from
any invitation to visit Cape Cod ^{even} by

water - so great was my aversion to
sail boats or steam boats - actually
^{to all intents & purposes} an enrolled member of a ship's com-
pany - ~~as~~ as good, as much, as bound
to explore southern latitudes & to
pitch up in golden & diamonded-
Brazil - What philosophy can ex-
account for such stupendous revo-
^{like this} lutions ^{accomplished} in a moment's space? Thank
my stars! that with me no philos-
opher - but a fancier, satisfied
with referring to supernaturalism
~~explains~~ all the wonders that startle
my dreams, & colour my life -
I do believe some ^{an} imp of mischief
whispered in my ear & deceived
my decision - ^{Therefore} I will thank him
~~therefore~~ ^{also} ^{for} knowing that I
was a creature to be guided by el-
fin counsel - & for coming to my
aid in a smoke puff from that hemis-

Sons Move.

My mother was amazed - well
she might be - There was a sob
in her eye - either from ^{the} pity or
my ^{of her only son} ~~soberness~~ ^{disappearance} which ~~put out~~ ^{put out}
light, when I began calmly making
inquiries about necessary prepa-
rations - & the day of the ship's sail-
ing. A ^{soon} ~~tear~~ stood in the place of
that sob - & I plainly saw how
hard she was striving to reconcile
her tenderness to my determina-
tion - so as not to damp ^{the} my
^{& sudden} ~~and~~ or weaken ^{the haste} ~~my~~ ^{of her son} resolve, by
any glimpse of emotion which might
be construed into regret - But my
mind though made up on this mat-
ter in less time than ^{it took} the wind ^{to} could
shift ~~it~~ was fixed & steadfast in
its ^{new} ~~direction~~ as the currents of air in
the trades that change not the year round.

Yes unconsciously I had become a
very magnet in point of constancy,
or stubbornness if you will. I could
stick like a bar to a purpose, then
proved for the first time - I think -
My powers were developing - my
faculties unfolding. There was hope
of the youth yet - to be himself & want
~~though if I remember right~~ this vener-
able grandmother would have boxed
his ears ^{soundly} for this presumption &
punchy -

The little I have related happened
about the first of September. The
vessel ^{proposed} ~~was to depart~~ ^{sailing} in a fortnight.
Clothing was prepared & packed - books
provided ^{obtaining} & ^{tightly} ^{secured} stowed away (in a box or
two) - You, Sir lent me sundry
old numbers of the Edinburgh Review,
combining ^{training} instruction & amusement
articles on Byron & Scott - & Reports of some

It is undoubtedly a very important point to consider in the history of the world. The first thing that comes to mind is the fact that the world has been a very interesting place since the beginning of time. The second thing that comes to mind is the fact that the world has been a very interesting place since the beginning of time. The third thing that comes to mind is the fact that the world has been a very interesting place since the beginning of time. The fourth thing that comes to mind is the fact that the world has been a very interesting place since the beginning of time. The fifth thing that comes to mind is the fact that the world has been a very interesting place since the beginning of time. The sixth thing that comes to mind is the fact that the world has been a very interesting place since the beginning of time. The seventh thing that comes to mind is the fact that the world has been a very interesting place since the beginning of time. The eighth thing that comes to mind is the fact that the world has been a very interesting place since the beginning of time. The ninth thing that comes to mind is the fact that the world has been a very interesting place since the beginning of time. The tenth thing that comes to mind is the fact that the world has been a very interesting place since the beginning of time.

certain adventurous
kind or other of Commissioner - who
gave me Blair's Sermons 2 vols - with
(some) much good advice - Oth. Sweet-
back. & honoured be my father's friends
for his ghostly attentions ^{kindness} to the son -
Somebody ~~also~~ ^{contributed} sent me Chesterfield's
letters, an unvarnished hint that my
manners needed polishing before
their entrance ^{admittance} into a foreign country.
The hint was lost however for a
sailor or ~~perhaps~~ the steward ^{filed} stole
the book from its box between decks.
I never heard whether any weight
was become (suddenly or gradually)
smoother of speech or ^{more} elegant of gait.
The latter light, young, & bon fellow
certainly did not require the volume
for he was ~~was~~ a very pink of an
exquisite - & cooked the best Mutton
I ever ^{eaten between him & I} savoured - I have
forgotten his name or rather never

knew it, else would I recommend
him ^{to} the prince of Restaurateurs.
(thereby (returning) practicing the
golden rule & another one equally got-
ten, the pith of which is ~~the~~ ^{to} return of
good for evil) - ^{But how yet indeed have} if he pilfered ^{that} my
copy of Lord Chesterfield's?

But now I am wandering ^{over the ocean} to sea be-
fore ^{leaving the anchor} the proper time - Back let me
^{turn} ~~have~~ have an eye to the safety of
^{off} preventative to seasickness in the shape
of ^{bundled} brown paper & homoeopathic pills.
Lies dead for a pin - let me have
the heels knocked off that pair of boots,
let ² they pitch me upon my nose.
let me also wait a whole fortnight
after the appointed time for the old
"Sugar boat", which our vessel was, to
^{out of} ~~leave~~ (the yellow fever) ^{by} ~~Trinestone~~ ^{white} ~~boat~~
~~after~~, which she has caught, ^{while} ~~flitting~~
in New Orleans the last trip - & for

the wind to veer into the Northwest
which of all things it seemed least
inclined to do. At length on the
4th of Oct notice was given that if
the breeze held fair we should be
underweigh the next morning -
~~uesday~~ - at an early hour - But it
was ^{struck} ~~not till~~ 2 o'clock P.M. ^{before} ~~that~~ I
found myself walking down State
St with the owner of the ^{Mill} Ship Franklin
the supercargo & Mr — to the dock.
I shall never forget ^{my} ~~the~~ feelings ^{when} ~~with~~
which I turned round at the bottom of
the street & looked back over the low
crowded sidewalks where moved many
whom I knew - & up at the blue-faced
clock in the tower of the ^{ancient} ~~old~~ State house,
which had so often told me the hour
of business or recreation from my
earliest ~~boyhood~~ boyhood - I might never
see those old friends or that old ^{clock} ~~time~~.

piece again - ^{A serious} ~~It~~ ~~was~~ ~~at~~ ~~the~~ ~~moment~~ ~~that~~
that ~~very~~ first separation from home.
But it was no time for an expression
of feeling - stifling every unnecessary
emotion, & forcing my heart down
into its proper place. I turned the
corner, & ^{hurried} rushed along with my
companions over hives & molasses
barrels to the ship waiting to be
calked off from the pier & to begin ^{impatiently}
her voyage -