

Diary of Robert Greenhow, containing an account of his journey from Washington, D. C., to Mexico City in 1837. 80 pages. 7 x 5 inches. Presented by David R. Barbee, April 14, 1933.

See July 1933 Wm. Quarterly, p. 182.

Monday 3 pm. The 29<sup>th</sup> May - left Richmond in stage and arrived at Petersburg by dark and at Powell's filthy hotel, and next morning the 30<sup>th</sup> went by rail road to Blakeley 59 miles - reached Blakeley a little before three o'clock - dined and entered the stage; crossed the Roanoke before 5 in a flat boat - saw cotton growing beyond Halifax 8 or 9 inches high nothing remarkable during journey to Raleigh which we reached growing <sup>1/2</sup> constantly at ten o'clock in the morning of the 31<sup>st</sup>. Met and travelled from Petersburg to Raleigh with W. T. Devereuse

Journal

Saturday night May 27 - 1837 - Went  
on board steam boat at Washington City.  
Left wharf at 3 in the following morning  
and arrived at 8 at Potomac Creek. thence  
by stage to Fredericksburg, ~~thence~~ thence to Rich-  
mond by rail road - Reached Richmond at 3 p.m.

Monday 3 p.m. the 29<sup>th</sup> May - left Richmond  
in stage and arrived at Petersburg by dark  
staid at Powels filthy hotel, and next morn-  
ing the 30<sup>th</sup> went by rail road to Blakely  
59 miles - reached Blakely a little before  
three o'clock - dined and entered the stage;  
crossed the Roanoke before 5 in a flat boat.

- Saw cotton growing beyond Halifax 8  
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a journey to Raleigh which we reached  
arriving constantly at ten o'clock in the  
morning of the 31<sup>st</sup>. Met and travelled from  
Petersburg to Raleigh with W<sup>r</sup> T. Devereuse

(2)  
The District Attorney of North Carolina—and  
by invitation dined with him at his house in  
Raleigh.— The State house at Raleigh is  
upon the whole the best piece of architecture  
by plan in material and in execution which  
I know in the U. S.— the Portico's have not  
sufficient width for their height— they  
should each have had six columns at least  
instead of four— better yet have had eight  
and then they would have formed part of the  
centred building instead as they do of the wings.  
The material is a stone of the granite species  
not granite for it splits in layers very white  
very fine grained and at a few feet distance  
not distinguishable from the coarse marble  
used in building at N. York.— Left Ra-  
at three and after some rough riding  
upon the pine barren country which in  
intermissions constitutes the whole territory from  
that spot

June 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday at 4 in the morning  
reached Fayetteville - a place most foolish-  
ly made to cover an ~~to~~ embrace an immense  
extent of ground - wide streets - and small  
wooden houses placed at great distances apart.  
Found whortleberries in great abundance ripe among  
the bushes near Fayetteville, and ate them  
at dinner - miserable and dirty dinner kept  
by a mulatto serviles who drove the stage.  
At night stopped an hour at Cheraw an  
assemblage of generally good looking  
houses erected in a sandy desert - rode  
all night, and reached Camden at ten next  
morning the 2<sup>nd</sup> of June. De Kalb's monument  
in front of the Court house, is a short obelisk  
upon a die, standing on steps of fine red  
granite with black specks resembling the  
Egyptian [? locality.] - an inscription on  
each of the sides of the pedestal.

4  
Friday June 2<sup>nd</sup> rode from Camden to  
Columbia through heavy sand all the way  
got to Columbia at sunset; and determined  
to remain until the succeeding day.—  
Columbia tolerably well built as usual  
on a great space of ground. The college  
extensive collection of brick buildings sur-  
-rounded by a wall at least  $3/4$  of a mile  
in circumference. Saw professor Ellet  
whom I had known in New York. He shewed  
me his laboratory which is tolerably well  
provided and the library a fair collection of  
books. The college a State Institution  
entirely—Professors paid by the Treasury  
of the State. Found my old friend Dr. or  
Judge Cooper, he lives in retirement  
near Columbia and is engaged in making  
a Digest of the Laws of the State for which he  
receives an annual salary.—

Saw Mr Weston and frankly told him  
my destination. Thermometer in my room  
at Brigg's Hotel at 85 degrees Fahrenheit  
at 12 o'clock P.M. — and at 88 degrees at 4 —  
— Saturday June 3<sup>rd</sup> Left Columbia at  
8 in the evening and rode all night through  
a variegated country, sometimes hilly gen-  
-erally however sandy and flat, reached Au-  
-gusta in Georgia at 2 in the afternoon of  
Sunday June 4<sup>th</sup>. The Savannah is a  
large river pouring I think as much water  
into the ocean as James river. The town  
is large and generally well built. Streets  
wide and generally have trees on each  
side. The Phoenix and Eagle hotel at  
which I now am is a vast building.  
Table as usual bad. Thermometer 94 de-  
-grees in my room at 4 o'clock — 95 at 5.

Mem - Saw growing in Mr Preston's yard at Columbia the Copal varnish tree, something like the wild poplar; also the palmetto and the pomegranate - the cabbage palm growing in the yard of the Hotel - Oranges do not grow in the open air at Columbia. Plumbs of a round shape and cornelian colour ripe in great quantities on the road. Indian corn near Augusta three feet high.

Augusta contains some tolerable buildings; a rail road is in process of construction from this place to the west of which 40 miles to Warrenton will be completed by the fall - I find by the newspapers that the whole squadron sailed from Pensacola on the 23 of May!! - Monday the 5<sup>th</sup> - After a night spent in intense heat the thermometer in the morning at 94 - I awaked almost exhausted and took my seat at 1/2 past seven in the coach for Augusta - the only passenger besides myself being a Mr Calhoun who is Mayor of Columbia - We were

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joined on the road by a young man an assistant  
engineer on the rail road (near which we went  
all the way to Weirwater) whose dialect pleased  
me very much - He proved to be a native of Madrid  
the son of an Irish father and Spanish mother -  
very intelligent and clever. The day was  
more pleasant from a constant breeze; rode  
all day and night and - Tuesday June 6 at  
5 in the morning reached Milledgeville a  
pretty little village situated in a hilly country  
the state house a plastered brick mock Gothic  
half church and half castle - From Milledgeville  
soon and rode 30 miles to Macon  
Here I learned that the steam boats had all  
gone down the Chattahoochee for the season  
and that the stage from Hawkinsville had  
not made its appearance - In which  
emergency I determined to hire a barouche  
for Hawkinsville said to be distant 57 miles  
so as to join the mail line on Thursday next -  
Thermometer at Macon in shade at 4 o'clock 94° -



8  
in seen at same hour 118 -

Macon is better built in general than any of the southern towns through which I have passed; the streets are also wider than those of any other and they present a perfect Sahara. The country between Augusta and Macon is in general very poor - the houses are all hovels. On the borders of North and South Carolina near Cheraw I could not but be struck with the squalid misery of the people of all colours. We took up a young woman and child, and as she seemed decently dressed I asked her about it - to my surprise she attributed it all to dirt eating and told me that in that part of the country every body eat dirt or clay - that the practice was not to be corrected and that it rendered those addicted to it good for nothing. I could learn no farther particulars as the woman soon left us. I observed that she was constantly cleaning her teeth with a stick dipped in snuff - after her departure a young man told us that it

was the habit of all the women of the lower <sup>(9)</sup>  
class throughout a great portion of the  
Southern country; the snuff was thus used as a  
stimulant. The same evening we took up  
two other women who were thus employed the  
whole time — Left Macon in the barouché  
at  $\frac{1}{2}$  past four in the afternoon — at about  
a mile distance from the town we met  
the Hawkinsville stage coming in; it  
was to return next morning and would  
be in Hawkinsville by 3 — price 4 dollars.  
We soon after lost our way and wandered  
on until about nine at night when we  
were forced to stop at a farm house or collection  
of log huts. The people were rough but  
tolerably kind — they soon put before us a  
plentiful supper of uneatable things as  
raw unknéaded biscuits — fried ham and  
grease — coffee as they called it — all that I  
could get was a little sour buttermilk.

Next came the arrangements for sleeping. The  
 man asked me first whether I would sleep  
 in bed with the other gentleman? meaning  
 the driver. To this I gave a decided negative  
 and was at length accommodated with a thin  
 straw mattress on the floor in an unfinish-  
 -ed log house with the windows open all  
 around. Here I was soon invaded by most ter-  
 -rible moschitos and spent a most disa-  
 -greeable night. We were off early in the  
 morning. Having first paid the modest  
 demand of two dollars and a half for our  
 accommodations. The road lay along the  
<sup>south</sup> bank of the <sup>Oakmulgee</sup> ~~Ogouche~~ river, and I soon fancied  
 that we had in a short space of time reached a  
 much more southern climate. For the first  
 time I saw the moss hanging from the trees.  
 -The *Magnolia grandiflora* appeared in  
 great numbers, of large size and covered  
 with flowers. Late ripe blackberries by

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the side of the road. Saw no alligators  
but understand there are many in this  
river. The ~~beleechee~~<sup>Oakmulgee</sup> is a narrow but rapid  
stream of red water. About nine o'clock we  
crossed the river by a ferry boat and stopped  
soon after to rest at a farm house —  
where I wrote to my Dear Rose —

At three o'clock set off again and reached  
Hawkinsville (crossing the Oakmulgee  
river at Hartford) at 7 o'clock —

After spending a disagreeable and  
feverish night in the tavern at Haw-  
-kinsville I dismissed the barouche  
on the morning of the 8<sup>th</sup> and at  
8<sup>o</sup> clock set off in the stage for Bain-  
-bridge distant — 135 miles having  
paid 15 dollars for the passage. In the  
afternoon of this day in latitude  
north a mile east of Flint river I saw the  
first alligator ourning wild and was  
brutal enough to kill it — it was about

3 feet long. Rode all night and reached  
 Bainbridge on the 9<sup>th</sup> of June at 12 o'clock  
 in the day. While at the Tavern the Stage  
 from Tallahassee (distant 40 miles)  
 came up and a gentleman got out whom  
 I recognised immediately as Mr John  
 Gamble formerly of Richmond. He having  
 seen my name on my trunk, looked about  
 and came up to me very kindly telling  
 me who he was. His appearance speaks  
 well for the climate of Tallahassee  
 near which he lives; and he told me  
 that he had always enjoyed good  
 health - he was going to the north on  
 business connected with a Bank at  
 Tallahassee of which he is President.  
 Paid 15 dollars for stage fare to Bayou La-  
 -grange on Choctawhatchee bay distant  
 miles, and left Bainbridge at 2 o'clock.

Crossed Flint river a muddy rapid  
stream about 200 yards wide, imme-  
diately after leaving Bainbridge -  
My fellow passengers were a Tallahassee  
Lawyer named Baltzell on his way  
to his plantation on Chatta hoochee river  
and a youth about 21 named Archer of  
whom Mr Gamble had told me that he  
was the son of most respectable people of  
Tallahassee who after committing  
every species of irregularity had at  
length crowned his follies by marrying  
a prostitute. That some arrangements  
had been made by his family according  
to which she went to live with her friends  
and he was to go to Texas. He appeared  
to be a silly good natured indolent crea-  
ture incapable from stupidity of com-  
prehending the force of moral engage-  
ments. He had been in the Florida wars

and according to his own accounts had  
 been a part in almost every action there.  
 He gave us an account which seemed correct  
 of the expedition up the Withlacoochee in  
 a boat in order to relieve the persons who  
 had been left there in a blockhouse.

I this evening for the first time heard of the  
 Indian war going on in West Florida and  
 learned that we were to pass through the  
 country occupied by the Indians. It appears  
 that a number of Indians chiefly Creeks  
 and Yuchees who had contrived to avoid being  
 sent off had collected on the west side of Chat-  
 -hoochie river and commenced depredations  
 on the property of the inhabitants. The people  
 turned out armed and had some skirmishes  
 with them in which some Indians were  
 killed and others taken prisoners. Of the pri-  
 soners taken on one occasion ten or eleven

were killed by the whites, while in their power as it is said because they endeavored to escape. On one occasion five white men while looking for cattle were surprised by Indians, three of them were killed and the other two escaped; it is said that the Indians lay close to these men all night while they were sleeping by their fire and did not attack them until morning. The people of the country say that Indians are never known to make an attack at night. Soon after the first fight or rather seizure of the Indians who were found by the whites at the house of a white man on Alogua creek (May 21<sup>st</sup>) and murdered next morning - the story told by the whites is that they had employed an Indian as a guide who had misled them purposely and that on the morning after the Indians were



taken they had shot the guide, on which the Indians attempted to escape, and that thereupon they had killed them - An officer of U.S. Marines who arrived at the spot immediately after, however states that from the appearance and situation of the bodies they had evidently been arranged and deliberately fired on. Lt Colonel Brown who owns the ferry which we cross over the Chattoahoochie is the commander and solo of the Florida troops. He had taken 3 natives and carried them to Lagrange Bayou where they were to have been shot next morning one of them however poisoned himself as they say in the night, and the other two ran away. The people are much exasperated by the murder of the three white men and also of a woman the wife of the stage driver who lived on the west bank of Choctaw Hatcher river at a place called Cow Ford where we

cross it. As we proceeded the alarms  
 and rumours increased. We crossed the  
 Chatta hoochee at Browns ferry on the  
 evening of the 9<sup>th</sup> and at 12 arrived at a  
 place called Mariana where we took up  
 two other passengers one of whom was a  
 horrible vulgar ruffianly gambler  
 of Pensacola most disgusting in every  
 way. A few miles after leaving Mariana  
 we reached an encampment of militia  
 under the command of Col Brown, on their  
 way to the place of action, who were to  
 be followed by a battalion of Geor-  
 -gians. We took up a dirty vulgar fellow  
 who had been employed as waggoneer and  
 was sent on to get some bread baked; he  
 put on all the airs of a Commissary  
 General, talked of the army and the  
supplies and required great deference.

which no one seemed disposed to pay him.  
 he attempted to press his mules at the  
 place where we dined (Roches creek) but  
 received a hint that the owner was a dead  
 rifle shot. The country as we proceeded  
 southward gradually put on the charac-  
 -ter of what we commonly hear as the distinc-  
 -tive features of East Florida. Large  
 tracts of sandy pine prairie constitute the  
 greater part; these are interspersed with  
 ponds, and swamps, and what are called  
 lime sink holes like waters up which  
 the water rises in wet seasons. The ponds  
 become more numerous and larger as we  
 advance. The swamps are more thickly  
 covered with shrubs, vines &c. constituting  
 what is called Hammock in general  
 language. The word hammock seems  
 however more distinctly to apply to

spots in which the ground is depressed  
 sufficiently to enable it to retain a  
 small quantity of the water which  
 falls though not enough to form  
 a pond; the consequence is that such  
 spots are more moist and from the con-  
 -stant decay of vegetable matter more  
 productive - they are filled & covered with  
 these impenetrable thickets which  
 resemble at least in cause the jungles  
 of India. The part of Florida through  
 which we passed is but thinly peopled and  
 must remain for ever a wilderness. In  
 the pine barrens the people are remark-  
 -ably healthy and strong, (they are all  
 emigrants chiefly from W. Carolina)  
 but near the streams all bear the marks  
 of disease. We took our last team of horses  
 at the distance of fifteen miles east of

Choctaw hatchee river, there was another change on the west bank of the river but the Indians having killed the wife of the driver who lived at that stand, and possessing the country around entirely they were about to ~~to~~ to remove the horses and so one team takes us thirty miles. As we advanced we passed one or two log houses but they were all deserted; at near the Choctaw hatchee we met the stage from Lagrange which had consumed eleven hours in coming the distance of about 19 miles. Reached the Choctaw hatchee at dusk - crossed by boat to an island and having crossed that about one mile crossed again by boat to the west side of the river where we found at the house where the stage driver Lawrence's wife had been shot two men as guards on horseback with rifles. The ferry men two negroes had come with the carriage as had also the two guards from

Lagnoncy they went back on the top  
 of a coach. The Indians were supposed  
 to be scattered all over the country west  
 of the Choctaw hatchee for some distance  
 and principally to occupy an island in  
 that river of great size below that  
 over which we had passed. As we advan-  
 ced we observed the light of a large fire  
 on the left which the guides assured us  
 was an Indian fire and indeed could  
 have been none other as the country is  
 entirely deserted. We rode through  
 pine barren and hammock and about  
 2 in the morning of the 11 reached the Stearns  
 Boat lying at a ~~in~~ a Bay or little bay  
 which makes up northward from Choctaw  
 hatchee Bay. ~~Choctaw hatchee bay is~~  
~~the eastern half of a sound separated from~~  
~~the sea by a narrow bank of sand run-~~  
~~ning east and west and joining the main~~

~~land at its eastern extremity. The western half~~  
~~of the sound which communicates with the~~  
~~Gulf near Pensacola is called Santa~~  
~~Rosa bay the two bays communicate by~~  
~~a straight less than half a mile wide~~  
~~the breadth of the bay is generally five~~  
~~or six miles and the length of the whole~~  
~~sound from the mouth of the Ochlockonee~~  
~~river on the east to Pensacola on the west~~  
~~is about 100 miles. From Bayou LaGrange~~  
~~to Pensacola about 100 miles. The sand~~  
~~on each shore is of the most dazzling white~~  
~~ness; on the sand back in the south it forms~~  
~~hills partly covered with stunted pines.~~  
~~I saw the first live oak near Bainbridge~~  
~~within a mile of Flint river. I have not~~  
~~seen any large trees of this kind yet though~~  
~~we doubtless passed many of them in the~~  
~~night. I have seen no sugar-groves.~~  
~~From the Oakmudge northward I~~

have seen the palmetto of which fans  
 and hats are made; it becomes thicker  
 as you proceed southward and in Florida  
 East Florida covers the ground completely.  
 I arrived at Pensacola at one o'clock and  
 found lying in the harbour the schooner  
 Grampus of guns and the Mexican  
 brig Ureca which had been captured by  
 the cutter off the Brazos Santiago in  
 April. I immediately went on board the  
 Grampus and introduced myself to the Capt-  
 tain who had been expecting me; He (Lieut-  
 tenant Mac Intosh) told me that he had expected  
 to carry me himself but had been requested to  
 remain in port, by the municipality of Pensacola  
 as some disturbances were anticipated on the  
 part of 4 or 500 laborers who had been dis-  
 missed from a work in the vicinity and paid  
 in notes of the Pensacola Bank which had sus-  
 pended its specie payments. In order to carry me



however and a number of recruits to the squadron he had chartered a brig which would be ready to sail tomorrow. As the mail brought nothing from Washington, I agreed in the propriety of the course and prepared for my passage. The Mexican brig is to be escorted beyond the bar, her prize crew is then to be withdrawn and she is to be set at liberty. Finding an invitation from Commodore Bolton the Commander of the Navy yard to spend my time with him I came down in the evening to this place where I was received with the utmost kindness by him & his sister.

Pensacola has every appearance of a little West India town. It is built on a bank of sand of dazzling whiteness, the houses are chiefly of wood, the streets straight and at right angles and generally have trees planted on each side which are principally willows and pride of India. I can say nothing more of Pensacola. The whar-

-Wants appear to be indolent and vicious;  
 the billiard tables and shuffleing boards  
 were all at work (Sunday) in secret, no-  
 thing however could be bought in the stores.  
 The dinner at the hotel was excellent,  
 well cooked and tolerably well served. The  
 marketing comes from Mobile; the price  
 of the dinner alone was one dollar and  
 a half. The bay yard is six miles below  
 near the entrance into the Gulf. I was rowed  
 down in the Grampus's boat under the charge  
 of Midshipman De Young - in company  
 with my old friend William Palmer whom  
 I met in the street at Pensacola. On our  
 way down we saw a large ship making for  
 the harbor which proved to be the bandolier  
 from Tampa Bay - her arrival will probably  
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 were all at work (Sunday) in secret, no-  
 thing however could be long hid in the stores.  
 The dinner at the hotel was excellent,  
 well cooked and tolerably well served, the  
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 of the dinner alone was one dollar and  
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 down in the Grampes's boat under the charge  
 of midshipman De Young - in company  
 with my old friend William Palmer whom  
 I met in the street at Pensacola. On our  
 way down we saw a large ship making for  
 the harbor which proved to be the *bandelia*  
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 cause a change in the arrangements

Monday June 12 - 1837 - I am now at the Hook of Commodore Bolton Commander of the bay yard at Pensacola. The whiteness of the sand here is remarkable; it is impossible at first to divert yourself of the idea that you are surrounded by snow. The officers buildings form a row of seven large houses of brick with porticos all around both stories, and covered with slate, forming a pleasing appearance. The hospital is situated about a mile and a half southward. There are gardens which are made very productive by manure and earth brought from the ponds, and by constant irrigation. The figs are now ripe and delicious. The grapes are large - the potato excellent. The trees around are pines and live oaks; on the opposite side of the entrance to the bay is the live oak plantation. The officers are - Captain Bolton Commander - Latimer Captain - Wilson Lieutenant - Buchanan purser - Warren

Master - Walk Surgeon &c

Write to the Secretary of State letter to be sent tomorrow. - Night - Captain had to be sent to request that I would go up to Pensacola. I went up in Bolton's boat after dinner and was informed that the brig had been dismissed the recruits and myself were to go to the squadron aboard the *Bandalia* which would sail as soon as she could take in stores and water. Captain Crabbe of the *Bandalia* seemed very reluctant to go to sea again this immediately after an eight months cruise around the coast of East Florida. I intreated him to sail immediately; he replied that he must take in stores and water for his own crew and the recruits and could not go before Wednesday afternoon if then. It was in vain to persist and returned to the bay yard.

Wednesday June 14 - Wary yard Pensacola - This  
 morning took a ride towards the south west; the  
 magazine now in progress of construction is situated  
 about 300 yards north of the Commanders house  
 it is an oblong building of brick vaulted and covered  
 with slate with coppered doors and every other means  
 of security against weather-electricity designed  
 attack or accident. - behind it at the distance  
 of a mile or so is a lake or bayou or rather a  
 chain of saltwater lakes which extend from the  
 bay into the country - I rode to the light house  
 which stands on a eminence at the entrance  
 of the ~~harbour~~<sup>bay</sup> about two miles from this place.  
 near it is the old Spanish fort of the Barrancas.  
 a small fortification which is form nearly a  
 semicircle of about a hundred and fifty feet  
 radius; it stands about 300 yards from the sea  
 immediately under a steep sand hill. When  
 Gen Jackson invaded Florida in 181 the  
 Spaniards erected some temporary works on the

Sand hill but Jackson in the night planted a battery on the spot now occupied by the light house which completely commands both the hill and the fort and soon reduced both to submission.

The plan of the hay yard is well designed and on a grand scale; much time and expense will be required for its completion, but the importance of the spot justifies the labour.

Captain Bolton has done a great deal since he has been in command here to improve the place in every way and has introduced the strictest discipline which has proved very advantageous to the advancement of the undertaking. They are now constructing a wall of enclosure in form of an L one leg of which runs from north to south the other from east to west each terminating at the water; it will be about 4000 feet in length and will enclose 68. acres of ground. The wall is of brick the foundation being of stone in all masonry spots. It is 14 feet high above the



surface ~~three~~ four or eighteen inches thick and has pillars or buttresses two feet thick at the distances of 12 or 14 feet apart - to be coped with granite. I dined to day with Captain Latimer - the Captain of the yard who likes very handsomely.

The thermometer in my bed room appears to have been stationary at  $81^{\circ}$  during the whole time I have been here. The air was hot to day but the constant breezes make the climate of this place very agreeable to all who are not obliged to be in the sun; there has been no rain for nearly 6 weeks and every thing not irrigated is much parched. I have eaten several figs which are very large. I have laid in stores to the amount of \$37.08, for which <sup>sum</sup> I drew a bill on the Secretary of State in favor of George Willis who furnished the articles.

<sup>Thursday June 15</sup>  
 1/2 past 2 o'clock - The Steam boat Merchant has just passed by this yard filled with Indians - most probably from Tampa - the Indians are the friendly Creeks under

Gen Boy their Chief in number about 300  
who are come to visit their friends near Mobile  
point, and will return to East Florida.

Friday June 16<sup>th</sup> 1837 - my birth day (37)

The wind this morning was light but  
against our getting out. Capt. John Crabb  
determined however to hire the Steamboat  
Champion while on her way to Mobile  
to tow the bandalia out; This determina-  
tion was carried into effect immediately  
and the boat which had been sent for me  
was obliged to follow the ship about 3  
miles out where I got on board her at a  
quarter past ten in the morning. I sent my  
letters for the Secretary and my wife, by the  
pilot who left us at 1/2 past ten - The wind  
is a pleasant breeze from South west by South  
and we are going exactly South east, The  
entrance to Pensacola Bay being exactly astern.  
We are accompanied by the Mexican brig Urea  
and the Revenue cutter Dexter and Jefferson -

Had on leaving Pensacola - fourteen doubloons, one half doubloon and two quarter-doubloons; twenty quarter-eagles and forty five dollars in silver amounting in all to three hundred and thirty five dollars. — Evening - Our course during the day has been generally, <sup>within</sup> one or two points on each side of south at the rate of 3 or 4 miles an hour. A heavy thunder-cloud has been behind us all the morning and it has no doubt been raining severely at Pensacola - At a quarter past four there came a clap of thunder of great intensity; it is believed to have struck one of our conductors; it had the effect to me of the explosion of a rocket close to me and was accompanied by a hissing noise with a small intense star of light from which the flash seemed to proceed; no rain as yet, except a very few insular drops. We are now probably 40 or 50 miles south of Pensacola harbour & have not yet been sick, but come away in my bed and weak -

At a quarter of seven in the evening while at tea we were aroused by a bustle on deck and the order to back sails; it appeared that the Mexican brig Urea had by some awkwardness got a foul of our vessel on our larboard bow, the wind was very light or much in-jury might have been sustained; the two vessels were soon cleared. At eight o'clock we were in latitude 29.47 in longitude 87.18, that is to say 35 miles south a little by east of Pensacola harbour - but little gained to day.

Saturday June 17<sup>th</sup> - Some men whipped this morning for not attending to their watch went northward last night - changed tack this morning - at 8 o'clock a.m. position - Lat - 29.51 - Long 87.40 - wind West by South - course South southwest. Searly night - wind light going slowly - much leeway - Slept last night pretty well in a cot stey in the main Cabin -

34)  
Tuesday June 20<sup>th</sup> - Since we left Pensacola the wind has remained constantly dead ahead from the south west. On Sunday night and yesterday, it blew hard, and the sea was rough; I suffered exceedingly from sea sickness, and was completely prostrated both in body and mind. This morning between 7 and 8 o'clock, we met and spoke a ship bound from Havana to N. Orleans apparently laden with passengers. We have been keeping a southerly course, and we are this day at 12 o'clock by observation, in 27-37. Latitude and 87. 30 west longitude from Greenwich. That is to say 165 miles due south from Pensacola bar.

Wednesday June 21 - Summer solstice - Latitude observed at noon - 27 $\frac{1}{4}$  - Longitude - 87. 35

This morning several grampuses in sight; the Captain ordered a gun to be prepared but they disappeared. Wind a little more favourable - course south west by south - Sun nearly perpendicular, its angle today by the Sextant, 85 degrees 13 minutes - About 3 pm the wind veered to the northward and we are now going 7 miles the hour on our course west by south -

Thursday June 22 - noon - latitude 35  
26-40 Longitude 89-36 - that is to say  
140 miles due south of the south west pass of the  
mouth of the Mississippi - going 5 miles the  
hour - west by south - wind from East -  
Thermometer 84° - about 450 miles from Brassas -

Soon after 12 o'clock today the water was observed  
to change in colour from the dark blue, to the  
dirty green which indicates soundings; we con-  
tinued over this green water for about 2 hours  
when we again got upon the blue - the green  
water was probably occasioned by the Mississippi  
that is by the bank formed from its deposits -

The bottom of the bandalica is very foul being  
covered with oysters which makes her sail very  
badly. She also requires cleaning being dirty  
and filled with rats and reptiles. The Doctor  
Phymstead has a collection of scorpions and  
centipedes found on board; there are myriads  
of cockroaches an inch and a half long with  
wings, and ants in abundance - 35

36 Crew of the bandalica.

The officers of the bandalica are -

Captain - Thomas Crabb of Maryland  
Master Commandant - Lieutenants  
John W. Moers of N. York; William Smith  
of Kentucky <sup>passed Master of Ship</sup> William W. Walker of  
Washington City <sup>acting</sup> Lieutenant of  
Hemmel [acting sailing master] Francis  
Alexander, Benjamin F. B. Hunter and  
Isaac C. Brown - Surgeon William  
Plumstead - of Pennsylvania - Assistant  
Surgeon Charles A. Hassler of W. York -  
Passengers Lieutenants James D. Knight,  
Williams W. Hunter, John De Camp, and  
<sup>Assistant</sup> Surgeon W. A. W. Spotswood <sup>& Robert Greenhow</sup> - Purser of the  
Ship James Brooks - Captain's Clerk, James  
& Brooks son of the Purser -  
Captain of the Revenue Cutter Jefferson - Foster  
of the Dexter - Rudolph - Mexican Brig of War  
General Ureca - Jose Maria Manchin, Commander.  
Oliver (a Frenchman) Lieutenant.

Friday June 23 - noon - Latitude 26.22 - (37)  
Longitude 92.20. about 270 miles west  
by North of the Brazos Santiago - fine wind  
from South east - the brig and schooners being  
unable to keep with the Vandalia we are  
obliged to limit our advance to about 7 miles  
the hour - very sea sick - The sea became  
very rough as night came on, and the wind  
high, being unable to carry much sail for  
fear of leaving the other vessels, the ship rolled  
terribly causing me to spend a most painful night.

Saturday June 23 - The sky was overcast  
early in the morning and very thick proving  
a storm - at noon a very heavy blow came  
from the north with rain which lasted  
two hours, making the sea very high.  
At 3 o'clock a dolphin was caught  
measuring four feet in length; it is the  
most beautiful inhabitant of the sea  
which I have seen. Its colour at first  
was a golden yellow, in its struggles the



38  
fins became ultramarine blue - the  
colour evidently depends upon the surface  
of the skin or scales; as while it was bright  
yellow when seen from one side it was dark  
green from the other. Our distance from the  
Barros at night supposed to be about 70 miles

Sunday June 25 - A squally night was  
this morning succeeded by a dead calm - to our  
 vexation however we discovered by the observation  
at noon that we had drifted considerably to  
the northward, doubtless carried by a cur-  
-rent - and we are now at evening probably  
farther from the Barros than yesterday  
morning - At noon we were in latitude  
26 - 47 - longitude 96 - 18 - 80 miles from Barros.  
The weather has been pleasant as to heat - the  
thermometer on Monday but rose to 88 I have not  
except in that case seen it above 85 - I have  
suffered a great deal during the last 24 hours,  
and am much depressed in spirits as in health.  
A dead calm during the whole night - 39

Monday June 26 - - At seven o'clock this (39)  
morning a shark was caught and hauled up.  
He was about five feet long and by no means so  
dreadful and disgusting a monster as I had  
expected to see; he was soon cut up by the  
noon for food - Caught two more sharks about  
noon, many playing around the vessel -  
Latitude at noon 26.37 - Longitude 96.37.  
rather nearer than Brazos than yesterday  
which can only be accounted for by supposing  
either that we have crossed the current or  
that it has ceased running - distance  
from the Brazos 52 <sup>little or</sup> <sup>little west</sup> miles.  
no wind - wind from north - 9 at night  
we are about 17 miles from the Brazos; and  
hearing the lead find bottom in eleven fathoms -  
we shall soon anchor, being uncertain  
with regard to the accuracy of the charts -  
- anchor of eleven anchored in 8 fathom  
water; land seen on the south west -

40

June 27 - Tuesday - At day light we saw the fort and vessels of the Brazos South -  
-ago bearing about seven miles S. W. - I went on board the Ureca, and made inquiries the result of which are, that ~~the~~ Matamoros is eighteen leagues from the Brazos - and that by sending a letter in the morning we may get an answer next morning -

The letter has been prepared and I am prepared to go to Matamoros if circumstances will allow without too much delay -

One o'clock - p.m. - two ships are seen bearing up towards us from the South - They show no flag appear to be armed and the Captain has ordered all to be cleared away for action - They may be Texan cruisers looking out for the Ureca -

They proved to be the Mexican armed brigos Iturbide and Libertador. - bringing as said 150 thousand dollars for the pay of the army at Matamoros. We drop anchor 40

at the distance of about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles W.  $\frac{1}{2}$  S.  
from the fort, and about 2 o'clock I accompa-  
-nied by the Purser Mr Brooks and Lieutenant  
Brown set out for the Brazos. The sea was  
rough and the swell heavy, but when we  
approached the bar we found the appearance  
terrific; we were in one instance nearly  
overwhelmed by a wave which broke over  
the boat; we succeeded however in getting  
over the bar and then ran aground in two  
feet water; the men however got out and  
pushed the boat through after which we  
got into smooth water. On the beach we  
were received by a Captain a poor sickly  
dirty looking fellow in a rusty uniform  
like a half worn out livery; he was surrounded  
by tattered mallions all Indian soldiers  
of the garrison in various costumes all more  
or less dilapidated. The officer was very  
polite and conducted me to the Commandant

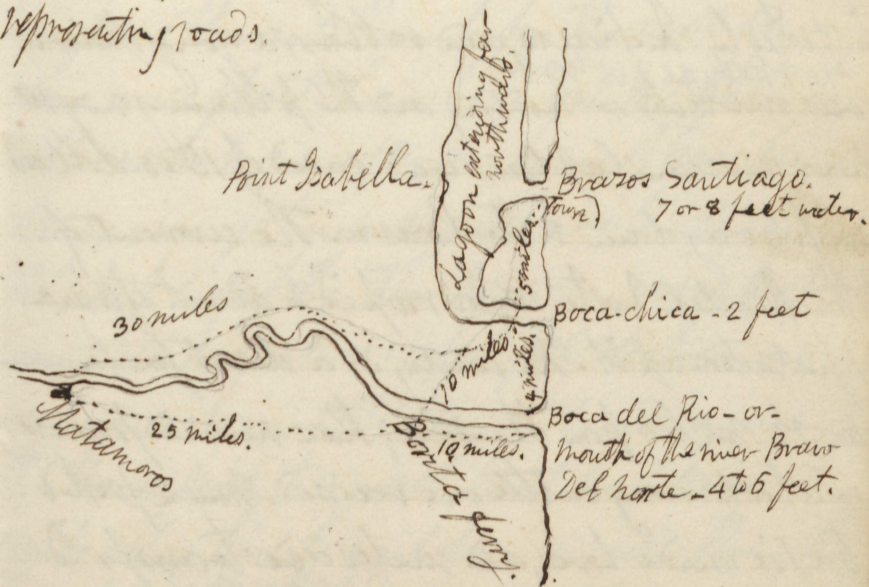
"Teniente Coronel Don Luis Dorante" whom I found to be a good natured silly old man. His quarters were in a little tavern and the latter small boys crowded into the room and around the windows. I presented the letter for the Commanding General at Matamoros (informing him of the arrival of the Ureca and requesting him to receive her) which he instantly despatched by a courier to that place mounted on a mule. I then told him that I had been requested by the Hon. Mr. Preston to inform Mr. Wharton (the Texan Minister to the U.S. then in prison at Matamoros) that he had invited Mr. W. and his family to stay with him; and I requested the Commander to convey that information to Mr. W. through the Commanding General Filisola - he assented, wrote a letter to Wharton to the effect as requested and delivered it open to the Commander who immediately

sent it by another carrier whom he was  
 dispatching to meet Amos under cover to  
 Trilisola. I then went to the Tavern of the  
 place kept by a man named Savage from  
 Hartford Connecticut, a street sharp  
 Yankee into whose pockets the greater part  
 of the money which reaches the Brazos no  
 doubt falls. Here I found the presser es-  
 tablished as comfortably as could have been  
 expected and taking a siesta - I fell into  
 conversation with several of the officers who  
 were very civil and contrived to pick from  
 them the information which I wanted.

I also found a man named Carroll an  
 Irishman birth resident citizen of the  
 United States who had got himself into trouble  
 as he said by assisting the Texan Privateers at  
 Matamoros and was detained as well as a  
 vessel (the Comanche) of which he was  
 part owner - he being established as a merchant

in Matamoros and New Orleans. He was very  
 troublesome in endeavouring to prevail on me  
 to interest the Captain of the bandolera in  
 his behalf; however in the course of the  
 evening he received from Matamoros a  
 clearance and left the place about mid-  
 night for the mouth of the Rio del Norte  
 where his vessel lay intending to get to sea  
 that night. I wrote a letter to my dear  
 Rose which I gave him to forward as he  
 promised from N. Orleans. Being very hun-  
 -gry I got a plentiful supper of beef and  
 potatoes washed down by whiskey and  
 Malaga wine. At supper I got into conversa-  
 -tion with a young man the only one in the  
 place who was clean & looked at all like  
 a gentleman. His name is Don Francisco  
 Gutierrez a native of Vera Cruz educated  
 in Spain and exiled to this miserable place  
 as surveyor of the port; an office which 44

having filled for 18 months Le was about to resign as he could not consent to spend his life longer in presidio. I gained much information from him as well as from Carroll and Savage about the localities and other matters and Savage drew me a map of which this is an abstract - the dotted lines representing roads.



Matamoros is 40 miles by land from the Brazos on the road South side of the river, and 35 by the north side. It is also 35 miles by land from the mouth of the river and 75 miles by water. It contains about 7 or 8 thousand inhabitants not more & the Brazos de Santiago is the part of Matamoros



The latitude and Longitude of the  
Fort at the Barras Santiago

Lat.  $26^{\circ} 5' N$ . Long  $97^{\circ} 21' W$   
From the mer<sup>r</sup> of Greenwich. (Stempel.)

The goods are carried between the two places  
in carts; the price of transporting 4 barrels of flour  
is ten dollars. The whole country around is now  
infested by Indians and robbers; a young American  
<sup>Mr Bange of New York</sup>  
was murdered on Monday and the following night  
an American Captain was eased of 1500 dollars  
on his way down to the Barras. The current of  
the Rio del Norte is too rapid to admit of trans-  
-portation up it. The country is a desert for ten  
or 12 miles from the sea, then succeed prairies,  
on which many cattle are raised. Much jerked  
beef is made here, and mules are transported  
to Cuba. Oranges do not grow here - melons fine  
we saw one but could not buy any.



The Cutter went to the mouth of the Brazos where he says the sea is smooth; there is a town of 3 or 4 hundred inhabitants there and several Christian vessels are lying there. Captain Thompson of the Mexican Navy an Englishman one of their best officers escaped with some others in a boat on Tuesday night from the Brazos. On the preceding night, the Captain of the Texan vessel Independence which had been captured by the Mexicans named Wheelwright and her Surgeon Leary also escaped. Colonel Davante seemed puzzled as well as troubled on the matter; he appeared undecided whether he should declare that he had kept them closely but that they had deceived his vigilance or that he had trusted to their honour which they had broken. I understand he had kept them as close as he could; but I should think there would be no difficulty either in 48

escaping from the watch of his sentinels  
or <sup>or</sup> ~~or~~ corrupting their fidelity.

~~Friday June~~ Thursday June 29 -

At noon a boat arrived bringing a Mexican officer with his face tied up and apparently suffering under sickness. He proved to be Don Jose Maria Espino Lieutenant in the navy and Captain of the Port of Bravero. He presented a packet to Captain Crabb which contained a letter from Gen Filisola stating that he had commissioned the Captain of the Port to receive the vessel and give a receipt, and an official copy of the said commission or powers - both documents in duplicate as had been requested by Captain Crabb. He also showed me a letter from Gen Filisola to Colonel Doreantes stating that he had delivered my letter to Col. Whor ton.

In consequence of this the Captain wrote a letter to Espino declaring the brig Urraca to be surrendered to him - which I carried on board the Urraca (where Espino had ~~gone~~) and delivered it to him; he gave me in return his receipt in duplicate and we left the brig bringing with us Lieut. Henry Moor - of the Hatches who had remained in her since her capture. The Urraca carries four twelve pounders and one long eighteen pounder on a swivel all beautiful brass field pieces. As soon as we quitted the brig, she hoisted the American flag at the ~~main~~ and the Mexican ~~flag~~ and fired ~~several~~ guns. to which we replied by seven guns and the fort of the Boraro also fired several. Our business at the Boraro being concluded we hoisted the anchor and made sail; I closed my letters to the Secretary 80

of State, my Father, my wife, Capt Bolton (51)  
and the Hon W. C. Preston, and delivered them  
to Captain Foster of the cutter Jefferson who  
has sailed with them to the U. S. - Assistant  
Surgeon Hassler and the 1<sup>st</sup> Lieut. Moores  
being both sick were allowed to return in  
her. The wind was dead ahead, it however  
died away and we were left during the  
whole night at the mercy of the current -

Friday the 30<sup>th</sup> June - at noon we were  
about 17 miles north of the latitude of Brass.  
and about 25 miles east of the equator in water nearly blue -  
The weather is intensely hot - saw of 4 or 5  
small sharks this morning - a school of dolphins  
played about the vessel, beautifully - and a  
whole shoal of small fish passed by -  
A little wind which is now 4 o'clock fair -  
I have reflected to notice the ball at the Brass  
givers either in honor of us (myself, Purser Brooks  
and Midshipman Brown) or of the Restoration of  
the Unca, or of its being (as I learn) St Peter's day -  
because the people wanted to have a ball or because

Savage wanted to make a little money. About 11 the  
 Company assembled in a large room attached to Savage's  
 bar and communicating with it by a window and  
 counter; the lights were 8 or 10 candles and benches  
 were placed around. The gentlemen were the  
 officers of the garrison and other persons; the  
 ladies were 8 or 10, all but one or two with Indian  
 blood and the half at least pure Indians the  
 wives or daughters of people at or near the Barracks.  
 One of the women was a large fat person about  
 36 exactly resembling the Cherokee chiefs whom  
 we occasionally meet at Washington. They were  
 dressed much as persons of the same class in  
 the U.S. the only thing peculiar being combs  
 of imitation tortoise shell of great size and  
 height. One of the women the wife of a sergeant  
 was a good looking piece of flesh about 78 years  
 old dressed in a shift very low in the neck, a blue  
 petticoat and a blue woollen shawl, without shoes  
 or stockings - she did not dance however, and  
 indeed appeared to be out by the rest of the company.

The dances were quadrilles, reels like the *vingtina* reel and waltzes very slow and solemn all. The music was a guitar played by an Indian in his shirt sleeves. The refreshments were only such as could be procured by payment from the bar. Savage is not so fortunate as I supposed; for as a balance for his gains whenever he sets a table it is soon surrounded by a number of persons who without ceremony or pay seat themselves at the table and eat and drink at their pleasure. I saw a muster in the evening opposite the barracks; a few shabby fellows with canes appeared and answered to their names the others replied *po*. The barracks (a large shed) —

— The night of the 30<sup>th</sup> was squally; the whole of the first of July was squally and rainy; in the evening the wind became quiet and allowed us to go all night and to this time (one o'clock July 2<sup>nd</sup>) on our course. Our latitude at noon was 25-7 opposite the Boquilla Cerradas, and longitude 97-7. The night of the 2<sup>nd</sup> was squally; the third was a rough day and the night was terrific; a series of squalls



from the eastward continued the whole night and the forenoon of the 4. About midnight while we were waiting for the Dexter, with the mainsail backed a temible squall struck us and was very near capsizing us. Then came a thunder squall. By our reckoning we are <sup>4 p.m. on the 4<sup>th</sup></sup> now about 50 miles north by east of Tampico. The wind is blowing fresh and increasing and the sea is getting high frequently breaking over the bows. we are holding our course. This morning a box and a bale passed by us. I am very weak.

1/2 past 5 p.m. - Three large ships in sight, reports from the mast head; they proved to be the U. S. Squadron under Commodore Dallas about 7 we spoke the St Louis, and are now trying to catch the Constellation. we are probably about 20 miles from Tampico bar. We entered the tropic zone about dark last night. About 2 o'clock in the night we were near destroying the cutter Jefferson which was impudent enough to tack across our bows - she escaped destruction by about 8 feet.

Wednesday July 5<sup>th</sup> - Early this morning <sup>(55)</sup> the  
Captain went on board the Constellation  
on his return he told me as I anticipated  
that it had been arranged that Captain  
Crabb should take <sup>me</sup> in the Sandoval to  
Yucatan and wait for us there and  
bring me back to the U.S. Com Dallas  
returns with his ships to Pensacola  
We have taken on board Lieutenant  
Elisha Peck who is to be our first lieutenant  
I immediately went on board the Constella-  
tion and was received kindly by Com  
Dallas who gave me a good breakfast  
which I fear will lay heavy on me  
We had the mango a pretty delicious  
fruit something like a persimmon in  
taste but more insipid. We also had  
a alligator pear - a very tall narrow  
I could not eat; it has a strong musky  
taste. The Commodore showed me his  
correspondence with the Mexican authorities,

The result - which was an engagement  
 on the part of the Mexican Commodore  
 Alvarado as the effect of his instructions  
 that he would not blockade any place  
 except effectively and that such  
 blockade would be respected by the  
 U. S. and no other. We are now getting  
 under way (11 P. M.) for Vera Cruz  
 the wind is from south east - ahead and  
 will probably continue so - into to-morrow.  
 The ships here now besides the  
 Vandalia are the Constellation  
 frigate Commodore Alex. Dallas.  
 The hatcher ship of war Capt. ~~James~~  
~~the~~ William Herriane the Concord Capt  
 M. P. Mix the St Louis Capt. Thom Paine  
 The Porta Capt. Lieut. F. English is at Tam-  
 -pico. - Latitude at noon 23.28 precisely that  
 of the tropic of Cancer. Longitude 96.52.

(57)

Friday July 7 - 1837 - The wind has been steady  
at the from the Point towards which we went before.  
We have been running East north east, along  
with the squadron which is now in sight going  
bravely on toward Pensacola. The weather is  
delightful and there is no prospect of change  
of wind; at this rate no prospect of reaching  
Vera Cruz. I am extremely feeble - Latitude at  
noon 25-54 Longitude 93.29 - about 210 miles  
nearly due east from the mouth of the Rio del Norte.  
The wind is now (1/2 past noon) a little more favourable  
for our changing our course and the ship is about  
to be turned towards the South - The ship was turned  
about, but as it appeared that we were only going  
right back we tacked again at half past 3 and  
resumed our former course to the North east - !!!

We made several turns, at length the wind becoming  
more favourable we were enabled to lay our course  
and are this day July 10 Monday, by observation  
in latitude 21-14 Longitude 94.17 about 150  
miles north north east of Vera Cruz - Wind fair -

58)

Tuesday

Wednesday July 11 - The last night was  
 squally the wind however died away towards  
 morning; the early part of this day was cloudy  
 and showery in the afternoon it cleared up but  
 the wind entirely disappeared leaving us in a  
 calm. By our longitude observation we are in  
 Longitude  $94^{\circ} 25'$  - no latitude observation today.  
 Our position is somewhat uncertain; the dead  
 reckoning cannot be depended on as there is a  
 current here; probably however we are within  
 25 or 30 miles of Vera Cruz lying south west from  
 there. The sun is setting in a flood of golden light  
 such as I have not seen since I left Italy. The  
 thermometer during the day still continues at  
 about  $84$  or  $85$ . In consequence of the calm  
 I am better to day - at midnight a terrible  
 squall from north west with heavy rain <sup>July 12</sup> the  
 morning calm and showery - two rain bands seen  
 side of each other - at noon by observations longi-  
 -tude  $95$  latitude  $19.30$  - about 18 miles from V.C.

5 o'clock P.M. - We are in a puzzle and fear our chronometer is wrong - We are near the spot where Vera Cruz ought to be and yet although the weather is clear we cannot see the land.

The order is just given for turning to the west. as we are in the latitude certainly of Vera Cruz a westerly course must bring us there - but not to day!

Thursday July 13<sup>th</sup> about eleven last night the light on the Castle of San Juan Ulua was seen; we remained almost tranquil all night; in the morning the wind was shifting and light, and the weather cool and showery. The British frigate Madagascar was seen lying at anchor off Sacrificios - and the white houses of the town were visible. Noon - we are now completely becalmed within 6 miles of Vera Cruz which with its white houses and castle makes a beautiful appearance. A boat is approaching from the shore; it was a fishing boat which did not come on board. 4 o'clock p.m. the pilot is on board, the wind is rising

60) Thursday July 13.

and we are on our way towards Sacrificios where we shall probably be at anchor before two hours more. The pilot reports the vorrito to be ravaging Vera Cruz 4 and 5 a day dying. which for a population of 6 or 7 thousand persons is immense. — Quarter past five — we have just dropt anchor about a quarter of a mile west of the Island of Sacrificios, and about two hundred yards from the British frigate Madagascar which is here taking in specie, under the command of Sir John Peyton —

— Sacrificios is a sandy island partly covered with long grass; on the northern side are reefs of rock; the marshy smell is very strong. The Sun is brilliantly setting over Vera Cruz the domes and spires of which are relieved against the sky. The coast is apparently bordered by sand hills covered with vegetation but no high lands are in sight except a little to the northward. The purser is gone to the town carrying a letter from me to the Consul Moranduke Burroughs and my passport

together with a letter to the Commandant of the  
 place in Spanish - the thermometer today at 86 -  
 At 1/2 past 5 a boat with a midshipman  
 came on board the bandalera bringing the  
 compliments of Commodore Sir John Pellyton -  
 - At nine Mr Saulnier a young man of Vera  
 Cruz arrived in a boat bringing me a letter  
 from the Council stating that he had made  
 every arrangement for my departure  
 tomorrow morning at five o'clock in the dili-  
 -gence for Mexico and requesting that I  
 would immediately come up to the City. This  
 was much contrary to my wishes, but I  
 could not hesitate and went accordingly.  
 About ten, our boat rowed by four boat Indians  
 and aided by a sail reached the mole, where  
 I found Mr Samuel Burroughs waiting for me.  
 My baggage passed the Custom house untouched  
 and I entered the gates of the dreaded city  
 of Vera Cruz.



Saturday August 12<sup>th</sup> - I left the band alia in the captain's  
boat at 9<sup>o</sup> clock and at about half past nine was landed at  
the navy yard. On the way we saw traces of the hurricane  
vessels driven ashore twelve feet from the water and  
logs innumerable thrown up on the sands. Near the  
wharf I met Commodore Bolton and his sister accompa-  
-nied by Mr George of Mobile and his wife a sister of  
Mr. With and of Jan. C. Potter (coming down on their  
way to their boat to spend the day in Pensacola). I joined  
them after sending my baggage up to the house  
and we went up in the boat - the day was boiling hot and  
I remarked that I had not recognized - We went on board  
the Constellation frigate where I met Lieut Kennerly  
We then went ashore where I received three letters  
from my Dear Sister. We dined with Commodore  
Dallas at his lodgings then rowed up to the new  
hotel on a hot sandy bluff - heard there that a  
duel was in process between Richard J. Hanna  
a lawyer at Mobile from Petersburg Va. and  
Lieut. Munn of the Constellation frigate - the  
parties went with their seconds to Santa Rosa Island.  
Returned to the navy yard by nine o'clock -  
next morning Sunday August 13<sup>o</sup> got on board the  
Thames - Champion Capt. Murray at nine a.m.  
coasted along without interruption until we reached  
Mobile point off Fort where we were  
grounding very minute the channel being narrow  
and intricate - we were detained for about 2 hours

in passing around the point after which the steam  
was forced into a very high and we reached Mobile at  
1/2 past 8 in the evening. On board I saw a coffin  
on enquiring about its contents I learned that it held  
the body of Richard C. Hanson killed yesterday  
evening by Lieut. - Munn at the first fire -  
I lodged at the mansion house hotel in Bay Street  
a tolerable good house with a vast bar room  
crowded with people drinking every sort of strong  
iced drink. - Monday the 14<sup>th</sup> of August after  
breakfast I went out and found Mr John Smith  
Jr. who carried me to his office and introduced me to  
his partners Mr Jassen and Mr Fisher. The former  
is son in law of Judge Cooper of Columbia. They  
Smith carried me to the office of Mr John Reid  
who married my wife's cousin Louisa Smith and  
introduced me to him. - Mr Reid carried me to Mr  
Smith's here where I now am. - Tuesday the 15

This morning I rode out with Mr Reid into the caissons  
of Mobile. Mobile is built near or rather in a narrow  
at the west side of Mobile river at its out-gang into the Bay -  
the part of the town on the water is built of brick and stone -  
the houses high and full of windows. This part of the town  
is recovered from the water, the houses standing on piles.  
The lowest part of the town is now the actual part where  
the houses are miserable wooden huts. The property  
here is litigated since these houses remain. - Farther

and from the water the houses are of wood, generally one story  
high many of them with ridiculous attempts at architecture  
displayed. In this part of the town is a church of brick with  
a high ridiculous gipping pole looking steeply - the  
interior would be tolerably good but for two andres  
introduced into the aisle on each side of the pulpit on  
which the gallery intrude - farther on in the same  
street is the academy - built of brick & plastered  
with a dome - full of windows - columns & ornate  
The mirrors from a number of villages of white houses  
which at a distance gave a pretty effect, & raised  
against the trees of the marsh - Through the marsh  
are cut a number of straight roads called streets  
The streets in the old town are called generally after  
saints or have other names indicative of the rank  
or general rule - as. Royal Dauphin Contre &c

The new streets have what may be called chemist  
names. Opposite the town is a long island or marsh  
formed by the deposit - from the river when in the summer  
the wind blows strong from the N. N. W. - a great  
quantity of water is laid bare and if it continues 10 or  
20 or 3 days it produces much sickness. I cannot  
walk half an hour in the sun here without  
feeling much irritation at the stomach. -  
In the evening I rode out to see the fortification about  
3 miles from the town above to see the evening  
against the N. 7th building a very little wooden  
cottage one story high which will cost 5000 \$/

This is the most expensive place in the U.S. - Rent  
one extravagant even now - although business is  
paralysed; and the price of labour very high - various  
industries begun lately are left unfinished - but the  
advantages of the place are such that it must prosper  
I sent yesterday a package containing the Russian  
Ministers reply to the Secy of State - together with a  
letter from him to Mr. Martineau - Panama and one from  
me the postage of which by express amounts to fourteen  
dollars and cents - also two letters from  
Baltimore one to Sumner and one to him from me  
the postage of which by express amounts to five dollars and  
and cents - paid the postage of both  
documents amounting to

dollars and cents -  
Dorland from Mr. Garrison the postmaster forty dollars  
as a draught on the Secretary of State

Wednesday August 16 - I had taken my passage on  
board the Fox steamer for New York, on which  
I embarked - we left the dock at 7 o'clock P.M. and  
before we had advanced 20 yards an important piece  
of the machinery was broken which forced us to put  
back until it was repaired -

Friday morning August 18 - Can be heard the  
beams for last night and sleep - however - we the  
lay in this filthy boat which did not leave  
the dock until nine this morning -




Sunday the 20<sup>th</sup> of August - In the night we  
passed prairie bluffs which is considered half  
way that is about 200 miles from Mobile and  
Montgomery - at nine in the morn<sup>g</sup> we  
passed Portland landing place - The vegeta-  
tion on the banks of this river is very abundant  
consisting of willows, sycamores, cotton wood, live  
oak and cypress - Saw a very large alli-  
gator on Friday. Numerous white cranes &  
herons are to be seen which occasionally  
allow the passengers to purchase their want of  
shellas mackerel - At 4 pm. we passed the  
plantation of Senator King and 4 miles farther  
stopped at Cahawba formerly the Capital of the State  
It is a little village on a plain elevated about  
150 feet above the river, the banks of which are  
composed of very compact clay. A few miles  
farther on the boat stopped to take in wood in  
which about 3 hours were spent, and other  
stoppages were made throughout the night  
so that at 8 in the morning of Monday we were  
only at Benton. At half past one passed Loch  
Ravenna and at six reached the landing place of Montgo-  
mery from which the town is distant about half a mile - paid  
2 dollars for my passage the shortest and most disagreeable  
I have been made by a steamboat. Montgomery is a thriving  
looking place scattered over much ground with wide streets and  
upon the whole well built chiefly of brick - At the Montgomery  
Hotel I was recognized by our Irish men who kept the bar







he told me his name was \_\_\_\_\_ that he had often  
seen me at the Department of State and requested me to give  
his respects to Mr. Stubbs which I promised to do - I took my  
passage for Milledgeville with the intention of proceeding from  
that place by the Piedmont line - paid twenty six dollars.  
We set off at 8 p.m. in a full stage with a drunken fellow-way-  
board - among the passengers who had also come up in the boat  
was a man named Lyman from Texas who gave me much  
information about that country he has bought lands there and is  
now on his way to his native place in Massachusetts to bring  
his family with him to Texas - also a man named Wilkinson  
a negro having been born near Eastonville Va - who was among  
the retreating under Ward's command taken by Ureca on  
the Labacca river in Texas on the \_\_\_\_\_ of March 1836; he  
was saved from death and carried as a prisoner and laborer  
by the Mexicans until they arrived at the Tuscarite moun-  
tains on the Colorado at their retreat after San Jacinto  
where he escaped. He confirms the accounts of the numerous murders  
by the Mexicans in their retreat - says he was well treated  
all the Texas & speak well of General Goliad. he was taken  
prisoner - it seems by the famous Dry Deaf Smith - We rode  
all night through a level country and breakfasted in the morning  
at Tuspege the county town of \_\_\_\_\_ County - a few  
houses which can't be seen and streets cut through pine woods  
nothing remarkable until we reached the Chattahoochee  
river - which we crossed on a good covered wooden bridge to  
Columbus Ga - where we arrived at 6 in the evening of Tuesday  
the 29<sup>th</sup> of August - This is a large flourishing looking place  
with many houses building. Its excessively wide streets give it  
however a straggling appearance. It is said to be the capital.  
I was accommodated there by a black man who proved to be Horace  
previously a writer at Gadsby's Hotel, who is humorously  
referred to by Fanny Kemble in her book - Left Columbus  
at 8 p.m. and rode through a flat sandy country to a really well

settled to Macomb where we arrived at dusk on Wednesday  
the 23. The great Hoban's steel mills like coffee mill  
used for grinding corn from the want of other mills. Leaving  
Macomb immediately we got to Milledgeville at one o'clock the  
morning of Thursday. Here agreeably to invitation from  
Lucy Montgomery, I took my seat for Augusta paying  
ten dollars and immediately went on to that place where  
I arrived at one o'clock in the morning of Friday the 25.  
At 6 I got in the rail road car at Franklin Springs  
Augusta a village on the north side of the Savannah, paying  
fare 6.75 for my passage to Charleston. The rail road is  
135 miles long through a level country and with but few times  
the elevated portions are raised upon trestles. Thus  they are however at work embracing such places and but  
36 miles of this construction remain which are all to be  
completed by A.D. 1838. at the distance of miles is  
At this a village where there is an incline plane - one set of  
cars are pulled up by a cable while the other set descend the  
cable passes around a horizontal wheel at the top which  
is turned by a steam engine station near it. The cables  
run near the ground over iron wheels fixed in the middle  
of the road - each end of the cable is fixed to a rough car  
in order to obviate accidents from the breaking of the cable  
the cars are furnished with ropes by which the turning of  
the wheels is impeded. In the car I found an agreeable gen-  
tlemanly man Mr Cummings of Savannah an old friend  
of Mr Smyth's (I had also met on the way from Milledge-  
ville Judge Marshall on the ship of Smyth's) with  
whom I had much agreeable conversation as the evening  
introduced me to Mr Trupper the President of the Rail road.  
who gave me some reports -

The arrangements on this rail road are bad, the number of stoppages  
are very great, the distance time for performing the distance is  
fixed, the cars are not allowed to proceed faster and the cars  
pull up and stop was not to arrive to each at these places -  
The country is flat, covered with pine and scrub oaks - with woods  
occasionally - We got to Charleston at half past 6 - The town  
is built chiefly of wood, brick houses appear in the  
one part which is indeed almost entirely of brick - I never  
saw better wooden houses meeting my eye - in any street.  
The streets are straight and of a very good width - even the narrow  
the houses generally small and neat looking - King Street  
the principal retail street is said to be no more than 2 miles long  
it is mean looking - In the middle of the town stand the Citadel  
a square brick fort - castle - The market is long - near it  
is a vast building about 150 feet square erected for a hotel.  
The St Philip's Church - the city hall and State House are all  
good things - I did not see anything in Charleston which I saw - it  
is no more; in the harbor there were few vessels - I staid at the  
Planter's Hotel - very good - There I learned that the line  
by which I intended to proceed, by Steam boat to Wilmington  
W. Va. and thence to the Roanoke rail road was abandoned -  
and it became necessary for me to return to Augusta  
which I did on Saturday the day after my arrival in  
Charleston - We reached Augusta at 6 and having taken  
my place in the Mail for Columbia I paid \$3.00 and I am  
now midway in the Globe Hotel Augusta waiting  
until 4 P. M. when I am to depart -

-H. W. W. W.



183.76 3/4  
 37.08  
 25.  
 1 50  
 75.  
 15.  
 50  
 50  
 13  
 50  
 50  
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 1 75  
 91.93 3/4  
 5 25.

Paid for the return of the  
 baggage to Macin  
 baggage to Macin  
 Dinner at Berrien  
 Stage fare to Bainbridge  
 Dinner at Bainbridge  
 Stage fare from Bainbridge  
 to Bayou La-Grange  
 Breakfast  
 Dinner at Berrien creek  
 Steamboat from Bayou  
 to Penasco (100 miles)  
 Paid to the port at Penasco  
 for dinner at the hotel  
 for wine and water  
 Bought in Bayou for which  
 Anna Villa the Secy Station

June 8 -  
 June 9  
 June 10  
 June 11

Traveling expenses for  
 expenses at Tavern in Havana  
 5 25.



Traveling expenses -

08

03 3/4

May 28. Steam boat fare from Washington to Potomac Creek - 2

Breakfast on the boat - 50

Passage to Richmond - 4

Porter at Potomac Creek - 18 3/4

Richmond 2

Stays at Petersburg - 2

Tavern bill at Petersburg - 1 50

Passage by rail from Petersburg to Blakely - 8

Dinner at Blakely - 50

Stays at Blakely - 7

Stays near Louisa - 50

Stays to Fayetteville - 5

Stays near Chempsburg - 50

Stays to London S.C. - 13

Breakfast at Fayetteville - 08

Dinner near Sandalwood - 08

May 28

- 29

30

31

June 1

183. 76 3/4