Journal of a Voyage to Mobile, from New-York, on board the Cincinnati, Capt. Coffin — by M. P. Russell —

October 15th 1835 — After bidding "farewell" to dear Jane, at "Congress Hall", we took a carriage for pier No. 3 - North River, & there took ourselves, on board the "Rufus King" to be conveyed to our ship — Mr. Potter & Winthrop bade us "adieu" there & Mr. Bond & Mr. Blake came on board to accompany us, as far as the steamboat went — And here, "en passant", let me notice among the numerous polite attentions of Mr. P—r, the gift to me, of an annual for next year — "The Magnolia" — Surely I am a favored pivotal, in the matter of gifts — & this I shall set [illegible] among the most valued & valuable Strange - I should feel so sad, when my exile is voluntary — & yet it is even so — Heigho! Smiles must be the order, of the day & I must wear them, or incur the risk of another lecture for wishing for absent friends — We got on board the ship at noon-day — & went down directly to look at our accommodations for "horizontal comfort" — found there was some misunderstanding in regard to state rooms — Mr. Lagarnes having decided on the same one which Henry had taken "By course" Henry must submit to "higher powers", & give it up to the more favored — & as I, with my inherent obstinacy, refused to remain in the after cabin, if Henry & his wife went forward, we eventually all located ourselves, in the temporary state rooms, which had been erected forward of the dining cabin — We think they will be pleasanter than those aft — at all events, there is more room, more light, & more air, three very desirable things — Mr. Bond & Mr. Blake left after taking a cold dinner on board with us — I felt rather unwell & Henry advised me to go & lay down, before I felt worse — I went down stairs to my state room — Good Heaven! what a place to get better in! I tumbled in on the lower shelf, & shut my nose into the vinaigrette to keep out the very quintessence of all perfumes — Bilge Water — & turned my face towards the inside — to see what the air holes over my bath, where the delightful odor was pouring in — I jumped out, quicker than I jumped in, & wrapping myself in my big shawl, went on deck, & sat down on the dog-house — laid my head on the a coil of rope & indulged in delightful anticipations of the remainder of the voyage — Silly child that I was, to heed the caprices of such an inconsistent one, as — & put myself, where I wished myself away before I hardly realized I was there — Went down to bed (?) at ten —

October 16th — Misericorde! what a night I have passed! Laid on two rough pine boards, with a yard & a quarter of 7/8 cotton, as stiff as it came from the store, over me! A pillow harder than the hen's feather one I had at Belleville — "Tell it not in Gath! publish it not in the streets of Askalon"! the abominable thing was stuffed with bottom ball down!! Dressed & went on deck — Found Elizabeth up

talking with Miss Blonk - Sat down on a chair, with no back to it - put my feet on another & tucked up my dress to keep it off the wet deck - Sat for ten minutes & called for a basin - Elizabeth laugh at me & I - gathered up my moveables & made a precipitate retreat to my den - Laid down with all my rigging on - sent Henry on deck & like the illustrious Fanny, hid my face & cried, from the very "desperation of sea-sickness" - Directly heard Elizabeth come into her state-room - Ah! thought I, "let them laugh that win" - I said nothing, I would not have spoken for worlds - Passed the day in cascading, crying, & dozing - At night Henry came & undressed me, & I managed to get under - so to speak - the seven-eigths [illegible]ton! ——

October. 17th Just such a day as yesterday - in the afternoon, drank a cup of hot tea - pretty much like going down in the middle of a contra-dance - came directly up again - Never mind! it came easy! Henry brought me some smoked salmon - Lord! how I eat it! it made me think of Belleville! Then crammed down some roast-turkey - tried to eat ship-bread could not get my teeth into it & threw it down like a spoiled baby - Heard Henry bring Elizabeth some pie - Faugh! I wonder she ate it - it made me sick to think of it. ——

Oct. 18th Sunday - the first thought in the morning was of Belleville and of those who would there respond to the prayer "for all who trav by land & by water" - The thought was delightful, that while the dear, good Mr. Davies was pronouncing those words, the minds of some of his congregation would for a moment dwell upon us, - upon me - I got up on deck with Henry's assistance, - Found Elizabeth there - she was better as well as myself - Henry brought up our pillows & we laid all day on an onion barrel, looking most exquisitely in our half dress, & half undress! - "O tempora! O mores"!! Nearly a dozen young gentleman about me & I in that trim! I never dreamed of being so careless of appearances! - Ate apples, & fish drank tea & lemonade, went below at dark, threw up all I had eaten, & threw myself down in the berth for the night. ——

Oct. 19th - Dreamed last night of the Belleville people - woke up & wished what I dreamed was true - What a little fool! Went up on deck, - carried up the "Infidel," & being duly seated, with my pillow on a water-hogshead, tried to read - Read three pages - tossed away the book - Laid down my head - got up - turned round - sat down again - covered my head with my shawl to keep off the sun, & sat still without speaking for two hours - People need never say, that nothing will stop a woman's tongue! Let her get sea-sick & if she don't hold her peace then, she has a little touch, of something beside humanity - Had my dinner brought me in a plate & set in my lap - Nothing good unless it is salt as the ocean, or sour as vengeance! Mr. Forsyth pared apples for

me - and Mr. Ayres, brought ~~us~~ cake & jelly - Mrs. K. Miss Sexton, Mr. Lazarus, Mr. Flagg & Henry were singing - E. & I, had not spirit to join them - So we sat & laughed at their discords, occasionally interposing when the words were incorrectly strung together or the notes too horribly jangling to our nice ears for endurance. Went below, about ten - Fretted about the vile berth, & concluded by getting into it. —

Oct. 20th - Went up on deck & took the old station by the water-casks - Did not lay down my head; sat erect - & laughed at every body who did not feel as well as I did - Elizabeth told me the sea looked beautifully & told me to look at it - I did not believe her, & would not look, lest it should make me sick - very wise of my little self! How the wind blew - I could not keep my hair sleek, & left off trying to - vastly judicious! - Mr. Bird spoke the truth once, if he never did before, or never did since - I regretted being ~~on board~~ in this prison-house - for what else is it? - Declared I never would go on board a vessel again at least such an one - Our hours are very genteel! Breakfast at ten - Lunch at one - & dinner at Five - No suppers - but a dish of most villainous green tea, sweetened to a syrup & weakened, (& cooled with ale) with milk - Mrs. K. told Captain Coffin she had eaten nothing since she had been on board - & ~~told him~~ she wanted a whole goose - He went below & sent the steward up with just what she asked for - a whole goose - "bonâ fide" - She seized a knife, & in open defience of all rules of carving, literally dug out, one side of the breast, & ~~with~~ with which & a bottle of cider, she celebrated her birth-day - Perfectly en caractere - She resigned the rest of the fowl to us & we made for the first time a hearty repast - Henry made our mouths water by telling us there were apple dumplings - & went below to get some - He brought one up, with all its attendant necessaries, liquids &c. & having each taken a bountiful slice & drowned it in sauce - wine sauce too, we felt to drowning it - Goodness!! it was redolent with peppermint!! Ye powers dominant of the culinary art! defend us from such another dumpling - My mouth was somewhat like to a furnace three times heated - the pudding was hot, the sauce was hot, & oh! hotter than all was the peppermint!! Every soul on board came up, breathing out the fumes of peppermint, every one opened their mouth to cool their tongues - ~~Them~~ N.B. No cold-water but plenty of lukewarm stuff - Mr. Lazarus proposed varying the dish tomorrow & having Camphor — People singing again in the evening - playing on flutes - very good, this last - Sat up till eleven - star gazing - Looked for the constellation of the Cross - Miss Forsyth informed me it was not visible at this season —

Oct. 21st Dressed in my brown calico – Carried up the "Infidel" & read – Played "checkers" with Miss Blonk – Read the "Infidel" some – & "Lives of Distinguished Characters" more – Mr. Dockray laughed at me about my rings – & proposed I should alter the position of some of them; as they were on the "engaged & married" fingers – Mr. Pinney (an Episcopal clergyman) remarked that those on the marriage finger could not be objectionable, as they were neither of them plain gold –
Found a treasure to-day in the shape of a Mr. Morris – a cousin of the Rutherfords of Belleville – & also of Mrs. Baker of New-York – Of course with such common subjects of conversation we struck up an acquaintance instantly – While I was talking with him, Mr. Lazarus sent me a piece of tarred rope as a gift – in return I enclosed him some apple parings & indian corn – Ate a Philippina with Mr. Morris – He is pretty sure to win; I am so careless – Mr. Lively & I got in a discussion about the duty of a wife – He is an old bachelor who would get married if he could – but he insists that the wife should do every thing for the husband, while I say the attentions should be mutual – He teazed me to death with his tediousness & the discussion ended by his saying he should tell the lady he chose that he expected her to wait upon him – & by my retorting that any woman who took him on that condition would be a fool & not at all like me – After tea went in to the deck cabin & began playing draughts with Amelia Blonk – Mr. Morris, Miss Sexton & Mr Flagg were playing & singing – Some one rushed in & called for Capt. Barston (the first mate,) saying the ship was aground – "Shucks I to myself" you forgot to put an "almost" before the "aground" Every one but myself seemed panic-struck – Miss Sexton nearly fainted – Amelia began crying, some one turned the lamp over the singing book, & I sat calmly arranging the men on the board & laughing to see the affright of the others – I went out on deck found Elizabeth speechless with terror – & Henry holding Mrs. K's head – She was sitting at the moment of the alarm, with her head laying on the stairs which lead to the quarter-deck – A sailor going up in haste, set his foot on her head – & thus fixed her for to-night at least – Upon enquiry found we had made the "Hole in the Wall" unexpectedly soon, & were within 3/4 of a mile of land; in three minutes more, we should have been on the breakers – Every one was astonished at my coolness & none more so than myself – Went down to bed at ½ past ten ——

Oct. 22nd Came up bright & early – Won my Philippina of Mr. Mor & lost it of with Capt. ~~Barston~~ Coffin – Passed the day in eating & drinking – talking, laughing, & reading – Ate Philippinas with Mr. Dockray,

Captain Coffin, & Amelia – Sat on deck with Mr. Morris, Capt. Barstow, Amelia, Mr. Peall & Mr. Ayres until twelve o'clock – By the by, Ayres gave me a philippina – Mrs. Kinsman was sick, distressingly so, all last night & during this day – She is better now & we hope she will be able to come up tomorrow – For myself, I am delectable & am enjoying things as well as possible considering all circumstances – "A cloud is not company, & faces are but a gallery of pictures, & talk but a tinkling cymbal, where there is no love" –

Oct. 23rd. Won Philipinas of Captain Coffin & Mr. Ayres. Dockray & Amelia won them of me – Payed those I lost yesterday, with sugar candies – Dockray would not have his so – but very improperly, stole a kiss, declaring it were far better than the sweets I had given the others – Went down to dinner for the first time since I came on board – Found very agreeable company, but a tremendous light room – Got thro' with dinner as soon as possible, & made my escape, after taking a swallow of wine in compliment to Dockray, who very gallantly tossed off a glass to my health – Last night, Mr. Morris informs me we made rapid progress – This morning we were nearly becalmed, – towards evening, however a light breeze sprung up & we got out studding sails – I omitted yesterday to mention, that singular appearance of the water on the Bahama banks – The deep blue & the almost sea-green, – blending, I had well-nigh said; but they are as distinct as day & night – there, – I am at fault again with that simile – day fades into night through twilight hues – but here the colors are distinct till the last – there is no shading of the deep-deep azure, into the lighter hues that our northern sky usually wears, ~~&~~ or tinge of blue thrown over the green that hastens to meet it – I could not forbear thinking of two opponents in argument, each eager to convince the other & each resolutely determined to maintain his own ground against all the attacks of his adversary – To-night I watched with Mr. Morris, the sun-set, & the moon rising, almost before the strong light of the "glorious god" had faded sufficiently to reveal her pale, feeble ray; – the sun went down like a thing of life – Mr. M. & I agreed that we thought, the Peruvians' worship of the sun, was the most rational of all pagan creeds; indeed I could almost have worshipped it myself at that glorious moment of its decline, so slowly, so majestically, did it sink below the horizon; it gave me such an undefinable feeling of awe & admiration, that I felt relieved when I could no longer behold it – If the sun-set was grand & glorious beyond description, that of the moon was equally calm & lovely – She was in her first quarter, & slowly ~~&~~ retreated from our view as if reluctant to leave the fair scenes she had just begun to look on – I could not forbear exclaiming, aloud

"Like a star in the midst of the ocean", ~~as~~ for such she seemed, as she lingered just a moment on the edge of the water, before being completely lost, to those who on the deck of that lone ship, were gazing on her looliness & perchance thinking of loved spots on land where with near & dear friends, they had before looked on her nightly parting from this fair world. Early this morning we made the Portugas, & rounded the cape — the wind changed with us; but as I before remarked we lost it again this forenoon — Went down to my berth with a terrible head-ache —

Oct. 24 — Rose quite indisposed — & to add to my comfort, what I have heretofore omitted to mention, there is such a scouring of knives & pounding of sugar, & blarney & brogue of Irishmen directly opposite my door, (which I am forced to have open, in order to breathe,) that I scarce know what I am about, tho' I know too well where I am — Hurried on deck & found we were running ~~about~~ 5 knots an hour, about two points & a half off our course — a tremendously hot day & the little energy I ever possessed destroyed by sea sickness, so that I sat all the morning as E. said, (& I know nothing more expressive) like a wilted cabbage-leaf — In the afternoon I rallied a little & at Mr. Morris' request finished a diary which I began for him on Thursday — a mere collection of nonsense; but he was pleased to profess himself ~~pleased~~ gratified with what he called the perspicuity, vivacity, & easy flow of thought, & style! More Philippinas to day — with Mr. Morris, Mr. Prall, Mr. Ayres, Captain Barstow & Captain Coffin — Went below early — Omitted to say that Mrs. K. is up again — Heaven keep her in good health for the remainder of the voyage, for all our sakes, & mine most particularly! I never had a partiality for sleeping in the same room with a sick person; & in the same state-room with such a sick one, good powers protect us! —

Oct. 25th Another Sunday & no service — with three clergymen on board — O the degeneracy of these latter days! Brought up my prayer book, & found to my utter astonishment that it was the 19th Sunday after Trinity — Read thro' the service, & but my naughty little heart was I fear me, far more intent on those, who "far awa" were reading the same words, than on the words themselves — More fine departures of Sun & Moon, — "Lights ethereal" or rather celestial — Have had some amusement this afternoon, with getting up a ~~wedding~~ marriage between Captain Barstow & Amelia — both parties professing their willingness to act on the arrangements of others, but neither doing it — Sat late on deck — indeed till all had departed save ourselves, Mr. Forsyth & Mr. Ayres — Lost the Philippinas with Mr. Prall & Mr. Ayres & won all the others —

Oct. 26th Looking over my journal of Oct. 16th — wonder I should have omitted to notice the "creaking of the masts, & the groaning, & screaming of the bulk-heads," which our location enables us to hear in their full force — Had I named them then, I should in all human probability, have animadverted most severely upon these disturbers of my repose, but now I have become so accustomed to the lugubrious music, that it would be quite out of place to insert the scolding here — To day I am just in a mood to enjoy all things — I have read thro' the "Infidel," & am on the whole delighted with it — The dog "Befo" is decidedly the best character in the whole book — One would suppose from the title that the hero was an Mexican, whereas the prominent personage, the one whose fortunes are followed thro' all their vicissitudes & whose fate is the grand object of interest, is a Spanish cavalier, & the denouement of his history & also that of Magdalena, is to me as marvellous as it was unexpected — This morning we have had, pour passer le temps, a mock trial — The prisoner (H. M. Ayres) was charged in the indictment with disturbing the peace of some of the ship's company — by "producing on an instrument, termed a flute, of the value of 5 dollars, and, the length of two feet, some most unearthly sounds; at the instigation of some diabolical power, &c." Court opened at 10. A. M. Chief Justice Forsyth on the capstan. Sydney Smith Esq. counsel for defendant. — Olcott Esq. Attorney for the Commonwealth. W. P. Dockray — Sheriff — The prisoner pleaded guilty — but his counsel would not admit the plea — consequently the trial proceeded. Witnesses were examined on both sides — Mr. Olcott then addressed the court & audience, (there being no jury,) in a short, but very lucid, & powerful argument — clearly shewing the guilt of the prisoner. He was followed by Mr. Smith. who in a "plain, unvarnished" style, made what he could of his witnesses' testimony, & left the case to the court for decision — Chief Justice Forsyth pronounced against the prisoner & sentenced him to pay a fine, of 1 bottle of the Captain's wine, & whistle to the windward, till there was a prospect of having some wind either favorable or unfavorable there being at present "not a breath the blue wave to curl" — & the sails hanging idly against the masts — To day we have seen an enormous shark — also plenty of flying fish & dolphins. the latter are really very beautiful — there were six at once following us — "baring their backs of gold" in the deep blue water; & being as Morris remarked, "bluer than the blue." Sat up on deck till a late hour as usual — Dockray danced in the evening to the tune of "Old Zip Coon," & shewed us he was capital at "tripping on the light fantastic toe." —

× Oct. 27th — Another trial this morning — Miss Ann Amelia Blonk, vs. N. Barstow Esq. for a breach of marriage promise — Judge Huntington presiding — Mr. Olcott for the plaintiff; The defendant pleading his own cause — A jury of six — Oaths ad-

ministered on the "Tales of a Physician". Numerous witnesses called, but all the evidence seemed circumstantial, until the humble author of this journal was sworn to tell the truth, nothing but the truth & as much of that as she pleased. Her evidence was that of which she had "ocular demonstration", & was most decidedly against the defendant. The case was submitted to the jury, without argument on either side. After a few moments absence they returned a verdict of "guilty" — but recommended the prisoner (defendant) to the mercy of the court, who accordingly decided that he should pay $4,000 damages, or marry instantly — This last he professed himself willing to do — but the young lady demurred, & so the case stood as it began — To day I have been playing backgammon "avec toute-monde" — sometimes beating & at others being beaten. Mr. Myers has evidently been whistling to the windward — for we have a slight wind — tho' not exactly what we wanted — Went down to dinner again — Had a very nice time & experienced no evil consequences from taking it below — After dinner came up, & found on deck Amelia jumping the rope — She was soon joined by Mrs. Dunning, Mrs. Hinsman, Mr. Dockray & Mr. Reid, & such a multitude of others, that I verily thought the vessel would be completely unrigged to furnish ropes for the occasion — In the evening played at forfeits — Drank to the health of absent friends, in a glass of hot whiskey punch! — Went to bed about one o'clock —

Oct. 28th. To-day we are within 60 miles of Mobile Point — Mr. Mais offered to bet me a dozen pair of gloves, that we should not dine on board to-morrow — I told him I was confident of winning, & as I had no use in the world, for a dozen prs. of gloves, I would not ~~bet~~ bet with him — He insisted however on my taking a bet of ½ dozen prs. so I accepted, at the same time assuring him he would lose — In the evening we played forfeits again — & danced cotillions, contra dances, & waltzes, on deck, by the light of as lovely a moon as ever shone on this terrestrial globe. For music, we had flute-playing, singing & whistling — A jolly time we had in verity. After ~~we~~ (had ~~worked~~ passed off the exuberance of our spirits) I went & leaned over the side of the vessel ~~to~~ looking at the white caps of the waves, & the spray dashing out from under the bow of the vessel — Unromantic as I may seem, I shall venture to say with Dockray, that it looked like, melted tallow, turned into water, & cooling as it ~~used to pour~~ touched the pure liquid — Notwithstanding my homely simile, the appearance presented, was beautiful; & the rays of the moon, falling obliquely across the ocean, reminded me forcibly of a passage in Burns, which Mr. Pinney was shewing me the other day — where the poet compares ~~the~~ love in the bosom of a maiden to the moonbeams in the water — Stood long gazing & thinking, & then went below, devoutly wishing for a stiff breeze, on the morrow, to carry us inside the Mobile light — for we have made but little progress to day —

Oct. 29th Came on deck, overjoyed at the intelligence, that we were going into Mobile bay, at a rapid rate; The breeze sprung up during the night & has been gathering strength ~~our~~ hourly since. I have won my bet decidedly – so I'll have plenty of gloves when we get in port. Made Mobile Light about noon, & lay to for a pilot – After dinner, when the ladies had retired, the gentlemen assembled in the after cabin, to pass what they supposed their last evening on board, in a regular "jollification" – I am informed Mr. Morris perpetrated several puns – tho' I could not exactly comprehend, what they were. notwithstanding Mr. Lazarus' kind endeavors to enlighten me; however it reminded me of one or two, which he ~~perpetrated~~ gave utterance to, ~~the~~ a few days since – Mrs. H. was telling of the cure of her Tic Doloreux by Electricity – "Oh!" exclaimed he, "what a shocking remedy" – Again speaking of my state room being in such a concealed place, he remarked, "I suspect, Miss R – were you to shut yourself up there for long, you would find "concealment" like a worm in the bud, feeding on your damask cheek." Apropos des bottes – Speaking of cheeks, reminds me I have not "seen my face in a glass," since I left N. York – Forfeits again this evening – In my humble opinion, the gentlemen are somewhat elated with the wine they have "imbibed" – Better certainly, than if they were brought low –

Oct. 30 – Took a pilot, this morning. The man must certainly be an astonishing one, or he could never have stood the torrent of questions, which poured around him – We ascertained from him that the "Bensaw" had been in port 10 days. Consequently she must have made a ten days passage – Pilot left us at dinner. In the evening spoke the "Propontis" Boston – Informed us that a steamboat would be down tomorrow at 11 o'clock A.M, to take us up to town – Afterwards spoke the "Alexandria" – Said the steamboat was up the river after wood, & would not be down till Monday – However, as Mr. Austin says, "we don't believe half of that" – I believe to-day is Fanny's birth-day – I wonder if she has passed it as agreeably as I have – Danced, played at forfeits & passed off the evening as pleasantly as possible –

Oct. 31st Every one came up in their "best bib & tucker" – ready to go on shore – The sailors were taking down the sails; scouring the decks. Won a philippina of Hagy – Doctrey gave me a linen cambric handkerchief with a blue border in payment of the one he owed me – Just after breakfast a sloop came along-side to take Mr. Austin up to town, supposing he would get there in that way sooner than we by the boat. About 11 o'clock the steamboat Neptune came coughing along, & after getting our baggage on board, we took her last look of the "cabins so hampered," & the cluttered decks of the goodly Cincinnati; As I stepped my foot on the deck of the steamboat, I exclaimed aloud, "We bid farewell,

without a sigh, for we are freedom's now." Close quarters & uncomfortable, they were, I trow, on this steamboat— They call New England, the consumptive land, but in faith, I think it ~~is here~~ might with more truth, be said of the South, where even the steamboats cough ~~at such a rate~~ horribly— I think we will look dismally when we reach the city at the ~~rate~~ rate at which the soot flies about here— however, we have every prospect of not getting there till the night is as black as our faces. About five, it came on to rain; & we were obliged to pile into the cabin— Imagine about forty people in a room not so big as the "office" at Belleville Print Works— with two tables, a bureau, two settees & three chairs besides— What a jam!! After a great deal of trouble, talk & botheration, we got into Mobile at 10 o'clock P.M. The rain pouring, the sky as black as ink, & the streets— Mercy! Jersey mud's a fool to it— To crown the whole I had on thick shoes, & there are no carriages in the goodly city— Met Mr. Waldo at the steamboat & he availed upon me up to "Goodman's boarding house"— where we are to tabernacle during our stay here— Time will shew how long that will be— I find I have omitted to say that we gave & received three cheers, when we left the ship— No doubt the crew were as glad to get rid of us, as we of them— Sleigho! I am very sleepy & as I am to sleep in a real bona fide bed, I am impatient to get into it; notwithstanding I am go to it dinnerless & supperless. Whew! the musquitoes are singing already & I must "put out the light", or else they will find me. So good night to my journal for here closes my account of the voyage—

Mobile Nov. 1st 1835 — I awoke in the morning at ½ past seven, after having slept most "unconscionably profoundly" on as I said last night a real, bona fide, bed & bedstead — with a feather pillow! O delight inexpressible! O joy unutterable!! I am on land! once again in a comfortable room, & a capital house! — "O Now that I am safe on shore,

There ever let me be;
The sea let others wander o'er
The land! the land for me"!

Had breakfast at the early hour of ½ past 8 — Vastly vulgar, truly, after our "quality hours" on board ship — After breakfast having cleaned such articles of jewelry as had suffered by sea-air, I stood before the glass & dressed — By the by, could not bear to look ~~in the glass~~ at my face, I am so horridly tanned! My face & hands are, "I flatter myself, quite a spectacle". While I was assisting E. to complete her toilette a servant, (I should know I was at the south by the obsequious darkies) brought up Mr. Waldo's card, — I went down to see him & found he had called to take us to church; as we shall probably be here next Sabbath & I ~~had~~ would rather go with any one else, I declined going — He then, with most pertinacious politeness, invited me to ride after church in the evening — Not to appear determined to receive none of his civility, I, at H.'s advice accepted — After he had gone, "dawdled about", read in the "Magnolia" ~~till dinner time~~ & then ~~went~~ came up to my room & wrote to Mother. Found in the "Magnolia", some lines that had I known them earlier I might have repeated to the giver — they are,

"Thou givst me, with thy pleasant flower,
Kind words, - - - - - - - - - - - -
I pray, 'tis all that I can do,
That thou may'st keep them still" —

I wonder what he would have thought of that — The plates in that book are very fine — "Logoochie" the only story I have read is a singular thing & a singular fancy must he, or she have had, who could conjure up such an image as the Indian god of fun, is described to be — In the afternoon Mr. Reid & Miss Sexton called — While they were in, Waldo came for me for that — ride — He took me to Spring Hill — It must be very delightful there in spring — it is so — even now, but it loses much of the beauty it must then possess by the absence of flowers, & that smaller sort of vegetation, which to me is one of the loveliest features of any landscape — We procured some lovely roses — & called at the house of a Mrs. Mathews — where I had an opportunity of witnessing the characteristic hospitality of Southerners — Promised to go & spend the day with them, if I remained long enough in Mobile — Drove back just at the hour which Rogers describes so beautifully —

"But lo! the sun is setting; earth & sky, ~~one blaze of glory~~
One blaze of glory — What but now we saw,
As though it were not though it had not been!
He lingers yet, & lessening to a point,
Shines like the eye of Heav'n — then withdraws;
And from the zenith to the utmost skirts
All is celestial red! The hour is come.
When they that sail along the distant seas,
Languish for home; & they that + + +
Said to sweet friends "farewell" melt as at parting;
\+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +
\+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + + & those they loved,
Love more than ever. But who feels it not?
And well may I, for I am far away."

And so did I, insomuch that Mr. W. made great complaint of my taciturnity — Returned just in season for tea — Found that Amelia, Dockray & Flagg had been here for me — How provoking. Swallowed my tea & went over to the Mansion House to see Amelia & bid good-bye — She leaves for N. O. tomorrow — Found Dockray & Flagg there — F. came home with me, stayed till ten & then I came up stairs — wrote journal & read loud in the "Magnolia" some fine poetry — Went to bed, — fretted most of the night all by myself at the Musquitoes & hot weather —
Nov. 2nd Did not get up till every body else had been to breakfast — Mr. Flagg called with newspapers for Mrs. K. while we were at breakfast — Began reading the "Linwoods" — A Mr. Jones, a friend of Mr. Kinsman's called — informed us that Mr. K. was at Prairie Bluff sick — Advised Mrs K. to go to him tomorrow night, in the "Little Rock." Of course, K. cannot think of her going alone, & fortunately for his kindness, his business here cannot be attended to under three or four weeks, so we are all to go with her. Walked down to H. S Kore's in Commerce street. Met Misses Huntington & Waldo — Went home — Mr. Morris called & promised to come for me to walk tomorrow at 11 o'clock A. M. After dinner went down to the Alabama Hotel to see Misses Sexton & Forsyth. Went into Dauphin St. bought a violin for Dockray's Philippina; & a Tin Trumpet & white silk handkerchief for the two I owed Flagg — Came home & began hemming it — After tea went down in the drawing room, & pored over the "Linwoods" — Looked at my name in the papers — First time I ever saw it there; wonder if it will be the last! ahem! By the way, what a bungling muss they have made of that list of passengers — Capts. Coffin & Barstow came in — I went up for Mrs. K. & when I came down, found Mr. & Miss Forsyth, Mr. Reid & Miss Sexton — presently Mr. Lang came in — & after him Dockray — It was quite like the ship again — Gave Dockray his violin — & made considerable sport.

That everlasting Waldo, in again, but only for a few minutes. After all had gone, I took up the "Linwoods" again — devoured 4 or 5 ranges & went to bed.

Nov. 3rd. Got up & hemmed Flagg's Handkerchief — After breakfast he called, & gave me a very pretty chased gold ring for a philippina — Capt. Barstow also called & brought me a pair of gloves. a very delicate straw-color, sewed with pink, & trimmed with pink satin & tassels on the top — I went up stairs & dressed & commenced packing — Mr. Morris came for me, according to agreement. Went down in Water St. to his store — introduced me to his partners, Messrs. De Forest, & Wilkins — Met Mr. Huntington & Mr. Poe. also saw Mr. Roberts & sister of Reid — Mr. Morris bought me the ½ doz. prs. gloves he owed me — So I have now 8 prs. I have never had on, besides 4 partly worn. Then took me to a bookstore & bought "Poems of Rogers, Campbell, Montgomery, Lamb & H. White" bound in one volume. for one of the Philippinas. & promised to send me the other. We then went to see Reid — he gave me a pen-knife, or rather said he would lend it to me for an unlimited time, if I would borrow it — as it was a bad omen to give such tools — Weighed me too — Enormous! It cannot be, that I have gained 4 pounds on board that hateful ship. Nevertheless the scales say 128 lbs. I thought I had fretted off as much as six pounds — I don't believe his scales —— Came home & packed again — Went out with Mrs. H. how like puny some folks can make themselves look! & how much worse they can act!! — Called on Flagg — Dockray walked home with us — Dressed for dinner — After dinner read the "Linwoods." H. E. & Mrs. H. went to ride — I stayed, having seen all the city — Mrs. Dunning, Mrs. Smith, & Mrs. Merritt called — Mr. Dockray & Mr. Flagg came in after tea — After they had gone finished reading the "Linwoods." I like it very much, & it terminates very nicely too — all but poor Bessie Lee, — Meridith calls her mighty — "a wanderer from some other star" — a "nice, unaffected little thing" she is truly — but too passive, too enduring to suit my taste — Isabella Linwood is just the character for me — Decided, prompt on every object & every thing — Only once she is not womanly, according to my ideas — & that is when she so soon conquers her affection for Meridith: Methinks it would have cost a harder struggle, even though the object were unworthy. But perhaps I am judging by myself too much, & therefore am incorrect —— Came to bed at 10 o'clock — after ascertaining that the "Little Rock" does not leave till morning.

Nov. 4th. Not off yet - how provoking! Not that I am in a hurry to leave the fair city of Mobile or its polite citizens, for I prefer infinitely to stay here, than to go the desert home in store for me, of which every one speaks so disparagingly; but when one is ready, one likes to go, & not be detained unnecessarily long. However fretting does no good; we are not to go till afternoon, & as no one knows how soon after dinner, trunks may not be unpacked, lest they be not ready when the moments of departure arrives. So I must make the best of going to dinner in travelling attire which by the by, is none of the neatest, being chosen, to ~~assimilate~~ correspond with the dirty condition of the steamboats. ~~[illegible]~~! How tremendous warm this Mobile is! & dirty withal! It is like none of the Northern cities, & yet paradoxical as it may seem, it is like all three that I have seen. Like Hartford, dirty, even filthy in many of its avenues; like N. York, cluttered, crowded & a very Babel in its business thoroughfares, & like Boston retired & quiet in the streets of dwelling houses. The drive immediately in its suburbs, is extremely like that village-city N. Haven; While three or four miles out, it resembles the country in Cambridge Mass, after you pass the Colleges, in going from Boston; It is a growing city certainly for every street is filled with lumber & bricks for building a new or altering the old blocks. Either from the effect of the climate or a want of skill in making the bricks, have a decidedly dirty appearance, giving new buildings the aspect of those which have stood for years. Brick-color here, would convey a very different idea from it does at the north. The houses ~~& stores~~ are mostly three stories, without dormer windows - seldom higher - & apparently on the same plan of those in Oak St. Boston, or some part of Franklin St. New York. I have ~~saw~~ not one handsome building in the city, not excepting theatre & Churches, of either of which I regret, I ~~did~~ have not seen the interior. Nothing for it to amuse myself except unpacking & ~~un~~packing my trunks, & making different disposal of books, ~~to amuse myself~~. Mrs. Olcott called this morning. Sat drearily enough looking out of the window till dusk. Dockray rode past & bowed as if he knew me not or was confounded at seeing me still here - No, wonder he should not know me in this horrible rig, & go to tea in it too I must. I think we'll not go at all to-night. O Yes! H. says immediately we have swallowed our tea. So we are off. Found Mr. Flagg waiting at the wharf. Mr. Morris, Mr. Reid, Dockray, Mr. Bartlett & Waldo, came also ~~at~~ to say their "adios". Flagg said his brother thought I would not like living at Tallassee; vastly kind of the youth to tell his brother about my poor unworthy self, & vastly kind of his brother to tell what I knew so well before!! I do not like this ~~staying~~ going away; this saying "farewell" again, but so it is; & I watched Mobile & those on the wharf as I watched New York once on quitting it. No, not as I watched the people on New York wharves - for these were not like them. It was a heavenly

night, & I sat out on the guard of the boat, in as "musing, melancholy a mood" as a beautiful moon could induce. Just before going to bed we passed the "Lewis Cass," with her bow run into the woods, but "nothing the matter," according to her story. After I was partly undressed, H. called out there was a saw mill! but I did not go to see it.

Nov. 5th Laid awake most of the night, for no other earthly reason, than that I could not sleep. We stopped to take in wood & the "Lewis Cass," passed us. Woke this morning, after a short uncomfortable sleep, with my hands & face resembling a collection of ant-hills, the work of the abominable musquitoes — Ofer "Fanny's" pen & powers to anathematise these horrible patience-destroyers! Unlike their northern relatives they do not from a distance sound their "shrill clarion", but harpy-like, come flapping their wings over their unconscious victim, until they have chosen the most favorable point of attack, then with one scream of delight, pounce upon him. The wretched object of their malice, starts in terror, with the hope of escaping their "foul fiends," but in vain; It needs no second blow, to secure in his quivering flesh, their horrid instruments of torture & he must endure, if he cannot kill; & methinks murdering them is no use, — for when we have killed their bodies, their spirits (for "by my two troths" I believe they have them) wander abroad in the air, avenging the deeds done to the body; like the disembodied spirits which ~~wandered~~ perigrinate on the banks of the Styx, save that the latter would fain be quiet, while the mischievous sprites of the 'varmint' won't rest, "any how you can fix it." Here endeth this chapter on musquitoes! It will suffice for the future, for on this subject I shall ever think & feel as I have here recorded. Passed several plantations; consisting of half a score of negro houses, a cotton gin & press. Was introduced to Mr. Braeme, & Capt. Turney. all the decent gentlemen on board. Reading in the "Brothers" — found a passage particular apropos, & as it saves me the trouble of original description will transcribe it. "I had already passed thro' several extensive tracts of woodland which bore, however, no resemblance to the lovely woods of my own northern home with their bosky dells & open glades, their gnarled oaks & silvery birches, gleaming out from the dark hollies & waving fern: in these forests of the south, all is monotonous tame, & regular. A long straight vista, sweeping right onward thro' ranks of trees undistinguished by their individual magnitude & unbroken by dew lawn or brooklet, — each as perfect a resemblance to the other as Will Shakspeare's king of Banquo, presenting a picture of — dreary sameness which I am at a loss for words to describe, composed the eternal scene." Ate plenty of pine apples & or oranges & nearly died of the head ache they caused Passed the steamboats "Commerce" & "Erie". Saw some very fine bluffs towards evening, which made me almost forget that "on my way I went, — a pilgrim from the north, Now more & more attracted

as I drew Nearer & nearer." Set a rebellious deck hand on a sand beach shore, to meditate on his obstinacy. It began to rain in the afternoon & poured in the evening. Played dominoes with Mrs. K. to get rid of the "ennui" induced by the monotony of our lives. Got aground during the night.

Nov. 6th Washed out three pocket handkerchiefs & a pair of gloves, in the wash-bowl - all the washing I have had done since I left Belleville. Sat out on the boiler deck, looking at the "meanderings" of the river & fancying in stead of a puffing wheezing steamboat ploughing the waters, the light canoe of the red-man shooting around the bends, & darting from under the drooping festoons of mistletoe which hang in such luxuriance on the tall sycamores; & contrasting their deep, rich green with the lighter hue of that they cling to: thought of what somebody, somewhere says about the "ivy & the oak" and "tender, helpless woman" & all that. The river was calm as the slumber of an infant, & I gazed on its ruffled bosom till the sun, jealous of my admiration, forced me by his scorching heat to retire to the cabin, where I passed away an hour in reading an old song-book. Capt T. came & informed us there was something to be seen on shore. We ran out & beheld an enormous alligator, sunning on the bank. "Monstrum horrendum, informe, ingens!" Capt. T. judged him about 16 feet long. A most horrible hot-day & to seem still more like summer, had string-beans for dinner. I am miserable here - I wish I were freezing in Belleville. E. remarked how cold we should be in Blue were there now - I answered there were plenty of warm hearts there to counterbalance the cold weather. Mrs. K. added, she thought I could not complain of ~~warm~~ cold hearts in Mobile, judging from the appearances when I left. Bah! We passed a skeleton in the river & speculated considerably, whether it was a man or an alligator. After dinner we ~~landed~~ stopped at Prairie Bluff to land freight & there informed that Capt. Kinsman was sick at Capt. Sturgis about six miles above. consequently we made calculations to leave Mrs. K. there but when we arrived we found Capt. K. on board the "Dover" making preparations to return to Mobile, tho' by no means well, accordingly we left her there. Whether the meeting was full of tendresse, I have no means of saying as we did not witness it; however I judge not as she said after it that he would not let her come near him on account of his mouth's being salivated! We were too happy to be rid of her, to care any thing about that; all but Henry. Mrs. Matthews also left some have undisputed possession of the Ladies' Cabin & four state rooms. Read Rogers' awhile. I like the way he talks of portrait painting vastly. after tea played backgammon with Elizabeth. Mr. Braeme came & sat an hour with us, & invited us to go out on the boiler deck. Entertained us while there with some crackers, cold tongue claret sangaree, & whistey punch. We sat till twelve. had some mis-

quito bars put up in our berths, to shield us from their impertinent penetration. Stopped during the night at Portland but I was asleep.

Nov. 7th After breakfast we were obliged to be our own femmes de chambre, as the boat owns none & Mrs. Matthews servant, who has hitherto performed that office, has left us. Went out on deck to look at a bluff 120 feet high. having the appearance of a solid mass of grey rock, but in reality nothing but clay. The scenery on the banks has changed much since my transcribed description of it, there is a strange mingling of gigantic sycamore & lowly willows. Came back in the cabin & played backgammon as the sun was too powerfully warm to allow of staying out. Read in Rogers' He says in a note to his poem entitled "Human life", "Is it not true that the young not only appear to be, but really are, most beautiful in the presence of those they love? It calls forth all their beauty." Ergo. I must look very ugly here. Passed the Mobile Minerva for Mobile, wished I was in her. never contented. Sighed for the pure water of the springs which were pouring over the bluffs. Stopped at Cahawba formerly the capital of the state. they said there was a considerable place about half a mile from the landing if we would go & see it; but the sandy banks did not look sufficiently inviting to induce us to go. Saw a plantation of negroes crossing the river on a raft. Saw also plenty of people on shore; Mr. Braeme said they were gentlemen & ladies - Ma foi! they looked worse than Belle-ville operatives! Read about two hours after dinner. Truly did Mr. Potter say, the "Brothers" was "a tale to hold young hearts in chains". Henry called me out to look at some pelicans. interesting because novel. Towards dusk reached Selma. After [illegible] played backgammon, & went out on the boiler deck, to see them get in wood. Capt T. thought we would lay by for the night as it was very dark, & we had bad places to pass. but in about an hour the heavy clouds dispersed & were succeeded by light, fleecy [illegible]pours, which half revealed, half obscured the luminary [illegible]en in the ascendant, & gave just the degree of light, requisite [illegible]nable us to proceed, & so we went "on our way rejoicing". Sat [illegible] on deck till near one, to see the pass of Gardner's island; after [illegible] had safely passed went in to bed.

[illegible]o. 8th Mr. Braeme says I went in just half an hour too soon last night, [illegible]at that time we passed a place styled "Old Hell". which is much worse than Gardner's island. This morning we stopped [illegible] bernon. Saw a contrivance to draw water up the bank from [illegible]spring at the foot. formed of pulleys & ropes in a way that [illegible]lles description. Passed the "Jack Downing" aground. A [illegible]rible, dull rainy Sunday this. Stopped at Graves landing. [illegible]ame to Washington. Phoebus! what a "heap of niggers" all in [illegible]ir Sunday clothes!! arrived at Montgomery about 10 o'clock. [illegible]w Mr. Whitman, & was introduced to a Mr. Chapin. Mr. Gerald, [illegible] renowned, the long talked of Mr. Gerald, was there, much [illegible] Henry's gratification, & E's & my dissatisfaction; "cause why [illegible] had on dirty gowns & looked ugly. "How much beyond his [illegible]me he is!" Truth to tell, he is wondrous handsome." [illegible]ited two hours for the carriage. Oh, horrible wet & rainy; but [illegible]ice house is this "Montgomery Hall" & oh, most capital [illegible]s. I am going to [illegible] good night

Nov. 9th Started at four on our way; Rained all ~~our~~ day. Rode no farther than Mont Meggs as the travelling was very bad. The roads, called "corduroy" are the most genuine rail-roads I ever saw; being formed of rails bonâ fide; with the roughest side up. E. & I went on before with the baggage in a lumbering old vehicle yclept a coach, and Mr. G. & Henry followed in a gig. & the dog ran along at the side of both carriages. What a queer house we stayed in. We went into the sitting-room, immediately from out-doors. & there was two beds in it. we went out doors to go to the eating room, & we went out doors again to our bed-room. E. & I took the dog in our room for "a safeguard from danger."

Nov. 10th Started at day-dawn. Rode to Line Creek, to breakfast. When about two miles from Mont Meggs, discovered that Roar was not with us. Henry (who had been riding with us) exchanged seats with Mr. G. & drove back in search of him; but returned after we reached Line Creek, unsuccessful. Mr. G. then mounted a horse & rode back to Mont Meggs; While he was absent we ate our breakfast. Went into the garden & got a bouquet flowers, swung & rode on an Indian pony, & talked with some straggling indians. Mr. G. was absent two hours, & returned without the dog, but had heard of him on his way to Montgomery. He sent a line to Mr. Wilson of the Montgomery Hall, with directions concerning him; E. played to us on a ~~rickety old~~ piano sadly out of tune; & I enlightened the enquiring natives on the subject of the fashions. We then went on, thro' woods almost trackless, over more rail-roads & thro' creeks. passed two ferries, & saw a heap of Indians. reached Tallassee about four in the afternoon; & here after all our fatigues in getting here, we have no place to lay our heads that we can call our own. Never mind our journeyings are done, & we must take care of ourselves as best we can. Mr. G. seems an excellent contriver of comfort. I dare say we shall do well. With my ~~journey~~ travels and my journalizing, of which for the present I am equally weary.