

July 22nd - Fine wind all night and well out to the
Atlantic was made on this patient from dining table few days
consequently I had (if possible) did not see but
did nothing of any interest - occurred during day
that the pig broke loose and found their way into the
barn before I got up heard them grunting and was afraid they
might penetrate cages as mine

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[1956]

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Ernest H Beckers Journal of a Voyage from
Liverpool to Maranham on board the good ship
Lady Sale 732. 20ms registers

Oct. or 15. Friday-

at 8.30

Left Liverpool arrived on Amies Pier Speed, from Mr. Moon's
house with my father and Lydia and Jerry, where we were
joined in a few minutes by Mary, Jessie and Mr R Roberts and
at whose house they had been staying after waiting on home
and a half or two hours Mr Moon arrives on the pier and
after saying a few words to the captain called me aside
"He said as nearly as I can recollect "tell Mr Beattie that
you are to have everything found for you on the way of
materials that is found for young men of your age in my
establishment at this, I have written this to him but you had
better say that I have told you to mention it. You must
be very ~~careful~~ careful in making friends it is true you
will not have the opportunity of making many but that is an
additional reason for being careful in the selection of
those you do contract friendships with. - You will of
course have a decent department on the Maranham house you
you but I wish you to make yourself acquainted with the
whole business, and I have said so to Mr Beattie, and
if you see anything going wrong & you must immediately
mention it. and I do not want you to be a spy on the
place but () you are the only person who will be there
that I know personally and Mr Beattie may want to
come home and Hall his brother in law has entered the

Brazilian National Guard and other were other foolish things.

I do not want you two to be rivals
and now another thing and this I should say was Mr. Beattie
present and I have implicit confidence in him, if else you are
left in charge of the premises you ^{are} on no account whatever leave
them.

We then said goodbye to my and the Captain and I
said goodbye to my dear father and sister and went on board
the steam tug Lion which was waiting alongside the quay
for Captain Cook and myself and in about 5 minutes we were
on board Lady Dale which was lying in the middle of the river.
The crew immediately began to haul up the anchor but as
there were 40 fathoms cable out it was nearly an hour fully
before we made a start. During which time I was looking
at the boats on the pier. I could distinguish them all and of some there
was a great deal of rowing of oars and handspikes between
we got fairly off at about 11 1/2 and in about 10 minutes
I saw them all walk off the quay homeward bound - as
we sail went down the river on the Atlantic U.S. Mail
steamer leave the dock on her way to New York she is
a very fine looking vessel and I suppose will left us a
long way behind though our little tug despite the greatest
efforts of our little tug. A few minutes before this made
acquaintance with our little small pilot who seemed a
very smart little chap and I should think stood about
5 feet nothing on his back, however he had a very coarse
quantity of air about him and ordered the sailors about in

fine style. He gave the Captain and myself nearly
the whole of history and plentifully interspersed it
with the indispensable expressions, "I says says I says"
in all its various unorthodox forms. One remarkable
fact connected with his story was that he and his wife
lived in a ~~happy~~ really happy family style with his
mother in law. I thought this fact, as I have no reason
to doubt its authenticity, worthy of being jotted down. He
also informed me in answer to an inquiry of mine that when
he was a fisherman off the mouth of the river ~~then used~~
to earn about £3 or 4 a week. not at all too much for
as he called it "such a nasty dirty trade" but still it is no more
than I thought even of that craft came by. We passed the
Bell buoy, or called from there being a bell buoy, mist
which the motion of the sea is continually moving about
1 1/2. It is the last of the buoy's ^{are} when forced that
you are out in the sea and to alarion of it there are no
banks or shoals and you are in the open sea. As the
wind was SW by S the Captain decided to take the tug, or
rather let the tug take us on for 2 hours more at cost to
Mr. Moon of £2 per hour and as the wind came from the
South we kept in towards the Welsh coast. Dinner was
ready at 2 1/2 and as the water was very quiet and I
heavily fatigued I was very hungry and went down to
take my part in the final work of dismissing it along
with Captain pilot's 1st mate Mr. Bony. The 2^d mate

dinner vegetable soup boiled ham boiled steaks potatoes in jackets
unmanning on deck to look after the ship. It was during
this meal that the pilot made known the extraordinary fact
already mentioned in connection with his mother-in-law. When
dinner was about half over the pilot went up stairs to see how
things were going and came down again with the gratifying
intelligence that the wind was getting round towards the north
this put us into good spirits where upon the three officers
put some spirits into themselves and I put some bad wine
into myself (note, take no more wine while on board unless
the quality improves) ~~then~~ going on deck again
~~(Say me for I found it out first)~~ ^{discovered that the} ~~found~~ ^{man} at the wheel
~~who~~ knew no more about steering than one of the pigs ⁱⁿ the
sty pen on the main deck. ~~the~~ ^{he} man was entered on the ship's
books as a first class seaman - ~~was~~ ^{was} of course sent forward
and advised in a gentle manner not to show his nose
aft again. ~~As~~ as he went the captain told me his ~~share~~ wages
would be dropped from £ 2.5/- to 1-10/- per month
at 3.40 the 2 extra hours of boggery being over pilot whistled
to the steamer which let let go the hawser which attaching us
and dropped alongside. The steward's sister was on board of
her and she came onto the our ship to say good bye to her brother
she might have been on the ship instead of on the steamer, ~~the~~
while going out but for the possible probability of the wind
rising and preventing her getting leaving us for the steamer
I am in a disagreeable state of doubt as to whether the pilot took

The thing that was done by the captain who was appeared with a brown coat and to me indifference of speech compared to what I believe of the master of Jimico look was rather

a note which I wrote and left addressed to my father on the table in the saloon. however as nobody that I can hear of has seen anything of it I shall persuade myself that it is ~~gone~~ ^{has} reached its destination. The captain tells me that the men who work the tops have to press into their own provisions and that as they often take ^{very} little ~~anything~~ with them the steward's aster has probably eaten nothing since her breakfast so he orders the steward to give them some two pieces pork a little tea, sugar, and some fine biscuit ^{to the crew of} ~~on board~~ the lion which being "glorized" at them they receive with gins and very dirty hands - however as the lady who is ~~content with share~~ the eatables with these ~~such~~ are ~~and~~ ~~dirty~~ to be one of those benefited by the captain's gift I did not see ~~how~~ how it ^{came to hand} ~~was received~~ or by what eat house it came eat more the less heartily ^{for the} ~~for~~ the manner of its reception (namely greasy ~~points~~ and very black lines - it doesn't make me sick to write this now). She having been assisted on board the try again ^{with} a considerable display of fankles he and the pilot also having gone on board until he finds his ^{the lion} ~~own~~ ~~boat~~ ^{has} ~~heard~~ ~~homeward~~ ^{and} ~~we~~ ~~are~~ ~~now~~ ~~left~~ ~~to~~ ~~our~~ ~~own~~ ~~devices~~ ~~and~~ ~~she~~ ~~ant~~ ~~tell~~ ~~what~~ ~~sails~~ ~~were~~ ~~set~~ ~~or~~ ~~about~~ "hauling taut the main brace" and all the rest of it ^{because} ~~as~~ it would considerably bother me to do it and be equally bothering to you to read it suffice it say that we went on very ~~expeditiously~~ ~~but~~ ~~to~~ ~~arrive~~

milit about 8^o ^{of cockpoober} having suffered a feeble "no thank you"
to the C. Enquiry as to whether I would take some breakfast
and dozed off until dinner time, and continued in a
state of ~~doze~~ until Friday morning. sometime between
~~the~~ of Thursday morning when the captain ~~was~~ told me that
I was making for the Isle of man and I was several
times asked by him and the steward whether I would take
anything to eat but I could ~~not~~ swallow nothing but
water and was always ill after ^{that} ~~doing~~ ^{that}. There was
one thing I ^{perfectly} ~~always~~ longed for every time I awoke and
that was Soda water, and I often apostrophized my
self in no complimentary way for not having had
about 12 doz with me, and before I return I shall have
a plentiful supply sent me from England unless I can
procure some at ^{the} place where I sail. The nearest things
to it I could get were Siddle's powders and fortunately the
captain had a good supply of them but they were a
poor substitute as far as refreshing one went they have
such a disagreeable taste of Soda. But I dare say they
were good for me. The whole of Wednesday night Thursday
and Thursday ^{night} there was a heavy sea and fortunately
for myself I have no distinct recollection of how the time
passed for I was dozing ^{nearly} ~~the~~ ^{and comes pretty} ~~the~~ ^{did not go by} ~~the~~ ^{unpleasantly}. I was always
availed when the order "bout ship" was being executed it
^{is} ~~is~~ putting the ship about or altering the direction in which
she is sailing, and whenever it is done 5 or 6 men in
their heavy sea boot seize some heavy ropes and ~~the~~ blocks
and work with them along the deck just over where I am

lying and ~~you~~ may imagine that it is no slight
noise they make but a tremendous roar. If there were
any of them I could thread I should feel very much
inclined to have a "boat" with them - Took a little
sago Thursday night

Friday 17 Oct. Third day - Took a little of sago what is called
coffee but such coffee I never tasted before, and about
11.7c got up and went on deck, saw the Isle of Man
about 30 miles to N.E. ^{also the Cumberland A to E of the Black Sea} we have been taking about here
since Thursday night - Feeling ~~very~~ "sara bad" again
returned to my berth and just reached ^{soon enough}
to prevent the steward having the "caybin" floor to
clean. ~~Went~~ ^{Went} into bed again immediately - By day
is right I ^{saw} ^{much} better when lying on bed, down on
deck, though my berth is as far as possible to the
stem of the ship, and there is the usual smell in it -
For the remainder of the day laying in bed doing nothing
~~and~~ not feeling very poorly but not able to eat - I
am not certain whether it was at this time or on
Saturday that it occurred to me that Camphorated
Spts would do be very refreshing, and got the steward
to hunt the bottle out of my boat - Tried to eat a
biscuit but failed - Dozed through the night with the usual
interruptions ~~use~~ of "boat ship" -

Saturday 18 Oct Fourth day - Took a little sago for breakfast
and did not attempt to get up. Captain tells me Isle of Man

is still in sight. Ring for steward and tell him to bring out
Hothouse grammar. After looking at it for an hour come to conclusion
that I cannot make much of it - put it ^{up} at present - ^{1/2} begin to feel
considerably better and take some very good soup made of preserved
meat which I really enjoy eat two platefuls I do not feel sick
but have a strong disinclination to getting up - ^{4/9} took a
leucidity powder to quieten the soup which has the desired effect
but and did nothing more to day but lay tossing about until
I went to sleep sometime after 8 ^{1/2} was awakened several times
during the night as usual

Sunday 19 Oct^r. Fifth day. Wakened about ~~half~~ day break - beautiful
morn'g ~~at 9~~ ¹⁰ ~~1/2~~ ¹¹ ~~1/2~~ ¹² ~~1/2~~ ¹ ~~1/2~~ ² ~~1/2~~ ³ ~~1/2~~ ⁴ ~~1/2~~ ⁵ ~~1/2~~ ⁶ ~~1/2~~ ⁷ ~~1/2~~ ⁸ ~~1/2~~ ⁹ ~~1/2~~ ¹⁰ ~~1/2~~ ¹¹ ~~1/2~~ ¹² ~~1/2~~ ¹ ~~1/2~~ ² ~~1/2~~ ³ ~~1/2~~ ⁴ ~~1/2~~ ⁵ ~~1/2~~ ⁶ ~~1/2~~ ⁷ ~~1/2~~ ⁸ ~~1/2~~ ⁹ ~~1/2~~ ¹⁰ ~~1/2~~ ¹¹ ~~1/2~~ ¹² ~~1/2~~ ¹ ~~1/2~~ ² ~~1/2~~ ³ ~~1/2~~ ⁴ ~~1/2~~ ⁵ ~~1/2~~ ⁶ ~~1/2~~ ⁷ ~~1/2~~ ⁸ ~~1/2~~ ⁹ ~~1/2~~ ¹⁰ ~~1/2~~ ¹¹ ~~1/2~~ ¹² ~~1/2~~ ¹ ~~1/2~~ ² ~~1/2~~ ³ ~~1/2~~ ⁴ ~~1/2~~ ⁵ ~~1/2~~ ⁶ ~~1/2~~ ⁷ ~~1/2~~ ⁸ ~~1/2~~ ⁹ ~~1/2~~ ¹⁰ ~~1/2~~ ¹¹ ~~1/2~~ ¹² ~~1/2~~ ¹ ~~1/2~~ ² ~~1/2~~ ³ ~~1/2~~ ⁴ ~~1/2~~ ⁵ ~~1/2~~ ⁶ ~~1/2~~ ⁷ ~~1/2~~ ⁸ ~~1/2~~ ⁹ ~~1/2~~ ¹⁰ ~~1/2~~ ¹¹ ~~1/2~~ ¹² ~~1/2~~ ¹ ~~1/2~~ ² ~~1/2~~ ³ ~~1/2~~ ⁴ ~~1/2~~ ⁵ ~~1/2~~ ⁶ ~~1/2~~ ⁷ ~~1/2~~ ⁸ ~~1/2~~ ⁹ ~~1/2~~ ¹⁰ ~~1/2~~ ¹¹ ~~1/2~~ ¹² ~~1/2~~ ¹ ~~1/2~~ ² ~~1/2~~ ³ ~~1/2~~ ⁴ ~~1/2~~ ⁵ ~~1/2~~ ⁶ ~~1/2~~ ⁷ ~~1/2~~ ⁸ ~~1/2~~ ⁹ ~~1/2~~ ¹⁰ ~~1/2~~ ¹¹ ~~1/2~~ ¹² ~~1/2~~ ¹ ~~1/2~~ ² ~~1/2~~ ³ ~~1/2~~ ⁴ ~~1/2~~ ⁵ ~~1/2~~ ⁶ ~~1/2~~ ⁷ ~~1/2~~ ⁸ ~~1/2~~ ⁹ ~~1/2~~ 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birds escaped last night but it seems did not leave
the ship as we saw it several times during this day, but
it ~~appears~~ does not appear inclined to be caught again.
Dined with Captain for first time since being properly at
sea soup & roast ribs with potatoes cabbage and ^{the latter} turnips
lumps about size $\frac{1}{2}$ brick, and pudding of some sort, but
as what I had already eaten had very nearly been
too many for me I was obliged to leave the table and
lay down before it came on. Very little wind and
thought we should have fouled a ^{yard} ~~ship~~ but soon wind
dropped entirely and we hastily stowed let alone running
into one on other ^{things into being} preserves and bread for tea again and
wrote the day proceedings by candlelight - Read Mynors's

Tuesday October 21 - 7th Day - Dull cloudy morning but fair wind all
night and made which fully makes up for want of sunshine. No land
in sight but many of same ships as we saw yesterday. did not
set up till 12³⁰. Eat pretty good dinner - Mutton brot plenty of veg.
mutton pie boiled salt fresh beef - Sage pudding potatoes cabbage
Dr. Briggs astonished by the immense quantity of cayenne pepper
he took to his berth he must have put nearly 1/2 teasp. conful
to each platefull - The ducks and pigs unchanged habitations, a
more miserable set of things than the former ones, behold - Dined relative
strength of flounders & cod - Captain pronounced salt stronger - A little chat
with him about sharks and their fish - "I say young sharks are as good as cod
for tea am greatly indebted to Aunt Amelia for her present - This
evening not very far from dark light ^{not in sight} coast below but land we suppose
but wind getting more W and as I am by that horrible "lost ship" that
we are talking may not be past it by tomorrow morning
dead but - does

Ernest H. Peckers Journal of a Voyage from

Fawcett Library
27 Wilford Street
London E.C.4.

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