

I send a Newspaper also

No. 3.

Rio de Janeiro Dec 22 - It seems we just escaped a very heavy sea - a ship went out yesterday & returned on account of some - Scarcely a fly, & I sleep without a bug but have heard only 2 mosquitoes - as to weather is almost as cool as Newport & I walk miles some days without any inconvenience - affable both for P.H.

24th I have made some pleasant excursions about the bay & - and Mr Wright went on my going over to his country place at which I shall be glad to do soon -

I shall remain
at Rio about a month, Dec 10, 1866

I think
Dear Brother & Sisters

We left Para yesterday about 1 A.M. (when I made no 2 to go by the North America which followed us out of the river) and passed the bar at mouth of the Amazon about 9 A.M. in 12 fathoms water - Not 6 or 8 as I before stated. The Breakers broke on the right side of the Channel not far from us in about 4 fathoms only, but miles from shore - The current is very strong at Para where the river is 4 ^{to 5} ^{to 6} ^{to 7} ^{to 8} ^{to 9} ^{to 10} ^{to 11} ^{to 12} ^{to 13} ^{to 14} ^{to 15} ^{to 16} ^{to 17} ^{to 18} ^{to 19} ^{to 20} ^{to 21} ^{to 22} ^{to 23} ^{to 24} ^{to 25} ^{to 26} ^{to 27} ^{to 28} ^{to 29} ^{to 30} ^{to 31} ^{to 32} ^{to 33} ^{to 34} ^{to 35} ^{to 36} ^{to 37} ^{to 38} ^{to 39} ^{to 40} ^{to 41} ^{to 42} ^{to 43} ^{to 44} ^{to 45} ^{to 46} ^{to 47} ^{to 48} ^{to 49} ^{to 50} ^{to 51} ^{to 52} ^{to 53} ^{to 54} ^{to 55} ^{to 56} ^{to 57} ^{to 58} ^{to 59} ^{to 60} ^{to 61} ^{to 62} ^{to 63} ^{to 64} ^{to 65} ^{to 66} ^{to 67} ^{to 68} ^{to 69} ^{to 70} ^{to 71} ^{to 72} ^{to 73} ^{to 74} ^{to 75} ^{to 76} ^{to 77} ^{to 78} ^{to 79} ^{to 80} ^{to 81} ^{to 82} ^{to 83} ^{to 84} ^{to 85} ^{to 86} ^{to 87} ^{to 88} ^{to 89} ^{to 90} ^{to 91} ^{to 92} ^{to 93} ^{to 94} ^{to 95} ^{to 96} ^{to 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I know that heard our easy thing I heard but
one whistle & that from a mechanic in a shop & who
was probably from the U.S.) broken occasionally by burst
noise from some lateral window or door way -
The people appear very innocent as well as quiet &
to be living in that indolence so natural to a climate
when work is unnecessary and therefore impossible -
I walked probably 6 miles under my umbrella, with out
either heat or much fatigue - Tracks were plenty
but those who drive do not see - Some of the paintings
in the churches are curious - especially in "St Anne," a
baptism of Christ - The stream runs down a steep hill
in a streak of white wash & not over 2 feet wide - The
Savior has just room to stand in it and appears to be in
mental terror of the contents of the cup long sunk St John
holds over his head -

By far the larger portion is a thin scrubby extensive and
3 sides of it a sort of Damascus, Adobe & some more
pretentious houses half hidden in the most luxuriant
grove of all sorts of Palms, each with head of fruit
more of them unknown to me, but I recognized the
Brazil nut in its elliptical shape 18 or 20 inches long
and a foot diameter the other way - Oranges, Guavas
Lip etc. I also saw several ^{immense} ^{several} ^{wide} ^{spread} ^{like} ^{the}
trees, with nuts that looked like Pecans, & I think
must be a variety - East of these houses has an
entireness of land by stakes 6 to 10 feet high, that look
like our common cedar rails sharpened at upper end -
There are staves by railing (close together) to lateral
strips, as our pocket fences are - A course leafy
grass 2 feet high grows in the lower lying land which
appears to be cut for horse & open - I noticed grass
herms every where as with us - It is now the rainy
season what appears to consist in a few typically
showers daily & as at St Thomas Open are then
used singly, drawn by the head, and not over 350
lb in weight - more skeletons - The sheep & goats are
also very thin, and horses not much better - The soil
is sandy and sometimes red in colour - If it is the
deposits of the Amazon as probably it is, the
irregularities of surface (which, though nowhere high, is
quite uneven) is probably attributable to eddies,
or rains - The banks of the river are also sloping
with brackish shore and not vertical & carrying like
those of the Mississippi - It has cut fish similar to our
own - The Indian race is preponderant in coloration
and the children 5 to 10 years old with their glossy

black hair are very handsome. These children are usually nude, and adults wear very little clothing (common people of all colors) and generally wear above the waist - a few small sugar estates I am told are not far from the town, but Pernambuco and Bahia I am told, produce much richer men than. In Brazil Charles is nothing to Para. There are two varieties here as there, very like those of C. but yet different. Two gulls followed us a long distance today close aboard, with cry very like a duck. Found like the gannet almost exactly but much smaller, and black on back of wing as well as top, and a black tip to tail - very beautiful graceful + steady - several flying today also. ~~we saw I captured in the old grounds formerly frequented by the "night rollers" the "Brazil Hawk" feathers - I see none of them for yet, the "Mit," which I presume have not been for yet except to follow their cleverness, as humans often do. The I saw but few small birds and there seem wild, one was a brilliant black bird size of crow, but movement quick and shy like the English - The people are generally clean in appearance and civil in deportment - Mr. Gato & I find many acquaintances in ~~emerson~~ - He was intimate at school with Henry James. The consul at Para when I was there is his nephew, and Cunningham is a Scotchman ~~is~~ consul at Seville and kind to me there, is a near relative, though never I believe, in America. Doll Foulty of Navy & Robt. Bullock for are also common acquaintances. ~~and the Hunter & Murchison~~ I have not seen a fly on the ship, nor been annoyed with any thing of the sort on shore. The pupae would be my pleasure but for several whistles on board whistling being an almost infallible indication of other low habits including defecation salt spores butter knives etc. - Why we were allowed to land at Para I cannot divine we had a "foul bit of health" from St. Thomas - as ~~we~~ we left Para without trouble we feel secure from our apprehended Quarantine at Rio. I find Mr. Tappan to whom Sam Ward procured me a letter, a very agreeable companion. He is of the firm Zimmerman, Fair & Co. of both Montevideo and Buenos Ayres. The Magellan clouds are in sight about ~~to~~ 15° above the southern horizon. Two of them about 10° apart. They look like small clouds reflecting moon light, but more like irregular maps of Aurora, of a pale degree of light. They have no definite outlines and appear to brighten a little occasionally - perhaps mist causes this or other atmospheric disturbance. The eastern one looks about twice times the size of a full moon and twice as big as the west one. They are nebulous but much brighter than the galaxy and~~

more than at - The little one appears to sink
toward the horizon, as if revolving about the larger
one - for this appeared to maintain its position &
the same distance from the little one as I first
saw them after sun down - The Southern cross is
said to be in sight but I have not been able see it
rise as early as midnight - The horizon is very apt
to be cloudy in the north when it rises, that being
landward when the rainy season now prevails -
we lost sight of the North Star about 3° North - for several
degrees back stars of the same magnitude appear
very sensibly brighter and larger here than they do
~~with us~~ at home - and it seems to me there are
more large stars here, but this is probably only an
atmospheric effect making 2^d magnitude here
appear as first there - we are still stirring the great
current that crosses the Atlantic from toward the
coast of Africa associated with trade & monsoons,
and strikes the American coast just North of St. Roque
passing thence along the coast westward and
through the Gulf of ~~the~~ Caribbean Sea into the
Gulf of Mexico and apparently reappearing in the
Gulf Stream - It runs here 2 1/2 knots or Gyrograph
a Nautical mile per hour - Sailing vessels bound for
Rio de Janeiro this current much, for to avoid it they
have to go from N. York to Cape de Verde Islands
near Africa, and then stand across the Atlantic
again for Rio, but if they fall to the North of Cape
St. Roque they must go back to the African coast
or near it for a new start - Mr. Heyworth on his
voyage from England to Rio, having a drunken Captain
fell behind Cape St. Roque twice, so that in getting
to Rio ~~to~~ once he crossed the Atlantic 5 times,
and believes he might have been much longer
but not the Captains steak of "Brown Stout"
finally given out -

We are near the "doldrums" a "Stone latitude"
a belt a few degrees wide each side of the equator
where a dead calm sometimes holds vessels 40 or 60
days in the same spot - A curious phenomenon called
"Tide Rips" is witnessed in that region - Upon the
otherwise mirror like surface is seen an area
of disturbance circular in form and an acre or so
in extent moving at the rate of about 2 miles per
hour forth with a noise that vessels have often
taken or pulled about at night apprehending the
row to be that of breakers - The waters of these

"rips" are in such violent ebullition that the waves
 of them are 2 feet high - yet so superficial is the
 motive power, that although they often encounter
 and surmount a vessel it is not moved thereby at
 all - The motive power appearing not to be that of
 a current - ~~I should~~ so far as the vessel is concerned
 I should not be surprised if some occult force
 were yet discovered in these rips which may lead to
 the solution of the mystery of the gulf stream and
 other ocean currents and tides.

A captain told me he had seen a dozen of them in one
 day but never saw one form - they were from S.W. to N. East
 Has heard them plainly 1/2 mile off -
 a sailing vessel going from N. York in 42° North; Long. 71 West
 about 71 West, for Rio de Janeiro in 22° South and
 Longitude about 43° West. has to sail about as many
 miles of longitude as she does latitude in order to
 escape the adverse currents & to gain the favourable
 trade - at least they formerly did so, but I believe
 the better ships of later days sail so much better
 than of yore they venture to cross the line as far
 west as 30° of longitude now.

Our Captain Tim Klepauagh is from near Hudson
 a very excellent man, and though weighing about
 235 lbs, stands on deck and puts one foot upon the
 ridge plank that supports the awning - this is
 7 1/2 feet high. He is ~~not~~ 57 years old & 6 feet high.
 He has one foot on deck, no jumping for this feat
 I find it is 7 feet & 3 or 4 inches - The purser has just
 got a commutation of the Capt. & ship generally signed
 but I decline - I think the praise of the table is a far
 higher stretch than the Captains -

There is something almost a match, John Van Buren
 ten different can go where clipped off by hawks within
 one hour - Ross Clinton Gates, our new consul for Paraguay,
 tells me that he got a very considerable sum of money
 from ~~the United States~~ branch a bank in Baltimore -
 He asked the cashier what bills he had better take - and
 was recommended to receive them of U.S. Bank of Philad.
 He did so - Next day he was foolish enough to trust
 himself in church with all this money in his pocket -
 almost as soon as he got out of it he wiped his pocket book
 Defected greatly he went to his hotel and sent for a
 bottle of champagne - On lying down in his room he
 felt a large mass of something in his pants pocket &
 to his great surprise found it was the money he supposed
 he had put in ~~his~~ pocket. He was now happy again -
 Next morning at breakfast he learned U.S. Bank had
 failed and the bills worth only 60 cts on a dollar - Poor Gates
 then mounded the top of his nose a second time

Soon he met his friend Mr Wright who heard his story & told him, he was directed to the bank that gave him the bills - and that was much as the cashier had recommended him to take bills at par at the very time they were at a discount, among others he thought the affair might be managed. The case was represented and good money given for the bills.

I asked today, the French planter from Lafourche Sa, if he knew the Count de Gallon who lived there "why he was my father" - I had a long and pleasant talk with the count at his own house, years ago. The South Carolinians on board appear to expect farming for the poor whites and negroes in Chester district & other this winter, they say there is not 1/2 force enough to go through the season there - They also tell me that the negroes, generally, know a great deal about the stars, and have their own names for many of them and can tell the time of night by them within a very few minutes -

13th we are only a little north of Cape St Roque and see land for the first time since Salina and Mouth of Amazon - It lies very low and level, as is the case all the way from the N. & West of the Amazon - ~~Hydro~~ We have sailed the last 1000 miles probably not over 15 to 25 from the shore most of the way but have not seen it - Flying fish are very numerous today, and one of the beautiful gulls came near us - We have seen very few birds, and scarcely any other fish than flying fish since we left St. York, and not one 6 sails of ships excepting when near an Island or Port - We have seen 4 or 5 Catamarans to day, the first - Some of them out of sight of land, fishing off Lariva -

14th We passed Cape St. Roque yesterday noon - and the shore then soon assumed an aspect of irregular hills 10 miles off not high but reposing and pretty to see with their wooded tops and slopes - This morning at 7 we arrived at Pernambuco and an anchorage outside the coral reef amidst the customs & health office Lutter's sails on here of which I also saw the prettiest I have ever seen, at St. Thomas - I saw St. Roque we entered the famous Brazil Bank the great resort of "Right Whales" formerly, until driven away by our New Bedford and other whalers -

Since the above I have been ashore Pernambuco containing fully 100,000 people with an active trade in sugar & cotton as exports from plantations in its rear, that look like a man wildness of hills prettily wooded and valleys between, that do not exhibit themselves to outsiders - The spirit of improvement evident in Para is very striking

in this very interesting town. Sewage and
stone block pavements, are superceding surface
drainage and cobble streets. The burning portion
of the town points on the little harbour, which is
sheltered from the open sea by the coral reef
which has erected a reef ~~at least~~ as granite or
at least as permanent) about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile long
70 or 80 feet wide and as high as the tide rises.
on this a superstructure of stone or brick some
10 feet high has been erected against which the
sea is dashing with such force as to be thrown in
large jets at least 20 feet above the tops of
the wall. - a little battery with curious flying
terrace balconies stand near the end, a
light house is on the end, and 100 feet from that
in the midst of breakers the prow and bowsprit
of a very rakish looking iron steamer, stand
vertically at least 60 feet above the waves. The
war cracked then a month ago, and her last
mast went by the board about 2 hours after we
dropt anchor in the open roadstead about a
mile from it. - for our steamer drawing 16 feet water
cannot go inside the reef. Close by us lies the
Douro of London at anchor, from Rio for Southampton
and also the french mail steamer Estamand even
(Allegorie Imperial line) from Bordeaux for Rio.
All three of us arrived this morning and all mail
Steamers. - By an iron bridge, this part portion of
the town being on an island, is connected with another
and that again by a long wooden bridge paved
with stone to still another, which a sort of
Damascus suburb like that of Para, when every
house has a grove of palms &c, more pretentious
than the Para suburb but less wild and beautiful
despite brilliant display of beautiful flowering vines
shrubs of large size in full bloom. The variety of
Palms is most top and rich, though very few
coconut trees by thousands and some near 100 feet
high and not over 12 inch diameter 10 feet from ground.
on one tree I thought there must be 1000 the nuts
the green husk and all. - Say over 100 nuts.
I walked under umbrella 6 or 7 miles. - Hot day but I
did not suffer, and in the compact portion of the
town the houses are often high making shade &
draft and as cool as St. Paul, delightful.

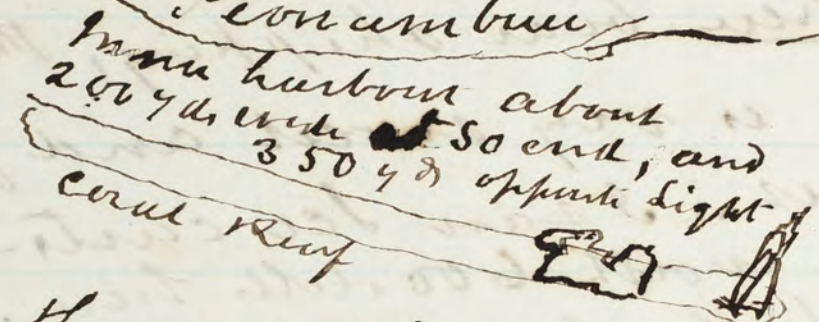
The style seems to be a mixture of modern Spanish, Portuguese & Italian - heavy & lofty walls with mosaic roofs of tile grotesque projections often giving great quantities to the corners of the roofs - one of the streets is among the most beautiful and peculiar I have ever seen any where. The streets are generally pretty straight, but unlike Para they ~~are~~ ^{are} not regularly laid out. Generally clean and good width, but the feet 2 or 3 next the harbor & parallel with the quay (which of stone and masonry of St. Petersburg) are narrow and extremely filthy, and cholera should it visit at the town (which is said to be an unhealthy one) would have much to do. Churches abound and are very good buildings many of them, The pictures ^{in their interior} with few exceptions I thought very wretched - often ridiculous clowns and designs - a good theatre stand on one side of the town, a large prison, and two forts on a beach and fort land Harry north from the town about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles when a fine bold hill rises with trees crowned by a crown and a few other ~~of the~~ buildings ~~with~~ the unusual white stones present a fine and inviting appearance. A rail way runs out into the country, the locomotion looked like a fly trap with a half exploded lucifer match on it - all kind of mechanics are at work and I saw sewing machines, Photographic &c many of the shops are nice with nice goods but not so much so as at Para or St. Thomas. I bought Birkstein with beautifully bound volumes, and the apothecary shop that refers the traveller to those of his native land wherever he finds them for they are the same thing every where. The unusual pattern of glass or china with Latin labels that are as good here as at Rotterdam or New Georgia can boast - a nice shop that about 50 feet wide has the gas lamps only 30 feet apart and thus on both sides - Shopping is pretty chiefly done in cool of evening

I enclose a sample of Brazil cotton (9
for Isaac. I have no doubt I saw 1000 pack
horses (some mules among them) coming into town
loaded with the bag of sugar or cotton - generally
but many others were loaded - I saw ^{fruits & vegetables etc etc} Poultry,
Turkeys, ducks and chickens in great numbers
also Omelets, like New York but larger, with
pappery from out of town - Found teams of
open hauling loads from the country in roads
carts generally with solid wheels that only turn
with the axle - I saw the cattle are poor enough
here but better than at Para or St Thomas.
The cotton is very fine and put in small square
bales of 150 lb each bound with wild vines instead
of ropes - One of our papermen told me they did
the same thing in Carolina during the war,
but it would not there bear shipping, the vines
breaking - The sugar is very sweet and good
but has a bad colour. I saw ice carts.
Good free hands are worth 600 dolls here, I saw
one Negro with front teeth stamped to nearly a point
a young African of recent importation but at
least few people speak English, whom I saw,
Legends numerous in the suburbs 4 to 10 inches
long - gentle & hamper - Saw no annoying insects
a few Buzzard, and more of other birds than at Para
and a variety of very beautiful one came off in cage
for sale - I saw a pair of men in a garden
very like ours indeed in manner voice & appearance.
Cocoanut and other trees are embraced by a vine
here that becomes as it were a new bark on
them several inches thick, as strong as the original
bark ~~clasp~~ on a Parrot green - It looks like
bark bark outside and the first time I saw
it puzzled me to explain how cocoanuts
grow upon a palm tree at top that was
quite another tree for 30 feet from the ground.
I saw large fish 10 or 12 ft long shaped like
sharks head, with long eared dorsal & under fins
I noticed a gully in a grove, like a German
Twoli, also a few European grape vines on trees
in garden, but no fruit on them - at Para -
Plenty of bread but less variety than at Para -

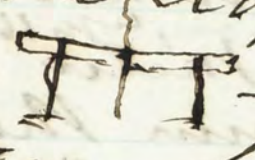
The Pine apples are enormous. 4 times big as ours & twice as large as English hot house production. Dry firm in flavour, scarcely any fibre, and one I tasted entirely without acid. Too ripe too sweet I thought - cucumbers at Parat & here very large and good - Watermelons not large and the one I ate poor. Pumpkins many to be seen every where. Whole forests of Coconut trees all about from top of hills down to the very beaches of white sand. An Iron ship is building under an Iron shed (by the harbour edge) with corrugated roof galvanized Iron. Also several Steam Engines on wheels like those used for threshing grain from farm to farm in England - just out of ship apparently, probably for sugar & saw mills to be set in the country.

Coconut Island, a forest

The Iron bridge was made in England - I saw a mud machine in the harbour
 Peonambue - an American man of war is here
 I see a dark colored wood in logs 10 ft long for export, I presume.



Inside the reef lie about 100 Boats & Ships and a few steamers - among the latter the Proyleus was Steam stealer, built not long ago at St. John and detained there some time, on suspicion of being for loading & unloading vessels that are too large to come inside. Feluccas narrow boats 30 or 40 feet long with ^{2 or 3} logs of wood attached to each gunwale and "Catamaran"; that rest on the water and sustain the vessel against over set. There are very many fishing boats, many of them "Catamaran" a most curious and entirely peculiar feature of the coast. The smallest I saw were not over 12 feet long & 4 ft wide. They go to sea in any weather and live in any storm and on encounter them often out of sight of land. They carry very large sails in proportion to their size, sail with great speed & "close to the wind" more nearly in the direction whence it blows than any other sailing craft. They rarely overtake, but if they do, no matter the most recent might through the other and the men are evenly or much at

known in the water as out, the such
is soon set across and the you bottom up
as well as any way - about 4 light logs of
light wood, pretty much as they come from
the forest, are fastened, loosely together, but
yet strongly - a round stick for a main
supported on each by a standard 3 feet high
with a hole in the ~~top~~ ^{cross} piece through which the
mast passes -  - besides these are two other
similar structures, like a carpenter's saw horse
only lighter and wider, and with 2 little spindles
left only instead of 4 stout ones - One of them
is a seat, on the other has a ground of water to
The craft lies level with the water which
swishes over her as ~~under~~ ^{under} as under - On the
small ones I see two men, but of course
& generally standing - Sea Birds even as we
sail in sight of the coast which continues
hilly and pretty on our right as we run
proceeding toward "Baikia" formerly
"St Salvador"; an very rarely seen - Probably
the sea birds are absent at all times in this
hot climate, which by the by, I still find very
comfortable, with a thin coat by day but which
I usually change for a ~~thick~~ ^{thin} one before I run
down - Mr. Glazier of Hartford ^{Conn.} says that about last
he met a Mr. Hamblin (a German) about 40 years old,
on board the steamer Atlantic on the Mississippi R.
Papermen were testing their ability to ^{raise} ~~raise~~ a chain
from the floor by grasping the "round" below the seat
with one hand only - Said Hamblin I will do
what chain with the heaviest man in the
steamship on it - a bit was immediately taken
and the Engineer weighing 208 lbs placed in
the chain - Hamblin with one hand raised the
chain (by the same round) over a foot.
He did not look particularly strong, but he
said he had practiced this feat ever since he
was 16 years old - On looking at his arm it
was found to have thus developed the ~~off~~ ^{off}

about the size and form of a hens egg -
~~hard~~ hard as a bone, excepting the shell
which appeared, nonchalant. This enlargement
reaches lengthwise across the elbow joint, on
the outer side of the arm - ^{unhappy} ²⁰⁰ ^{to} ^{the} ^{thumb}

I enclose with the collar a few seeds of the
orange water melon from Chester S. Carolina
Size of a large nut-melon, ribs like an
orange and divides in the same way, in
small sections each in a miniature sack

The partus ^{the} ^{nanata} ^a ^{little} ^{than} ^{many} ^{up} ^{to} ¹⁶⁰ ^{lb} ^{on} ^{his} ^{little} ^{finger}
it. - ~~It~~ It has been common there for 10 years
past. If you dare not undertake it, I think
Dummer ^{will} would do his best in his green house

with it. - This steamer consumes from 7 to
800 tons of coal going from New York to Rio. Freight of
a bag of coffee 160 lbs is from 80 to 90 cts. Sep than one
bag for a trunk to the steamer, at New York
The "catamaran" are found between Maranhao
and Bahia - about 1000 miles of coast -
Dec 16th - We arrived at the fine and beautiful

harbour of Bahia ("By hear" ²³⁷⁰ ^{mi} ^{from} ^{St. Paul} ^{and}
the town situated on a side hill lies prettily
before us with its white stucco houses & churches

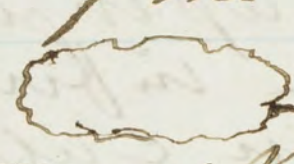
Yesterday we saw a school of Benetes and quite
a flock of Gulls - The coast from St. Roque to the
place was generally in sight, very pretty with
wooded hills of moderate height, occasionally a
light house, and one in a white a small
monadnock towering in the distance above
its humbler companions - The sea has

been almost like a River all the way from
Cape St Roque, and the Capt said he never
saw it otherwise, between there and here -
The weather continues fine light trade and

current ~~now~~ in our favour (from St. Roque)
few moonlight nights, and no rain - indeed
we have none except a few very short showers
since we left N. York - I saw a steam tug here
like those in New York - There has been I have seen one
at all the ports we have been in -

I P.M. I have been to the town - It contains
nearly 200,000 people sugar, Cotton Rose wood
to be our articles of export and I dare say varieties
of tropical fruits. In the harbour we about
80 Brig & Ships besides 2 or 3 Steamers, a few
schooners, and about 1000 like boats

with laticed sails 2 masts, keen looking
 craft of about 20^{or 25} tons burden, covered with
 a roof like deck most of the way, built
 very strongly but look as if they would sail
 like wickets. There are the coasters - I see
 also plenty of light dug out canoes -
 the boats that come to our ship for and
 with paper engines are clumsy bays in the
 main - inferior to those at the other places
 we have called at. The harbor is large
 and protected from the sea by a hilly point
 on the north on which is a very pretentious
 cluster of low roofs from the ends of which
 project a very graceful light towers. The
 side of a couple of miles ^{or more} ~~to~~ ^{along this} ~~to~~ ^{ridge} ~~to~~ ^{of unequal}
 show to the town a retroty ridge of unequal
 hills clothed in palm, mango, guava &
 Barranmas that are absolutely true, though
 of 6 month growth only & herbaceous with the
 towers coco nuts &c by hundreds, is one of a
 beauty, more like a dream than reality.
 On the south, is another similar point with
 a current on its summit famous for the
 country swindles performed or occurring there,
 but every thing from that direction, in fact
 of the town, easterly, lie a number of layers
 and beautiful colored 50 to 400 feet high
 in wooded hills & slopes from 10 to 20 miles off
 into the sea leaving a haven of safety
 in front of the town sufficient for all the
 world's marine, ^{Surrounding} ^{the place}
 but more shores of defense. From the water Bahia
 rises magnificently to a top of the steep hill on
 or 400 feet to the top of the steep hill on
 which most of it is built keeping chiefly
 on the numerous ridges that surround deep
 basins whose slopes on every hand present
 exhibitions of foliage peculiar to the climate
 almost inconceivably rich, ^{various} and wonderful.

16 am told habits render them delectable
though most object at first to their temper-
ture flavoured. Another Palm bears great
clusters of trunk melon looking fruit
and is said to far exceed the real melon
in flavour. The Jaca (Jah ca) is a
large tree bearing a fruit of the size
and form of watermelon 
(20th night I should think some of them)
with a rough coarse, pitted, green
skin much like that our Black sort of
truffle that grows in our swamps.
"Coco" is raised and exported.

The Jaca is very sweet with large seeds &
is eat like a melon. Many domestic pigeons
are brought to market, and fruits in great
variety besides what I mention. Many birds
are sold at the shops for them. I have seen
Scrubbers ^{grayer than ours} at the looms, and hear a munter
much like ours in voice but not so
fine in colour.

In a public Garden which
is another fine one of the barba de, I saw
Sizards & Inker long, but I have not seen seen
the common fraction common to them of our
further states - In a little enclosure there, an
various of Pheasants (3 or 4) some parrots and
the Brazilian striking bird, lighter colour
than our own. I heard the hum of a locust
there much sharper but not louder than ours.
I am told there is a bug about 2 Inker long
that strangers hear and suppose they are
listening to a Rail Road whistle. The
Railway from Bahia goes to 60 miles out but does
not pay

There are 2 signs of shrimps in market, one
of them 3 inches long, dried and the finest looking
I ever saw
The glazier says he has found a man on board
who says he saw a man ^{in each hand} at the same ^{time} by ^{the wind}

15

in all directions led me to suppose a fine
day, but I was told th the custom every Sunday.
The shops are generally open, and also the
markets - where I saw plenty of fresh vegetables
and fruits - I was surprised to find chickens 50 to 60
cts each, though so easily raised - Bananas
about 1 each - though abundant everywhere -
a horse on five days is some times 30 dollars per day
great numbers of soft sedan chairs take one a
mile and back for a dollar, at a rapid pace,
but I walked fully 7 miles without suffering
fatigue - I am told there is no suitable pro-
vision here, I ~~did~~ saw but one carriage
by a chuck, 12 miles a hour, all as good as I could
wish, but more for a city, diamonds are found
not far from here, and one stone is chiefly of
smaller chips, but I am told no lapidaries are
here, the stones being sent away to be cut.
The warehouses along the quay are all recent,
one made green, and high & fine - The
custom house is large and new - and a large
new French Hotel close by it is well kept &
very clean - Merguetto has an asset in all
the ports we have call'd at, but not one of
them equals it. They exclude here I believe
The theatre near the top of the hill has a small
square in front and a sloping terrace of stone
80 or 90 feet high to support it. From this a
fine view of the town, the harbor &
islands - They have gas in the city -
I see little baskets of charcoal in all these parts and
know it used for cooking - They have both white
and red cedar in their countries, plenty of it,
but I was told the coal was probably made of hard wood
In the markets I saw plenty of fine Java apples
Bananas, yams, green coriander, solad,
Bread fruit that looks like and is about the
size of our Pound Pears, with a skin smooth
like that of a black walnut but only more
rough - The tree is very pretty, and one of
them it is said will feed a small
family the year round - The mangoes
here are famous, I find them pleasant

The town has all varieties of street ways of ¹⁴
them consisting of lofty houses on them as narrow
as in Genoa (when a street is often a chasm
not in the narrowest, though 70 or 80 feet deep)
but in the Moorish, Portuguese & Spanish styles,
with roofs of tile exceedingly rich in colour of
various lichens, reminding of Florence, and
often enormous shrubs several feet high upon
them. The place is a second Granada in
many respects, in other Circles and walls set
down Great Cairo. The port is not felt here as
it is in Europe where it is so dense with
its influence, but we have very many of the
interesting features of its cities decorated,
especially clothed, in all the glories of the
tropics. From the deck of our ship I counted
36 churches but I think there are half of them.
I estimate fully 20 of them - not very large but
some of them curious in vulgar fancy, but
generally simple - Courts and murals & arches
chairs attached to most of them.
The Cathedral is said to be the finest church in
Brazil but I saw nothing remarkable in it except
the service. In front of it stands a fine bridge
of great size from Paris. There fountains abound
here as well as at Pernambuco, supplied from
reservoirs on streams back among the hills -
They flow only at bidding and there are certainly
many from them. In both towns I found the water
clear and but warm enough to insure against
the evils of taking too much however treated may
be the thirsty. Some of the French ceilings seem
to me might be considered good by judges, but there
images almost universally ludicrous, or Christ
in particular. The height of the ridiculous and
for low done in misery. The day is secondary
and the many feet of bath (very pleasant to hear)
I speak and valley of London area Rev (the worst
variety that accident & a few more)

I expect Tho Beecher letters will be 17
interesting. - If you want them you
could subscribe for the Elvina
Advertiser - The first one with
appeared probably about last week,
He is a remarkable man, very-
very like a child, full of knowledge
and right feeling, and though a
preacher has all the freedom of
a Catholic priest, without his views
or any bigotry.

The slaves in Brazil have
(many of them) scars on their faces
tribal marks - The Priests are
openly different as a rule I hear
and have no doubt of it - The people
have little or no character in their
faces - Many of the blacks have, es-
pecially the women - This race is
as picturesque as the town itself,
their movements, varieties of burdens
on the head, colours in dress &
crees as hawker, and the very
rich beautiful brown black of some
of the tribes & various shades of
colour in the maps of them and their
admixture renders observation very
interesting - I had a piece of good fortune
in meeting Doct^r Ogden of Kentucky, fled
here 2 years ago from ruin at home
when he had a handsome fortune
He married a Miss Thompson whose

father emigrated from New York
to Kentucky - Ogden father was
born in New Jersey - He lives near
the diamond, 60 miles from the coast
but has to go 200 miles by sea to get
home & then 60 miles on mule back,
there being no roads - He plants rice &
musk, and is getting on again - He
has been 1500 miles up the Nile and
all over Europe with his wife just
before he was seized by the war - His
wife is a musician and he says
speaks & talks to them in whisper very
frequently, and with them - Thermometer
when he lies is now over 90, or below
60° - at the latter temperature they feel
it almost freezing - He looked healthy
and seemed like a very good, sober kind
of man - spoke of his misfortunes without
murmuring, and is very proud of his wife
who he says is a fine singer & musician
and artist, they spent a year in Rome
& Florence on that account, chiefly -
we are now on our way to Rio 730 miles
with the French steamer behind us, which
our Captain has determined shall not
beat us - 730 miles from Bahia to Rio -
Fine weather - Bright moonlight nights,
smooth sea - The Southern Cross is seen
from Lat of N. Thomas, but it was late
and I have only seen part of it at a time
yet - with about the horizon presently -

at St Thomas I found confirmation of villainous
reported there respecting compact between merchants
there and sea captains to defraud owner and increase
exorbitant amounts claimed for repairs to be made when
only small ones had been expended - In Brazil it has
come in for merchants to get out

Slaves, at least disburse on their account
of their owners in Europe or America for a
commission & keeping the piracy secret -

So many desperate adventures resorted to colonies
when there is so little moral restraint their
history is apt to blur & end with criminal crime
and probably few have been more sunk
deeper in that species of degradation than
Nepesin it all during the early period of
settlement there. I was told in Bahia by a
gentleman 2 years resident thereabouts &
family a merchant in the U.S. that he could
portuguese could tell the truth, and that
the negroes were the most reliable class in
the city -

19. To day is cloudy and drizzly but cool, first
raining day we have had. We have been treated
with melons (Water) ~~at~~ ^{at} ~~depart~~ since leaving Bahia,
very good but not equal to ours. Melons in size
say about 15th. The ~~Dr~~ ^{Dr} that we left at Bahia
is ahead of us this morning, and our present
Captain, is nevertheless racing - 17^{or 18} revolutions
instead of 12 or 13. Much betting among
the passengers & crew -

19th We arrived in harbor of Rio about
8 1/2 A.M. ^{Raining} Near the Entrance we passed
some little islands, two of which look much
like the Dumpling islets N. West of Fort Adams
& light house ^{at St. Theresa} ~~Bay~~ Island, 15 miles from
Rio, then comes the Fumana sugar crop on the
left 10 or 1200 feet height opposite to it another -
All these are smooth rocks for a height above
water the water, then green & gold herbs, then
shrub & finally ^{shrub} ~~many~~ everests. One oval
14 or 1500 feet ^{high} ~~not~~ far off - Entrance of
harbor narrow, with forts & Batteries -
The first civic building is a check apartment in
a wilderness of green things. The first steamer
still is ahead leading the way around the
a parcel of Luantana reefs, until we drop
anchor of the City of Rio, with its 400,000 people

birds among the hills not on them, that
 are as green as England though it is now
 midsummer and in the tropics.
 The thousand hills from 200 to 7500 feet high
 present a beautiful effect a sort of Magnific
 St Thomas. ~~Only~~ So numerous the green
 only patches of the town are seen at a town
 from the beautiful bay - As many as 250
 or 300 ships & barks are in the port, among
 them 2 French ^{said} ships of fully 100 guns each, I
 should think. New York Steam Tugs are
 here, and also a regular North River
 ferry boat plying across the bay - and the
 mud machine seems as necessary here as
 with us - Plenty of gulls are sailing about in
 company with a bird of simular habits but
 with a long pointed tail ~~that is new to me~~
 and very long narrow wings on European planes

I am at the ^{Essex} Hotel, which is very
 called also American Hotel. I kept ^{up} an excellent
 comfortable after the steamer. When I have
 a good room I stay up for 1.00 per day, that
 is 2 dollars. I enclose a bill of fare with
 prices attached. The street is wide, the
 City Palace is at the head of it, close by us.

The day is raining again but we had an
 unusually fine passage of 27 days one day behind
 the schedule. We do not know how we got
 off without quarantines. After we left
 St Thomas. I have been around to Wright's
 who offer to do every thing for me. Robert
 Yates Wright is head of the house.

The town is lighted with gas, and at least in
 towns than any place I remember. In the
 narrow streets, the lanterns project from the
 sides of the houses - thus having room. The
 city was paved with blocks from the Isle of
 Wright, and ^{but now they are hired in the neighborhood} ~~it was only supplied with~~
 fine water from a source on "Cerrovado"
 1400 feet above the ^{street 174 drains are over the city} sea - as in Bahia & Pernambuco
 Dec 20th. Rain continues Richard W. Habershon of
 Habershon Co. Geo. nephew of Richard W. & son of a Clegman
 has just called. Suburban I am from Georgia.

Original No 3



Wm. S. Phelps Esq. New York

Newport,

R. I.

Joseph h b letter

no 3