Sutton Voyage

N.Y. to California

204 Days Around The Horn

January 1st. 1849. This is an excellent day in the annals of my life. I have met friends and country to go to seek my fortune in a far distant land towards which cities and towns have emigrating. What is the cause of this universal excitement which is turning the heads and hearts of the people? Simply this: that gold mines have been discovered in California (a newly acquired possession of the United States) and to this country thousands are going impelled with the same desire which induced the inhabitants of old Spain quit the shores for a newly discovered continent.

[illegible]

[illegible]

Rough Notes - [illegible] Jan 4th to 14th to.

Jan 29 -

See - Article by Court Reporter - Jan 31, 1847 attached to last page

done

day many

3.

4 The Lambeth Pads

5 12

6

7

8 Wind N.

9

10

11

12 Sunday

Stock. Cr.

Cash.

Profit & Loss.

	1 5 2 0
	1 9 3 0
	2 0 3 5 2
	1 9 2 8
	3 0 7 2
	1 7 2
	1 3 4

[illegible]

Jan 4 Very rough, lying to all day, few vessel upon our weather quarter at a great distance. Wadsworth & Palmer like very sick. Not probably well. Jan 5 Also very exceptionally Wadsworth and Palmer. That morning, having after noon strong wind and rough. Quite lively sea.

Jan 6 Wadsworth also dead. Cabin very uncomfortable. Puppies fresh air & he ~~[illegible]~~ got chilled out of his poor puppy dog. Wadsworth thoroughly dead when light blew.

Jan 8 Three dead. Stack gaff punched in the evening to deal with the 30 or 40 of Mexicans. Moment the pattern for a little lighter. Jan 9 The first whale made its appearance and towed up. Work cannot begin for dinner which we considered at least that hours begin shall be lost irrecoverably forever.

Jan 10 Pleasant day.

Jan 11 Passed a quiet night. The first since leaving home. Very pleasant all day upon deck. Thermometer warm enough to ~~[illegible]~~ dispense with our coats.

Jan 12 Light blowing almost a gale
[illegible] all the day keeping the
passengers [illegible]

Jan 13 Pitch [illegible] flying fishes
[illegible] the ship

Jan 18 [illegible] death. Lower [illegible] the quar-
[illegible] have [illegible] pleasant
row upon the boat [illegible] dull [illegible]
night [illegible] two vessels about 2 miles
[illegible] death happened.

Jan 19 One of our passengers, [illegible] the [illegible]
[illegible] out of the trough of [illegible]
proof brandy [illegible] when
a person must have something to keep
up his spirits.

Jan 20 The same person [illegible] the steam
[illegible] to day. I cannot
blame him much for it is very cruel

Jan 21 Rough weather [illegible] on
[illegible] the quantity
[illegible] Pepper [illegible] the last three
great numbers of different kinds
of [illegible] around.

Jan 22 Very cruel [illegible] plaguing
the order of the day in the cabin.

Jan 23 Saw a whale spout near
the ship. Some of the passengers in
the mizzen top. Pleasant day.

Jan 24
[illegible]

Jan 2
[illegible]

Jan 2
[illegible]

Jan 2
[illegible]

Jan 2
[illegible]

Jan 2
[illegible]

Jan 2
[illegible]

Jan 30
[illegible]

Jan 24. A dull day but we had a fine dinner to make up for it.

Jan 25. Pleasant day. One of the crew (Emery) fell over board. The man happened to caught himself in the quarter & hurt his back.

Jan 26. Had a pretty sale of our fish to supper for $50 in San Francisco. I have the promise of more which he is about to bring to Astoria. Astoria is at the mouth of the Columbia River. Pleasant day.

Jan 27. Pleasant day.

Jan 28. Sunday. It being a beautiful day the Captain & crew visited the seal rocks & killed a few which most of the men ate. The stewards found "Emerson" cannot fish seal meat & quit "lumpy duff".

Jan 29. Before breakfast Clough & Dorsey had a row upon the quarter deck. The former told the latter that he lied." They close in. Were separated by the Capt. & passengers. Caught a large flying fish flew aboard. Pleasant day.

Jan 30. All hands went to work this morning with draperies and swabs and cleaned up the cabin. In the afternoon organized a Court for the settlement

difficulties that might arise during the remainder of the voyage. Very pleasant day, remarkably so.

Feb 3. A very quiet and pleasant day. This evening was had a dance upon the quarter deck by moonlight. Feb 4. Another quiet day. Danced ashore in the evening. Sing upon the quarter deck.

Feb 5. The Captain and the third had a quarrel today and the mate was ordered off the quarter deck. Passed a very pleasant evening playing a game of dominoes & talking over matters and things with Tupper. Pleasant day.

Feb 6. Mr Clough and Mr Whitten friendly to a game. Temperance Meeting in the evening upon the quarter deck. Masters Wadsworth Sawyer and Johnson did all the talking. About 15 of the passengers signed the "Pledge" among others the Captain and his brother.

Feb 7. Sunday. Service on deck conducted by Mr Wadsworth. This afternoon the two cooks had a fight one had the other upon the chuck and took a piece out. Pleasant day.

Jan 16, 18-?

Thomas to Cooke – W.
aboard Ship Sutton lat 31.16
long 37.00

done

At Sea, on board Ship Sutton Lat 31 Long 37.00
January 14th 1849.

Dear Mother.

The day is fine and calm. The pleasantest we have had since our departure from New York. It is just half past-twelve. A ship has hove in sight we are bearing down to speak her and as she ~~is bearing towards~~ may probably be bound for some port in the United States I set down to inform you all that I can. I was in hopes to have spent New year with my friends as it was I made but two calls in my way from Mrs Ogden's where I had been to send away my things one upon Mrs Clark and the other upon Mrs Brown. I was glad to have called upon Mrs C. Perhaps I saved my reputation in doing so. An advertisement in one of the papers stated that a young man by the name of Stoddard had been guilty of forging a check upon his mother and as the description of the person answered mine very much she had some reason to suspect it was me. I requested her to save the price and hand it to your which she promised to do. Let me speak of other things. I sent several letters by the pilot and among them one to you. The Steam boat left us a few miles this side Sandy Hook. We set sail immediately. The weather

has not been ~~quite~~ pleasant since we left New York. The ~~sea~~ very rough, all the passengers are sick and are so in three or four days. The winds very favorable until within two days. We are now with two thousand miles run home about in the middle of the Atlantic. Soon we hope to get in the trade winds and make the Cape de Verd Islands upon the coast of Africa from thence we shall steer towards Cape St Roque the most easterly point of South America. God speed us on our way and grant us a fair wind. There are twenty six cabin passengers a jolly set of fellows. We have plenty of fun and frolic being under no restraint whatever. The notary wife is the only woman on board. She is confined to her state room most of the time. The weather is so mild in this latitude I ~~have slept~~ go with on my pants shirt and slippers. Every night we sing and smoke besides joke and revert to scenes at home. You may tell Mrs Van Doren that I preached a sermon the first that has been delivered on board. I got into the quarter boat & made this for a pulpit. The sermon was not one of those which Mrs Van D gave me but in of holiday I do not wish you to think I am the regular pastor. By no means, Mr Wadsworth is, he read the morning service but being so weak he requested me to deliver the sermon. I may be called upon again if so I shall select one of Mrs Van D's

I think of
no [illegible]
but before
[illegible]
[illegible]
of [illegible]
the pass
letter must
to be de
Remember
friendly an

J. O.

portunity
English

I think of you all very often. As yet I have further no intention of coming to see any of my friends but before I leave California I expect I shall come to see you all very often. Some or later I shall let you know I feel confident of but the time may be a little which I cannot. The vessel is receiving its last and my letter must be ready to place in the packet to be directed to the care of Mr Trenchard

Remember me to all about and enquiring friends and believe me

Your affectionate Son

Joe Wheeler

P.S. I shall write to you again the first opportunity. The ship is thought to be an Englishman bound to London or Cuba