

the Capt'n expected we should have until reaching the
sun which was vertical about 18 north - Of course
this was very bad for our progress - but this constant
breeze so moderated the temperature that we thought it a
great boon - for it must indeed be fearfully hot in this
small crowded ship, in calms, with a nearly ver-
tical sun - With the exception of today & one other,
we have had adverse winds ever since May 7th - ra-
ther an unusual thing I fancy -

As much for that part of the voyage - As to the people, they
are a peaceable well disposed set & have got on very well
together, I believe rather enjoyed the voyage, & each
others society - I must not clap my self among
them, not being able to say I've done either -

I liked the white heads, especially Mr G, was sorry
when they left at St Helena - & I like & respect Mr
Glover - but tho' his kind friendly ways sometimes to
me have been pleasant, yet we have too little in com-
mon to be at all real friends, & besides there doesn't
seem to me to be very much in him - Do you know
what I mean? Its unsatisfactory when there seems
no depth in people - when one dives into them even-
tally, & comes suddenly out on the other side, long be-
fore you want ^{to do so} - But their being on board has been
indirectly a great protection & comfort in many
ways - He is the only man on board worthy of the name
of Gentle man - besides Capt'n Spencer & perhaps Mr

John Anderson - but the latter is a very silent
reserved invalid, so I only know him negatively, so
to speak - You will recognize their names as in the
list you kindly copied for me - Capt'n Spencer, about
whom if you remember we indulged in various
speculations, turned out to my surprise ^{to be} an old ac-
quaintance of my sisters, & slightly of my self - One
whom I had met at Grandmama's seven or eight years
ago - He knows most of my Aunt's & Uncle's, some of
them very well - I saw many of them just before leaving
England last November - It was so pleasant to meet one
who'd give me such late personal news of them - &
whom in this wilderness of strangers seemed almost
like a friend - I did not find it out until we were
at "Ascension" which was May 4th - Very kind &
pleasant & friendly he has been to us both ever since -
but ^{is} one of those polished kind of people who have seen so
much of the world & of that hollow thing we call in Eng-
land Society - that the real natural part of him, if much
of it is still left, is so far down that one can't get at it - &
when that's the case I can't feel real friends with any one -
He was in the Rifles - but has sold out now, & is I fancy
just travelling about for his pleasure - He paints min-
utely & has given us two pleasant mornings looking over
his portfolios - Many beautiful views taken in the
Crimea - He is 38 - It has been very pleasant feeling
there was a gentleman on board whom I've a right

to ask for help or protection - because he at once
kindly offered his services - You know my creed a-
bout those kind of things - I mean asking favours -
It is now Friday morning 31st we are steaming up
the Channel in a thick drizzling fog which makes every
thing damp & dreary & the whistle continually shriek-
ing to warn other ships of our neigh^{ly}bourhood - My hands
are so cold I can hardly write legibly - tho' trying hard -
for I don't want to tax your time or patience much -
You will please tell me Dr Bleek, when you do write,
if you could read this easily - To return to our fellow-
travellers - Mrs Colting, the widow of the Moravian mission-
ary, is a nice pleasant woman - but ^{she} speaking but little
English I could not know much of her - until finding
out a few days since she spoke French - since which
time we've had some pleasant chats - Miss Asten
I also rather like - a middle aged, sensible, independent
woman - who has been engaged for some ^{English} Society for
promoting education - at the Cape - These are the only
people on board I've at all cared to be with - Having
seen Mr Fisher has been a great comfort & protection as
you may fancy - We've had a good deal of fun in our ca-
bin (a very comfortable one by the bye) & I daresay rather
surprised any one who overheard our merry laughter -
For I fancy I'm looked upon generally rather in the
light of a Dragon or some other unpleasant phe-
nomena - for one or two people ventured to take li-
berties with me notwithstanding my extreme

BC 151 C 812
"The Celt" about 150 miles from Plymouth -
Thursday night May 30th 1861 -
My Friend -
I wrote a few lines to you just before reaching
St Helena & left it there to be posted after we had left
otherwise you know it would have been put with the
St Helena mail ^{that} we are taking to England - As I've
just a hope it may reach you before you receive
this - I am so wishing to know how - & where - you
are - I do hope not suffering from the winter weather,
at least not much, for I fear you must feel it a
little, even if at Natal - I wonder if you are there -
& if you've seen Loui - & how you like her -
I should have had a long letter written ere now to you,
but have not been at all well during the voyage, a very
seldom equal to writing; so have only this evening fi-
nished my first letter - to Loui of course - & now
begin to you - You said I was to tell you about our
voyage & fellow passengers - I will try -
You will see by my date that we are making an un-
usually long passage - but, with the exception of
two rough days with very strong head wind this week in
the Bay of Biscay, it has been a very fine one as to
weather - only one rainy day, & three or four hot ones -
for we carried the South East Trades up to crossing the
line May 6th & the very next day caught the North
East Trades - instead of meeting with the calms which

London June 4 — To my dearest
 Thus must go at once, so I
 only add one line to say
 we've arrived safely — I shall
 tell you all the rest ready
 for next mail or perhaps
 for another chance if

hosted in London tomorrow.
At Kensington it must be posted
a day earlier - I'm pretty well
- have rec'd a dear note of wel
come from Aunt Fanny - the one
I told you I like best - but she is at
Brighton, so dear Mrs Fisher
makes ~~her~~ stay with her a
week or so to finish my
London commissions it is -
I've not yet seen the Dr. but
shall soon - only think - the
"bark" in which the Vanderzons sailed
on Feb 4 27 from Natal has
not arrived - I am so
frustrated for she had called
at St Helena on March 27th
so she ought to have been
here 3 weeks ago - she had
no lightening conductor too -
So tell me all about yourself
when you write - Goodbye my
dear friend - very sincerely
your intro due to Messrs Trübner has

been such a beth - he was so
kind to ask much after
you - I've just come back
from city - I hope you'll
read this tho' very sorry it's so
bad, to trouble you but I'm in
that haste I can hardly
form a letter -

received 18 July (1)
answered 22 July (1)

BC 151 C8.2
quickness of demeanour - so I had to put a stop to that;
I did it in rather a decided manner - which I believe
has fortunately made people rather afraid of me - I
am fortunate, because much as I dislike any thing
furious in a woman, yet almost any thing is better
than not being able to take care of yourself when with
no natural protector - Oh we laughed so this morn-
ing, some one whom I'd offended yesterday - a great un-
-naturally boy - was trying to find out from Mr Fisher
how old I was, & gave ^{it as} his opinion that I must be at
least 38 - I was so "crabbed" - But if you saw what a set
the men here are, with the afore-said exceptions, &
what free & easy manners almost all the ladies permit -
you would understand how any one who doesn't choose
to have that sort of thing is rather unpleasantly placed -
I've thought of you so many times - & how you wd
tell me I was "very vicious" sometimes - were you
here - Mr Fisher has been pretty well & I think
liked the voyage - people much better than I have.
You know she is more easily pleased - besides of course
being more pleasing - I was better than few days be-
fore we reached St Helena than I've felt since - until
this week - I've suffered from seasickness whenever
it was the least rough & indeed quite half the days
of our voyage have been too giddy ~~to~~ ^{to} read or
work at all - or even to think with comfort - so you
can understand how, being very much alone, it's been