

1 50 babies on board, as near as I can calculate by the music, and every one of them has the cholic [colic],  
2 as near as I can find out.

3 May 3<sup>rd</sup>. A very stormy day. Mrs. Van and the girls are decidedly sick of the sea, but this is the way  
4 home which is the only comfort they have in their great uneasiness. I fortunately being exempt from the  
5 horrors of sea-sickness have enjoyed the rocking, plunging, and heaving of the ship immensely. The  
6 storm cleared up toward evening, and the ladies were able to be on deck for an hour, which added much  
7 to their comfort, and I hope to their speedy and entire recovery.

8 May 4<sup>th</sup>. This has been a lovely day. The ladies were able to take their meals at the table and have been  
9 on deck most of the day. I have kept my watch running on Liverpool time, and, as it is 2 ½ hours fast,  
10 proves that we are half way to New Your or in mid-ocean. Therefore, if we are fortunate, we shall  
11 conclude our ocean voyage next Monday evening.

12 These mighty waves from little ripples grew  
13 And teach a lesson, heeded but by few.  
14 The tiny ripple, infant of the sea,  
15 May represent a youth of low degree.  
16 Each added force is saved, and by and by,  
17 The ripple is a wave run mountain high.  
18 The self-made man arises by degrees,  
19 And grows in power like these mighty seas.  
20 Each, the result of accumulated force,  
21 And nothing can restrain their onward course.  
22 Still the proud wave may dash against a rock,  
23 And end its power in one tremendous shock.  
24 So may a man reach almost kingly power,  
25 Want a "third term" and vanish in an hour.  
26 That is not very poetic I guess.  
27 It's all true, however, nevertheless.

28 The new steam ship "City of Berlin" of the Inman line left Liverpool 24 hours after we sailed, overtook  
29 and passed us at 9 this evening. Our captain sent up rockets by way of salute to his fast competitor, and  
30 the compliment was returned in kind. The Berlin will probably arrive at N.Y. 24 hours before us, making  
31 the trip in two days less time. I am satisfied with the velocity of our ship, particularly if by chance an ice  
32 berg or becalmed ship should lie in our track on some foggy occasion. Perhaps a fast steamer might get  
33 by before the ice berg could get in her way, very true, but she might over take one before it could get  
34 out of the way.

35 May 5<sup>th</sup>. Strong head wind during the night. The morning clouds with rain and high wind. Ladies take  
36 their meals at table regularly and begin to enjoy the trip. This evening the sea runs very high, and our  
37 ship in mounting the waves lifts her propeller entirely out of water when it becomes a wind-mill instead  
38 of a water wheel. There is great danger of breaking something in such case as the engines run with  
39 frightful velocity when the wheel becomes a wind mill. A steamship of the Cunard line passed this  
40 evening. We had quite a display of rockets & Roman candles by way of salute. The Cunarder left N.Y. on  
41 Saturday evening. She has been 4 days in meeting us with a fair wind. We expect to make the distance  
42 in 5 days with the wind ahead of us.