

dreds of thousands of ignorant and disappointed emigrants—if the accommodation was of the rudest kind; if there were no steamers in whose machinery the latest improvements had been adopted, many of them invented in the United States; and if the cabin was not provided with good libraries, or the table covered with newspapers, literary magazines, and reviews. It is precisely because there is so much civilization in the western states, that foreigners criticise them unfairly, contrasting their condition with the highest standard of older countries.

The authority of the captain is absolute, and he does not hesitate, if any unruly spirit is refractory, and refuses to conform to the regulations of the ship, to put him ashore at the nearest place on the bank where he can be landed; but I never happened to see so strong a measure resorted to.

The newspapers on the cabin table of the Andrew Jackson had a column headed in capitals, "Five Weeks later from Europe." The mail packet had been detained by adverse winds longer than usual, and the uneasiness respecting the chances of a war with England, still the subject of debate in Congress, had risen to a great height. Many lovers of peace had misgivings lest the English democracy, growing at last impatient, should express themselves with violence, and excite the war party here. The first glance at the news relieved them from anxiety, for the English were entirely absorbed with Free Trade, Cheap Bread, and the admission of foreign grain without duty. The Cabinet were too well satisfied that the people's attention was drawn off from foreign affairs to obtrude the American question unnecessarily on their attention. One of the politicians on board, who had been reading an account of the proceedings of the Anti-Corn-Law League, and the parliamentary debates on the Corn Duties, confessed to me, that the omission of all allusion to America—the English being so entirely occupied with their domestic affairs—wounded his feelings. "Here we have been talking," he said, "for three months about nothing else but Oregon, imagining that the whole world was looking on in suspense, at this momentous debate, and even in Great Britain it has been forgotten for five entire weeks! What an absurd figure we are cutting!"