

United States to Rio during eight years, from 1834 to 1841. The shortest passage occurred in the year 1835, and the longest in 1840. The former by a very fast vessel in twenty-nine days; the latter by an ordinary merchant-ship in ninety days. The Relief, our store-ship, had one hundred days in 1838! but this includes touching three days at the Cape de Verdes.

It will be seen that the average monthly passage does not vary but a few days throughout the whole eight years. The winter months are the most favourable, in consequence of the strong westerly winds that prevail in the North Atlantic at that season, and also to the prevalence of the northeast monsoons on the coast of Brazil.

Our observations would point out the necessity of dull-sailing vessels not crossing the equator to the westward of  $20^{\circ}$  of west longitude, where the equatorial current begins to be felt; but vessels that sail well, may cross it as far as  $26^{\circ}$  W., particularly when the northeast monsoons prevail in their full strength, and very much shorten their passage by such a course.

During the repairs, I endeavoured to employ my time and that of the officers and scientific gentlemen in as advantageous a manner as possible. We are indebted to the Hon. William Hunter, our charge d'affaires, and our consul, William Slacum, Esq., for many kindnesses and attentions received during our stay. Through their intercession, I obtained the use of the small island of Enxados, which was well adapted to our purposes. The instruments and stores were allowed to be landed there free of inspection, and every assistance we could desire was afforded us by the government and its officers. How different a policy and treatment from that pursued towards Captain Cook some seventy years before, under an ignorant and jealous colonial government!



WATERING PLACE, PORTO PRAYA.