

My dear Mother

I have arrived in Bombay after a long  
 & pleasant passage of one hundred and fifteen  
 days. I hope to see you very much, there  
 is so much warm weather, which agrees with me  
 very well. We had some very hard gales of wind  
 off the Cape of Good Hope but that only lasted for  
 two or three weeks. I had a very severe attack of  
 cholera the night before Christmas day, and was  
 nearly a gone case but thanks to a very large  
 amount of medicine I have nearly recovered. I  
 am now working in the hold, it is very hard work  
 at all. I like it better than being on deck in the  
 rain doing nothing. The half of the crew are  
 sick and the other half keep watch on the poop  
 for show that they are doing their duty. You  
 must have seen that a drunken Indian never  
 gets into the hold. He is a very disagreeable  
 fellow when you see him on board. Well, he was  
 charged from the ship the other day for  
 being drunk.



the captain. He was fourth mate this voyage.  
The captain of course would not take him with him  
any more. The gunner has now got a berth as  
second mate of this large steamer, getting  
twenty-five rupees a month which is equivalent  
to five pounds, ten shillings. I rather think he has gained  
it. We shall not bring a fifth mate home, as  
the fifth is to be made fourth. I sent my  
letter of introduction ashore when I first got in  
but have not heard of any but one. That was  
to Mr. Smith, from the Little Belton. I was treated  
very well but like every where else in India all the  
great ones seem to be  
dois to visit you all names and then think no  
more of you. This can not present the one to the  
gone and I am afraid that I shall not be here in about  
but will be here in about  
have shall not be here in about  
I would advise that I shall not be here in about  
letter on sending this can not present the one to the  
I am sending this can not present the one to the  
in about as I shall not be here in about  
as the one is not at present the one to the  
time. I shall not be here in about  
are all well at home. The one to the  
I shall not be here in about  
and day have taken a new



Not hearing that the mail left, day after <sup>to-morrow</sup>  
Have stayed on board in order to write to you.  
It is remarkably dull in Bombay unless you know  
some one to go to. I wish I knew some one  
intimate, to whom I could go whenever I liked.  
As it is now all one can do is to drive about in a  
ruggy or palanquin, in a boiling hot sun,  
and see lots of black people of all casts and  
sets, viz. Parsees who are the most wealthy  
and influential next to Europeans, Mahomedans,  
Arabs, Turks, Moors, Hindoos and every thing you  
can imagine. It is very beautiful to see the  
temples, Bazaars &c which are at every turn.  
We live in the berth like fighting cocks. We have  
fowls, capons, meats of all description and every  
thing good. Things are mostly very cheap  
especially white trousers, which are only  
a rupee and a half a pair, which is, three



shillings. I have ordered half a dozen pair.  
If you like I will get a quantity sufficient to  
last me for several voyages to come, as I shall  
never again, perhaps, have so good a chance.  
We shall leave Bombay by the twentieth of January  
or the first of February at latest so that I shall  
be at home by the beginning of May. Will any thing  
wonderful be going on at that time. We have had  
a very nice girl on board on the passage out  
and of course I entered the lists in her favour,  
and consequently came out victorious. I am  
now greatly chuffed about her, but I take great  
credit to myself, mind you, as she was the only  
young lady on board. She has gone up the country  
now, but I receive letters from her frequently. I  
had a very narrow escape with my life this  
passage. We were hove to off the Cape of  
Good Hope in a gale of wind, and tho' to see