

passed up the North River, made a circuit toward the Jersey shore, and stood down in the direction of the Narrows. As we thus again passed the Battery and the immense multitude (not less than fifty thousand) congregated on it, we received their parting benedictions, re-echoed from the decks of the steam-boats who accompanied us.

Thus escorted, proudly and gallantly we winded our way till we reached the Narrows, nine miles. Here we "lay to," while boat after boat approached us, and took from our decks his Excellency William M. Marcy, the Governor of the State of New York, Mr. Bradish, the Speaker of our House of Assembly, many of our municipal officers and most distinguished citizens, together with two or three hundred friends of the passengers who had accompanied us thus far on our voyage. Then followed the parting cheers—the heartfelt "God speed you," gratefully responded to—and all but five of our splendid escort of steam-boats took their departure. Again we proceeded on our course, with many a watery eye among us—the mind involuntarily recurring to all that *might* happen to our relations and friends before we again meet; but there was no time permitted for such reflections. The gallant steamers still playing around us, the music and the shouts which at intervals proceeded from each, and the responses which we were constantly called upon to make to their greetings, made us feel that we were still "at home"—still surrounded by the warm hearts of friends and countrymen, doing honour to the noble ship in which we floated, and sending forth good wishes and solemn prayers for our prosperous voyage to the shores of merry England.

And now all is quiet, and the excitement is past. The last shout from the thousands on board the steam-boats, as one after another they passed under our quarter, giving and receiving three hearty cheers, have died away—the last gun has been fired from our bows, and as its rumbling sound went booming over the bosom of the broad Atlantic, I could not but imagine that it was conveying to the shores of England the cheering intelligence that our adventurous barque was on her return, and calling upon the inhabitants of Bristol to give her such a reception as shall in a measure correspond with the high honour bestowed upon her by their *neighbours* of New York. In the distance we can still see our volunteer escort of steamers, vying with each other in friendly strife to reach their homes; and now the pilot, the last link between the retreating shore, our homes, and ourselves, is quietly passing in his frail skiff to the beautiful skipper waiting his arrival. He too is gone—a dead silence pervades all, where but recently all was life and bustle; and now the merry voices of the sailors, and the prompt and energetic orders of the Captain, passed rapidly from officer to officer, recal us from the thoughts of home and friends to conjectures upon the length of our voyage. By universal consent twelve days is the period fixed upon, and I confess I should not be surprised if it were accomplished in eleven. That the passage will be made in less than ten days, within the period of two years, I do not entertain a doubt, any more than I questioned the entire success of this noble enterprise, from the time it was first announced. Every moment increases my confidence in the security and capabilities of the Great Western, and if we do not dine in Bristol on the evening of the twelfth from this, it will be solely attributed to some unfortunate occurrence, which cannot now be reasonably anticipated.

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#### APPENDIX—No. VI.

##### STEAM COMMUNICATION BETWEEN BRISTOL AND AMERICA.

At a Public Meeting of the Merchants, Bankers, and Citizens of Bristol, held the 7th of June, 1838, in the Guildhall,

*The Right Worshipful JOHN KERLE HABERFIELD, Esq., Mayor, in the Chair,*

The following Resolutions were passed unanimously :—

Moved by DANIEL CAVE, Esq., and seconded by C. PINNEY, Esq.,

1.—That this City hails with delight the opening of Steam Communication between Great Britain and the United States of America, as the certain means of drawing closer the intimacy and of promoting the prosperity and happiness of both countries.