

54 is snapping at the heads of the hens in the hen coops on the poop.
One came to grief at this game; going outside the poop rail, to
turn the rear of the foretop, I suppose, he dropped overboard.
Of course at this part of the voyage we sight & pass the usual
amount of outward bound ships; & on Thursday morning early
we passed within sight of Madeira, not very close, as at break
fast time it showed like high blue haze. The day following
we passed Palma at about the same distance, one of
the Canaries. Dolphins - bonitos flying fish & whales are al-
ways seen ~~are always seen~~ in their proper latitudes, so you may
suppose we saw our share of them all. In the beginning of the
week 6 stowaways gave themselves up; how they had concealed

themselves so long, supposing they came from London, is a wonder.
One was a boy about 11. He was given to the boatswain to slave
for him, & the other went into the forecabin. With the light
winds of course the screen was going all the week: but to show
you how accustomed one gets to its hum, on Tuesday night
about 12 they stopped the engines for 2 hours to repair some-
thing, & immediately I woke, missing the already familiar
noise; & I did not settle into satisfactory sleep till it began
again. But on Friday they lifted the screen for the first time,
& as a proof that we have caught the N.E. trades it is
matter for congratulation, tho' these trades are neither
strong nor steady at this season. The operation of hoisting