

catching in the contagion of innocent pleasures, & must serve as an excuse for much of the levity of this Log. At 7.45. pm we began early when I went to dress, I had made up my mind that it would be a failure as far as dancing went, as she was rolling so much - & so I congratulated myself on having saved myself the trouble of filling up my card as did some of the eager youngsters. But to my amazement the ladies did not get alarmed at the concussions which were unavoidable in the rolls & lurches: & as people began to enjoy themselves & enter still more into the spirit of it, the dancing was not allowed to flag, although the sea kept getting more boisterous. It was no

job I can tell you to receive the weight of 2 or 3 couples at once shop on one, as one was resting against a bulkhead: the alleys too between the cabins were awful traps, 2 or 3 couple would be shot down then one on the top of the other. You will perhaps after this sketch of the accidents be inclined to think that waltzes & galops ~~little~~ can have been little better than rumps: I really assure you we had some capital dances in spite of the awkwardness of finding oneself & partner struggling uphill one minute, only to ~~run~~ down hill the next. Our end of the Cuddy aft from the Mizzen was curtained off with flags for the dances, the tables all cleared away. The other tables forward on the other side of the