

second number of the British Empire Gazette was issued today, it was an improvement upon the first, it is to be made a longish book concern of, and printed when we reach St. James, to enable us all to have copies to send home so I will not burden my friends with any more extracts unless by way of enlightening my dull narration of facts, for instance, things by their right names.

If by their names we things should call
It surely would be properer!
to term a singing piece a tawol (ball).
and a dancing piece a hopperser (opera).

10th Sunday, as usual a vessel in sight, in the course of the day she came near enough to signal, she was the "Tribune", 46 days out from Sunderland & Callao. 11th ascended to the engine top to read till the heat sent me down again, the theatricals came off this evening and proved a decided success. I will not enter into full particulars as they will doubtless duly appear in the Gazette, the stage was a temporary erection between the butthead and the wheel house, with an awning, suspended above, the scenery consisted of flaps, and the footlights of preserved sweet stews, cut down, and filled with carb with floating wicks, the audience were seated on benches on each side of the quarter deck, and every available space from whence a view of the stage could be obtained, such as the bulwarks & rigging & engine house was crowded, some remarked that they wished their friends could see the animated scene, the weather could not have been more favourable, a bright moonlight night with little or no wind consequently the vessel was all but motionless, some of the actors went through their parts admirably especially the doctor (Dr. Nash) who took the part of Mr. Patrick Ryan and Irish dancing man in the play called the "Irish Tiger" suppose but an Irishman (which he is) could have acted so well, Dr. Monk as Brother Silberry was also excellent, there were two plays and in the interval between them we were entertained with some songs, Dr. Burgess (the fourth mate) in female attire was the first to favour the company he was followed by Dr. Monk with song "Merry Merry England" with much effect, especially as it possessed a chorus, "The Village Blacksmith" was next effectively delivered by Mr. Spuchley (both were excellent) and "Old Hot Kidley" in character, concluded the portion of the entertainment.