

The 31st was a splendid day with bright sunshine, we sailed 50 to 60 leagues in 12 hours. This fore noon at 10 our ship had sailed just half the distance of our voyage, the other half we might make with favorable winds in 10 or 12 days; but it might take 20 or 30. So we passed the joyous month of May on the water where no blossoms or flowers perfume the air, but where we suffered fear, sorrow and pain, with but few joys between. Only a firm confidence in God, and the hope that over there in America a better future smiles upon us inspires and keeps us from despair.

Sunday the first of June is again a day of pleasure if one dare enjoy pleasure here. In the brightest sunshine all day the ship ran through the water like an arrow, without rolling; the most of the people [who] were on deck sang, jested, smoked and disputed. Only I and a few others were confined to our beds. Yet I do not for an hour wish myself back into my valley of sorrow. The voyage of life often leads over heights, but the harder the climbing the greater the joy after reaching the goal. Everything bears witness to God's wisdom. When one has always partaken of the good then there is no longer pleasure in its enjoyment. We have thus begun June well, and hope to see its end as good, for then I trust we will be on the land. The second is like yesterday clear and bright with good winds. I was enough better to be able to work, for the people pressed me much for tinware. The third was also pretty fair. We have had it quite warm for several days so that we sweat in our close berths without covering. We imagined we scented American air.

Today the 4th we made less progress, yet some, for we had only side winds. This evening we again had an unusual incident. The wife of Hilarius Wild of Schwanden who was pregnant suffered pain all day, her husband asked if possibly they were pains of labor, she said it could hardly be as the time of her delivery was not until August, but this evening she was delivered of a premature but living child. It lived until morning the 5th, when it died and was