Timeline of Laura Jernegan's Voyage



Congress approves the Homestead Act, which gives free farms to settlers and sets off Westward expansion.

The Civil War end after four years when the Confederacy surrenders to the



The Transcontinental
Railroad is completed on
May 10th, joining the
Union Pacific and Central
Pacific railroads at
Promontory Summit,
Utah Territory.

Congress ratifies the 15th Amendment, giving African Americans the right to vote. Women would have to wait another 50 years to vote!



The Great Fire destroys much of Chicago.

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Laura Jernegan is born on June 29th in Edgartown, Massachusetts.



1865 1868

Laura begins writing her journal on board *The Roman.*



1869

Captain Jared
Jernegan, Laura's
father, and her uncle
Captain Nathan
Jernegan meet for a
"gam" at an agreed
upon spot in the ocean.

1870

Helen, Laura and
Prescott Jernegan stay
in Honolulu while
Captain Jernegan sails
to the Arctic to continue
hunting whales.

1871

Helen, Laura and Prescott return to New Bedford; later this year *The Roman* is crushed in the ice in the Arctic.



Lessons from the website: *Laura Jernegan: Girl on a Whaleship*, <u>www.girlonawhaleship.org</u>, © 2010 Martha's Vineyard Museum