2nd. I have been writing letters to day to have on hand in case we should see an opportunity to send home. I have three on hand now. One for my Mother, one for Thomas & Mercy, and ~~one~~ for James & Anne. I hope they may depart speedily. We see vessels at a distance every day. I delight to watch them as they gallantly pursue their way over the boundless Ocean. We are now enjoying Moonlight evenings and there never was any more lovely, I think. There are several very fine voices forward, and they now improve them, "Home Sweet Home," and "Do they miss me at home?" I can appreciate. I have got to find out that sailors belong to another class, than that of human beings. I hope I may be fortunate enough to remain in ignorance of the fact by my own experience. I tell Samuel that I shall not think they are entirely depraved as long as I hear them singing their Psalms tune.

4th. Another Sabbath, mild and lovely. I think of friends at home, wending their way to the house of God, and wish I could bear them company. After breakfast, I generally dress up a little more than on ordinary days, and take a book and go on deck, sit there the most of the day. Has been five sail in sight to day, one ahead, that appears to be a whaler, laying to, think we shall get up to her about sunset, then perhaps we may have company, how I should enjoy it, but I will not make too much dependence.

5th. The ship we saw last night was the Dr. Franklin of Westport Capt. Russell, about two months out, clean, an Atlantic whaler. He came on board and passed the evening with us. Mr Nickerson went on board his ship, when he went back, he sent me about two dozen nice oranges, they were very acceptable, he procured them at Bravo. Samuel talks very strong this morning of proceeding immediately to the Ochotsk Sea, instead of Sperm whaling a year as he intended. If he does it will be a great disappointment to me, but of course I have nothing to say about it. But our letters that were to be sent to Payta, will remain there I suppose and much good will they do us. I want oil as much as any of them, but it is hard telling just what to do. We are now on the Abrolhos Banks, if we should happen to get a whale, think very likely it

would change the whole course of proceedings. Yesterday morning we found one of our ~~hens~~ hens dead, Minnie said her Papa told her it died for want of breath, I suppose that was the case. 'Old Mother Gray Neck' was her name, Hannah Butler commenced laying Saturday, and two others lay beside. Besides the hens for pets we have two pigs, one we call Juba and the other Niggie, they are very tame, will let Minnie go up to them and play. There is another whale in sight perhaps we may have more company tonight. We treated our Captain last night to fruit cake and wine.

12th. Have seen no vessel since Monday until yesterday, when we saw one at a distance and another this morning which was a French Ship. Not much of interest transpired during the week with the exception of a change of weather, we have had some rain and considerable rough weather during the time, and it is much cooler. Thermometer at 70° it has been for several weeks back extremely warm and uncomfortable.

Yesterday they saw whales from the Masthead, but they soon disappeared. I must confess that I was glad — I did not care about their going after their first whales on the Sabbath.

I believe it is decided now, that we shall make a straight course for the Islands, and proceed to the Ochotsk. I hope we may be successful in obtaining what we diligently seek after. My plants that I brought from home, I think are all dead. I am watching a geranium very narrowly, hoping it may spring up from the root, but I think it very doubtful. I have planted some orange seeds so that I may have something growing. We are now off the River La Plata, which is good whaling ground, it would help along very much if we could get a few barrels.

13. Saw whales this morning. I heard the sound and thought I would go on deck if there was a whale to be seen, thought I would like to see it. I went and very soon I saw him blow, and then saw the Monster