3d. Saw a school of black-fish this afternoon, three boats went in pursuit of them – Mr. Nickerson's boat took one – The sun is directly one head now – it is very warm.

4th To day the Newly elected President takes his seat in the Presidential Chair – hope he may fill it with honor to himself and the Nation. Lowered for Blackfish this morning took three before breakfast – lowered again in the afternoon but without success.

5th Very calm – Lowered again for Blackfish took two – they are very large – I have not much idea of what a whale can be that will make a hundred barrels, when these six Blackfish only made about four barrels.

7th This is the anniversary of my little sister Annie's death – four years today since she left us – for a happier clime in the arms of Jesus – there rest loved one, forever – It is very calm, scarcely a breath of air – we have made no headway for several days we are trying to make the Galapagos Islands, but as there is no wind it is uncertain whether we shall fetch – as there is a strong westerly current.

8th Calm as usual – Saw a great many crabs around the Ship, and one or two shark fish were seen. Lowered a boat to see how strong the current was and I accompanied them, the first time I have had a chance to see the ship.

9th Saw a strange looking fish in the water this morning Mr. Nickerson lowered his boat and captured it, it proved to be a diamond-fish – they are very seldom taken – it was considered a great curiosity. None on board having seen one dead before. I witness some delightful sunsets in this region. I often wish that I were a painter that I might sketch some of these splendid scenes for the benefit of my friends. We are in sight of Albemarle Island (one of the Gallapagos) hoped to go in and get some terrapin and some fish, but we do not get along any at all –

10th Saw a ship in the morning off the weather-beam lowered for black-fish without success – In the afternoon saw another ship. We hauled up our mainsail for them to come down to us. they started and by taking their boats succeeded in reaching us about eight o'clock. It proved to be the Golconda Capt. ~~Buck~~ Howland and the Barque Ohio Capt Baker. They stopped on board until about one o'clock. We were very happy to receive visitors as doubtless any one would imagine. Pinkey's time was up for sitting yesterday so we broke up her nest today – and no chickens were to be found.

11th This morning Capts Howland and Baker came on board again and passed the day with us. Capt H. brought a small pet terrapin for Minnie and a large one to be killed for me. I am assured they are very nice eating. He also gave Minnie a little basket of feather flowers, with which she was very much pleased. Saw another ship about noon which gradually drew near and just before tea Captain Duggett of the Gen'l Scott came on board, he is 60 years of age, and is taxed for $70,000. I told him I thought he was a very foolish man for leaving his family at that age, when he could live comfortably at home. but from what he says I should judge that he likes for his family to make a good appearance. We procured some sweet potatoes of Capt Baker which were very nice. They left us about 11 o'clock and I decided that I had enjoyed gammoning enough for once.

12th The Golconda is near us – the Ohio at a distance and the Gen. Scott out of sight. In the afternoon Samuel took Minnie and went on board the Golconda for a short time while there they made the discovery that the Ohio's boat were after a whale, afterwards they saw it alongside. Minnie came home much pleased with her visit. The Captain and officers felt rather badly that one ship had taken a whale, when they had seen none – but it cannot be helped and we must make the best of it –

13. No ships in sight. Samuel changed the ship's course last night – thought he would try no longer to make the island, but there is but very little wind, and how long