through. I do not like such near proximity to land especially where we are not acquainted. Raised two ships this afternoon, a welcome sight to me, at least.

15th. We were nearly through the passage (or I suppose we were through the passage but near by the land,) when it became calm, so much so that we could not steer, with a strong current drifting us directly into the land, which made our situation anything but pleasant, and some part of the time a thick fog. In the course of the night we let go the small anchor. We passed quite near one of the ships this morning, which we found to be the Benjamin Tucker the other has made her escape. This afternoon while we were at anchor, the Mate, third Mate and boats crew went on shore. They had just landed when a slight breeze sprang up and they were obliged to return after just taking a look around. They saw about a dozen underground huts, a hole dug ~~out of~~ in the ground, with a door just large enough to crawl in, on all-fours. The inhabitants probably had seen them coming and made their escape as the huts were all desolate but looked as if they had just been deserted. Saw the tracks of bears and foxes, procured a large bunch of flowers for Minnie and myself which delighted us very much, also about a dozen strawberries, blackberries and huckleberries. We have a fine view of the land here Mountain rising above mountain their snowy tops piercing far above the clouds. Minnie thinks if we were to get on the top of one of those mountains we should be very near to Heaven. We also saw the smoke issuing from two volcanos. Last year some of the ships as they passed out got well sprinkled with ashes from one of them. I forgot to mention that the cross was erected on the Island. Is it not strange however degraded you will always find some system of religion. Probably they have been visited by Russians.

16th. Not much short of a calm today, we are not out of the sway of land yet. This P.M. there is little more of a breeze and we may get out. My little cabin is pageant with flowers today, some of them very pretty indeed. Oh, said Minnie, when they gave them to me, I was so delighted I fairly danced with joy. She is very fond of flowers, and they make her think of home. She is well, contented and happy. Nothing troubles her so much as the sound of an apple. She says sometimes she would eat the peelings and cor that children at home throw away, even if they were all covered in "antimires"

18th. We are now in the Bay, clear of all land. This morning picked up a carcass, it had been dead too long to be of much use. We saved about 18 barrels from it and 100 lbs of bone. not much but worth saving. Spoke the B. Tucker in the forenoon we were both going the same way, so Capt Barker came on board and passed the day with us. He had been in the passage seven days when he first saw us. At sunset saw a right whale.

19th. Lowered for whales this morning but immediately after a thick fog set in so that nothing could be seen. We fired guns and blew horns so that the boats might find their way to the ships, until Minnie thought it surely must be "fourth of July" or some other great day, and then I recollected that it was Uncle James's birth-day. In the afternoon the fog cleared away and the weather was delightful, but no whales were to be seen. I enjoyed an hour on deck very much. We have lost sight of our consort, and now we are again alone.

22nd. A thick fog for for several days, today a gale of wind, about sunset the fog has cleared when the weather has been delightful, we are now living ~~of~~ on fresh fish, which are very nice. Cod fish and flatfish are quite plenty. Caught about forty cod from the ship this morning.