He soon returned bringing Mrs Skinner with him but the Capt was so much interested in looking out for whales that he could not accompany her just then. About noon the Omega and three Black Clippers, the Edwin F. Mason the Gay Head and the Speedwell came in and anchored for water; so that there were four ladies in the Bay. I was in hopes that Mrs Gifts would have come here but she may have been on board the E. F. Mason. I should have looked her up if I had not had company — and I thought they might lay there all night, but while we were at tea the got under way and came down across our stern and spoke us. He has given up all hopes of getting anything in the Arctic and is now bound South either to Bristol Bay or the Ockotsk. I hope he may be successful, but I should be sorry for Samuel to leave this region now — as there have been a great many whales seen and they must be going North some time or other, there have been a great many seen around us today, but they have been going with such rapidity that it was of but little use to have boats down although we have had two and three down all day — just before Capt & Mrs Skinner left Capt Sanborn came on board and reported that he had been fast to a whale, but lost him, he also reports that there have been five whales taken in the Arctic

18th Minnie's birth-day — Seven years old today, how time flies. She feels quite old and has been telling me how it amuses her to think how foolish she was in "her younger days" when she first came to sea, for instance. There have been nine ships in the Bay today most of them came to an anchor as it is a gale of wind and outside a heavy sea. The Nassau, Omega, Marengo, South America, Ben. Tucker, Gay Head, Dromo, the French ship Manche and the Addison brings up the list. After we had retired for the night, which was quite early, the Captain of the Manche came on board to get information in regard to whales. he has not seen one for two months. Samuel got up to receive him, but he did not stop but a few minutes, as S. told him that the Nassau had taken off the Capt. and

boats crew of the Napoleon from St Paul's and learning that he had French sailors on board, which he would like to dispose of, he left us and went to him as he was in want of men.

19th All the anchored ships got under weigh in the morning except the Omega Capt. Sanborn. In the forenoon the Marengo's boats went down after a bow-head which they fortunately captured and got him alongside about 2 P.M. the first whale they have taken this season. Saw the Nassau's boats chasing a muscle digger. About tea time spoke the Omega of Fairhaven Capt Whalon came on board for a short time, he has been in the Arctic and out again like a great many others without seeing anything. Left 9 ships anchored off East Cape Yesterday morning. A strong breeze through the afternoon, still increasing —

20th Lay off and on the Bay during the night but as there was a strong breeze and a heavy sea Samuel decided to run off before the wind and go down to Plover and Marcus Bays to see what was there — He is almost discouraged today in regard to getting any oil, sometimes thinks he will start immediately for Bristol Bay right whaling. I must confess that prospects look very dark just now but may it not be in this case as in many others that "the darkest time is just before day." Anchored about 8 P.M. off Marcus Bay in Company with the Harmony Capt Austin. Having a terrific gale from the North-East saw seven bowheads a short time before we anchored which looked quite encouraging.

21st Began to drag last night soon after anchoring so just down the second anchor. the wind came in squalls with great violence but we lay very still. It blows strong this morning but with less force than through the night. Find the Harmony close by us this morning. She dragged considerably through the night. P.M. The gale abated and after tea we took up our anchors and started to go around Indian Point