23d Another fine beautiful day, I improved it by doing a two necks washing. Several ships in sight but no whales, land in sight along the coast from Cross Sound to Norfolk Sound.

24th Quite pleasant in the morning with a strong breeze several ships in sight. Saw the Speedwell ahead with her boats down chasing a whale without success about 10 A.M. Spoke the Speedwell but as the wind was increasing and every prospect of a coming gale we did not gam. Mrs Gibbs and I "shook handkerchiefs" to our hearts content. We were both much disappointed, after we left them, we saw the same whale that they had been chasing going to the windward. the first one we have seen for nearly three weeks.

25. The gale of yesterday lasted until about 12 P.M. last night, seven ships in sight during the day. about 2 P.M. we lay aback for the Speedwell to come down to us which she did. Capt & Mrs Gibbs came on board and we had a right good time. Capt & Mrs Baker of the Augustin were in sight. after tea spoke the Caroline of Greenport, Capt Pontius came on board and passed the evening. Mrs Gibbs brought Minnie some lozenges and me some salt cod-fish which was very acceptable we gave them some pickled mullet and some figs also a leg of pork and some books, we heard from the Capt, that several small whales had been taken close in by the land, there is where they all expect to find them by and by consequently the ships are very plenty it is supposed there are 90 ships here but many of them will soon leave for the Arctic unless whales are seen more plenty than they have been. The gale of the fourth was felt very sensibly here. The Arab. of Fairhaven was dismasted, partially. Capt. Grinnell has his lady on board.

26th This morning before we got up, they came down and told Samuel there was a barque hailed aback for us to speak, he ran down and found it to be the William Gifford, Capt Baker of Falmouth with his wife and two children, they pushed Samuel to go on board and take me, but I was so very sick, and Samuel thought it was coming thick, so he went alone for a short time, found a box on board for me from Sarah, filled with bottled berries originally and a loaf of cake, the bottles were all broken except two and the contents had penetrated all the reading and the loaf of cake was nothing but powder. Minnie said "they had sent me a nice lot of

ginger" it was sometime before we found out what it was. We went different ways after that he went to the Eastward where we had been, and we are going to the westward again on the ground where we saw those whales, if haply we might see them again. Saw one whale today going to the windward.

29th Have seen nothing but Fin-backs Hump-backs and Sulphur-Bottoms for several days, not a ship to be seen, we are now bound in to the South-East to see what may be there. 7 P.M. lowered for a right whale but they could not get quite near enough to strike, he had previously been struck and injured, had an iron already in him, which one would suppose to be anything but comfortable.

30th Spoke the Robert Edward Capt Wood in the morning, thought it was too early to come on board as he wanted to look out for whales, in the afternoon spoke the Good Return Capt Fish. both Captains came on board and we had a very pleasant time. Capt Fish is right from our home, consequently could tell us considerable news, he brought Minnie a large paper of candy and brought and sent me two tins of preserved pears, a bag of indian meal and three bottles of currant wine, have neither of them taken anything, and they with others think the prospect rather gloomy. Capt Wood brought his wife out as far as Valparaiso, from which place she, being tired of the sea, left for home. Two other ships in sight at sunset.

31st One ships in sight. Saw the Good Returns boats down chasing whales without success. Pleasant weather with the exception of a little fog some part of the day.

May 1st. Last night I was kept awake with the tooth ache and a violent pain in my head. Samuel gave me some laudanum to ease the pain, and it has made me feel very dull and stupid for the whole day. I was on the bed in the afternoon when they spoke a ship, and truth to say I did not feel very glad to hear that it was the Augustin and that Capt & Mrs Baker were coming on board. However I got up and fixed up as much as possible at so short a notice, and it did me a great deal of good seeing them, cured me completely. I gave Mrs B. some of the indian meal that Capt Fish gave me, some salt fish that we caught in the Bay, and some figs. After tea Capt Fish