23d Raised a Barque to day the first sail we have seen since we lost sight of the Behring. A fever has prevailed to quite an extent on board for a numbers of days. the Second Mate a boatstiner Cooper Sturage boy five or six men forward and now Minnie is down with it. It does not run very high and is similar I think to the Bohor.

24th Spoke the Barque this morning the Sagoda, Capt Willard came on board and passed the day. Minnie sat up a little today after tea as it was the night before Christmas Minnie hung up her stocking, Samuel went on board the Sagoda with Capt. W. on his return to look at his chart, when he came back he brought a very handsome porte monnaie to Minnie and a cake of soap as a Christmas present from the Capt.

25th Minnie awoke bright and early this morning to examine the contents of her stocking, with Capt Ws presents she was very much pleased. Her Father made her a pair of ivory candle sticks with little candles of the same material which were very cunning and I presented her with a book. those with candies made up the supply. The Capt. made us a short visit in the afternoon

26th. The Sagoda near by Capt W. lowered his boat and came on board in the afternoon

27th Capt Willard came on board today with his Carpenter that he might use our turning-lathe but he was not at all successful Samuel turned two ivory lamp picks for him.

28th As we can sail a little faster than the Sagoda Samuel has decided to go on and not stop any longer for him. at night the Sagoda is just discernible astern.

31st We are very near Boylotacke now. and according to the East Longitude reckoning our Saturday is their Sunday so we decided to keep this day if not it would be necessary for us to lay by two days.

Our sick people have about all recovered

Afternoon about 4 P.M. Mr Baird our Mate went ashore with a boats crew. one ship laying off and on which we spoke after tea, we found her to be the French Ship General Teste, Capt. Le Mercier Samuel went on board for a short time

Mr Baird returned about 8 P.M. loaded with pine apples bananas cocoa nuts &c from the Missionaries family bringing a cordial invitation from them to us to come on board early in the morning and stop with them as long as possible they also sent me a bottle of milk

Jan 1st 1860. A new year has opened again upon us but one with whom I hoped once more to take sweet counsel is no more. A sad new year is this for my Mother, but how little I can realize the loss as yet. This New years day we spent at Aitutaki one of the Hervey or Cooks Islands in the family of Mr Royle the English Missionary, the only white family on the Island.

They appeared delighted to see us and did every thing for our comfort that it was in their power they have six daughters the two eldest have been in England for the last three years. the youngest is six years old a very pleasant playmate for Minnie

They have been residents on the island and engaged in their benevolent work for twenty-one years and the Natives are all under their influence, they seem much better than any that I have before met with. I visited their school-house and chapel which were both neat and commodious. There were five ships lying off and on during the day. the General Teste the Covington Capt Newman, the Minerva, Capt.