Journal by Thomas O Keefe to Mobile

1842 Brig Pioneer April

Frid 22 Made the Berry Islands at daylight
Shaped close to the Saddle and Stirrup
Keys Some of the Shar boats came alongside
We traded for some fish at Noon We were
on the edge of the Bahama Banks

Sat 23 Crossed the banks while crossing we had not more
than three fathoms of water

Sun 24 At 10 P. M. Made Key West light and
Sand Key light also

Mon 25 Made the Tortugas at 7 A. M at 10
We were abreast of the Light

Sat 30 Made Mobile light at 4 A. M. at
10 A. M We came to Anchor in what
is called the inner harbor in two fathoms of
water

This is certainly a curious place to Anchor
We are fifteen Miles from the Town and an
Not to go any nearer to it We are lying in
fresh Water so that we can have plenty to
wash and We are Not more than four miles
from Dog River there are a few small cat-
fish to be caught they are all the fish that
I can see. We do not know how long we are
to be here Nor when we will go to Sisher We have
out I hope it will be to New York or
one of the Northern States
The Captain went ashore in a Schooner
as soon as we anchored

Journal by Thomas O Keefe Mobile bay

1842 Brig Pioneer May

Sun 1 Turned out at 6 A M washed down the decks
We have had all day to ourselves I spent part of it
writing to New York A warm day
Wind South East

Mon 2 At work on rigging Nice pleasant weather
Wind South East

Tues 3 At work on rigging weather nice and cool
Wind about North

Wed 4 As yesterday to work weather cool wind North

Thurs 5 At 10 P. M. A Sloop hailed us and brought
some letters for our men from the town
went on board of the J. Brower and got
them None for me tho

Fri 6 Sent my letter ashore by the Sloop it was brought
the other down it was the first opportunity
or I would have sent it before
Wind North Nice mild weather but troubled
with sand flies

Sat 7 A nice pleasant day to work on Rigging
and Ship duty wind South East
Great Saturday night So I write home a good deal

Sun 8 A very warm day rather too warm to be comfor-
table Some of us are washing some mending
some fishing some boxhauling and I will go to
read and write I wrote home from New York
I long to know how the folks are getting on
there but I hope to be back before long So I write
be as contented as possible
The Captain came on board to day but brought
No letters for me he went ashore again in the
evening