

Journal by Thomas O. Reep Mobile Bay

1842 Brig Pioneer May

Mon 9 Went ashore to Dog River for some spars there was a great many alligators all around us but did not trouble us got my things that the Captain sent to me

Tues 10 At day light four of us went on board of the John Brown and helped them to bend their shifs and get under weigh - we also helped them to water ship Beat down to the lower fleet anchored at Sun down wind South

Wed 11 Helped the Brown crew to hoist in a lighter load of cotton. Left the Brown for the ship. Then nothing and got alongside of my own ship at 4 P.M. with a three hour run hoisted, but our bay and sent it on shore in the lighter wind South

Thurs 12 Went ashore and got off a spar to make a lower yard got it on board and commenced making it wind South

Frid 13 We were at work to day making our gear very warm. Ripped up all over the Brig wind South west

Sat 14 Making our gear and turning ballast we got the yard finished at 5 P.M. Cleaned up our decks. So as it is Saturday being I will have a wash and sleep to have a better before long wind West South west

Sun 15 A very warm day caught some fish. Wind hauled to the Northward. I fear this very dull work we do not know where we are going to now how long we are as I hope we can get no letters from home. Caught some fish

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Mon 16 A very pleasant day wind South. At 10 A.M. I left this afternoon went sailing in the jolly boat around the harbor (over) on board of the Brig Niagara of P. and stopped there a couple of hours.

Tues 17 A very large wind South. At 1 P.M. the Captain came on board with news that we had a freight of cotton to Portland at 4 P.M. the schooner Rhynthus of Mobile came alongside with 100 bales of cotton hoisted it in. We also brought us two men to help to load the Captain went ashore again at 3 P.M. I am really very anxious for a letter and cannot get one single line tell of him to get some I will try and make arrangements so that I will hereafter

Wed 18 Today we were stowing cotton we stowed about one hundred and thirty bales it is really very warm work and pretty hot. I expect to get tired of it before long. Will try and get along as well as I can. I am anxious to get home and see my wife soon. We have no old friends and all those we had most dear

Thurs 19 We got another lighter load of cotton 150 bales from Schooner Rhynthus hoisted it in. Stowed the remainder part of the day hot and hard work. Wind about South west. To night the mosquitoes were pretty busy around us and left some marks to look at

Frid 20 To day we got fifty more bales of cotton from Schooner Rhynthus hoisted it in after dinner and then kept stowing as usual. Our lower side began to look small and I am very glad of it. We shall get home quicker. I hope by this day week that we shall be near ready for home and then I say good by to Mobile for a while at least