

Lying off and on at Honolulu P.I.

Tuesday April 4th 1854

Light trades and fine weather. The boat returned at 9^{1/2} in the morning. The boat crew spent the night on board of the Bark Boki. After dinner the ex Mate and Steward left us for good and the boat returned to the ship at sunset with all the crew although it was expected that Clark would avail himself of the opportunity of leaving as the Captain allowed him to go ashore for that purpose, I am glad he did not for he is a good peaceable fellow. The night was squally, reduced us to double reefed topsails. 6 ships out of the 17 left with 20 yards for W. W. I wish we was with them.

Wednesday April 5th

Still lying off and on with a strong breeze. It is now quite better in the daytime with so many ships, but not so pleasant at night as it is dark and squally which makes it less agreeable. The boat went ashore at 8^{1/2} and returned at sunset with all the men and some fine spruce plank for beds for oil if we should be so lucky as to get enough to stow between decks. The Captain is waiting for the mail. Took the iron off of the men a few hours to give them a resting spell.

Thursday April 6th

Another day has passed away and yet we are here with 20 other ships. The boat went in in the morning and returned a noon with a prospect of sailing tomorrow. Shipped a boatsteerer who will come at that time. Blowing a gale and double reefed topsails.

Friday April 7th

A change has taken place today which is probably pleasing to all parties. Clark has finally concluded to leave the ship. It will be seen at the top of the page that this was expected by the Captain but Clark told me he would not leave if the thought the Captain would not insure him as he had done before, he did not think of going there but has probably thought best to stay while on shore. Shipped a boatsteerer by the name of John. Blackget afternoon we tried to get in Hilo but as he did not call on the Captain the time he agreed to, though he had a reasonable excuse the Captain would not have him but they was both glad of the chance of coming together again.

Saturday April 8th 1854

Went ashore for the Captain as he intended to leave today but the schooner Matchless of London arrived from San Francisco with letters for us so he thought best to stop a day or two longer and under these good winds who was so good as to write to a weather beaten man. Everything goes along as smooth as oil. Our letters was as late as the 2nd Feb.

Sunday April 9th

The most of us writing letters in answer to those received. At one in the afternoon went ashore for the Captain but he had gone to Pleasant Valley on business as we learned from another Captain he also informed us that he wished the boat to come in early the next morning when he would be ready to sail. Several of us started for the Bethel but there would be no meeting till 7^{1/2} PM and as we heard a bell ringing in another direction we started forth but found it was the native church we then saw the sign of a catholic church (a cross) so we went in that direction in hopes of hearing an English sermon but we found this attended by natives who were engaged in that faith or worship. There is a Quaker church here also but we did not conclude to look it up as it was for the natives and we could not understand the preaching so we started for the ship at 5 and got wet by a light shower of rain. So ends this Sabbath.

Monday April 10th

Beautiful weather. After breakfast the boat went in for the Captain according to orders but he did not get ready to come till 4 in the afternoon which gave us an ample chance to go a shopping. So we decided a fine (which he wanted) set of large old paper amongst us we started to spend it according to our several wants. I spent mine for letter paper, ink, paper and blotter so I have a good supply stationary and shall be well prepared to write to my friends when we shall return from the W. W. and am sorry we cannot do so before. It is said there will not be a chance to send our last letters to the East short of four weeks! It is too bad to keep my wife awaiting so long. The schooner Gannet arrived today from home. This vessel was ordered by Captain Hobson of the ship Parrot and is intended to take her place. Captain Dyer of the ship St. George came on board with us and stayed till sunset and returned. Both ships steering W by S with a breeze. The St. George was on with 60 or 80 bbls of sugar. Monday Honolulu we are in hopes of seeing you again in 6 mos with good luck.