198 days from home Monday February 12th 1855

The weather continues lowering as the Wind at the rate of 8 or 9 knots and makes every thing work of it. The watch making scrub brooms & teeth. The boatsteerer making short lines. The blacksmith and myself have finished the new latts. Expect to hail the old one at the Islands. This Morning the Capt ordered Mr Norton to take of the body latch and Mr Norton called the Man to do it. The Capt then asked him if he heard what he said to him he told him he did. the Capt said open your head then. The Capt knew that he had him for he call the Men from forward with a loud voice but he expects all to repeat the orders after him and then give order. Mr Norton is not used civilly lately. It is supposed he does not beat the Men enough to suit him. He says he will not go further than the Islands with us.

Tuesday February 13th

199 The watch still making Scrub brooms & teeth of whitewash buts. I turned a few serving mallets and a couple of stilletos for the Capt to give away to the Ladies in port. He does not trust the Mate to take the lunar altitude. Too bad.

Wednesday February 14th

198 Two or three days ago there was a little difficulty between the Capt and the steward the particulars are substantially as follows. Robert Brown the Cabin boy is in the habit of sweeping his bed once in a while and this time he told the Capt the steward did it to the Capt called him in the after Cabin and asked him how he came to do it and the steward pleaded not guilty of course but the Capt will believe the boy before he will any body else so he told him to shut up his head and if there was ever any other complaint he would put him out of the Cabin a (Coarse) he used much very indecent language and struck his fist in his face and called it settled for this time. The watch making scrubs. Pleasant in afternoon steering West. Wind to leeward.

Thursday February 15th 1855

The watch have nearly worked themselves out of a job. They have finished all the rigging, bended 6 bl of sea stuff and are now making 3 gross Rattles to bring their wives time. Two small fairbacks followed us all day and appeared to be very friendly but the Capt did not entertain a similar disposition towards them for he got his gun and put a ball into each one of them but they did not manifest any dislike to such treatment and were friendly still. Steering W. with a good breeze so ends.

Friday February 16th

Wind rather too near aft to suit and cloudy weather but we are well satisfied as we are bound on a good job towards home and we shall hear from home. Nothing for the Men to do. I am to work for our passenger making him an inkstand and a case for his 15 dollar gold pen and holder and pencil. He goes finely.

Saturday February 17th

Finished the cases for the passenger and he was so very much pleased with them that he handed me a 5 dollar gold piece and a gold shell or scarf pin with a head of a natural piece as it was taken from the soil in California valued at 10 dollars with the case the former contained his pen, pen holder and pin and told him I could not take so much conscientiously and handed him back the 5 dollar piece but he would not take it saying he was perfectly satisfied. I then offered it to the Capt but he would not take it but he wanted to buy the pin but I cannot part with it for it is for my dear wife and hope it will please her as much as it does me in that I so unexpectedly received it from the gentleman. I manufactured and a present before I turned a stelatto this afternoon since presented to him and might I had something more valuable. A schooner about 6 miles off bound to the Islands from the Coast. Perhaps with our letters if she does and hung we shall be there before her. Must now lay by my time and write a letter in answer to one of the expected letters on board of the schooner