Lying at Anchor at Moni I. S.

112 Sunday March 4th 1855

Time has changed nothing in our favor. The day has been more disagreeable than yesterday a part of the time calm and a part of the time the wind blowing a perfect hurricane so we only carried the lee clue of the Q above reefed the topsail. We let the reefs out of the topsails once and before we got them all hoisted were obliged to let go the halliards again. We are not so near Miami now as we was Friday but we must take it as a joke. The Mate still keeps his room. Mrs says he is deaf at one of his ears. Mr. Rodgers is also getting below par in the Captns estimation. Mr Parkman is growing grouty over things at Mr Paines for their duff again. See particulars page 225th. So we have moorings out another day hath

113 Monday March 5th

The weather has been pleasant but the wind is N by E directly ahead. Land from 20 to 30 miles distant. All hands watching the clouds but cannot make them go the right way. Nothing to do.

114 Tuesday March 6th

Towards dark the wind favored us so much that we dropped Meadhook at 10½ in the evening in 2½ fathoms of water near neighbors to the Franklin and Lagoda. The only ships here. Before the Captn went on shore he asked the Mate if he would be on deck in the morning and he says he told him he would be on deck to go on shore so he left us expecting he was supposed forgiven but it appears he disappointed the Captn & so settled the difficulty and he is to go with us again which conflicts greatly with what he has said. The boat is on shore for him this evening and it is said he was half drunk the last time he was there and it is presumed he is quite so by this time. Our letters have not come yet though a schooner came from there to stay but sailed before our mails arrived. So we have got to wait 4 or 5 days longer not very short days either. Well they will be great somewhere when we do get them.

Sent ashore a raft of cedar five hundred and [illegible]

Sent ashore returning expected the Mate at 8½ in the evening in quite drunk as usual and after making all hand in the ship with his foolish noise he layed down on deck and went to sleep and snored till 1 o'clock when he had a row with the st. being my watch on deck. He said many foolish things as well as many sensible ones. In case he should not get home he wanted me to see that the few things in his room went to his 3 children and that I must be sure and go to see them and tell them how much he had suffered for them. He spoke about his children with much feeling and shed many tears. It is a pity he is such a slave to rum.

115 Wednesday March 7th

Called all hands at 3 in the morning and sent the boats for a raft of water; the current was so strong they did not get back till near 7 o'clock. After that I went on shore and unheaded our pipes of bails for deck twine and a few portion lee bails. Happened there just in time to get my letters. They arrived during the night in a steamer and the Captn has just took them from the post office. Had 2 from my wife & papers and one from my sister Harriet all contained good news to of course we are in fine. Others of the crew were also white. Many were greatly disappointed while others were very angry about and said many very unprofane things. Sent down the main yard, main topgallant yard and mast and main topmast. The main topmast trusseltrees and fish being sprung sent ashore a raft of cedar for water. Sent Wm Gammon to the hospital. The wounded man has not yet been on shore and was bled but the effects of the rum has not all been drawn off yet. The ingredient that makes him so weak!!

116 Thursday March 8th

This has been a busy day. The sailors repairing sails and mending ship from the waist to the stern out side. The carpenter working near the topmast trusseltrees stock the old ones out and made a new fid by bolting together two thickness of oak plank which he finished at noon and took it ashore to the blacksmith to have it tried and stayed till night superintending the job being a very important transaction which will be to a steamer. We have by the arrival of another ship U. S. [illegible] brought by the [illegible] Captain Otis