Lying off and on at Honolulu

1096 Friday December 14th 1855

Three long years ago and still we are not on our way home back. I made a blunder here by being called to answer some questions respecting the happiness of a bachelors life. Mr. Benjamin Norton and myself the Mate who came on board today thinks a bachelors life the most happy but it would be strange reasoning that would convince me such stuff. I shall leave this blunder for the reader to guess out. One man by the name of Joseph B. Decamara came on board as seaman who left the Ship Brothers and filled the responsible station of boatsteerer and now leaves to go home. The same is true of Mr Norton who was 2d Mate but goes 1st Mate with us for similar reasons. We could get a whole crew of such men if we needed them. The Capt. sent off a letter to the Mate saying he should be off tomorrow

1097 Saturday December 16th

Night has returned and we are still lying off and on. We have looked hard for the Capt today but I presume he has many reasonable excuses. If we could contrive a plan to get the women out of the place his business would soon be closed. I think I shall have many better reasons for staying in port if I ever get into the port of New Bedford. Spent a hour on board of the Rainbow this afternoon to bid them good bye. The Rambler left for home this afternoon. We could not get men enough to make her a visit though we tried to.

1098 Sunday December 16th

Our Capt came on board at 4 P.M. accompanied by Capt. Hamilt. Ran off to the Rainbow and Capt. Market accepted an invitation to come on board but have just left us 7½ o'clock good season. The Capt. brought no cook as was expected neither did he succeed in getting Henry Jones or the steerage boy but we have enough without them as I shall have stowed themselves in the forecastle three of them are from the Bark Roman. It is well known to the Capt. & Officers. Good bye Honolulu for ever

Steering S by W with light trades

1099 Monday December 17th 1855

During the night the wind came in severe squalls and before the water could take in the fall the sail was split from the foot to the head in two places and the clew very small blown to pieces. Took in the remains and double reefed the topsails. Have been busy taking up anchors on the bow and repairing the jib. Benbent the [illegible] spencer to repair it with. The carpenter busy at sundry jobs and I work a part of the day in enlarging the cabin table if of us can now be seated comfortably. While I was at work the Capt. showed me all his jewelry consisting of fingerrings, breast pins, earrings, gold pens and pencils cases, shell and scarf pins, gold studs and a silver tumbler and silver box for tobacco. Over 100 dollars worth. and a daguerreotype that he is to take in Japan for people residing at the Islands. This is very clever to see all at once. The four men who had come on board privately while we were at anchor made their appearance to the great astonishment of our Officers who did not appear to have put off the Capt. They worked like good fellows all day and in the afternoon they were called aft for an examination. They appeared before the Capt. hat in hand. The Capt. asked them what they were here for. They told him they wanted to go home. He told them he did not need them and should dispatch them on board the first ship they wanted had but told them to go forward and well they did their watch. and they did so with a willing face. They did not think of getting off so easily. Capt. Harding is now on board the Illinois as Capt. Cornell called of light of his ship. Our other neighbors are [illegible] Papeetanga for potatoes and [illegible] without [illegible] at the Capt's order though it was much against his will. We have since 25 men three of them are of each gender [illegible] Safety good crew and [illegible] the steerage deck with the boys here forward