about the 4th or 5th inst: we signaled W. Ship Harvest Troupe of ~~[illegible]~~ Milton: also ~~and spoke two or two after [illegible] signaled~~ an English Merchtman: but the weather was too rough to allow of speaking either of them.

Sunday 25th January 1857

The old Bark has at last arrived in about 46° South Lat. ~~Mild & pleasant~~ —

Any one taking the trouble to read this journal will notice ~~the~~ a considerable interval in which no ~~record~~ log has been kept: ~~it~~ for this they must thank the weather ~~we have~~ ~~in~~ which we have passed through — ~~Bad~~ The condition of the weather as regards the happiness of man has a great effect on shore what ~~it~~ must it be ~~than~~ to those who are ~~totally~~ greatly dependent on its smiles or frowns as the ~~poor~~ sailor — as for the captain and his officers they can retire to their warm & sheltered cabin and change their ~~wet~~ clothing when ~~wet~~ dripping by ~~the~~ the sea or ~~wet~~ rain, but the poor fellows before the mast whose ~~scanty~~ outfit probably contains but a single thick suit ~~of woolen~~ ~~clothes~~ must ~~shove~~ ~~out~~ continue to wear ~~on and on the same~~ wet ~~and~~ jacket through the ~~wet~~ day & night watches ~~until when~~ until the relief bell sends them below ~~into~~ the wet forecastle and wet bunks. The ship lying to in violent storms of wind ~~rain~~ & hail, all sail taken in but close reefed main topsail & spencer ~~[illegible]~~ the ~~cold~~ spray flying over the decks fore & aft, such has been our almost constant experience

since coming in sight of Staten Land. ~~In consideration of this, but I hope to be excused for~~

Yesterday & to day the atmosphere has been delightful; ~~and~~ all sail had been set for the last 48 hours: the mast heads are manned; fin back and sulphur bottom whales are seen in plenty and this morning a large piece of squid floated by: we shall soon ~~be~~ enter ~~on~~ the whaling ground ~~in the neighborhood of the island of~~ Mataguero Island. The goneys are leaving us; only ~~a few~~ one or two in sight today.

We ~~are~~ shall be glad to see the last of them as they appear to delight in ~~the~~ ~~so~~ bad weather: about a fortnight ~~two days~~ ago we had a most tremendous gale: it began on Sunday ~~night~~ evening ~~and~~ blew all night at a fearful rate; at daybreak the goneys were quite ~~thick~~ numerous around the ship swimming ~~about~~ tossing about on the summits of the enormous waves and evidently at home.

A line & hook baited with pork was thrown out and in an hour not less than 8 of these huge birds were floundering about decks. The largest being measured was ten feet 3 inches from tip to tip: they have been caught ~~as~~ so large as measure fourteen feet. ~~from~~

near shore on approaching Cape Horn