Say for Swan, however, that censorious as he sometimes could be, generally when writing eastward, he most often ended up as he did now in final lines to Matilda. All these islands have something of interest attached to them which is well worth the time of the curious to investigate and I never yet found that information was useless to any one...

Faithfully & Affectionately, your Husband...
Cheever, W m S

Timbo yoga West

p. 23 - voyage via Hano often took more than 6 mos.

ave. time, 168 days

p. 341 - 1849, a 22,000 armed g ship
Garrett W. Low, Gold Rush by Sea 979.4 L958 3
Raymond A. Rydell, Cape Horn to the Pac. 387.5 R792 C 3
Octavius T. Howe, Argonauts of '49 979.4 H83a

p. 125 - by late 1849, possibly 300 ships "l. range 7 masts" -
i.e., deserted, at SF Bay
Tsooess at Shoalwater remembered Lewis and Clark

Can't find in NWE.
init S's search for whaling station at end of Day 3.
from Swan letter to Matilda, dated "Pacific Ocean Dec 1st 1850"
(map of Hawaiian Islands drawn atop 1st p. of 12 pp letter)

Dear Matilda

...(p. 3 of typescript) On landing at Lahaina the first thing I observed was the natives and a curious set they are.... The men are generally good looking being well formed and having regular features, but the women resemble more the dirty squaws we occasionally see in Boston from the Penobscot.
on great occasions or when the white men will pay the expense, they get up a feast called a Lu Wow. (I don't know as I have spelled this word right but that is the way it is pronounced.) This Luwow consists of a series of Baked dishes such as Dogs, Hogs, Turkeys, fowls, fish, Fruits and Greens which are each wrapped up in a series of leaves and covered up with hot stones and ashes. I did not get a chance to taste any of their dishes while I was there but I am told that meats prepared this way are superior to any other method of cooking.
When I saw such an idle shiftless, thieving, lying & licentious set I was astonished to think of the glowing reports made by the Missionaries at home.
Their native dances being prohibited are only given by stealth or by express invitation of the whites. They are called Hoolah hoolah. I was desirous of seeing one and accordingly some of the gentlemen assembled at Capts Butlers and dispatching boys in every direction soon had about two hundred men women & children. It was a lovely night, the moon shining bright and clear lighted up their dark faces & forms, and as they seated themselves on the grass under the beautiful Bread fruit trees, I could not help thinking of the times when Capt Cook enjoined such scenes. ...They intended to have dressed themselves in the original style. that is to strip themselves of their clothes & ornament themselves with wreaths of flowers & banana leaves. but as they were afraid of the Kiko's or constables they contented themselves with performing with their clothes on.
They all call themselves mickonaree or missionary which is the term they use to express their ideas of Christianity. ...there are but very few really sincere & devout persons among them. and are mostly like one I saw in Mr Bolles store, who was cutting up some capters. When Mr B remarked, I thought you was a missionary Yes said the fellow pointing to his mouth "me mickonary here, all rest no mickonary."
All these islands have something of interest attached to them which is well worth the time of the curious to investigate and I never yet found that information was useless to any one...

This last year the new fishing ground which the American Whalers have tried in the Ochotsk sea & where they have been so successful has developed new countries and resources which even my informants were astonished and as there must be a trade opened there before long I am determined to do what I can towards getting up a voyage for that purpose...

(mentions business offer in Lahaina:) I however have some hesitation for two reasons; one is I dislike to get myself in debt although there is more than a probability of my being able to meet the payment at the expiration of the time and the other is that the climate of the place is too warm for me, and again I cannot bear...
the idea of having to exile myself from home for three or four years for I do hope I may be able to find some business at home by which I can again live among my friends. Still I shall not act hastily but having time given me for deliberations shall act as I judge for the best after consulting with my friends in San Francisco. After passing some twenty five days very pleasantly at Lahaina waiting for the Sch to complete her cargo I again set sail on the turbulent ocean much pleased with the result of my voyage and hope I may never be doomed to meet with worse people than I have parted with....

Faithfully & Affectionately
your Husband

(signature)
Swan: dauntless diner

Time after time he notes down in NW Coast some Indian delicacy he has tried and liked—seal liver, cow parsnip, cold raccoon, huckleberry tea.
Visit to Britain, p. 25

Tuesday 13th (April) I went today to the top of the monument near London bridge which was created just after the great fire. It was built by Sir Christopher Wren. The prospect from the top is very fine & as the day was pretty clear I had a very good view. There has been several suicides committed here by persons throwing themselves from the top. The last one was a young lady who jumped off about 8 months since & was immediately killed.
visit to Britain, p. 20--

...& the only thing I can compare the streets to is Warren Bridge of a Saturday when the country people are flocking in to Boston and the Draw happens to be up for a half an hour--the crowd then is just the same as the streets are here all the time from sunrise to sunset.

...I went to see the collection of wax figures exhibiting at the west end of the town--They are the best things of the kind in Europe they were made by & are shown by an old French woman & her son who are making a deal of money out of this affair.
his ear heard sweet somethings out in the Pac.

mae c Hawai'i