

Chas Phelps

North West
Thursday May 11th 1848

Light winds from the S and good weather. All sail set heading ESE. Moderating fast. At 5 calm. Nothing seen. At 8 a light breeze from the N. Steered off N.W. Middle part good weather. At 10 set whole top sail. Breezing on at 5 set in rain. At 12 saw a whale lowered but could not strike. At 6 came on board. Cold, rainy, dirty blow, weather and ruggid. At 8 double reefed the top sail and steered E. at 10 luffed to the wind N by N.

Friday May 12th

Blowing a moderate gale from the NW and hauling westward with rain and snow. Dirty weather and ruggid. At 2 here we run under a double reefed main top sail and fore sail, heading N.W. Thick snow storm, saw a whale. At 6 cleared up and moderating. Saw 2 whales. Middle part moderate and good weather. Wind shifts to the S. Wave shifts. Latter part moderate breeze. Set single reefed top sail. Saw a whale going very quick. At 6 Breezing on fast and drizzle. At 8 Wave too. Dirty blowy weather.

Saturday May 13th

Blowing a moderate gale from the S with rain, dirty weather. Set under a reefed main top sail heading N by E. At 3 moderates and clears up. Saw a whale. At 6 thick fog. Middle part wind E and blows a gale. Latter part blowing a smart gale, took in the fore sail. Heading S.

Sunday May 14th

Blowing a smart gale from the E with thick foggy weather. Some under a reefed main top sail heading E. At 4 moderates and wind hauls southerly. Middle part blow on again. Latter part blowing hard from the ESE and very ruggid. Heading S. 55.58 144.45

Monday May 15th

Blowing a gale from the SSE and very ruggid. Going for under a reefed main top sail. heading S.W. At 8 wave shifts to the ESE. Middle part squally dirty weather. Latter part moderates some. At 9 set the fore sail. Thick weather.

Tuesday May 16th

Blowing a moderate gale from the S and thick weather. Heading ESE. Unbent the fore sail mended it and bent it again. Middle part the winter hauls to the N.W. Squally. Latter part strong breeze from the S.W. and dark, cloudy weather with fog squalls. Very ruggid. Set double reefed top sail and steered S by E. Saw many finbacks. No observation.

55.58

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North West
Wednesday May 17th 1848

Strong breeze from the NW with dark cloudy weather and fog squalls. Very ruggid. Steering ESE under double reefed top sail. Saw many finbacks. At 8 saw a whale. Lowered and chased without success. Came on board and steered off again. At 11 shortened sail and wore to the N. Middle part moderate. Latter part lively winds from the NW and good weather. Set a sail. At 9 steered ESE. At 10 SSE. At 11 to the NW. Nothing seen. 54.37 142.10

Thursday May 18th

Lively winds from the NW and good weather. All sail set heading N by E. Saw several finbacks. At 8 took in sail. Middle part moderate. Latter part lively breeze from the NW and good weather. Set fly jib and main top gallant sail. At 8 saw a ship chasing 4 whales. At 10 saw another sail. 55.49 139.58

Friday May 19th

Lively winds from the NW and good weather. Heading NNE with fly jib and main top gallant sail set. At 3 lowered for a whale but did not get near him. Middle part the wind and weather the same. Latter part smart breeze from the NW with fog squalls. Heading NNE under whole top sail and fly jib. At 4 packed to the N.W. Saw a finback. 56.11 139.35

Saturday May 20th

Smart breeze from the NW by N and good weather. Smoky heading N under whole top sail and fly jib. Saw a ship. Heading to the N. Saw many finbacks. At 8 double reefed the top sail. Middle part moderate weather. Latter part light wind from the NW and smoky weather. All sail set. At 7 a sail in sight. At 8 saw a whale. Lowered and got within a mile of him. Spoke the E Morgan's bark (No). At 10 lowered for another whale but could not get near him. Going very quick to the NE.

Sunday May 21st

Light air from the NW and dark smoky weather. All sail set heading N.W. At 1 lowered for a whale but could not get nearer than 2 miles of them. Going very quick to the NE. Saw Crampuss, E Morgan in sight. At 6 a breeze sprung up from the ESE. Middle part moderates. Steering NW. Latter part smart breeze and foggy. At 8 saw 2 whales going to the windward at the rate of 10 knots. Ship steering N.W. At 11 saw another whale going at the same rate. At 12 cleared up and breezing on and getting ruggid.

56.13

142.33