

Chat Phelps

North West

Wednesday June 28th 1848

Smart breeze from the E and foggy rainy weather. Heading SSE, under whole top sail. At 3 the wind shifts to the SSE and clears up. Move ship to the E and set main top & sail and fly jib. At 3 fog again and breezing on. At 6 wind to the SSW and clears up. Tack in fore & sail and fly jib. Steering ESE. Saw 2 finbacks. At 7 took in sail and shifted to the SSE. Blowing strong. At 9 took in fore sail. At 12 began to moderate. Latter part at 15 made sail. And steered E. at 8 spoke the Minerva 900.

59.30
142.30

Thursday June 29th

Light air from the S and fine weather. At 3 wind shifted to the NE and breezing on. Middle part strong breeze and rainy dirty weather. Latter part the weather continued the same heading NWB.

Friday June 30th

Smart breeze from the NE and drizzly. Heading NWB. At 6 the wind shifts to the E and clears up. Set whole top sail. At 8 shortened sail. Middle part moderate. Latter part light wind from the E and smoky. All sail set heading N. Saw finbacks.

58.42
142.30

Saturday July 1st

Light air from the E and smoky. All sail set heading N. Saw finbacks. At 3 lowered for a whale without success. At 4 thick fog. At 6 a light wind from the W. Middle part moderate. Latter part lively wind from the W and fog squalls. Heading N. Saw 2 whales. At 7 saw the land. Very rugged. Mountainous and covered with snow.

59.20

Sunday July 2nd

Light wind from the W and fine weather. Standing in for the land. At 1 saw many whales going by. Several struck and killed one, and at 11 got him to the ship and began cutting. At 11 finished. Middle part moderate and wind shifted to the E. Latter part lively wind from the E and fog squalls. Stood in for the land. Lowered once.

Monday July 3rd

Lively wind from the E and fog squalls. At 1 lowered and struck a whale. At 6 got him to the ship and at 10 had him cut in. Middle part moderate steady SSE. Latter part almost calm and thick fog. Clearing some.

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Thursday July 4th 1848

Lively wind from the NE with fog squalls. Clearing some. At 5 finished and began boiling. Middle part moderate wind and good weather. Latter part smart breeze from the NE. Boiling and chasing whales. All going quick to the S. Regs Island and Mt. Elias in sight.

59.33
142.30

Wednesday July 5th

Smart breeze from the NE and some rugged. Boiling. Saw several whales going quick. Lowered and got a slight iron on a whale but it drew in a few minutes. At 9 wore ship to the ESE and doubled the top sail. Breezing on. At 10 blowing strong and very rugged and rainy. Worked down at 1 took in fore and main top sail. Latter part moderated and cleared up. Started the work again. A heavy swell on.

59.19

Thursday July 6th

Fresh breeze from the NE and very rugged. Heading ESE. Boiling. At 11 set double reefed fore and main top sail. Saw 2 finbacks. Middle part clear away calm. Latter part at 10 a lively breeze from the SW. Looking N for the land.

Friday July 7th

Lively breeze from the SW and quite rough. Boiling. At 3 lowered and struck a large whale but drew from him in a few minutes. At 8 lowered and struck a whale, drew from him. A second boat struck and the line part, the third boat struck and at 10 sunk him. Middle part moderate. Latter part the same. 2 sail in sight. Spoke the Vocational of Sydney. Capt. Gottle 600 whale tools. 21 months - Nothing lost.

Saturday July 8th

Light wind from the SW and dark cloudy weather. Two sail in sight. Saw several whales going very fast. Lowered once without success. Middle part moderate. Latter part light wind from the SW and fine weather. Employed in stowing down in fore hold.

Sunday July 9th

Light wind from the SW and fine weather. Steaming N by W. At 4 finished stowing down. Saw a ship cutting. Middle part calm. Latter part light air and fog squalls. At 3 lowered and struck a whale but the first drew and short warp parted. Chased some more and struck one and drew from him. At 10 lowered again struck a whale killed him and got him alongside at 12. Regs Island bearing NW distant about 20 miles.