

Chas Phelps

Tuesday Decr 12th 1848

Light winds from the NW and good weather, with a heavy swell on. Tacking NW under whole top sails and main top gallant sail. Nothing seen. Midday part light wind from the NW. Latter part lively wind from the NW and hauling northward. Set all sail. At 10 sailed NW. At 11 backed to NW. At 12 St Carlos Head bore NNE distant 20 miles

Wednesday Decr 13th

Smart breeze from the NW with a heavy swell from SW. All sail set heading SW by W. At 5 backing on with rain. At 6 took in sail. Midday part strong breeze. At 12 wind shifts to N. More shift to NW. Latter part light winds and good weather. Set all sail to the NW. Saw an America Bark on board N.

Thursday Decr 14th

Smart breeze from the NW and good weather. All sail set heading NW. At 3 breeze on smart and hauls to NW. Saw a fin back. Carrying sail. At 4 heavy squalls. Took in top of sails and fly jib. At 11 moderated. Set all sail. Latter part blowing fresh from NW and very rough. At 10 saw about 20 large sperm whales. Lowered and dashed an iron against one but it did not go in. Chased them for 2 hours but could not get near them. Blowing half a gale. Land distant 30 miles

Friday Decr 15th

Blowing strong from the NW and very rugged. Steading SW chasing the whales. Shortening sail. At 2 bore 100 under a reefed main top sail and fore sail. At 5 reefed the fore sail and took in bow brace. Blowing heavy. At 7 former shifts to SW. More shift. Midday part moderating. Latter part strong breeze from SW with rain squalls. At 10 single reefed top sails and main top of sail. Tacking N. Land distant 30 miles

Saturday Decr 16th

Fresh breeze from the SW with rain squalls and rugged. Tacking NW & under whole top sails and main top gallant sail. Midday part light air. Latter part at 8 a lively breeze from the NW. At 11 backed to the NW. Mocha bearing N from us distant 26 miles

Sunday Decr 17th

Light winds from the NW all sail set heading NW. Saw a dead right whale very much decayed. At 8 shortened sail to a double reefed fore and main top sail and jib. Midday part smart breeze and shower. Latter part set whole top sail. At 4 backed to the NW. Smart breeze and heaving and hauling from NW to NW

38.59
74.26

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Monday December 18th 1848

Light breeze from the NW to NW and good weather. All sail set heading by the wind NW. Nothing seen. At 6 moderating fast. Midday part all sail set. At 1 calm. Latter part at 6 saw many Blackfish going very fast to the S. At 8 a light wind from SW. Tacking NW by N. At 11 saw a sperm whale going to the N

Tuesday Decr 19th

Light winds from the NW and good weather. All sail set steering N after the whale. At 1 lowered for him. At 2 struck and killed him. And at 4 got him to the ship. At 5 hooked on and began cutting. Took in the sail and got the head part off and barked down for the night. Midday part good weather. Latter part light winds from the NW. At 5 hooked on the whale and began cutting. At 12 had the case almost baled

37.43
74.25

Wednesday Decr 20th

Light winds from the S and good weather. At 1 finished cutting and traced full. Set the jib and fore and main top sails and steered NW by N. At 2 began boiling on the head. Midday part light winds. Latter part light winds from the S. Set main top gallant sail and steered NW by N. Saw Blackfish. At 12 finished boiling the head

Thursday Decr 21st

Light winds from the SW and fine weather. Tacking NW with main top of sail set. Boiling. Saw Blackfish. Midday and latter parts light winds from the S and fine weather. Heading NW by N

Friday Decr 22nd

Light winds from the S and fine weather. Tacking NW. Boiling. At 7 finished Midday part all sail set. Latter part light winds from NW and fine weather. Tacking NW. Saw many Blackfish

34.55