

Log Book of Ship Charles Phelps of Stonington Billings Birch

days from Monday Dec 23rd

84

Commences with squally weather from W. heading S. Under close reef Main topsails, & fore topmast stay-sail, crew employed this fore noon at getting out a new gill boom, at 3 P.M. wind shifted to S.E. & wore ship heading S.W. at 4 P.M. set whale topsails, ~~the~~ gill & main sail, at 5 P.M. breezy on took in gill & double reefed top sails, then 24 hours ends heavy weather.

Sick myself

Lat. by obs. 45° 51' N
Long. by chs. 53° 45' W

Tuesday Dec 24th

85

Commences & ends with variable weather mostly under double reef topsails, with the wind from W. & W. course W. S.W.

Sick myself

Lat. by obs. 46° 56' N
Long. by chs. 53° 56' W

Wednesday Dec 25th

86

Christmas comes in with a strong head wind it being from S.W. & ends with a fair wind it being from S.E. & the first fair wind we have had this many a long day A.M. bent a new main topsail

Sick myself

Lat. by obs. 48° 38' N
Long. by chs. 53° 09' W

Thursday Dec 26th

87

Commences with a moderate breeze from S.E. steering W. & at P.M. shifted fore topsails & bent a new fore sail, later part of P.M. wind shifted to S.W. all A.M. pleasant weather, two ships in sight (whales), a cruising.

Sick myself

Lat. by obs. 45° 28' N
Long. by chs. 57° 14' W

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days from Friday Dec 27th

Commences with a strong breeze from S.W. heading W. S.W. & S.W. two whale ships in sight a cruising at 12 past two P.M. Sp. R. ship captain of crew Bedford, clean, has been here one month, reports seeing plenty of ships about here, reports about one dozen ships getting sperm ^{out} here, more or less, took in sail, to night in company with captain, at daylight made full sail, heading to the S.W. wind from W. S.W. later part of A.M. wind hauled to S.W. one ship in sight, strong breezes all these 24 hours

getting better,

Lat. by obs. 46° 19' N
Long. by chs. 57° 37' W

Saturday Dec 28th

Commences with a strong breeze from the S.W. heading S. S.E. Under whale topsails, at 5 P.M. tacked ship heading up W. S.W. course S.W. these 24 hours ends with a very light breeze from S.W. heading W. S.W.

Lat. by obs. 47° 08' N
Long. by chs. 57° 39' W

Sunday Dec 29th

Commences with a light breeze from S.W. heading W. S.W. at 5 P.M. calm, these 24 hours ends with a heavy gale from S.W. Under close reef Main topsail

Lat. by obs. 47° 29' N

Monday Dec 30th

Commences with a heavy gale from S.W. Under close reef Main topsails at 5 P.M. gale broke, at 8 P.M. under double reef topsails & courses heading W. S.W. wind from S. course S.W. & W. these 24 hours ends with a light breeze from S. heading W.

Lat. by obs. 47° 00' N
Long. by chs. 50° 15' W