

On Board Ship Columbus

December 1851

I was fearful that some of the Spars would go over the side and if I had of lost any thing it would of all been laid to ineptness as I have never headed a watch before but every thing proved to be strong for the wind as good luck would have it and I am certain I shall never run the same risk again

24

Thursday all these 24 hours strong S E trades
17 steering S S E under all sail saw
Left 2 sails to the westward employed at
7:30 turning down rigging
and others ships duty if this breeze
30 holds we shall have a short run to Cape
horn god grant we may

Friday commenced with strong trades similar
18 put the same course S W by W latter part
Left employed at turning down the rigging and
16:30 other ships duty saw 2 sails a head
Long at sunrise and we should of passed them
31:30 But for our many incidents in the
first place the maintop gallant halliards
parted and the yard laid on the cap for
a half hour after we got the main
top gallant sail was set the fore topgallant
mast was going over the board we had to
haul down the fly gibbs and settled down the
fore topgallant sail to get a pull on the
backstays after we had set them up
and just set the fly gibbs when that
split from head to foot and we had to
send it on deck to be mended
if these ships shapes had not of before
we should of passed them in 6 hours
but as it was they rather gained on the
old Columbus
Saw a bark steering S W think she
was a Yankee bound home may she
have a pleasant passage
franklin one of the labboard watch that has
been sick came on duty

January 3: 18:08 South we was in
this latitude 30 days from home
last voyage

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19 commenced with fresh breeze from S E
course S W under all sail employed
at mending fly gibbs the same sails
a head that was there yesterday
30 set bent the fly gibbs at sun down
and show I think we shall come up to
them ships a head
19:30 light part fine breeze from the S E steering
S S W under all sail the trade winds has
rather got out of the place but we
have no reason to complain but they
are hard winds for a ship bound home
and has to weather Cape Saint Roque
latter part the winds the same as
the middle part employed at ships
duty

20 Saturday

20 commenced with fine breeze from
S E steering S S W under all
Left sail saw a sail to the westward
16:30 steering South
33:30 employed at breaking out the fore
trotter for water and taken the fore
two out of the pen to port out the
rotten ones abidde part the banded
sloop the square the yards and set
the lower standing sail latter part
light winds from S E steering
S W by S under all sail saw 2
sails one steering by the wind heading
S W by S the other steering S S W under
all sail employed at shortening the out
board stays and setting them up
We are fearful the trades are going to
heave as they are light and baffling
we part with them as we would with
an old friend that we should like
to keep because they are useful
The captain has been very busy
employed at painting the cabin to try
hard to make it as comfortable as pos-
sible but he has most busy thing
work a gains him the paint and
varnish he puts on will not get dry
and it catches all the dirt there is
moving and looks worse than it
did before he put on the paint