

Saturday April 1853

Middle part wind and weather the same as the first at 11 o'clock A.M. we were all greatly alarmed by feeling the ship tremble in every part we all sprang for the deck thinking she had struck a reef of rocks. It proved to be a field of ice with we had ran on the high neglect of the lookout but we got through without much damage more than cutting off a few sheets of copper the remainder of the night working a long under easy sail saw large fields of ice. Latter part light winds and pleasant weather saw American Islands bearing at distant 60 miles saw plenty of ice & ship lone ducks and humpbacks. Employed at refuelling the last night broke.

Lat 45° 46' N

Long 151° 51' East

Sunday 19 first part of this day had light breeze from the eastward making the best of our way to the north saw plenty of ice saw the land to the north saw a small Middle part laid a back had fresh breeze from the westward later part running for the straits between American and Danish Islands saw a great body of ice to the westward.

Lat 46° 46' N

Long 151° or the same as the land

Monday 18 first part had all kinds of winds at 1 o'clock made the entrance of the straits and found them full of ice could not get through at 3 o'clock kept off to the eastward we ran through one field of very heavy ice Middle part steering N.E. under short sail later part fine weather with light breeze from the southward saw several Islands all the land we have seen has been covered with snow at the end of the day found our selves close in to the land steering for a passage apparently 20 miles wide. Its lat is 48° 04' N.

And Long the 153 East

Tuesday 19 commenced with light winds from the southward at 10 o'clock A.M. passed the land and found our selves safely out sea. Middle part blowing strong with thick snow storm at 4 o'clock A.M. lulled by the wind.

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on the Starboard tack the storm continued the most of the day latter part saw some ice wore ship to get clear of it our rigging is loaded with snow and ice.

Lat 48° 48' N

Wednesday 20 born with strong gales from the westward laging by the wind under close reefed main top sail at 5 o'clock A.M. set the fore sail Middle part light winds from N.E. saw saw land bearing S.E. latter part wind and weather the same found the oil leaking had commenced breaking out at the fore hatch so ends steering to the north. Saw some ice.

Thursday 21 first light airs and pleasant weather. Employed at breaking out oil at the main hatch till 11 o'clock the shipper seems to be greatly dissatisfied with the gang he has with him. Latter part finished the oil last about 30 barrels.

Friday 22 first part thick fog. Employed putting blubber room and eating stage commenced blading by waiters. For this night only Middle part had fresh breeze from the southward steering to the northward at 4 o'clock P.M. saw ice run to the eastward of it the weather has been freezing cold for the last 6 days.

Lat 52° N

Saturday 23 born with with fresh breeze from the southward steering to the N at 4 o'clock commenced to snow. Employed at breaking out water and mending fly gills at 3 o'clock lulled by the wind on the starboard tack.

Sunday 24 all of this day had pleasant weather. But very cold for the past 3 days we have been among the ice all of the time we have seen little that looks like a bowhead. Since we have been in this sea we have not had a moment but what has been freezing cold. The ice has been at 32 deg and the water 29 by the thermometer.

Lat 53° 53' N