

Monday Feb. 24th 1873
 All day strong gales from the E and
 North East, with cloudy weather with signs
 of rain. Nothing in sight all day.
 Ship working to the N.E. with all
 prudent sail out.

Lat 31.44 S
 Long 48.10 W.

Tuesday Feb. 25th 1873
 All these 24 hours strong gales from the
 N.E. and showers of rain. Ship by the
 wind to the N. and N.E. with all prudent
 sail out. Nothing in sight all day.

Lat 30.44
 Long 47.52

Wednesday Feb. 26th 1873
 All day strong gales from the N.E. and
 rain. Weather. Ship by the wind to the N.
 & E. until 4 P.M. then tacked to the S.E.
 Ship cruising with all prudent sail out.
 Nothing in sight but a very few birds
 and one turtle. No obs.

Thursday Feb. 27th 1873
 All day strong gales from the N.E. with
 light showers of rain. Ship by the wind to
 the E. cruising with all prudent sail out.
 One seal in sight steering to the E.
 We are convinced that Mr. Charles J. Besse
 is losing his reason, his acts and conversation
 are very wild and strange so much so that
 do not consider safe to entrust him longer with
 the watch, and have placed him under sur-
 veillance for that he may not harm either
 himself or any one else. We know not
 the cause, all being conjecture. I first
 noticed his strange ways about two months ago.

Lat. by seal 30.50 Long 46.14

Mr Charles J Besse off Duty

Friday Feb. 28th 1873
 All day strong gales first from S then
 to N.W. and S.W. First part cloudy
 but in the P.M. clear at 8 P.M.
 kept ship off for St. Catharines for
 the purpose of landing Mr. Besse his
 actions so wild and strange that we are fully
 convinced that his reason is wavering and
 are satisfied that it is for the interest of all
 concerned to land him for medical treat-
 ment as soon as possible, we keep him con-
 stantly under watch and take every precaution of
 putting knives razors pistols &c out of his reach.
 Took his pistols by stratagem from his chest
 this morning, he keeps the key in his pocket
 and sleeps in his clothes - for the last three weeks
 he has slept but little, and night before last
 I gave him an opiate also another yesterday and
 another tonight, about 40 drop of Laud. Each time
 All on board are convinced of his insanity and
 consequently are under constant fear that he may
 injure himself or others.
 Mr Besse is naturally of a despondent dis-
 position - the first we noticed in him unduly
 exhibited was last June at Bermuda on receiv-
 ing letters from home, I did not know
 the contents of his letters but he informed
 me upon enquiry that his father was sick
 that that was about all he seemed willing to
 communicate but from his general appear-
 ance I was satisfied he had other news
 of a different nature that affected him
 more than his father's sickness. I paid
 but little attention to it at the time thinking
 that his despondency would soon wear off and he
 would be all right again in a short time.
 But he has not revived from the shock
 at Fozal he plead hard for his discharge