

Ship Cyrus, whaling on the Coast of Chile, Paul West, 1865

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> Strong Southerly winds and very rugged heavy W<sup>est</sup> throughout this day, standing in by the wind under close reef. Topsails without seeing anything but the surface of the sea. Employed at and finished repairing and stowed boat & put her out at her place, in the Main, again, and at sundown the necessary works about the ship. Lat 36-50 74-42 At noon St. Mary's bore E B S Dist 55 leagues

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> Commences strong Southerly winds and rugged W<sup>est</sup> headed in E S E under courses at 7 A M made modest sets of Junc & Miz. Topsails, shifted the Main Tails to repair the old one. Middle part broke up the After. Lat & Run gave the condition of our Provision & Stores and stowed it away again. At 5 P M saw several spermacettes, put off all three boats got one large whale and took her along side, at 8 A M and secured her well with the Lashboard lower Cable, and lay too under close reef. M. Topsail & Miz. Staysail with brisk breezes at South and fair weather all the latter part. Lat 37-07 74-17 St. Mary's, E B N 8 Leagues Distance

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> Commences moderate Southerly winds & fair W<sup>est</sup> prepared everything (by night) for hooking on to and fish at 4 A M hook'd on, and at noon had had on board having light variable winds & calm during the time, afternoon light winds at W N W made sail to 7 P M at 5 took the wind at South in a light squall, having began to try, headed off W S W under easy sail. Lat 36-69 74-20 St. Mary's in sight bearing E S E 7 Leagues Dist

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> Strong Gales at S S E and clear W<sup>est</sup> throughout these 24 hours laying hove too most of this day under courses trying out our whale, the sea so rough that we made slow headway at trying, saw nothing to day. At Midnight finished trying to end with fresh wind at S S E and very rugged W<sup>est</sup>. Lat 36-30 74-38

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Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> Very strong Southerly Gales and a high rough sea on throughout this day, Employed at stowing down our last whale which has made fifty barrels of oil, at 8 P M finished work and let the ship continue lying too under close reef to M T B and storm Staysail with the winds and sea still boisterous. Lat 36-18 74-52

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> Throughout this day the winds continued to blow very fresh at S S E and the sea very high & boisterous, laying too under courses headed off S W with a view of holding our ground to the Southward as soon as the winds & weather will permit. Lat 36-06 74-58 At noon M. Topsail on deck to repair, but the W<sup>est</sup> too bad to repair it.

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> Strong Gales at S S E and very rugged weather, laying too under courses until after noon the day when the winds and weather began to grow more moderate, so that we cut close reef to Topsails fore & aft and continued standing off all the latter part, heading up S W with stiff breezes at S S E and cloudy. At 8 P M let out close reef to S. Ends, repaired our old M T B. Lat 35-50 75-00

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> Brisk breezes and cloudy all the first part steering by the wind to 7 P M Middle part more moderate Gales at South & S W shifted the Fore & Main Topsails to repair, made all sail, and at noon took it ship to 7 P M and stood in all the latter part with gentle Gales at S S W & cloudy. At noon when we took the ship I judge myself 60 miles from the coast. Lat 35-41 75-01

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> Commences gentle Gales at S W S steering S E B S with all sail out at 8 A M took fresh breezes at S S E to South continued on to 7 P M and by the wind all day at 6 A M saw a ship to E S E and of us standing in by the wind at 8 fresh flairs with flights of Mist took in sail to single reef to Topsails & Staysails and stood on to 7 P M all the latter part with fresh wind at S S E. Repaired the old foretopmast, all had Cook & G. & a new Purse. Lat 35-00 75-15