

Ship Cyres whaling on the Coast of Chile. West 1805

Monday 18th Moderate variable winds and heavy weather throughout these 24 hours lying at St. Mary's Bay. Employed at mending and watering took on board 20 Bbls of water & one last load of wood, and a few apples (the most of them being taken away before now) found Sails of seals lying now here in this Bay. Latter part Southerly winds, prepared for sailing tomorrow in hope of making better use of time

Tuesday 19th Commences brisk Southerly winds and fair weather sent the boat on shore & got some Greens Meat & load of wood and so soon as she returned took her on the stern again & Mustered the crew to heave ahead but by their having previously smuggled a quantity of wine on board from some other ship that most of them got drunk and incapable of duty so that as the wind had got too fresh at 10 PM was obliged to lay still for the want of sober Men. At 7 in the Evening the Cable parted and falling right athwart the Diana's house found it imprudent to let go another Anchor so with the assistance of Capt. Westerman further headsail (at this ship headed to the Wind) to make clear of the Diana, but unfortunately could not clear her bowsprit which came in upon our Stern and crushed down the stern boat and 3 small spars, so were round made sail as quick as possible being so near the shore had not time to heave in the slack Cable which dragging along on the bottom prevented the ship steering, (no room to let go the other Anchor) found it impossible to keep the ship off shore without cutting and lashing the Cable so into and lost about 35 or 40 fathoms of the Lashed Bowed Cable, being close on to the S E head backed ship and ply'd towards it if the ship at anchor and lay off in the Bay all the latter part under single reefed Topsails

Ship Charles parted her Cable and drove near ashore, Ship Winslow 10th of N Bedford drove with two anchors ahead, Ship Matthew of Milford sailed before the wind breezed so ends this journey days work with 1/2 of the crew drunk & ship'd with wine

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Wednesday 20th Brisk Southerly winds and fair weather throughout these 24 hours at 6 PM stood into St. Mary's Bay from whence we came and swept our Anchor several times before we got the at noon got fast to it and took it to the house then the wind blowing fresh at South it was impossible for to try for the Cable, nor any probability of a better time soon and as the chance appeared very small for getting the cable concluded to give up the idea of obtaining the ship for the and put to Sea without it at 6 PM St. Mary's bore South 2 Leagues Dist steered out N W W then Latter part with fresh winds at South & clear weather got at St. Mary's but very little refreshments

Thursday 21st Commences Brisk Southerly winds and fair weather steering N W at 6 AM took in the wreck of the stern boat the repair found her almost irreparable but began saw a ship to go N W of us 5 miles lying aback did not alter our course at 7 she kept off N N E ran a little and love to again and changed American colours, so that when I drew near had found her to be a Warlike ship and not being willing to speak her heard close on a wind to the W and trusted American colours, immediately he gave chase but could not come up with us he continued in chase after firing a lee gun until 8 PM then almost out of sight, he steered off to the N N W under easy sail we continued our course by the wind W S W at 6 lost sight of him (he bearing N E) at 7 were ship and steered E N E all the latter part, being dark saw nothing of him at 12 steered N E with fresh wind at South

Friday 22nd Strong Southerly Gales & clear weather steering N E until 7 PM then steered N N E took in staysails found a little more moderate the land in sight from E N E 4 E S E 11 or 12 Leagues Distance, saw nothing upon the Sea except one humpback although passing over very good ground. Employed at repairing the stern boat & gill &c as necessary, so ends with fresh Southerly winds and fair W steering N N E