

Ship *Cyrus* whaling on the Coast of Peru. *P. West* master 1855

Thursday April 18th Commences light winds at S E laying beated S W under short sail, at 5 A.M. made all sail stood to the S S W and found sail of ships in sight to the W & N of us. Middle part wind at South standing off W S W saw a Brigg, stood towards her & prepared against her at 2 P.M. spoke her found her a Spanish coasting vessel from Africa in ballast bound to Paitilla, but her papers unaltered and stood in E S E by the wind all the latter part with gentle Gale at R. heavy weather at the Distance of between 5 & 20 Leagues from Land

Friday April 19th Light winds and variable between East & S W plying to the S E by the wind all day, at 8 or 9 Leagues from the Land, no sail in sight, found a spermatic that somebody had killed about 6 days ago but was too far spoiled to be saved, continued on to 3 P.M. with light air & calm in hopes every minute to see whales, but could not Employed at repairing flying jib & setting up Cakes

Saturday April 20th Gentle Southerly winds and fair all the day cruising off by the wind between 5 & 16 Leagues Dist from the Land without seeing any whale, except finbacks and Porpoises, no sail in sight. Employed as necessary

Sunday April 21st Light winds between S E & S W and fair weather not seeing any sign of whale close under the Land, stood off all this day by the wind. Latter part saw porpoises, finbacks, humphacks, but no spermatic, nor sail the Land at 18 Leagues Distance no duty done about the Ship to day.

Monday April 22nd Light Southerly winds & calm all of this day, at 6 o'clock being further from the Land than where whale has been lately taken stood in E S E by the wind all day, at 7 P.M. being 7 Dist from the Land took in the short sail headed S W all the latter part with very light air at S E & clear W. saw humphacks & finbacks but no encouragement for spermatic at present

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Tuesday April 23rd Commences light Southerly winds and fresh souly W. made sail, stood off by the wind at 5 P.M. saw a strong sail, at 6 spoke her, the Co of Nantuckete Capt. R. Gardner 1/2 out 300 Oil on board, bound to the Coast of California at 7 took in sail having seen no whale to day except humphacks & finbacks, at the Dist of 7 to 17 Leagues from Land

Wednesday April 24th Gentle breezes at S E & fair weather made sail stood in E S E all day without seeing anything alive in the sea nor the least sign of whale of any sort at 7 P.M. have too under close, except the top sail lead off at 6 Leagues Distance from Land, no sail seen to day Employed as necessary, put on a pair of iron shoes to the Store Top Gun Mast Head S. ends a dull day

Thursday April 25th Light Southerly winds and pleasant weather made sail stood in S E at noon the water appearing very green for 6 or 8 miles round, I buffed too, rounded and found 72 Fathoms water, Rocky bottom at the same time being about 5 Leagues from the nearest Land, just as we discovered the crop on the shore from the Mast-Head were Ship stood W N W 3 Leagues Dist before I could judge myself off of the Bank, saw nothing but a few humphacks & finbacks & some small fish (not a porpoise, Blackfish, or any sign of a Spermatic)

Friday April 26th Light Southerly winds & fair weather at 5 A.M. made sail stood N W & N N W all day at from 6 to 12 Leagues Distance from the Land saw nothing except a few humphacks & small fish, at 7 P.M. have too under close

Saturday April 27th Gentle Southerly winds and fair weather running down the Coast of Peru in search of whale, but not able to see anything but a few humphacks, no porpoises or Blackfish, nor any sign of spermatic at 7 P.M. have too under W S W, ends Employed at cleaning the outside of the Ship for painting