

Ship Cyrus whaling on the Coast of Peru. Paul West Master 1805

Friday 20th December Light trade winds between E & S E & S E B stood in N E throughout this day without seeing anything but small fish and two or three pinbacks, the water of a deeper blue colour than we have had to, when at a greater distance from the Land than we are to day. Not much Employment on board, besides looking for Whales. Latter part lay off & on under easy sail as usual at Night. At 6 P M Judge my Dist from Land to be 67 Leagues

Saturday 21st December Gentle cruising breezes at between East & S E stood in to the N E all of these 24 hours on very dark coloured water without seeing anything in the Sea except a few Bonitos towards the latter part the W^{ind} became thick with a little fog the water being so very barren, continued standing in N E At 6 P M Judge my Distance from Land is about 80 Leagues

Sunday 22nd December Brisk Winds at E S E to S E stood in to N E by the winds without seeing anything alive except two Pinbacks at Noon crossed a narrow strip of E Water, kept for them found none, so Ende with nothing in sight the Land 30 Lg.

Monday 23rd December Commenced Brisk S E trades and clear W^{ind} standing in to the E N E by the wind at 7 A M strong trades in S E gale sails at 9 saw several Spermaceti, down Boat (but the Sea so very rugged could scarce Row towards) Chuck & killed one whale only. The rest turning off towards could not touch another. So took one whale alongside at Noon, and in the afternoon cut it in, & began boiling out. stood off S E by the wind all the latter part. At long haul at S E - Judging my Dist from Land to be 30 Leagues

Tuesday 24th December Commenced Brisk trades at S E standing in E N E by the wind well Employed at boiling out, at 2 P M try'd for bottom, found 80 Fathoms water back to Ship & stood off S E by the wind all the latter part with gentle breezes at S E At 6 P M Judge my Dist from Land to be about 27 Leagues, saw nothing during this day, but a parcel of pinbacks. At 11 P M finished boiling our whale & prepared to stow the Oil below in the Hold. the colour of the Sea, very dark green

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Wednesday 25th December Brisk trades at S E and large W^{ind} stood off to S W by the wind throughout this day seeing many pinbacks, but nothing else moving in or upon the Sea, the water of a light greenish colour. Employed at stowing down our oil. stood away and out of the latter Whales, its filling fifty-seven barrels, at 6 P M the Land at 68 Lg.

Thursday 26th December Commenced light winds at S E to S E stood off to the S W by the wind. Middle & latter part Brisk gushing breezes at S E continuing standing off by the wind on very dark coloured water having seen one school of B fish & one pinback but no Spermacety Employed at collecting all of our empty casks in order for Whales At 6 P M Judge my Distance from Land to be 67 Leagues

Friday 27th December Brisk cruising breezes between S E B E & S E stood off by the wind all day seeing a few Blackfish, & plenty of small fish but no Whales, although we have every sign of them, but all to no purpose. Judging myself to be about the same ground where we found whales the 6th & 8th of this Month. Latter part lay off & on in great hopes of tomorrow bringing better success than to day, At 6 P M my Distance from Land is 81 Leagues

Saturday 28th December Brisk cruising breezes at about S E with dark heavy W^{ind} stood off by the wind, at 5 A M saw 3 or 4 Spermaceti at 6 got near them down boat chased them, but did not shoot any (because) they were of them, so returned on board, saw two other whales which after putting off after them, saw no more of them, returned and at 8 P M saw one whale put off & soon killed him & took him to the Ship boat to on, but being too late in the day, secured him well for Day light, having seen plenty of B fish, Porpoises, and small all day, as well as 10 or 12 small sized Spermaceti, but they being so very shy, we find it almost impossible to touch one of them At 6 P M my Distance from Land is about 80 Leagues

Sunday 29th December Brisk winds at S E to S E with heavy weather all day, at 6 A M took our whale to land, hoisted on to him & at 11 had him all on board, made sail & stood off to S W by the wind all the latter part, without seeing anything alive except a few small birds. Employed at boiling out and blubber and looking out sharp for the breath of another Spermacety whale, which with a little Luck will fill all of our empty casks, At 6 P M the Land at 88 Leagues