

Bark Daniel Webster Cruising

Saturday May 12th 1877

Comes in with moderate breeze from the S.W. and rain. Ship steering E. per compass. Saw through the day 2 schools of Grampuses & of porpoises and several birds. One black, and one long tailed over. Water blue and green alternated but nothing in it. Plunged of water 55° at 20 minutes passed right in the S.W. heard a rumbling noise like a ship grinding over rocks, 10 minutes later heard it again. Both times heard it distinctly, so plainly as to cause the ship to tremble. We could feel the former tremble more distinctly than we could hear the noise.

Lat. 48.00 N Long. 28.30 W

Sunday May 13th 1877

Comes in with strong breeze from the N.W. and squally weather. Ship steering to the E.N.E. under easy sail. Several sails in sight some steering to the E. and two to the N.W. one in sight we call a whaler. At 10 A.M. spoke her she was the Minerva Thomson of N.Y. 25 days out. Had seen whaler once since sailing. Saw nothing but Gentacks about five. Water all day very green. Saw several birds through the day. No porpoises. Sunfish & finbacks.

Lat. 48.16 N Long. 26.21 W

Monday May 14th 1877

Comes in with moderate breeze from the N.W. and S.W. and squalls of rain. Ship steering N.E. per compass with whole topsails and foresails. Water green all day without any life excepting a few birds. At 10 A.M. blowing heavy. Look in the two upper topsails and at 11 took in the foresail. At 12 M. kept the S.E. and rain until 2 P.M. then lifted to wind heading S. water still blue. Saw through the day two sails both steering to the N. all the P.M. Ship lying to with strong S.W. gales. Water very green and without life of any kind.

Lat. 49.22 N Long. 21.42 W

This is a Specimen of my hand-writing

for sperm Whales in the North Atlantic

Tuesday May 15th 1877

Comes in with strong gales from the W. with some heavy squalls. Ship steering S.E. per compass under lower topsails. Water green all the A.M. at 10 A.M. luffed to the wind and hove to on starboard tack heading S.W. S. under lower main topsails the wind blowing strong from S.W. Saw only one sail today. Steering to the N.W. at 12 M. water somewhat blue. Told the S.M. steering heavy with squalls. Have seen but a few birds today. No porpoises, Grampuses, blackbirds, finbacks or other life. Lat. at Merid 49.26 N Long. 27.11 W

Wednesday May 16th 1877

Comes in with moderate breeze from the N.W. and cloudy weather. Ship steering to the S. per compass water green from 10 A.M. until two P.M. water blue but still somewhat green. Steering Sunlit sunset when shortened sail for the night. Not a living thing excepting one sunfish to be seen all day and but two or three birds very very dull here and no birds here. Have seen three sails today all working to the W. We have seen no green water to the E. Long. of 28 Lat. 48.54 N Long. 23.00 W

Thursday May 17th 1877

Comes in with moderate breeze from the N.W. and squally weather. Ship to the wind to the N.E. with all present but sail in sight out. Nothing in sight all the A.M. in the P.M. several sails and one steamer some to the E. and some to the W. water green all day. Saw in the P. several gulls.

Lat. 48.55 N Long. 23.45 W

Friday May 18th 1877

Comes in with light winds from the S.W. and fine weather. Ship steering W.N.W. with all sail out. Several sails in sight some steering E. and some W. Saw Steamers one to E. and one to W. one to W. passed close to us her name was the 'Main' of Bremen. the other was a Russian and signalled long answer, as 21.40. One at the same time was 21.01. Lat. at Merid 49.25 N Long. 21.30 W