

## Bark Daniel Webster Cruising in the North Atlantic Ocean in 1877

Saturday Sept. 22<sup>d</sup>

Comes in with fresh breezes from S. E. and squally weather and very misty being, as we suppose, in the Labrador current. Temp. being 62 (last night it was 74). Ship steering W. N. W. with all prudent sail out. In the morn water rather green but clearing in it. Saw 2 Schools of porpoises. In P. M. strong gales from the S. with squalls of rain. Two sails in sight. Saw one drift stick with several Dolphins around it. At 4 P. M. went through the Labrador current as Temp. of water was 72. Lat. 41.25 N. Long. 48.50 W.

Sunday. Sept. 23<sup>d</sup>

Comes in with moderate breezes from the N. and cloudy weather with some rain. Ship steering to S. by W. with all prudent sail out. Nothing in sight all day. At 12 M. strong breezes and clear weather. Water blue with some Gulf Weed. Temp. of water in the morn. 72 at noon and at night 70. All day a very heavy squally sea on, running from all points of the compass but mostly from S. E. at night under lower topsails. Yesterday Turner the Cook forward as he was very wasteful and incapable of doing his duty as cook in anything like a satisfactory manner. And a man called Bob was in to act as cook for awhile. Agreeing to give him five dollars per month extra while serving as Cook. Lat. 40.44 Long. 48.50 W.

Monday Sept. 24<sup>th</sup>

Comes in with strong gales from N. W. and overcast sky in the morn steering S. after lying to all night. No indications of whales. At 9 A. M. spoke Bk Midas Scapham N. B. lying with two whales alongside making 500 bbls. This seen then kept ship S. E. at 12 1/2 saw sperm whales by a fireman's hand (Spencer) at the fore. Several large whales going quite quick to N. E. per compass. Made all sail as weather admitted and gave chase. Just before sunset lowered and chased with three boats without success. Lat. 39.00 Long. 47.25

Tuesday Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>

Comes in with moderate breezes from N. W. and fine weather. Ship by the wind to the E. N. E. at 6 A. M. seeing nothing wore ship & stood in to the N. W. W. weather clear and being good. Nothing in sight all the A. M. but one sail steering to the E. just at sunset raised sperm whales by stetson at the main. Large school of cows & calves going to the leeward did not lower but took in sail and layed main yard aback for the night in hopes of seeing the whales in the morning. Saw one sail at the W. standing E. had the appearance of a whaler under topsails. Lat. 38.54 Long. 46.30 W.

Wednesday. Sept. 26<sup>th</sup>

Comes in with light airs from N. E. and somewhat hazy weather. Ship lying aback. At daylight made sails and stood a gigger course to the S. S. W. in hopes of falling in with the whales we saw last night. At 10 saw a sail - a whaler - bailing bearing to the W. S. W. saw several times in that direction small White Water. Stood for it until 2 P. M. then hauled to the wind to the S. E. The whaler we call the Midas. Nothing more in sight all day. Water quite thick with animalcules and Blue with some Gulf Weed. Saw two pieces of Squid and several Dolphins. Lat. 38.01 N. Long. 46.18 W.

Thursday Sept. 27<sup>th</sup>

Comes in with light winds from S. E. and fine weather. Ship steering N. per compass with all sails out. Two sails in sight, the Midas under short sail and a merchantman by the wind to the E. N. E. Water blue with tiderrips and some Gulf Weed. Good seeing all day. Lat. 37.48 N. Long. 46.20 W.

Friday Sept. 28<sup>th</sup>

Comes in with calms. At M. took a light breeze from S. W. hauling to W. at sunset W. steering N. N. W. at 9 P. M. changed suddenly to N. with rain. Good seeing all day. Nothing but one sail & 2 Schools of porpoises. Lat. 38.28 Long. 46.00