

Bark Daniel Webster Bound for

Tuesday January 1st 1878

Comes in with a heavy gale from N.W. a shower of rain. Ship by the wind to the N.W. under easy sail. at 7 A.M. were ship heading W. of N. and set lower main topsails. In the P.M. weather moderating. Nothing in sight all day.
Lat. 27° 45' N Long 72° 54' W

Wednesday Jan. 2d

Comes in with light breezes from various points of the compass with little or no headway on the ship. weather being overcast but a heavy swell running from N.W. quite large bodied of Gulf weed in sight and two or three birds. Watch employed in setting up rigging & doing other work about ship.
Lat 26° 52' N Long 73° 23' W

Thursday Jan. 3d

Comes in with light winds from N. and fine weather. Ship lying to under easy sails having carried away both Bobstays last night about 10 o'clock. Breaking the shackle to one and the bolt in the bowsprit to the other. yesterday broke one of the strops to one of the lower Dead eye to fore rigging. and today have been repairing damages all day. In the A.M. got the Bobstays fitted and set up in the P.M. got chain plates fitted to Dead eye in and Back Stay set up. It being that strop to one of the Back stays that broke instead of fore rigging so that in the P.M. got sail on the ship. In the morn saw a three masted schooner steering to the S.W. in P.M. a Brigantine steering the same way.
Lat. 27° 08' N Long 73° 48' W

Friday Jan. 4th

Comes in with moderate breezes from S.E. and hazy weather. Ship lying under easy sail for purpose of setting up rigging. all hands employed all day in setting up the main rigging. One schooner in sight steering to the N. North of Gulf of Mexico in sight with some tide rips. Water blue all day. at sunset made some sail.
Lat. 27° 42' N Long 75° 45' W

Martensella Reef In the year of 1878

Saturday Jan. 5th

Comes in with moderate breezes from N. and cloudy weather. The wind having changed last night, gradually from S.W. to N. bringing some rain about 10 P.M. All day overcast. In the A.M. picked up a hard pine plank. Saw one piece of squid, two or three birds and plenty of Gulf Weed. Water blue and clear.
Lat. 27° 49' N Long 76° 55' W

Sunday Jan. 6th

Comes in with from N. strong breezes and overcast weather. Ship by the wind to the N.W. with prudent sail out cruising. at 10 A.M. raised a sail and apparent under easy sail. and which we take, as proved afterwards to be a whaler, at about 12 M. she passed us to windward. at 2 P.M. were ship to the E. saw another sail to the windward standing. At sunset took in sail for the night.
Lat. 27° 54' Long 78° 34' W

Monday Jan. 7th

Comes in with strong breezes from the N. and cloudy weather appearing threatening. Three sails in sight. One whaler schooner. at 9 A.M. spoke her which proved to be the Admirab Blake Northway of Marion 50 days out with 70 bbls of Sperm Oil. jammed all day with her vessels separated, and cruising on different tracks. Saw nothing indicating whales. water blue with some drifts of Gulf Weed.
Lat. by Alt near Moon 28° 13' N Long 78° 41' W
allowing her to be 12 too far N. " 78° 24' "

Tuesday Jan. 8th

Comes in with a gale of wind from the E. and threatening weather. stormy and overcast. Ship under lower topsails and storm staysails. Lat took in topsails in the A.M. as the gale increased. In the P.M. lying to under staysails. saw two sails. whaling schooner A. B. and one we call the Petrel Capt Avery. under easy sail apparently lying to. Nothing more in sight all day but one Dolphin. at night have to heading N. N. E. per compass. Lat. 28° 12'