

Bark Daniel Webster Cruising in the South Atlantic Ocean, Right Whaling

Remarks On Board Friday February 14th 1879

All day light breezes from the E and N.E. with foggy weather nearly all day. In the P.M. the fog and mist lifts so that the mastheads are manned, steering to the S.E. & E. until 10 when the wind hauling ahead the ship is headed off to N.E. & N.W. the A.M. nothing saw two finbacks. In the P.M. saw a great many birds, and some schools of albacore at 12 sounded in 63 fathoms.

Lat 42.25 N Long 56.25 W

Saturday February 15th

All day light breezes from the N. and overcast rather poor seeing. Ship by the wind to the E. with prudent sail out cruising. Some few birds around. Green at 5 A.M. 62 fathoms of water. Nothing in sight at 12 M. sounded no bottom at 100 fms. - were ship heading to the N. In the P.M. nothing in sight. No Obs.

Sunday February 16th 1879

All day strong gales from the E. Ship on different backs under easy sail. All the A.M. raining, saw in the morning and found 65 fathoms of water. Water green all day. Nothing in sight but a few birds. No Obs.

Monday February 17th

All day moderate breezes from the S. and foggy weather. In the morning found 90 fathoms. Kept ship off to N.E. & E. at 9½ kept her N.E. Saw two finbacks. Water green, with but a few birds at night hove to under easy sail. No Obs.

Tuesday Feb 18th 1879

In the morning made sail and kept the ship to the N. per compass. Sounded, but no bottom. Water S.E. & E. In the A.M. saw a sail steering to the N. Also saw three finbacks, and a few birds. No Obs.

Remarks On Board Wednesday February 19th

Comes in with light winds from the S.W. and foggy weather. Ship by the wind to the W. and N.W. under easy sail. Nothing in sight at 9 A.M. fog lifts and the sun came out bright at 10 the wind changed into the N.W. Ship steering S.W. with all sail out. Saw several schools of albacore and some birds, nothing more in sight. No Soundings. Lat 39.35 N Long 56.25 W

Thursday February 20th 1879

All the A.M. light winds from the N.W. and overcast and hazy weather. In the morn saw a whale close to the ship - could not make it out. Ship steering S.W. with all prudent sail out. at 12 M. the wind S.W. saw at 1 P.M. two finbacks - were ship to the N.E. & N.W. Saw nothing more all day but a few birds.

Morning 63 fathoms Night 55, Lat 40.35 N Long 56.25 W

Friday February 21st 1879

Comes in with light winds and calms from N.W. with fine weather. Ship steering S.E. & W. with all sail out. Nothing in sight all day. Water very green. Morning 2 M. 56 fathoms Lat 40.35 N Long 57.25 W

Saturday February 22nd 1879

Comes in with light airs from nearly all points of the compass, and calms. Ship working to the S.E. & W. with all sail out cruising. Saw nothing but a few birds in the A.M. Water green. In the morn 60, Night 55 fathoms Lat 41.13 S

Sunday February 23rd 1879

Comes in with light baffling airs and thick fog. Ship working to the S. under easy sail. At 7 the fog lifts and a light breeze from the N. springing up made sail. At 10 saw several finbacks and in the P.M. saw several more but nothing looking like right whales. Morning water 55, Night 63 fathoms. Lat 41.35 N Long 58.12 S