

Journal of a Whaling Voyage in the Brig *Matamaha*

Friday September 13th

Lat 31-45 N Long 59-31 W
All of this day light breezes from the S.E. steering N.W. employed in ship duty, two Merchant vessels in sight steering to the N.E. at 7 A.M. went on board of one to get some information from the States, but did not get but little, she was from St. Christopher's Island Westward bound to England. Loaded with Shuggar.

Saturday September 14th

Lat 31-45 N Long 59-31 W
All of this day blowing fresh from the N.E. and N.W. steering N.W. by W at 3 P.M. took in the Fore-degalant sail and Gaff-top sail, one sail in sight steering to the N.W. no Longitude

Sunday September 15th

Lat 32-41 N Long 64-54 W
All of this day more moderate from the Northward and N.W. standing on the wind all sail set heading W.N.W. and off to W by S. got a Sundown Longitude that gave me 65-04

Monday September 16th

Lat 33-00 N Long 66-29 W
first part of this day squally, middle and latter part light breezes from the N.W. steering on the wind heading N.W. by W and N.W.

Tuesday September 17th

Lat 33-12 N Long 67-50 W
All of this day light breezes from the Eastward steering N.W. by W employed in ship duty, saw Grampasses and Porpoises quite a number of dolphins around the vessel, the water looking very thick with Tallordrops and hayseed. Saw one Shark. 4 Sails in sight.

Benjamin B. Handy Master September 18.61

Wednesday September the 18th

Lat 33-52 N Long 68-58 W
first and middle part of this day fine breezes from the S.E. steering N.W. by W all sail set at 4 P.M. Squall from the N.W. took in the Gaff-top sail and Fore-degalant sail heading us off to S.E. some rain at 9 P.M. the wind hauled to the S.E. steering N.W. by N at 12 had all sail set. pleasant

Thursday September 19th

Lat 34-56 N Long 68-34 W
first and middle part of this day light breezes from the S.E. steering N.W. by W all sail set at 6 P.M. more breeze wind veering more to the Southward, at 8 noon call, and at 10 the wind hauled back to the S.E. saw Porpoises and Albicore, the water very thick.

Friday September 20th

Lat 36-10 N Long 70-32 W
All of this day light breezes and pleasant from the S.E. steering N.W. by W and N.W. all sail set saw Grampasses one Brig in sight steering N.W. at 10 P.M. were in the Southern edge of the Stream

Saturday September 21st

Lat 37-51 N Long 71-39 W
All of this day fine breezes from the S.W. some rain the first part at 7 A.M. were out of the Stream kept of steering N.W. by E. these sails in sight, at 11 A.M. went on board of an English Brig, the Onward bound to Boston, got her Longitude on some papers. Sent down the Masthead Boards and cutting pennants.

Sunday September 22nd

Lat 40-06 N Long 74-00 W
first half of this day fresh breezes from the S.W. at 11 A.M. it hauled to the Northward, at 2 P.M. took in the Fore-degalant sail and Gaff-top sail at 4 P.M. took ship heading N.W. by W at 6 P.M. have the lead found 58 fathoms water brought up on the lead greenish bottom some pieces of Shell, thick foggy, first part of the day did not get any Longitude, saw several Sails