

1839 Ship Gideon Howland Cruising

Thurs 14th of November 1839 commences fine weather and calm been Island in sight bearing N W distant 8 leagues the hester in sight middle and latter part of the breezes from the W N W steering East Lat by Obsⁿ 58 miles Long by Chro 170° 5' 30" E

Frid 15th commences fine weather light breezes from Northward steering E middle and latter part strong breeze the watch employed in ordinary duty Lat by Obsⁿ 02° 22' S Long by Chro 172° 22' 30" East

Sat 16th commences fine weather light breezes and ends the same the watch employed rattling down the fore rigging Lat by Obsⁿ 02° 18' S Long by Chro 173° 42' East

Sund 17th first middle and latter part light baffling winds steering to the Eastward Lat by Obsⁿ 02° 24' S Long by Lunar 174° 18' 30" E

Mon 18th commences strong breezes and squally at same saw whales lowered boats all got fast and a whale got there alongside at 2 pm and cut in once of them and lay by the rest then at 02° 30' South Long 174° 30' East

Tues 19th commences squally with wind and rain at day light began to cut finished at noon and commenced boiling latter part good weather Lat by Obsⁿ 02° 20' S Long 174° 44' 30"

Wed 20th commences squally and rainy all hands employed boiling and nooking about the decks reader if you have been on board of a whaler in such a time just imagine to your self how comfortable it is wet through with water and like new oil latter part better weather finish boiling about 8 o'clock will turn up 75 lbs or upwards got no observation nor attack this day

On the Line St Baker Master 1839

Thurs 21st commences strong wind and rain heading N by E with stacks above middle and latter part strong wind with heavy squalls of rain at 4 pm tacked heading S by E on the other tack wind having hauled to the northward so ends this day Lat by Obsⁿ 02° 55' S Long by Chro 175° 38' East

Frid 22nd first part squally with strong wind and rain middle part the same latter calm and rainy steering to the S E so ends this day Lat by Obsⁿ 03° 23' S Long by Chro 175° 50' East

Sat 23rd first part a strong gale from N N E lying to under a close reef maintopsail middle part calm latter part light baffling wind with squalls of rain at 4 pm double reef to sails so ends this day Lat by Obsⁿ 03° 52' S Long by Chro 176° 43' East

Sund 24th commences light winds with squalls of rain steering to the S at 12 pm tacked to the N latter fine and light winds from the East so ends this day Lat by Obsⁿ 05° 00' S Long by Chro 176° 44' East

Mon 25th first part of these 24 hours calm all hands employed striking oil down between decks middle and latter light winds & fine weather steering by the wind with star tacks aboard heading N E by E so ends this day Lat by Obsⁿ 4° 49' S Long by Chro 177° 06' E

Tues 26th first part fine weather light winds from S E steering S by E at 1 pm tacked to the South middle and latter part the same the watch employed rattling down the main rigging Lat by Obsⁿ 14° 54' 8" S Long by Lunar 177° 48' E