

Journal of a whaling voyage by Thomas O'Rourke

August 1838	Ship Grand Turk 1838	Wind	Course	Lat.	Long.
Sat 25	Saw a school of Grampus on the land side Starboard tack aboard & wind light and rainy some flying fish flew as saw	SE		8.43	20.54
Sun 26	Clear hauled as yesterday light	SW	SE	8.18	19.30
Mon 27	Saw a hump back to windward light and warm in the wind	SW	W	7.50	18.00
Tues 28	Went ship at 6 P.M. Starboard tack aboard & light	SE		7.10	19.58
Wed 29	Saw two ships one to windward the other to leeward both standing as we were light	SW		6.50	19.7
Thurs 30	Saw a sail to leeward light	SW	SE	6.12	18.18
Fri 31	As yesterday light	SW	SE	5.41	17.12
Sat 1	As yesterday light saw two ships and a whale spout	SW	SE	5.04	15.30
Sun 2	Saw a ship standing as we were to leeward	SW	W	4.42	14.30
Mon 3	Tacked ship at 5 P.M. a fine breeze	SW	SE	4.00	15.00
Tues 4	Tacked Starboard tack aboard strong SE storm 3.24 14.30	SE		3.24	14.30
Wed 5	As yesterday a fine breeze dry	SE	SW	2.24	16.30
Thurs 6	At 8 P.M. we were on the Equator at 4 to 9 the Commodore Shaving his head having just got aboard and we got the Shaving at 10 P.M. all well who had not crossed the line before	SE	SW	00.41	17.50
Fri 7	As yesterday a fine breeze	SE	SW	1.17	18.20
Sat 8	Supposed to have taken the SE track a strong breeze	SE	SW	3.16	19.50
Sun 9	Sent out Sludding sail a fine breeze	SE	SW	6.04	20.10
Mon 10	Sent down our fore Royal Mast saw a fin back. Parted fore top gallant back stay a fine breeze	SE	SW	7.01	21.21
Tues 11	Sent up a fore Royal pole saw a fin back a fine breeze	SE	SW	9.09	22.30

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Sept.	Ship Grand Turk 1838	Wind	Course	Lat.	Long.
Wed 12	Saw a sperm whale gang to S.E. Chased for three hours could not get up with him a fine breeze	SE	SW	11.12	23.15
Thurs 13	Saw two whales could not tell whether hump or fin back a fine breeze	SE	SW	13.25	23.29
Fri 14	Saw a whale spout and porpoise a fine breeze	SE	SW	15.58	24.12
Sat 15	Saw a ship to leeward squally and thick	SE	SW	18.35	24.45
Sun 16	Sent down fore Royal Mast and main sky sail Mast. Saw the first hump a whale a fine breeze	SE	SW	21.15	24.37
Mon 17	Sent down fore sail and main sail parted. Saw a mackerel and other white birds blowing very heavy	SE	SW	24.02	24.50
Tues 18	At 10 A.M. shook a reef out of the fore sail at 11 parted fore top gallant back stay at 1 P.M. sent up new back stay a fine breeze	SE	SW	26.45	25.00
Wed 19	Sent out fore and main saw a black humped whale the first saw the Magellan clouds wind light	SE	SW	29.2	25.15
Thurs 20	Saw a sail to leeward standing as we were light and dry	SE	SW	30.11	24.30
Fri 21	Weather cold and dry wind light	SE	SW	31.38	23.40
Sat 22	Saw a ship a hump back and a sea hen a fine breeze	SE	SW	33.4	23.11
Sun 23	Saw whale fed a bit a fine breeze warm	SE	SW	34.28	19.30
Mon 24	Saw a great quantity of these birds which frequent right whale ground a very strong breeze thick	SE	SW	35.41	16.2
Tues 25	Saw a whale shok with light whale birds about supposed it to be a light whale. Saw a blue jay. Sent new fore and fore topmast staysail a strong breeze cold short land sail	SE	SW	36.20	13.21