

Journal of the Whaling Voyage by Thomas Phipps

1840 Ship Grand Duke September Wind Course Lat Long
(South Lat)

Thurs 24 A strong breeze cloudy. This P.M. 2.10.15.16
we have got the South east-
trade winds. Seen a school of
grampuses and another of black. Both Atlantic
fish. No whales to be seen now.
Did not, however, find us last
night of course we had no sharing.
Our boys were very glad of it,
as they had left, and must be
washed out of their person, and clothes.
Will now go to sleep, and dream
of whales.

Frid 25 A strong breeze. Bunching. S.E. Wind 4.30 17.20
fish. A flying fish in sight.
and a school of black. A flying fish
flew aboard last night.

Sat 26 A strong breeze cloudy. S.W. 6.25 18.43
Three schools of black and a
school of white. It is extraordinary what
cool weather we have had for the
two last weeks. We are not in the least
inconvenienced by the heat on the sea.
We feel comfortable with jackets
on a slight.

Sun 27 A strong breeze. Lots of flying fish. S.E. 8.26 20.53
fish. Seen a great number of
to be a fin back. We are all
bored doing nothing now can we
find anything to do. Old books
and newspapers are read over a
dozen times and are to be read
again. Hope before long to get
some whales which will keep
us in employment for some
time.

Mon 28 A strong breeze cloudy flying fish in abundance. S.E. 10.30 22.8
No whales in sight nothing
to do.

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Tues 29 A strong breeze flying fish in sight. No whales. S.E. 12.33 23.43
South Atlantic

Wed 30 A light breeze. Seen breakers and spots from the mast head. 14.6 24.59
We could not tell what they were and with ship
for two hours could not see
them any more. Painted bow boat.

October

Thurs 1 A very light breeze caught an albacore struck and threw from a board. This is the warm-
est day we have had since we
left home toward the boat to swim.

Frid 2 Very light wind and variable. 15.27 25.25
very warm. Then a fine back.
Set the boat on the main.
Lowered the board on the board
boat to practice with paddles.

Sat 3 A very strong breeze. Specially two ships in sight seen a school of grampuses, and a fin back. 16.26 25.33
At 6 P.M. still hope the
spray, cool and rainy.

Sun 4 A strong breeze cloudy and cool. No whales in sight. It is
now the month when we have
seen a whale and hope we
lost going on for months since.
They get on. I will not despair.
There is good hope coming. Get
and hope before long. I shall
make up for all this idle time
spending the whole of my life
if I can get sight of them much more to get with
in daylight. I shall in about 10 days
my boat west.