

Journal of a Whaling Voyage by Thomas Chubb

1841 Ship Grand Turk April wind (wind) Lat 33.0832 North

Mon 26 Last night we had a very strong N. E. wind 33.0832 North. Took in the studding sails handed the gill and Mizen top gallant sails at daylight. Moderate Made all sail. No fish in sight except porpoise. Saw a few sea gulls.

Tues 27 A strong breeze, cloudy. Made land at 11 AM. It proved to be Fayal and Ricci. Put on our course until 7 PM. Took in full sail to Starboard tack. Aboard after a fine back of sail in sight. Fayal

Wed 28 Made sail at daylight blowing NW. Heavy double reefed the topsails. Came to anchor before the town in seventeen and a half fathoms water at 8 o'clock. A PM. Put in sail then one watch went on shore on liberty. Left the messenger to remain 24 hours if they chose.

Thurs 29 Blowing heavy from the South. Lost one watch ashore on liberty. The day was unpleasant on account of heavy rain squalls. Walked over the better part of the town. Visited the Churches, barracks and other public buildings. The watch on board got off a half of water and flowers etc. down in the hold.

Frid 30 Blowing a heavy gale from the West. Had to go ashore at daylight. It is very hard work to get ashore. But still the boys will venture. Last night we let go our other anchor. Blowing very heavy since then the swell completely covers the pier. Sent down the Mizen top gallant and Mizen top gallant. Mizen top gallant.

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Ship Grand Turk May Fayal

Sat 1 One watch ashore on liberty. The other got off water. A strong breeze from North West.

Sun 2 A light breeze getting ready for sea. Had some difficulty with the men about harnes. Mizen top gallant water got off. full &c. Fayal

Mon 3 Last night three four men took a boat and went ashore. They were taken by the soldiers and brought back. When is still on Mizen top gallant. A very light breeze from the North West. Once more at 11 AM. I am glad to get thro with the trouble of port. I hope our next sail to New Bedford but up for a gallant yard. Wind Southerly

Tues 4 A pleasant breeze ran by the N. E. E. Islands, Ricci, and Saint George. Seen Graciosa at a distance and thickened sail under the lee of Percera. Four sail in sight. A barque and a brig close to us cruising for whalers. No fish in sight. Western Islands

Wed 5 A strong breeze cloudy. Saw some fish backs and porpoise. Spoke the ship Clippel Wayne of San Juan thirty five days out. No oil at San Juan. Wind died away. Put in sail abreast of the town. Ingra. Altogether four sail in sight of whalers and one Merchantman. Clippel Wayne of San Juan

Thurs 6 A strong breeze squally. Four sail in sight close to the land. Seen a great many porpoise and a few backs at night. Shortened sail. Percera