

Journal on board Bk Alfred Gibbs

N.A.C. May 1870

Tuesday May 24 1870

Now I am about to commence a new business having enough of working on a farm year after year. so I shipped on board the Bk Alfred Gibbs of New Bedford for the 215th part of the proceeds of a whaling voyage in the Pacific Ocean left home bid my parents and friends Good Bye at seven in the morning at at ten found myself on board the ship that is to be my future home we were soon under weigh but wind and tide were against us and we had to come to an anchor and we turned in with feelings not to be envied

Wednesday May 25

All hands were called at four and we went through about the same performance that we did the day before and none of us felt any better. the Capt. told me I must go in the stowage as stowage boy so I of course packed up and went to wait on boatstewards cooper &c

Thursday May 26

Called all hands at four o'clock and as the wind was fair we soon left N. America far behind the Pilot left us at eight in the morning and I don't think the ship would have a full crew if they could all get on shore now

Friday May 27th

Stormy and our feelings none can realise but those who have "been there" all or nearly all of the greenhands were seasick and all or nearly all were heartsick and homesick but here we are bound south and not of our own accord I think