

Journal on board

A.O. July 1870

Tuesday June 28
Squally the first twelve hours but better weather the remainder of the day spoke the Schooner Chat. A. Higgins of Provincetown. Capt. Higgins. Two years out with 280 bbls. what a pay day to come.

Wednesday June 29
Pleasant weather today what there was to be done was done without any trouble which was where mastsheads and wheel. schooner in sight

Thursday June 30
Calm and dull feelings take possession of one in a cabin, or perhaps long would be a word better fitted. the ships rolling and the "creaking of cordage and spar" are not so pleasant as the "rush of the gale" one schooner in sight

July 1870

Friday July 1st
Calm nothing to be seen and no work going on what a lousy life this must be if all ships are alike but I doubt that

Saturday July 2
A light breeze to ruffle the surface of the water which makes it a little more pleasant I believe once spirits rise and fall with the wind, but perhaps they don't go quite so far either way

Sunday July 3rd
Calm again. for amusement or for something to eat or both we took to catching Dolphin and had very good luck and also a very good supper one sail in sight

Monday fourth of July
This morning began to get up tackle and other things and I thought tomorrow was to be hoisted up and that we were going to celebrate the fourth of July but I was mistaken for they were setting up main rigging

Bk Alfred Gibbs

A.O. July 1870

Tuesday July 5th 1870
Calm in the morning but had a light breeze in the afternoon. one sail in sight and a school of porpoises went across our bow but not very near

Wednesday July 6th
A good breeze during the day and some rain the first half of the day. nothing in sight

Thursday July 7th
Wet and stormy weather all day no man aloft saw a merchant ship. I think every day is too often to write in this book. once a week it seems to me would be better. but so it is

Friday July 8th
Good weather with a strong breeze a merchant vessel only in sight one day is just the same as another I think that is why time passes away so quick at sea although this six weeks has not been or seemed so very short

Saturday July 9
Raining this morning. but toward noon it cleared up and we broke out some small stores, which is the only work done this week more than to make sail and take it in.

Sunday July 10th 70
Quiet Sabbath: this is a quiet day here. all the watch save the men at the mastsheads, are sitting round under the bulwarks, reading, or conversing in low tones, but what if sperm whales were seen? would it be quiet sabbath?

Monday July 11th
Pleasant day. but nothing was done except a few fish caught and a boat lowered for a key which proved to be full of land

Tuesday July 12
Still another pleasant day to chronicle. lowered a boat for turtles with our usual success and then lowered for a spar which proved to be worthless