

Journal on board

P. O. December 1870

Thursday Dec 15

All sail out and nice headway we are making with three sail to keep us company full number of men now sent to the mast head which is only four

Friday Dec. 17th

Calm and sunset then had a light breeze from the South course. W. by South

Saturday Dec. 18th

A good breeze and we carried all sail into night and then took in our light sails course. W. by N. some big sailing done today

Sunday Dec 18

Put all sail on again this morning and the ship sailed as if she was as glad as we to get away from such weather as we have been having. Two ships were left far astern today their course the same as ours N. W. by W.

Monday Dec 19

Thick fog set in this morning so we were unable to discern objects a ship's length ahead was under short sail during the day.

Tuesday Dec 20

Fog held on yet although not so dense two sails in sight a beautiful breeze passed us both to look and and sailing qualities

Wednesday Dec 21

I think we must be on the whaling ground for we have a nice South wind but are on the Starboard tack under short sail

Thursday Dec 22

I must have been wrong in my supposition for today we are running to the North again. This is a beautiful book with some thing one day and contradicts it the next

Bark Alfred Gibbs

January 1871

Friday Dec. 23d 70

Was under close reefed to sail until noon then we tried to shake one reef out one sail in sight

Saturday Dec. 24th

Squally, and rainy, cold, and disagreeable generally. one sail in sight. now what fine times folks are having in America. some of them

Christmas 1870

Good weather and a fair wind. no sound was heard save the sailors using the deck each one a violently occupied with his own thoughts. how to 'at night

Sunday Dec. 26th

Observed this morning but he on his course again a strong breeze but not a thing to be seen

Monday Dec 27

This day began cloudy, foggy but ended with sunshine and a light breeze nothing in sight

Tuesday Dec 28

Fine weather and a fair wind. men apt but not a thing to be seen how much more pleasant it would be if we could get up and go home

Wednesday Dec 29th

Still no apt on our course pleasant weather. nothing to be seen and so we go

Thursday Dec 30th

Pleasant, a few jacks and humpback spouts were the only thing to be seen. this afternoon put a Dutchman in irons. he is crazy but has been punished, but this afternoon he seemed to think it time the anchor was dropped so he gave to cut the lashings.

Friday Dec 31st

Massefuro came in sight this forenoon. after staying least about four hours. good weather got fresh meat in the shape of a porpoise

January 1871

Sunday Jan 1st

Good weather nothing in sight nothing done so begins the journal of 1871