

Journal on board

S.P.C. 11 December 1871

Sunday Dec. 24th

Nearly calm. two sails in sight. at four o'clock the Morning Star ran down to us for a gunner. and some news we did hear at home. it was nothing that took place lately. most ships being burnt or wrecked rather in the Arctic Ocean. Chicago's being burnt oil spar \$1.32 per gal. &c &c etc etc

Monday Dec. 25

Christmas day it really was. although any one should be put in mind of it very often on board here. if you would have him remember it. it was pleasant and all that could be expected of Christmas at sea.

Tuesday Dec 26

I doubt not that we feel as well this morning as some that enjoyed Christmas snugly on land. nearly calm nothing in sight

Wednesday Dec 27

To day again I rather enjoy one that lives on shore. that is not uncommonly bad off for money or necessaries of life. but at the same time my tears don't seem to fall thick enough to wipe out the scotting. good weather. course S.E. by E.

Thursday Dec 28th

This morning we was in pleasant weather but whether we have sailed fast enough under double reefed topsails to catch bad weather or it has caught us. one thing is certain it will have to leave us we are under a close reefed main topsail at the present time

Bark Alfred Gibbs

S.P.C. January 1872

Friday Dec. 29th

Good weather: several whales in sight and as many more merchant vessels. in the afternoon we examined the Morning Star and Mary & Susan.

Saturday Dec 30

A strong breeze nothing in sight

Sunday Dec 31st

Strong breeze. firebuck and humpbacked in sight also several whales. so we will have to leave the year of 1871

January 1872

Monday Jan 1st

A gale of wind we were under close reefed fore and main topsails and stowing off shore for dear life apparently

Tuesday Jan 2nd

Rainy foggy and bad weather generally. not much wind. and rough decks wet and slippery. and congoit. none. nothing in sight

Wednesday Jan 3rd

A strong breeze. was under close reefed fore and main topsail. several sails in sight. but nothing more.

Thursday Jan 4th

This has been a pleasant day. such a one as makes all hands feel good whether we have any thing to eat drink or wear. and hard work to do at that

Friday Jan 5th

A gale of wind today. we were under close reefed main-top-sail and fore stay sail no men aloft. and if a dry place on deck could be found the ladder was "kinky doing" one merchant vessel in sight from deck