

Journal on board

S.P.O. 11 August 1872

Monday Aug 5th

Good weather throughout the twenty four hours. nothing to excite happened until about three O'clock in the afternoon when the mate who was cleaning a bobul-lance that had wet powder in it - put a piece of red hot iron in at one end when it exploded and went through the steward's leg and then into the cook's galley with such force that it could not be pulled out with the hands, about that time sperm whales were raised and three boats started immediately in pursuit and chased them until dark and then was not much nearer to them so gave up the chase and came on board.

Tuesday Aug 6th

Cloudy and cold. with a strong breeze from the N.W. our course was S.E. nothing in sight but finbacks. now for a moody time if any one knows what that is. I mean a dull time as far as whaling goes. but with plenty of books I can enjoy myself.

Wednesday Aug 7th

Good weather with the wind from the N.W. was steering E. saw Mas sapuera in the morning and sailed along by it intending to go fishing but the wind began to blow so hard it was given up. kept our course until night when we heaved up on the port tack and shortened sail.

Bark Alfred Gibbs

S.P.O.

August 1872

Time Weather

Thursday Aug 8th

Friday Aug 9th

Good weather. in the morning saw Juan Fernandez and a bark. There getting water and wood which proved to be the Mars. and after supper we gammed. and after the gam was up we had a gale of wind.

Saturday Aug 10th

A strong breeze from the S.W. was running part of the day with no men aloft. in the afternoon heaved up on the wind and men was sent aloft.

Sunday Aug 11

A strong breeze from the N.W. was running until about four O'clock when we heaved up on the port tack when running our course was E by S by S. squally in the afternoon and men were called down from aloft. saw nothing during the day save a few finbacks. so glad the days weeks months and years. it seems almost like throwing away three years. but duty must be done go through in the best possible manner this time but look out for the next. and reader if you should ever be sold to a whale remember you might do worse, and even better.

Monday Aug 12

Good weather. was on the Starboard tack steering E. by S. we were put on allowance of molasses. today after high talk. one gal. a month is the allowance.