

Bark Alfred Gibbs off Cape Horn.

Remarks Tuesday Dec 13th 1870

Begins with strong winds from W to NW with heavy squalls. Heaving to W under close reefed top sails and stay sails. at 3 P.M. the wind hauled to the west in a squall. took in stay sail. and main sail. were ship to the NW. Barometer still very low 28¹/₂. exchanged signals with A. B. Berman. Bark. at 7 P.M. wind by N. Barometer the same. Latter part wind hauled back again to the old place. at 2¹/₂ A.M. were ship to the NW. Latter part squally and baffling. Bark under double reefed top sails and reefed courses. Barometer 28¹/₂. But the weather is not bad. I know not the cause of it. Lat 57-58 Long 67-58

Remarks Wednesday Dec 14th

Begins with baffling winds from NW to SW, and squally. squalls not very heavy. Heaving on the southern tack. under double reefed top sails and reefed courses. Barometer 28¹/₂. I fear this is very tedious. I hope I may not be obliged to come around this way again. I trust God will provide some other way for me to get a living. Middle part Moderate between squalls. Latter part Moderate. at 8 A.M. the wind began to haul to the Northward, and continued to haul round. At noon wind E N E light. Barometer 28¹/₂. and rising very slowly. two sails in sight going with us. Lat 58-59 Long 68-50

Remarks Thursday Dec 15th

Begins with light air from the Eastward. But hauling round to the Northward. Barometer 28¹/₂. rising slowly. all sail set except one top sail and reefed top sail. two sails with us. A heavy head swell. at 7 P.M. Barometer 28¹/₂. weather fine. wind W to NW. heading NW. Middle part squally and baffling. were ship three times during the night. Latter part light from the NW to W. hauling to the NW. two sails in company. It is very hard work to get to the Westward. besides when fair we are very high, with a heavy head sea. But the weather has been very pleasant for two days. Barometer at noon 29¹/₂. Lat 57-58 Long 67-11

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Remarks Friday Dec 16th 1870

Begins with a light breeze from the NW. hauled as far as NW. Course W by S. a bank of clouds hanging in the west, denoting the wind to haul out there. But I hope not. there is still quite a head sea that prevents the ship from gaining ahead much. Barometer 29¹/₂. two sails in sight. set all sail. the first time for two weeks. at 8 P.M. the hauled to the NW by N and began to rain. took in some of the light sails. Middle part baffling. Latter part calm with two heavy swells running. One from East two One from the Westward. This has been one of the pleasant days that I ever saw off Cape Horn. with a low barometer 29¹/₂. I think that it is because we are so far south. when we were the farthest it was the lowest. as we have gained North it has risen. Lat 57-45 Long 67-57

Remarks Saturday Dec 17th

Begins with a calm. at 4¹/₂ P.M. took a light breeze from the NW. a head sea. the wind slowly increasing and hauling to the Eastward. at 8 P.M. wind E N E. Course W by S. the same two sails in company. Barometer 29¹/₂. Middle part strong winds from E and cloudy. Latter part fresh gale and rainy at 7¹/₂ A.M. changed the course to W. Bark under double reefed top sail and main top sail. double bare and bare sail. Barometer 29¹/₂. Thermometer 40°. (Lat by calculation) 57-41 Long 75-00

Remarks Sunday Dec 18th

Begins with a fresh gale from E and rainy. Bark under double main top sail. double reefed bare and bare sail. E Course W. at 3¹/₂ P.M. changed the course to W by N. at 7 P.M. Barometer 28¹/₂. Thermometer 40°. Middle part much the same. Latter part fresh breeze but slowly hauling to the Southward and clearing off. Course W N W. two sails in company. One of them American. we out sail all we see thus far with a free wind. Barometer rising. at noon 29¹/₂. passed two more heading Eastward. Lat 55-34 Long 78-45