

Cruising off the Ice in the Latitude of $57^{\circ}00'00''$

Tuesday May 18th ~ ~ ~ 1869

E, East wind and cloudy weather working our Ship through the Ice towards the S, and East. Six Ships in sight the Ice lies in streaks mostly, see quite a number of ducks, a few seals, and one walrus lying on the Ice, - no observation.

Wednesday 19th This day the wind shifted to S, West cleared up some it begins to look a little like having some good weather - we see the Sun once more two ships in sight, and a plenty of Ice, but open and we are working our way through, find by observation our Ship to be in the Latitude of $59^{\circ}40'$ North and in the Longitude of $176^{\circ}54'$ East.

Thursday 20th Friday 21st the past two days light winds from the S, West our Ship cruising off the Ice under easy sail, we can go no further South at present as there is too much Ice to contend with, six Sails in sight, flamed with the Red Vineyard, and two other ships, we see plenty of Ice, ducks, and a few seals, but can do no more topmast staysail &c. find our Ship to be in the Latitude of $59^{\circ}35'$ North and in the Longitude of $178^{\circ}55'$ East.

The lap of Louxung
is
a Cat enjoying her milk

He who hopes at cards to win
Must never think that cheating's sin;
To make a trick whenever he can,
No matter how, should be his plan,
No case of conscience must he make,
Except how he may save his stake.
The only object of his prayers -
Not to be caught and kicked down stairs
by Red Burntime

Saturday May 22nd ~ ~ ~ 1869
Winds light from the West our Ship lying off and the Ice six ships of us gaming, not much doing on board, we see Ice, seals, and ducks. Latitude $59^{\circ}20'$ North Longitude $179^{\circ}30'$ East.

Sunday 23rd Wind S, West and cloudy, with some fog and snow, seven ships in sight spoke one of them the Ellen Inuit, we see nothing but Ice, seals, and birds.

Monday 24th and Tuesday 25th The past 48 hours a moderate wind from South to E, East with fog or snow most of the time, our Ship under easy sail cruising on opposite tacks saw seven ships, and one brig, one fin back whale, one hump back, ducks and seals tore down our old galley, and have made a galley of part of our house on the starboard side and it makes a very good one, and foggy.

No observation.