

Cruising in the Arctic Ocean

Monday August 31st - - - 1869

Blowing a gale of wind from N. East accompanied with
Grand Squalls, our ship under a close reefed main top sail
and storm staysails, lying on opposite tacks, see nothing
but ships, and ice ends blowing heavy, quite rugged

Tuesday 31st This day first part blowing heavy from
N. East thick weather, latter part more moderate, cleared
up, saw 13 ships and ice, the day end our ship under a
close reefed main top sail, and storm staysails

Wednesday September 1st - - - 1869

Northerly winds very good whaling weather part of the day
had some fog. Saw one bowhead and chased him without
success. - at sunset shortened sail for the night
lying aback until daylight. the day end looking equally

Thursday 2nd North N. East wind, first part Grand Squalls
latter part very good whaling weather. Saw two bowheads
but did not lower our boats for them they were going quick
at them. Saw this land at 5 P.M. Saw a barge with
her boats down. Supposed for a bowhead whale.

Friday 3rd and Saturday 4th the past 48 hours, winds
from North to N. East with fog two thirds of the time
and some of the time so thick, that we could not see but
much more than twice the length of our ship. What time we
had it clear we saw one bowhead going quick did not
lower for him, Saw four ships two of them sailing
have seen the land and ice

Latitude in 91° 02' N

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Cruising in the Arctic Ocean for Bow Head

Sunday September 5th - - - 1869

N. E. East wind very good weather clear most of the time
Saw three ships sailing - and other ships cruising
Whales are scarce to day. Saw one going quick to
downward the day end standing up again

Monday 6th N. East winds Grand Squalls most of
the time, making it hard to see any distance
Several ships in sight, Saw one sailing, and one
whaling -

Tuesday 13th the past week we have had the winds from
North to N. East a good breeze most of the time and
not a day but what we have had some fog or snow
and quite cold thermometer standing below freezing
which makes it very disagreeable for whaling, see
whales every day, and have taken two good ones
will make us about 200 bbls, our bow boat was
stave by one of them, there is from 15 to 20 ships
in sight part of the time, and all of them appear
to be taking oil we hear of one with eight whales
this season so far there appear to be quite a
number of whales, but very shy at present

Monday 20th the past week very good weather the
winds most of the time from North to N. East, see ships
every day every day, and all of them appear to be
busy whaling whales are quite plenty we have
captured three this week and are quite busy the land
is in sight some of the time

Good Whaling the ships are all busy
sailing and sailing

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