

# Remarks On Board The Ship Houqua

Arriving in Christmas Harbour In The E of Dec

1836 Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> Day of January

Commences with strong winds from the S.W. & passing clouds & good weather later part blowing heavy in squalls attended with hail ends with strong galls & squalls of hail & snow all hands well on board

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> Day

The first part of this Day strong galls from the N.W. & foggy & rainy weather after 12 Meridian it moderated so the Captain went ashore to take a look over the lofty hills the weather good with passing clouds the most that we have to do is to look out for the ship to see that she does not blow out the harbour & eat drink & sleep the cannot see much duty exercised for the most part the time it rains hails snows or foggy vary disagreeable weather I am in hopes that the weather will be better soon & the whales will show their sides in great numbers the ends more moderate & cloudy weather saw remarkable lights in the air

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> Day of January

This Day Commences with strong galls from the S.W. & cloudy weather at 7 P.M. the wind moderate & flying clouds at 12 Meridian blowing heavy again from the same quarter ends with strong galls with foggy weather

Commences Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> Day

The first part of this Day strong galls from the S.W. & rainy foggy weather hear the light in a harbour to anchor in a desolate harbour I look all around & all that I can see seems to be formed by nature the clouds & sky the same there are in a inhospitable part of the globe that the lofty mountains nor valleys or the shores do not have the least smile of the works of human hand I look on our ship as a great value so far from an native country from 9 to 10,000 miles she has brought us safe to this part of the globe I am in hopes that she will carry us back to the raising main from whence we came

1836 Continued Remarks On Board Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January

This Day Commences with strong galls from the S.W. & cloudy weather middle part moderate went ashore & killed two sea elephants fetched them aboard & took the blubber of the one from 12 Meridian to 12 later part rainy foggy weather & blowing heavy

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> Day

This Day Commences with strong strong breezes from the West & cloudy weather at 5 P.M. a light breeze from the South & pleasant weather have bathed our anchors up & towed the ship up to the head of the Bay & drag our anchors in 9 fathoms water stucky bottom least sails fore & aft at 9 Harbord & waist boat went out side to look for whale Cruise of 8 on until about 1 P.M. the fog setting in & some rainy sun in again went on board without any success went about half of the ships company went ashore to take a look around over the high & rocky mountains I went on top of a mountain where we lay It does not look to be more than half a mile from the ship it is large two miles to the West of my judgement there is no soil that we can discover a little coarse grass that grows in the turf the rocks are shinde & broken to pieces the top of the mountain looking as if it had been a burning mountain I think by the rocks that the island has been visited by an earthquake there is a plenty of fresh water & a few small ducks & a plenty of wild hens they eat very good this day ends with light breezes rainy weather & foggy

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> Day

The first part of this Day light winds rainy & foggy weather middle part strong breezes from the S.E. & very heavy rain ends with calm & foggy weather

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> January 1836

This Day Commences with calm & foggy weather at 7 P.M. clear calm & pleasant weather the Harbord & waist boat went out side to look for whale stood out 4 or 5 miles the wind breezed up strong from the westward & put back saw nothing in the afternoon went ashore to shoot some foul this Day ends rainy & foggy