

rain towards night wind hauled fresh into N. E. and swept the clouds away. Ending in fine weather wind dying away. Lat $36^{\circ}08'$ Lon. $11^{\circ}17'$

Dec. 24

Remarkably pleasant fine breeze from N. W. and smooth sea. Saw 2 sails. One of them we spoke afternoon proved to be the Bark Cachelot Capt. Gosmer Mattapoisett 25 months out & on bel. Gained one of those who came on board I had known at home and we had a very social chat. Lat $35^{\circ}56'$ Lon.

Dec. 25 Sunday

No change Lat. $35^{\circ}48'$ Lon. $10^{\circ}36'$

Dec. 26

Came in with much wind and some rain. The former died away to light airs in afternoon. Saw 2 whales but owing to the thick weather could keep no run of them. Beside they were going fast to windward which alone precluded the possibility of our hearing them in a bad sea. Lat $35^{\circ}37'$ Lon. $10^{\circ}44'$

Dec 27

No change in weather Spoke Bark Con Barton Capt Hathaway New Bedford one year out 160 spm and 70 whale. Capt. H. unwell Lat $35^{\circ}24'$ Lon. $10^{\circ}58'$

Dec 28 - 1853

Saw the island again this morning and stood in. At there were some signs of a good day before us. 2 boats were manned for a fishing excursion. Pulled in under the land and made our work fast to some of the kelp a weed that grows plentifully from the bottom forming long vines which float on the water above. A number of them taken together we found sufficiently strong to hold our boats even against a strong current. Drove our lines anticipating large sport and plenty of fish but were disappointed in both for though there is said to be any quantity of fish here it soon commenced raining and continued to increase so that we had to abandon the ground and our hopes of a lot of fish to earn. We were absent about 2 hours and caught about 300 altogether besides a few Crawfish taken in a net contrived for that purpose. So we have had one good fry at least and I believe a few are salted for future use. There are 2 kinds one in the form of our blue fish and the other looking very much like the Common Scup.

Dec 29

Stormy Strong gales from N. W. and a bad sea on No obs.