

January 28th 1854

Wind hauled last night into N.W. and is now quite light and weather mild. Course nearly S.S.E. Set top-gallant sail. For dinner had a beef steer a regular tall one and I was strongly reminded of some of the fresh muttons at home prepared by ever remembered friends in times long gone by. Several birds were caught to day for the dog who continues to prosper under his lucky star although he has fasted for 6th these 3 days.
Lat 35° 24' Long 9° 19'

Jan. 29. Sunday.

Fresh gales from N.N.E. and good weather. Course E. S. E. till afternoon then E. by S. Made a sail but very distant. Lat 36° 27' Long 7° 27'

Jan. 30.

No change. Lat 36° 08' Long 5° 10'

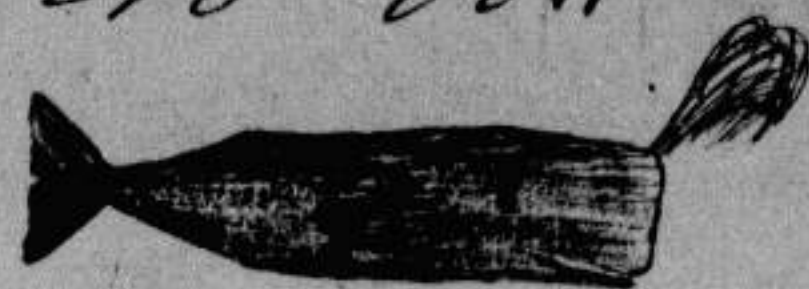
Jan. 31.

Wind from same quarter but little lighter. No other changes. Lat 36° 00' Long 3° 30'

February 1. Pleasant. Course E. Wind as last 24 hours. Repaired old Spanker etc. Lat 35° 52' Long 2° 17'

Feb. 4.

Wind from S.W. Cloudy with some rain. The 2 days past were moderately pleasant during which repaired several sails but saw nothing. This afternoon wind began to blow fresh and to night we are under double reefed topsails. A very bad sea on so obs.



Feb. 5 Sunday

This morning raised a school of small whales. Lowered and L. Boat struck one. Got him along side just in time to take the head in before dark. The body is now lying along side. The wind which was quite strong when we lowered, is still increasing and sea rugged looks like bad weather for taking care of a whale but it is a small one. We are indeed fortunate in getting any at all. Had reefed topsails when he struck with an ugly chopping sea and if they had not been laying like logs we might have only had our labor for our pains. This is a Sabbath day's work and though the sight of a ^{small} whale is a temptation hardly to be resisted still something whispers that we can no more be justified in pursuing our ^{new} hunt here on the Sabbath than we could at home or anywhere else as long as our object is a worldly one. Some think differently however.
Lat 32° 20' Long 2° 44' E.