

August 4th 1884.

The last 2 days noted for nothing except good dinners. Last evening some of us had the audacity to smite and cause the almost instantaneous death of about 10 chickens and one duck.

It was considered however an act of mercy inasmuch as the coop was so crowded that they could not long survive with comfort the heat of the atmosphere in these latitudes.

There were well served up for dinner in the shape of a stew and a roast and when chicken, stew and roast duck are up we know by nature just how to proceed. When then sweet potatoes, yams, pumpkins and plantains accompany the what a charming sight to us who are trained to salt junk, hard bread and duff. To night a breeze sprung up from S. W. by Lat. 6° 40' Lon. 5° 48'.

August 5.

A strong breeze from S. S. E. and close hauled on the fore tack. Saw Sperm whales and finbacks. At 1 P. M. the sharp piercing scream of a pig told that the murderous knife had again done its work. About same time a large fat duck was seen wallowing in its gore in the main head. So we are destined to have our fill of fresh pork and off as long as it shall last. To night Steward complaining of rheumatism. Lat. 7° 24' Lon. 3° 36' E.

Sunday August 6.



Wind increased this morning and

the sea now quite rugged. Nothing above 10 sails. The dinner saw to day equalled our expectations. In the afternoon caught a porpoise Lat 8° 40' Lon. 2° 56' E.

August 7.

Commencing with cloudy weather strong gales and an ugly sea on. Took in 10 G. Sails at 10 A. M. At 3 P. M. killed a pig. Towards night raining but wind abating. Lat. 9° 35' Lon. — E.

August 8.

Moderate and cloudy sea rugged. Saw nothing and no observation. Sea pie for dinner.

August 9.

These 24 hours light gales and cloudy with a heavy swell. The Steward is now unwell, and one of the foremast hands now fills his place. No obs.

August 10.

During the night wind increased from S. S. E. and has been blowing fresh all day. Carried nothing above 10 sails. No obs.

August 11.

To day wind still higher but weather clear. Afternoon double reefed 10 sails and took in jib and spanker Lat 15° 11' Lon. 3° 49' W.