

Showers of rain. Have several times seen lightning at a distance since we came to the River but never before so near us. Loud peals of thunder broke immediately over our heads and the sharp forked lightning seemed sometimes to pierce our very masts almost blinding us. This finally terminated in a steady breeze and rising sea. Under reduced sail Lat  $33^{\circ}15'$  Lon.

March 5<sup>th</sup> 1855.

Remarkably fine weather and no change in the wind. Steering N. with all sail set. Suspect we are bound to port. Well I think upon the whole it is time. It is more than 10 mos. since we sodden our feet for liberty and already some of our folks are getting unwell. Care worn and weary. The thought that we have not taken a drop of oil since we came here weighs heavily on our minds at this time. But this fact should offer not the slightest objection to our having a run on Terra Firme which above all will be beneficial to health and also serve to rouse our hopes and instil new vigor rendering us better able and more willing to endure another siege on the wide waste of waters. If for one if necessary for as casting vote would hold up both hands and feet two of that would make any difference about going in for to tell the truth I wish for a land breeze once more. Hept our <sup>course</sup> but took in light sails Lat  $32^{\circ}12'$  Lon  $44^{\circ}02'$ .

March 6.

Morning calm and warm. Employed in cleaning ship outside from stages getting her ready for paint of which she is greatly in need. About 10 A.M. a light breeze from S. by W. sprang up and we set all sail hauling close on the Le. Tack. Afternoon came fresh from N. E. when we changed our course to N. W. Saw turtle No obs.

March 7

Between the hours of 2 and 6 this morning considerable rain and during the night wind from nearly every point of compass. Finally it settled into the S. E. and has continued fresh through the day. Steering N. by W. All hands busy with canvas scrub brooms and sand and water scouring the paint work inside and to night quite an alteration is perceptible in its appearance Lat  $30^{\circ}00'$  Lon.  $44^{\circ}09'$ .

March 8.

Fine breeze and cloudy. Course N. N. W. till 4 P.M. at which time it was changed to W. and it is now understood that we are to make the port of St. Catharines. Took in light sails at sundown as the weather does not look very encouraging. Lat.  $28^{\circ}02'$  Lon.  $45^{\circ}00'$ .