

March 24th 1856

Commencing with clear weather and light N. N. E. breeze. Boiled our Bk fish the 2 last ones dried 3rd and the other one too. To night have got a squall which comes quite fair and sends us along at a good rate N. W. by N. It is raining and the last of it is not far off. And when it goes the wind goes with it and leaves us in a calm no doubt Lat $1^{\circ}48'$ Lon $31^{\circ}26'$

March 25

A very rugged day and in the first part considerable rain. The wind comes so strong from the N. E. that we are persuaded we have the Trades in good earnest. Increased so much this afternoon that we were obliged to take in 3rd gallant sails fly jib and spanker. Long time since we had it so rough as now. To night it is a regular gale and the seas run mountains high. But it's a great consolation to think we are going along some at least towards a particular place at which much about Course N. W. Dark and Cloudy tonight but no rain and no observation during the day.

March 26

Still rugged and thick weather but no rain. Wind steady and course same as last 24 hours. The sea though heavy has become more regular so that we have got on 3rd sails Lat $4^{\circ}14'$ N. Lon $35^{\circ}30'$

March 27

Continues blowing strong from N. E. Steering N. W. put a single reef in fore topsail and set 3rd sail over it. Carried both most of the day. No other Change Lat $6^{\circ}07'$ Lon $37^{\circ}40'$

March 28

No Change Lat $7^{\circ}57'$ Lon $40^{\circ}06'$

March 29

The trades prove the strongest we have seen thence yet and without change. The seas are quite regular but mountainous and the wind blows a gale full as much as we wish for to carry sail. Our course today N. W. by N. Doing a pretty good business towards the "promised land" Lat $10^{\circ}06'$ Lon $42^{\circ}21'$

March 30 Sunday

It is evident now that the trades will continue till the last as the ^{wind} does not subside in the least while the sea remains or rather runs mountains high. This forenoon we ran past a school of sperm whales but considered it too rugged to risk boats. Made us feel uneasy to see them lying so still in our wake but there was no chance for us this weather to try them. Putting aboard 3rd sails to day and steering N. W. by N. not over and above free wind being ahead Lat $12^{\circ}05'$ Lon $44^{\circ}36'$