

Journal of the Bark John Dawson cruising in the North

Sunday August 28th 1864

Commences with brisk breezes from the N.W. at 1 P.M. steering W.S.W. Carpenter engaged measuring the main rail and stanchions at 4 P.M. spoke the Bark Pioneer Capt. Blakett 27 months out with 250 sperm at sundown shortened sail heading S.W. mid part heading S.S.W. latter part squally weather set fore spanker & mainsail at 8 A.M. ran down and spoke the Pioneer, and Mr Deheart the mate came aboard and got three barrels of Beef and one Pork (wore ship) heading S.W. rainy weather no obs

Monday 29th

Commences with squally & rainy weather from the N.W. heading S.S.W. at 6 P.M. wore ship heading S.W. by W. at sundown shortened sail latter part fresh breezes from the Northward heading S.W. set courses at 9 A.M. kept off W.S.W. saw three merchant vessels steering to the Eastward water engaged making pennant weather more settled

Lat 41° 40' North
Long 38° 35' West

Tuesday 30th

Three 24 hours commences with fresh breezes from the N.E. steering W.S.W. at 4 P.M. luffed till heading E. by S. two vessels in sight at sundown took in sail mid part at 11 P.M. wore ship heading S.S.W. latter part still continues strong breezes at 9 A.M. made sail and kept off West. water engaged making pennant &c at 11 A.M. spoke the Bark Marcella Capt. Crosby of New Bedford 28 months out with 750 sperm.

Lat 40° 36' North
Long 39° 38' West

Atlantic Ocean James Colthoff Master

Wednesday 31st

Commences with strong breezes from the Northward & Eastered steering West fair weather at 2 P.M. spoke the ship Congress Capt. Collins of New Bedford 3 months out 500 sperm several other whalers in sight at 3 P.M. steering W.S.W. water engaged in various duties at sundown took in sail and wore to on the starboard tack heading N. mid part moderating latter part fine breezes from the Eastered set all sail at 7 A.M. tacked heading S.W. water engaged measuring the main spencer &c saw Black fish going quick to the windward

Lat 39° 54' North
Long 39° 48' West

Thursday September 1st

Commences with fine breezes from the Eastered at 10 P.M. tacked heading S.W. several whalers in sight at 2 P.M. spoke the Bark Kathleen Capt. Robbins of New Bedford 2 months out clean water engaged making pennant at sundown shortened sail latter part fine weather heading N.E. set all sail water engaged drawing & noting gains

Lat 40° 54' North
Long 39° 15' West

Friday 2^d

Commences with fine breezes from the Eastered heading N.E. at 2 P.M. spoke the A.R. Tucker Capt. Skind of New Bedford 3 months 600 sperm at sundown took in sail, Middle & latter part weather still continues fine at 7 A.M. tacked heading S. set all sail water engaged drawing & noting gains saw Exam passes. there appears to be a strong S.W. current here

Lat 40° 44' North
Long 39° 52' West