Journal of the Bark John Dawson cruising in the North Atlantic Ocean James Cottle Jr Master

Sunday Sept 2d 1864

Commences with brisk breezes from the N E steering S W by S at 8 P M steering West hove engaged putting new foot ropes to the main and mizzen lower sail yards & shortened sail and hoisted to heading S by W. Mid part pm moderated to the S. E at 12 M wore ship heading South, latter part hazy weather at 6 A M made sail and kept off S W sent down main sail to splice the roping, at 10 A M began on took in light sails and kept off West saw a Bark standing to the N E so ends with thick weather.

No obs

Saturday 10th

Commences with strong breezes from the N E steering West thick drizzly weather at 11 P M double reefed the Topsails and at 2 P M furled Foresail and Foretopsail and hove to heading S W blowing fresh attended from the Southered latter part wind from the S W heading N W by W set double reefed Topsails watch engaged putting new foot ropes to the main and main topsail yard so ends with foggy weather.

Lat 41°35 North
Long 38°22 West

Sunday 11th

Commences with strong breezes from the S W at 1 P M tacked ship heading S E. foggy weather watch engaged fitting Back ropes to the Starboard P C at 4 M down took in sail and wore ship heading W S W. Mid part moderating latter part light airs from the Westward set all sail heading to the Southward foggy weather with a old ground swell on

Lat 41°41 North
Long 38 36 West

Monday 12th

Commences with light airs from the Westward, at 10 P M wore ship heading N W saw fin backs and Porpoises at 4 M down shortened sail latter part fine weather and light breezes from the S S W heading N W by W at 9 A M spoke the Bark Louisa Capt Otis of New Bedford steering down, at 11 A M spoke the Bark Oliver Crocker Captain Lampham of New Bedford 5 months out 470 Sperm Captain Lampham come on board. Watch engaged mending sails

Lat 41°32 North
Long 38°19 West

Tuesday 13th

Commences with fine breezes from the S S W heading S W gaming with the Oliver Crocker at 4 M down took in sail Middle & latter part light light light breezes set all sail the Oliver Crocker in sight Watch engaged making spun yarn & C at 12 M tacked heading S by W fine 24 hours ends with foggy weather

Lat 42°16 North
Long 40°14 West

Wednesday 14th

Commences with light breezes and foggy weather from the Westward heading S by W saw a sail steering to the Eastward, watch engaged making spun yarn & C at 4 M down shortened sail Middle & latter part still continues fine weather set all sail at 9 A M kept off East. saw whales in sight Watch engaged making spun yarn at 12 M hoisted to heading S S W

Lat 41°28 North
Long 39°39 West