Journal of the Bark John Dawson cruising in the North

Wednesday Sept 21st 1864

Commences with light breezes from the Eastward steering W by N watch engaged drawing & mending yarns. at 4 P.M. spoke the Bark Louisa Capt Allen of New Bedford 39 months out 800 sperm & 400 lb dale and also Bark Sea breeze Capt Duffy of New Bedford 1150 sperm at sundown shortened sail heading S.E. Mid-part wind veered to the Southward heading E.S.E latter part set all sail at 12 P.M kept off East. 1 A.M come in thick rain weather took in light sails and luffed to heading E.S.E several whales in sight.

No obs

Thursday 22d

Commences with moderate breezes and thick drizzly weather from the Southward heading E.S.E at 1 P.M tacked heading S.W by W at 2 P.M wind veered to the Westward heading S.W and breezen on. at 6 P.M took in all sail but a closed reefed main topsail and fore topmast staysail & main & spencer and wore ship heading S.W blowing quite brisk. Mid-part moderating and hauled to the S.E. latter part made sail heading E.N.E fine weather a Bark in sight watch engaged drawing & mending yarns. picked up a spruce plank.

Lat 40°56 North
Long 38°38 West

Friday 23d

Commences with light breezes from the S.S.E heading East. Watch engaged drawing & mending yarns, &c at sundown took in sail. at 8 P.M spoke the Bark Henry Faber Capt Barlett of New Bedford 26 days out 5 bbls sperm & mid-part & latter part strong breezes from the Westward heading S.W at 7 A.M kept off E by S at 1 P.M spoke the Bark Sarah of Mattapoisett clean. Watch engaged mending & stitching the fore topmast staysail at 12 M baffling with the wind heading S.S.W

Lat 40°36 North
No Long

Atlantic Ocean James Cottle Jr Master

Saturday 24th

Commences with strong breezes from the Westward heading S.S.W cloudy weather and now and then a rain squall saw a large ship steering to the Eastward Middle & latter part still continues strong breezes set double reefed topsails at 12 A.M wore ship heading S.E & wind from the S.W. several whales in sight watch engaged breaking out for flour & end with smoky weather

Lat 41°38 North
Long 37°12 West

Sunday 25th

Commences with strong breezes from the N.W heading S.W.E watch engaged in various duties at 4 P.M wore ship heading W.S.W. Rove new fore topmast staysail hazards at sundown furled the foresail and topsail middle & latter part strong breezes & clear weather heading West under double reefed topsails 5 whales in sight heading to the N.E

Lat 41°37 North
Long 28°18 West

Monday 26th

Commences with brisk breezes from the N.N.W and fine weather heading West saw several pieces of pattean. at sundown took in sail Mid-part died out calm latter part at 8 P.M a light breeze sprang up from the Southward steering to the Westward saw Grampuses. Watch engaged breaking out for water &c These 24 hours ends with fine clear weather and no whales

Lat 41°00 North
Long 19°02 West