

Journal of the Bark John Dawson at St. Catharines

Tuesday April 4th 1863

Commenced with fine sea breeze starting in for St. Catharines at 3 P.M. came to anchor off the fort off St. Catharines in 3 fathoms muddy bottom. mended all the head sails. The Callio Secatita James Arnold and Darco is here also. go ends sea time. Tuesday morning fine weather Captain and boats crew gone ashore. All hands engaged sending down fore top mast for the head is very poor and the trussel broke also. Perhendin engaged making another one and fitting a fore top mast at the block the mizen topmast and put new rigging up and sent it up again at dark Captain came from town at dark began on from the southward

Wednesday 5th

Commenced with light breeze from the southward all hands engaged fitting fore rigging and head gear. Carpenter at work on the topmast sent a raft of casks ashore

Thursday 6th

Commenced with fine weather all hands engaged setting up fore rigging. P.M. sent up fore topmast and setting up the stages and rigging to C

Friday 7th

Fine weather all hands engaged sending up fore topmast and setting up the rigging sent up fore & fore top sail yard P.M. laying the mainmast and setting up main rigging to C

James O'Neil Master

Saturday 8th

Fine weather all hands engaged securing off main rigging and setting main topmast and fore topmast backstays and rigging down fore topmast rigging to C at 3 P.M. the Bark A. H. Tucker came to anchor and more oil since we last saw her.

Sunday 9th

Commenced with fine breeze and pleasant weather starboard watch on liberty.

Monday 10th

Fine weather all hands engaged setting up mizen rigging and painting ship on t side and securing off all the backstays fore main & muzzing

Tuesday 11th

Commenced with fine pleasant weather all hands engaged securing off rigging and painting ship out sides P.M. at 4 P.M. the bark Tet state ship Onward came to anchor here

Wednesday 12th

Fine weather Port watch ashore starboard engaged mending the fore top sail and sent at P.M. sent down the fore sail to repair to C

Thursday 13th

Fresh breeze from the southward starboard watch ashore the Onward went out Port watch engaged mending the fore sail P.M. sent for J. G. G. for fore topmast stage sail & fore sail