

Journal of the Bark John Dawson cruising in the
Thursday Dec 28 1865

Commenced with fine breeze and fair weather from the Eastered heading tackled ship heading S.W. & at sundown shortened sail. Just before sundown ~~passed~~ raised a large sperm whale going N.W. lowered but it came on dark before we could get to them come on board and took in sail. latter part thick and bad looking weather, wind still from the Eastered. at daylight Mr. Rufus started raised a school of large sperm whale all going N.W. lowered, and Waist Boat struck and got stove, so we lost Boat lines and all but the gun, for the weather was very bad, and the whale very shy. at 12 m took him along side and corner got Breast fast. the Barboard boat got stove a little.

Friday 29th

Commenced with strong from the Eastered. weather clearing off and wind a hauling to the Northward. at 2 P.M. hooked on and commenced cutting at dark got the Body fast in and made the head bell fast and set the watches. mid-part watches engaged clearing away the small & far. latter part, wind from the S.W. and strong breeze and rugged at 9 A.M. hooked on the head and at 12 m got the scalp off everything seems to work wrong to day.

Lat 33°41 South
Long 47°32 West

South Atlantic Ocean James Catto Master

Saturday 30th

Commenced with strong breeze from the S.W. and a heavy sea on all hands engaged cutting the head at sundown finished and set the watches ship heading S.E. mid-part at 11 P.M. started the works latter part strong breeze heading S.E. all hands engaged in boiling and cutting up junk put one of the over head boats on the starboard cranga and the Captain let Mr. Howland have his boat a whale in sight standing to the S.E. also.

Lat 33°45 North
Long 47°30 West

Sunday 31st

Commenced with strong breeze from the S.W. heading S.E. with a heavy sea on, all hands engaged in boiling and cutting up blubber & C. a little shower. latter part light variable breeze and had a few showers of rain. all hands engaged in boiling and cutting up blubber & C. wind S.W.

Lat 33°32 South
Long 47°17 West

Monday Jan 1st 1866

Commenced with steady breeze from the S.W. heading S.W. all hands engaged in boiling & C. mid-part at 3 P.M. cooled down and put the fat lean on fire stop the latter part strong breeze with a heavy swell on, hazy weather.

Lat 32°32 North
Long 47°34 West