

Journal of the Bark John Dawson cruising in the

Friday Jan 26th 1866

Commences with light breezes from the Westward steering N.E. by E. Watch engaged working in the rigging & at sundown shortened sail and spoke the Sarah & Osprey. Latter part made sail and kept off N.E. splendid weather watch engaged cleaning out dry place as we cannot get a whale.

Lat 33° 56' South
Long 49° 27' West

Saturday 27th

Commences with light breeze from the S.W. steering N.E. The Osprey & Sarah in sight. Rove new davit tackle falls to the Waist Boat and put new straps to the Blocks at sundown shortened sail and heading East. Mid-part wind veered to the Northward hauled back the main topsail heading West. Latter part made sail and were ship heading E.S.E. Rove new davit tackle falls to the Starboard Boat. cloudy weather.

no obs

Sunday 28th

Commences with thick rainy weather and fresh breeze from the Northward heading E.S.E. at 10 P.M. took in fore topsail and double reefed the main. Watch engaged washing ship inside & C. at 8 P.M. spoke the Osprey cutting a ~~5~~ 50 barrel whale. Latter part made sail. wind veered around to the Southward steering S.W. The Osprey in sight. hailing. foggy weather

Lat 34° 02' South
Long 48° 49' West

South Atlantic Ocean James Cottle Master

Monday 29th

Commences with brisk breezes & breeze on from the Southward double reefed the topsails and steered West. at 3 P.M. steered North. saw several merchant vessels among N.E. & S.W. at sundown shortened sail and came to on the Port tack heading S.W. by N. Mid-part wind from the E.S.E. heading South. Latter part fine breeze & hazy weather made sail & at 7 P.M. kept off steering to the Northward & Westward. Watch engaged drugging & noting farns. Charles Smith off duty sick with seasickness. Saw Grampasses & C.

Lat 33° 28' South
Long 49° 44' West

Tuesday 30th

Commences with brisk breeze from the E.S.E. steering different courses to Southward & Westward. Saw several merchant vessel steering S.W. at sundown came to on the Starboard tack and shortened sail heading N.W. by E. and the day is gone and no whales. a whaleman's life is all a lot of ups and downs. but we do need a whale so much. it seems as though we ought to get one or half a dozen. Latter part strong breeze standing on the Port tack heading S.E. by S. at 7 P.M. spoke the ship Gamma Captain Smith 35 days out of N.Y. of sperm. bound to the N.W. Capt Cottle went on board & got some late papers.

Lat 34° 32' South
Long 49° 33' West