

Journal of the Bark John Dawson cruising in the
Tuesday Sept 4th 1888

Commenced with fresh breeze from the N.W. at 10 A.M. hiked up a stick of timber, double reefed the topsail and hauled by the wind heading West and hauling to the Southward. Watch engaged cutting up the stick & latter part fine weather, & fine breeze set all sail. Broke out for West, later, saw a whale ship standing to the N.E. saw Compasses Runge attended to.

Lat 39° 08 North
Long 40° 10 West

Wednesday 5th

Commenced with light breeze from the N.W. heading. S.W. watch engaged making pennant &c. at sundown shortened sail. James B. Cushing fell from under the main top on deck cut his head quite bad. latter part squally weather at 10 A.M. double reefed the topsails Runge attended to.

Lat 39° 30 North
Long 40° 20 West

Thursday 6th

Commenced with brisk breeze from the Westward heading S.W. at 5 P.M. saw a breach run for it, but saw no more of it. latter part set hulk topsail heavy weather at 7 A.M. took ship heading North. saw a school of blackfish going quick to the windward. saw a brig steering to the S.E. Runge attended to.

Lat 37° 00 North
Long 41° 09 West

North Atlantic Ocean James Cottle Master

Friday 7th

Commenced with brisk breeze from the N.W. heading N. had a few rain squalls at sundown shortened sail. I do wish we could get a whale once more. I would be some consolation to see one once more. latter part strong breeze under double reefed topsails heading N.W. at 10 A.M. breezen on furlled the spanker & mainsail and kept off N.E. breezen on smoky weather. Runge attended to.

Lat 38° 09 North
Long 41° 15 West

Saturday 8th

Commenced with strong breeze & breezen on from the Westward at 2 P.M. blowing fresh gales took in foresail & fore-top-sail & closed reefed the main and come to on the Starboard tack heading S.E. at 4 P.M. blowing heavy gales worked the main topsail turned the wheel up and belayed the hatches down and secured things about decks &c. mid-part wind veering to the Southward & moderating. latter part moderated down to strong breeze set double reefed topsails were ship heading N.E. Runge attended to.

Lat 38° 13 North
Long 40° 40 West

Sunday 9th

Commenced with fresh breeze from the N.W. heading E.N.E. watch engaged washing ship inside &c. at sundown wore ship & shortened sail heading N.W. by W. mid-part wind veered to the Southward. steering N.W. by S. latter part fine breeze set all sail. Runge attended to.

Lat 38° 51 North
Long 40° 40 West