

Bark Mabel Cruising on New Holland

1879

Monday April 14th This day Comes in with Splendid weather and light southerly winds. The Bark Mabel steering different Courses looking anxiously for a Whale. Saw one finback two shoals of porpoises. Unbent the fore sail repaired it and bent it.
Lat 28° 02' S Long 108° 21' E

Tuesday April 15th Comes in with fine weather and light winds from W.S.W. the Bark steering different Courses. Saw Squid. Grampuses and porpoises the ground looking quite lively. Employed scraping and painting iron work aloft.
Lat 28° 25' S Long 108° 45' E

Wednesday April 16th This day Comes in with good weather and light southerly wind. The Bark steering by the wind to the east middle and latter part about the same. Saw nothing.
Lat 28° 02' S Long 109° 45' E

Saturday April 19th This day Comes in with good weather and fresh breezes from the S.E. steering North. Employed cleaning & painting the windlass. raised a bucket and run for it. but saw no more of it.
Lat 27° 34' S Long 108° 16' E

Sunday April 20th These twenty four hours good weather and fresh trade winds the Bark steering off North middle and latter part much the same. Saw Birds.
Lat 26° S Long 109° 17' E

Monday April 21st Comes in with good breeze from S.E. the Bark steering N.W. middle and latter part much the same. Employed cleaning and painting iron work aloft.
Lat 24° 10' S Long 108° 00' E

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Wednesday April 23rd This day good weather and fine breeze from S.E. The Bark steering off West. Saw nothing. Employed repairing and cleaning the bands round the foremast. I hope to have something better to do soon.
Lat 22° 14' S Long 106° 04' E

Bread Saturday April 26th Commences with fresh trades the Bark standing by the wind to the South. Saw a large Ship steering to the N.E. Employed breaking out provisions.
Lat 24° 00' S Long 103° 34' E

Sunday April 27th This day Comes in with strong trade winds the Bark standing to the Southward under double reef topsail. Saw several finbacks and birds. Grampuses one vessel steering to the North.
Lat 26° 08' S Long 101° 45' E

Monday April 28th This day Comes in with strong trade winds the Bark on the Southern tack under short sail very rough sea. Saw nothing. This day a bad accident. Cooper fell off the vice bench struck on his head, hurt his neck, and sprained his wrist bad.
Lat 26° 34' S Long 100° 57' E

Thursday May 1st Comes in with strong breeze from S.E. the Bark on the Eastern tack with main top. Galtail out the first time in a week. yesterday saw a Merchantman standing to the South under short sail. Cooper is getting some better.
Lat 25° 05' S Long 103° 12' E

Friday May 2nd This day fine weather and moderate breeze from S.E. the Bark heading to the Eastward at daylight. Steered off W. at 10 a.m. Steered W.S.W. at 1 P.M. raised breeches. Saw them no more. Saw finbacks.
Lat 24° 30' S Long 102° 00' E