

Bark Mabel Cruising on New Holland

May
1879.

Saturday May 3rd This day comes in with good westerly breeze. Steering S.W. Saw several finbacks. Middle and latter part strong trade running off under double reef topsails.

Flow
3rd8 1/2 miles
7 1/2

Sunday May 4th These twenty four hours fresh trade winds and rough sea the Bark under short sail standing to the South. More ship about 10 a.m. the weather improving some turned our reef out of main topsail. Nothing seen
Lat 25° 55' S Long 102° 58' E

Tuesday May 13th This day good weather and moderate breeze from S.E. The Bark steering by the wind to the E.N.E. Middle and latter part rainy & squally. Saw several finbacks. The last week has been very dull. We have been as far West as long 100° and South to Lat 30 1/2 North to 21° 30' S without seeing any whales. Where to go to find them. I do not know, perhaps they will find us next.
Lat 28° 05' S Long 108° 19' E

Friday May 16th This day good weather and moderate westerly winds. The Bark steering S.W. Saw squid, set down the foretop sail, repaired and bent it. Saw one vessel a Barkentine steering to the North.
Lat 28° 05' S Long 108° E

Sunday May 18th This day comes in with strong breeze from S.W. the Bark steering by the wind to the S.E. at 8 A.M. wore ship and stood to the W. Saw several finbacks. and quite a number of birds. yesterday saw squid. This day makes us twenty months out with 350 lbs sperm and 80 lbs whale we have taken but 19 lbs in eight months. I hope we shall see a chance soon to get some oil.
Lat 27° 25' S Long 107° 56' E

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Tuesday May 27th This day fine weather and good breeze from the North. The Bark standing to Eastwards. at 10 A.M. wore ship heading N.W. Saw a few finbacks and birds. yesterday breaking out in the after hold. for meat.
Lat 28° 04' S Long 107° 55' E

Sunday June 1st This day comes in with fine weather and light winds from S.E. steering by the wind fish as usual quite scarce, a few finbacks and two shoals porpoises. dry times very dry times.
Lat 27° 30' S Long 107° 38' E

Tuesday June 3rd This day fine weather and light winds. Middle and latter part. Calm sent down the main topsail repaired it and bent it. Saw Grampuses and porpoises. Nothing more.
Lat 27° 05' S Long 107° 15' E

Saturday June 7th The last three days has been pretty good weather. We have been cruising about 60° N. & South we can see everything but whales. I am satisfied they are not here. How soon they will make their appearance I do not know.
Lat 27° 4' S Long 108° 04' E

Sunday June 8th Comes in with splendid weather and moderate breeze from S.W. at 7 A.M. wore ship heading west. Raised a breeze but saw it no more one vessel in sight a merchantman steering to the westward.
Lat 27° 18' S Long 107° 54' E

Sunday June 15th The last week has been fine weather and moderate breeze. Nice up along weather every day the ground looks lively plenty of finbacks & squid and birds but not a whale to be seen.
Lat 28° 06' S Long 108° 17' E