

Bark Nabel Cruising on New Holland

1879

Wednesday June 18th This day comes in with good weather and light westerly winds the Bark Steering S.E. Saw a few finbacks and a school of porpoises tide rips &c. not a Whale
Lat 26° 05' S Long 108° 05' E

Saturday June 23rd These twenty four hours moderate trades. The Bark Steering North by West, one vessel in sight. Steered of same course the last ten days has passed away as usual without seeing anything of importance
Lat 16° 19' S Long 107° 27' E

Tuesday July 1st The last four days light trade winds. The Bark steering N. by W. for Java. This morning saw Christmas Island bearing N.W. 22 miles dist.
Lat 9° 04' S Long by Chron 106° 23' E

Wednesday July 2nd This day strong trades steering N. by W. for Java Head. at daylight saw the Land bearing E. by N. Java Head bearing N. N. W. 23 miles dist.
The Chron 30 miles ^{more} Lat 7° 14' S Long by Chron 105° 30' E

Thursday July 3rd First part light winds & calm middle part passing rain squalls at dark saw the light on Java Head. Come on a heavy squall with rain had to give it up going in in the night and wait for daylight. This morning steered in with a light breeze and anchored about 2 fathoms in six fathoms and furlled the sails at New Bay. So end a poor Cruise.

Tuesday July 22nd This day finishes up our business at anchor. This day at 2 1/2 P.M. got under weigh with fair tide, no wind at dark outside the light, about 8 P.M. took a good breeze from of the land S.E. and steered S.W. by West. about 4 A.M. cleared the light and steered by the wind to S.E. W. Two men deserted, John Smith & Martin Keary.

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Sunday July 27th The last 4 days fresh trade (winds) the Bark steering by the wind heading about S. S. W. This day saw Squid and several finbacks.
Lat 15° 25' S Long 99° 54' E

Saturday Aug 16th Comes in with good weather and moderate breeze from N.E. the Bark steering N.E. Employed repairing the fore sail at 1 P.M. raised a large whale four miles off. run within two miles and hauled aboard and lay one hour. Stuck off N. and run on hour and then steered N. W. at 3 P.M. raised him again close to the ship. He turned flukes heading N. N. W. lowered two boats for him. But saw him no more.
Lat 25° 35' S Long 109° 17' E

Wednesday September 3rd The last two weeks has passed away without seeing any whales. We have been cruising from Lat 25° to 28° and long from 112° to 108° E and have not been able to find them. This is enough to make a man grow old very fast. We have taken but 20 lbs. Sperm in 11 months. I hope the Lord will soon send us a whale.
Lat 28° 30' S Long 108° 36' E

Saturday Sept 6th This day comes in with good weather and moderate trade winds. The Bark standing to the N.E. W. at 10 A.M. raised whales breaching 5 miles off. lowered about 11 A.M. struck about 1 P.M. and saved a small whale to each boat. The Waist Boat stowed. Got the whales alongside about dark.
Lat 28° 10' S Long 108° 40' E