

Bark Mabel. Cruising on the South Coast

1879

Saturday Oct 19th This day comes in with fresh Gale from the North the Bark steering E N E at 10 AM. Saw Blackfish and blowed for them, and caught two.

Ends with bad weather

Lat 34° 35' S Long 114° 35' E

Thursday Oct 23rd This day comes in with good weather. The last three days quite a heavy Gale from N.W. The Bark lying too under storm staysails a very heavy sea turned up the boats. The Bark Shipping large quantities of water. One sea struck her and broke the Starboard Cat heads. got tackles aloft and took the Starboard Anchor on deck, and lashed the Cathead in its place as well as possible untill better weather. This morning started the tryworks boiling blackfish Blubber. one vessel in sight. during the Gale the foretopmast staysail parted and split the sail

Lat 35° 48' S Long 116° 33' E

Friday Oct 24 Comes in with good weather and moderate breeze from N.W. the Bark steering to the N.W. Employ repairing damages. Repaired the fore topmast staysail and vent, rose new shrouds repaired the Cathead. The Cooper making new ladder for the poop deck. The old one lost overboard in the Gale. one vessel in sight.

Lat 35° 46' S Long 116° 30' E

Sunday Nov 16th The last three weeks has passed wearily away without seeing any whales. We have had plenty of bad weather and cruised from Cape Lewis to Bald Island seen birds and porpoises. and one shoal of Blackfish. We have seen several vessels. These are very dry times I hope the Lord will soon send us some Whales.

Bald Island bearing N.W. 35 miles Dist

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Sunday Dec 7th This day comes in with calm weather. at 7 A.M. raised a shoal of Sperm Whales. not going much. lowered three Boats in chase. The main boat struck and killed a small calf. Three of the Whales went off. got nothing cut from the calf. not worth saving. Chased 3 hours and took the Boat up Lat 35° 16' S Long 119° 00' E

1880

Sunday Feb 1st This day comes in with good weather. and fresh breeze from N.E. The Bark steering by the wind heading E. N. E. Saw a few finbacks. Yesterday morning got under weigh from Hobart Town. We have been in Port since Jan 2nd have sold 15 tons Sperm oil and refitted for a year. Bought Bread, Meat Flour, and small stores. Everything that is needed in a Whale Ship. I have discharged the mate, and shipped Mr Price in his place. The Crew nearly all deserted. Shipped 15 men in their places. and now I hope that we will do better. and take some oil.

Lat 43° 40' S Long 149° 38' E

Thursday Feb 10th This day comes in with good w. h. sail breeze from the N.E. The Bark steering by the wind heading N. N. W. at 3 P.M. Saw Whales going to the windward. lowered the 3 boats in chase. got nothing no chance

Lat 37° 30' S Long 154° 09' E

Wednesday Feb 25th This day comes in with good weather and fresh breezes from N.E. the Bark steering W. by N. at 1 P.M. Saw a shoal of Sperm Whales going South. lowered the three Boats in chase. at 6 P.M. the 2nd mate struck and saved a small Whale got him alongside about 8 P.M. and shortened sail

Lat 36° 00' S Long 152° 19' E