

Bark Mabel Cruising on the Middle Ground

1880

Thursday Feb 26th This day fine weather employed Cutting in a Small Whale finished about 11 A.M. latter part cleaning head getting the Byworks Clean &c - Saw nothing
Lat 35° 26' S Long 161° 09' E

Monday March 8th This day fine weather and moderate breeze from S.E. the Bark steering by the wind to the E.N.E. at 7 A.M. Saw 10 sperm Whales going S.E. got Breakfast and lowered for them. The starboard boat struck about noon. The Whale run and sounded. Could not get to him had to cut line lost one line and half another
Lat 35° 17' S Long 162° 18' E

Tuesday March 9th These twenty four hours fine weather and light winds from S.E. the Bark steering S.S.W. at daylight tacked ship heading E by N. raised Whales about 7 A.M. got Breakfast and lowered for them. About 10 A.M. the 2nd mate struck a large Whale and got Stovers back the 3rd mate boat slightly Stovers got a boat down from overhead and 2nd mate lowered again. Hauled Canvas over the 3rd mate boat and lowered him again. Cut from the Whale. Mr. Barry fell down in the Boat hurt his back
Lat 35° 13' S Long 162° 30' E

Sunday March 14th This day comes in with good weather and moderate breeze from S.E. the Bark on the S.W. tack Middle and latter part Moderate at 7 A.M. Saw Whales going to the South. Lowered three Boats struck and lost the Whale lost a boat & Seances &c.
Lat 35° 00' S Long 162° 00' E

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Monday March 15th This day fine weather and moderate breeze from S.E. at daylight saw a large Whale to windward 5 miles off. Saw him again about 11 A.M. got dinner and lowered three Boats in Chase. The 2nd mate boat went on and got a slight iron in and drewed. Whale went off to windward took up the Boats. Saw another Whale to windward too late to lower
Lat 35° 06' S Long 161° 52' E

Wednesday March 17th This day comes in with splendid weather and light breeze from S.E. Middle and latter part much the same at 7 A.M. Saw Whales going N.N.W. got our breakfast and lowered for them. The 2nd mate struck and lost line. took up the Boats and got dinner lowered again. the 2nd mate went up to a whale and did not get fast got his boat Stovers slightly two vessels in sight
Lat 35° 48' S Long 161° 32' E

Thursday March 18th This day comes in with good weather and moderate breeze from S.E. at 6 A.M. Saw a lone Whale going to windward. Lowered three Boats for him without success. took up the Boats and steered by the wind to the S.E. at 4 P.M. lowered again for another lone Whale going to Windward. Could not get to him
Lat 35° 00' S Long 161° 20' E

Saturday March 20th These twenty four hours fine weather and moderate breeze from S.E. the Bark steering by the wind to the E.N.E. at 6 P.M. Saw a large Whale 3 miles off too late to lower saw him but one rising. The last two days repairing boats. Coiling new lines &c. We have but 1¹/₂ coils more of Whale line left. out of twenty coils and no spare Seances
Lat 35° 00' S Long 161° 39' E