

Bark Mabel Cruising on the Middle Ground

1880 Sunday March 21st Comes in with good weather and moderate breeze from S.E. at daylight Saw Whales going to the seaward. Mr Barney Struck. after being fast about 1 1/2 hours the Irons drew and lost the Whale. Walton Blacket the Mates Boatsteerer fell over board and nearly drowned.

Lat 34° 20' Long 161° 07' E

Monday March 22nd This day good weather and light winds from S.E. the Bark Steaming to the Eastward. Middle Staining S.W. at 2 P.M. raised two large Whales going to the Eastward. lowered two boats for them. The Mate Struck about 4 P.M. and saved the whale got him alongside about 9 P.M. so ends a good days work.

Lat 34° 48' S Long 161° 30' E

Tuesday March 23rd This day Comes in with good weather and moderate breeze from S.E. all hands Employed Cutting in got the head and body in and set the Watch.

Lat 34° 34' Long 161° 24' E

Wednesday March 24th Comes in with good weather and moderate breeze from S.E. the Bark heading to the N.E. Employed hauling Case Clearing up &c. Started the works about 1 P.M. Mr Pardee fell from the rail into the Gang Way. was caught by the Head and badly bruised.

He is,

Thursday March 25th These twenty four hours strong breeze Breeze from E. S. E. the Mabel standing by the Wind heading to the South. Middle and later part Squally. The watch Employed hauling head saw nothing.

Lat 34° 20' Long 161° 17' E

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1880 Monday March 29th This day Comes in with good weather and moderate breeze from E. S. E. the Bark on different tacks. All hands Employed Stowing down oil in the Main Hatchway. Stowed down about 78 bbls.

Lat 34° 37' Long 160° 08' E

Tuesday March 30th Comes in with good weather and fresh breeze from N.E. the Bark heading to the S.E. under whole topsails finished stowing down a fare of 100 bbls of Spinn oil. Latter Employed washing Deck.

Lat 33° 09' S Long 160° 14' E

Monday April 5th This day Comes in with good weather and fresh breeze from N.E. the Bark heading East at daylight saw a pod of large Whales. galled. Suppose they saw the Ship before daylight lowered the three Boats for them. The Whales went off quick to windward took up the boats and stood along. Employed repairing the fore topsail the foot rope parts and split the sail.

Lat 36° 18' S Long 162° 19' E

Thursday April 29th The last three weeks has been very fair weather most of the time and good seeing. but nothing of importance has been seen. We left the Middle ground two weeks ago and we are now Cruising on East Side of New Zealand. I am in hope we shall soon see Whales. This has proved a most unprofitable voyage so far. But we live in hope our luck will change. This day employed repairing the fore topsail. Rove new main topsail reef tackles.

Lat 33° 17' S Long 176° 17' E