

Ship Martha's Log Book On A Whaling Voyage

Remarks on board Monday 31st Oct. 1836.

Commenced with fresh breezes from the Westward, run off to the East. Middle part of the day hauled to the N.W. and S.W. were in heavy at 5 P.M. saw Whales but it was blowing a heavy gale. In the forenoon latter part heavy gale from the North West. Round to the East saw a number of Whales but the weather is too dark with heavy rain and thick with a heavy swell from the fore sail and close reefed main top sails.

Obs. Lat. 35.16 E

Remarks on Tuesday 1st November 1836.

Comes with fresh winds from the North inclining to the West. With heavy swell heading to the N.E. under close reefed main top sail. Middle and latter part a little more moderate but long rough run to the S.E. under short sail. So ends with strong gales from N.W. to N.E. and a heavy sea running.

Wednesday 2nd Nov. 1836.

Strong gales from N.W. and squalls heading to the S.E. under short sail. Middle and latter part strong gales from the Westward at 4 P.M. spoke the ship Amelia Gibbs of Fair Isle last a Book Store a few days previous to the 1st of Nov. at 11 P.M. spoke the ship London 17 months out with 2000 barrels of fish, gales & squalls two ships in sight saw two Whales.

Remarks on board Thursday 3rd Nov. 1836.

Comes with strong winds from the Westward and squalls run off to the S.E. in company with ship S. Gibbs. at 10 P.M. observed a main top sail and hauled to the South. Middle and latter part heavy gales from the N.W. at 10 P.M. were ship to the North. So ends with long heavy gales from the N.W. and heavy sea running. To head to the N.W. under close reefed main top sail & fore sail. In the forenoon spoke the ship S. Gibbs about 10 P.M. Lat. 35.16 S. Long about 35.00 E.

Remarks on Friday 4th Nov. 1836.

Heavy gales from the S.W. and heavy bad sea giving head to the N.W. under close reefed main top sail. at 12 P.M. was round to the East at 1 P.M. were to the North. latter part rather more moderate heading to the Westward under double reefed main top sail & fore sail. Obs. Lat. 35.24 S. 65.35 E.

Remarks on Saturday 5th Nov. 1836.

Strong winds from the S.W. and rain, rough at 1 P.M. S.W. gale, reefed top sails by the wind to the S.E. Middle and latter part moderate breezes from the S.W. at daylight made all sail on fore and main top sails at 10 P.M. observed four Whales killed one & he sunk so large is seen of our boat sunk. Obs. Lat. 35.11 S. Long 35.25 E.

In The Indian Ocean Charles Fisher Master 1836.

Remarks on board Sunday 6th Nov. 1836.

Commenced with light airs from the N.W. and fair weather heading to the South by the wind at 4 P.M. kept off N.E. at 10 P.M. through the night with a moderate breeze at 6 P.M. spoke the ship Aurora of Boston 10 Whales so ends with fair breezes from the N.W. steering S.E. Ship bound in Co. Obs. Lat. 35.29 S. 67.30 E.

Remarks on board Monday 7th Nov. 1836.

Fresh breezes from the N.W. at 2 P.M. then ship to the S.W. at 4 P.M. spoke the ship Sophia of Longport. Middle part strong gales and squalls under close reefed main top sails and fore sail by the wind to the West at 10 P.M. more moderate were ship to the N.E. so ends with thick rainy weather & heavy swell from the N.W. No 50 E.

Remarks on board Tuesday 8th Nov. 1836. moderate winds from the N.W. thick & rainy head to the N.E. under short sail. Strong winds through the night at day light made all sail to the N.E. so ends with wind from the N.W. and fair weather. Obs. Lat. 35.12 S. 67.30 E.

Remarks on Wednesday 9th Nov. 1836.

The North East wind and from N.W. steering N.E. at 5 P.M. spoke the ship Newton 12 Whales. Obs. Lat. 35.18 S. hauled to by the wind to the N.W. middle and latter part long by 8 P.M. 18.30. pleasant breeze from the N.W. and heavy at 10 P.M. under short sail. Newton cut in sight off the Sea Breeze.

Remarks on Thursday 10th Nov. 1836.

Fine breezes from the N.W. inclining to the N.E. and heavy by the wind to the N.W. Middle and latter part strong gales from the North at 4 P.M. saw a large school of sperm Whales two ships in sight one of them had one boat a morning that 1000 at 9 P.M. hauled fore & main top sails so ends with strong gales & squalls. Obs. Lat. 36.02 S. Long 65.18 E.

Friday 11th Nov. 1836.

Strong gales from the S.W. by the wind to the N.W. at 10 P.M. S.W. gale reefed top sails. Middle and latter part more moderate at daylight made all sail by the wind to the N.W. saw a ship to the Westward a Whaling ship S.E. with 15000 from the S.W. and fair weather two ships in sight.

Obs. Lat. 35.33 S. Long 65.19 E.

12th day out.