

Remarks on Board the Brig Medford 1850

Sunday May 12 All these 24 hours fresh winds from from S.W. to N.W. Cloudy Smoky & rather Cruising of the Islands by Convo and Flares at 2 P.M. all spoke and boarded the Schooner Robert Blake Capt Smith of Providence 11 months out 120 th Sperm oil So Ends

Monday May 13 Commences with Strong breezes from S.W. Standing of and on Flares saw finbacks Middle part fresh breezes from North East and Squally at 3 P.M. rain down under the lee of flares very rough at 10 P.M. saw several Sperm whales offing quick to nine and lowered the Boats and chased them untill noon and gave them up for Dry Shins Ends very rugged and Squally

Tuesday May 14 Commences with fresh gales from North East Squally rainy weather Cruising the S.W. of flares at Sunset Charted sail Middle part the same at daylight made sail and stood in under the lee of the island of flares saw five Ships two Boats standing to the S.E. Ends with Strong gales from S.W. took in fore sail and main sail

Wednesday May 15 Commences with Strong gales from S.W. and very rugged lying to under the lee of the island saw several Sails Middle and latter part the same Squally under the West End of flares saw one sail So Ends this 24 hours

Thursday May 16 Commences with Strong breezes S.W. Squally with rain Standing of and on the West End of flares saw the Schooner S.D. to windward Middle part moderate at 5 P.M. made all sail at 8 P.M. in main sail topgallant fly 1st reef top sail Squally rainy and rugged Ends the same saw several Sails tending to the S.E. and East

Friday May 17 Commences with fresh winds from East Squally Middle and latter part the same Cruising of flares and Convo saw finbacks saw 3 Ships 3 Boats Steering to the South and Eastward

Saturday May 18 Throughout these 24 hours fresh breezes from the East North East and rugged Cruising of flares saw fin backs and several Sails So Ends

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All these 24 hours fresh breezes N.E. to E.N.E. and Cloudy weather Cruising of the West End of flares saw finbacks four sails in sight

Monday May 20 All these 24 hours fresh gales from N.E. Cruising of flares at 6 P.M. all Schooner Robert Blake lowered Boats for Sperm whales saw them going quick to windward did not lower for the saw several Sails So Ends

Tuesday May 21 All these 24 hours fresh breezes from N.E. and very rough Squally with rain saw several Sails

Wednesday May 22 Commences with fresh breezes from N.E. Cruising of the West End of flares at 4 P.M. raised a large Sperm whale at 5 P.M. lowered the Boats at 6 the Harbor Boat fastened down set him to Spouting thick blood Ship keeper lost rang the Boats and ran a long way to seaward lowered Boat left the Capt with the whale and pursued the ship but did not find her lay out all night and passed by the whale all night at 8 P.M. saw heard fell in with the Sch Robert Blake and went on board saw raised the Brig far to seaward ran down and went on board same time the Brig fell in with the Capt and his whale took her along side Ends Pleasant but rough

Thursday May 23

Commences with fresh breezes from North East and Pleasant with a rough sea all hands employed breaking out the blubber room and getting ready for cutting in the whale Middle part Squally with Showers of rain at 4 P.M. called all hands and heeled on the whale cut the head part away of and it sunk very low commenced cutting in the body Ends with Strong breezes and rugged

Friday May 24

Commences with fresh breezes from North East and rough employed cutting in the body of the whale cut as far as the hump and stop at 4 P.M. commenced boiling at daylight cut of the head and it sunk and lost it finished cutting the body Ends rugged with a bad sea wind North East employed boiling So Ends

Saturday May 25 Commences with fresh breeze and very rugged at 2 P.M. finished cutting wise of ship heeled in Boat employed boiling Middle and latter part fresh breezes and very rugged and Squally with Showers of rain Employed boiling