

Plymouth Sound

Nov 7th

6

Seals

Moderate all this day but rugged sea from the westward. Boats returned last night from Wisdom Island. And south beach having found only six seals hauling which they brought on board. To day cruisee Raggea Island as far as practicable for the ice and snow but found no seals excepting fresh winds from the westward. Let go second anchor for the night.

November 8th

Strong gale from the westward with rugged sea, some snow, and sleet, not able to land or do any thing this day which ends with willows--

Nov 9th

3 Skins

comes in fresh and snowing from the westward. Midday moderates down and clears. Started with three boats for Stark Point and Wisdom Island in hopes of landing and leaving second mate and boats crew with provisions for a month. Returned in the evening after successfully affecting a landing bringing back three skins. Day ends moderate.

November 10th

This day comes in with heavy falls of snow and increasing north west winds. Midday resolves itself into a most terrific gale and continues violent throughout throughout twenty hours with boisterous sea schooner labouring here with both crews and whole ship of chance ahead but its neck or nothing, if she parts destruction and nothing short for crew & schooner.

Nov 11th

Trained to get to sea but could not and returned to anchor. Gale somewhat subsided and wind veered southwesterly and clears, icebergs fast breaking up in the sound and driving to the eastern shores under and dreary shelter this for anxious mariners. But we are in the Lord's hands and I hope submission to whatever fate he chooses to bestow. Knowing or taught, he doth all things that seemeth best in his sight. Midday wind moderates and sea subsiding, as if nature sometimes tires even in the stormy elements. Last night and day no rest for the weary and anxious mind and body, how the boys hamstrung the test of the gale under the mountain I hope to know to morrow.

Nov 12th

17 Seals

3 Skins

This day
Dogs & birds

Day ends moderating and clearing. More moderate with snow squalls and very rugged sea. Got under way and beat out of the harbour and proceeded to Stark Point found the boys also right trying to fix up their shelter brought up seven skins and kept off for Cape Sheroff heavy rolling sea on the cape but landed and took ten seals and some Penguin eggs and came on board with a very slight approaching a calm and sea subsiding. Desolation Island to leeward hope to visit on the morrow. The beach of Sheroff's cape a heavy mass of ice to low water mark. No chance for seals to land except on the snow. Three icebergs grounded in the offing. Day ends clear and pleasant. Barnard's lofty peak and surrounding islands plainly visible throughout.