

South Seas, Shetland Islands

Jan 16th

877 seals
minus 4

Friday. First part strong breeze from the North East with snow middle hours. Bristerous wind with high sea & a m. schooner hove to. Put watch on deck. Shipped a heavy sea in the morn. lost 4 prime skins of deck & a m. via dies out and clears from the westward. Latter hours wgy sea

Jan 17th

Saturday. calm first watch, middle hours. Lost in the fog. Latter hours via easterly. snowing. Standby for Seal Rocks to take of Boats crew. Day ends stormy. no seals

Jan 18th

15 Seals
888

Sunday comes in stormy and thick middle hours freshens and clears from the East. Latter hours made Cape Lindsey and Seal Rocks too rugged to land on the rocks. So came too near the cape and went in for seals. Took 15 and returned on board. Day ends calm with heavy smells from the western board.

Jan 19th

17
115
1020.

Monday. Moderate from the south and clear. Ran up to the seal rocks and took of Boats crew. men and water failing. Was imprudent to leave them longer. took on board also 115 prime seals skins from seal rocks taken in the last 26 days. sealed the rocks througaly. and Eastern rocks. took 17 prime seals and kept of for Point Walker, Elephant Island. weather good. Men employed beaming and salting skins. the end of the day

11

Elephant and Clarence Island

Jan 20th

1020
27 seals
1047.

commences moderate wind southerly Landed last evening on Walker Point and took 10 seals. This day sealed Clarence Island and took 17 seals. and started westward. seals scarce. Day ends fresh from the south

Jan 21th

12

Wednesday. Moderate. S.W. wind first part. middle hours fog squalls. wind veering to westerly. Latter hours sent two Boats in to seal rocks. weather smooth. one not returning feared some casualty. took command of next boat myself and went in to hunt them up. found the second & fourth mates and Boatsteers with one man on the water rock. Report the loss of three boats with four men the last landing comprising Andy Jacob Hays of New York James Kestham Proprietor. Antonio Frank and Frank Rosa. of Flores. both poor souls gone beyond. thus it is. May God receive them in his Kingdom. Day ends gloomy. Took five seal to day. and caught abundance of fish which are very very plenty and of the finest quality. Schooner at anchor at Eastern end of seal rocks

5 Seals

Jan 22nd

This was a sad day

Thursday wind light and clear. weather examined all the rocks and beaches in hopes of finding the last of last night. But no relic of Boats of men. and we get underway with saddened feelings to proceed westward. Men over considering pity the poor hearts made desolate and may God sustain them in their grief.