

Diego Rammere

Nov 13th

Friday wind to the south and fair started boats for North Rocks and landed found plenty seal up but ran for the water as soon as boats approach the rocks. Shot 191 prime seal mostly claspnetches and returned on board. Rocks sealed same time from Golden West boats crew camped on Black Island who got but few seals. Day ends moderate, with increasing swell from the westward.

Nov 14th

Saturday morning wind freshens from the West midday, resolves into terrific gales and continues so throughout the day and night. Plying with 100 fathoms hawser and 45 fathoms chain on second anchor, at dark Shearer broke adrift and drove to sea two anchors with chains attached. Day ends violent some rain.

Nov 15th

Sunday morning wind veers to the south West and clear, water smoother. Hove in one anchor and stowed it, hove up second and dropped farther out. Shore 22 fathoms water. Wind fresh S.W. moon. afternoon exchanged signals with a heavy ship. English spoke the rocks clear ahead, later two in the offing bound Eastward. Evening wind moderates and clears.

543 Seals

Shearer still missing. Think he must have ran for Cape Horn. Stowed down our skins and sent a boat in to the camp to ascertain if Shearer left any men on the Rocks. Now below 543, prime skins and about the same number on board of Capt. Charles Shearer. I fear he may have parted and lost anchors but hope not, as it will seriously interfere with our work. This kind of sealing requires foresight and then patience to prevent the seals from escaping as they strike for the water as soon as boats come in sight. very wild and only possible way of taking is by shooting - for which Black Landing shot guns

Diego Rammere South Seas

Nov 16th

Monday, wind moderates and hauled south West started the boats for north Rocks. Very hazy and landing seals strikes for the water before we could get on the rocks. Took 19 skins and returned to main Island took 7 more making 26 skins this day. At noon Shearer in sight working up. Capt. Charles came in with two boats reports loss of two anchors in the blow. Together landed a boat crew with two boats, one singly to seals the rocks while one vessel goes west the other east for the events. Decided Barnard Island, Fanning, Shearer, Big anchor and two broad casts for skins. Day ends moderate pleasant.

Nov 17th

Tuesday wind S. West and strong both schooners got under weigh and left the Island. Schooner ran for Cape Horn and we headed Westward by the wind. Midday blowing heavy and rain. Schooner picks up making rough weather of it evening made the land close ahead of New Year Sunday. Tacked and headed of shore for the night. midnight moderates tacked in skins again.

Nov 18th

Wednesday commences more moderates. Boats out with wind still ahead. fetched into the mouth of New Year sound and got smooth water. worked up north side of Henderson Island found a reef to exist about midway of sound. Not laid down in any of the charts. Bearing N. West of Eastern main point of the above Island on a direct route to Indian come boat around through the Islands. and came to in the Westernmost corner of Maston Island. good Harbour but deep water. This Island is cut in two by a small strait heavy hillhead and narrow but if forced I think could pass through in safety. good watering in this corner but poor wooding and not much game. The eastern side has a peculiar rounded ledge of rocks strewn with deep green as of benzoin and in small and I could discern no copper. Day ends calm and raining.

Diego

would be valuable