

June 1870

Thursday 7th. This morn before the fog cleared up we saw a school of Blackfish near the ship and went for them but did not take any. Two of the boats got away from the ship, so the head of the boat cleared many times before they found the ship. The fog was so dense, it cleared away about ten and at eleven, cleared again for a very large school of Blackfish. The Larboard Boat & Holmes got three, the Master with the Main Boat took two, and the Larboard with the Bow Boat one, so we have six. Capt thinks they will make three or four bls. While looking over the stern of the ship watching the fish and the boats, there were then near the ship, towing fish, I saw the Master agreeable

Lat 15° 56' Long 111° 38' the beautiful expression (Damn you, look if you want to. It makes my life, far more unpleasant than it would otherwise be. To hear such language used. Had we agreeable Officers, there is not much to be seen, and when the boats are chasing fish I like to watch them, and think there is no harm in doing so. But I never can do so without the Holmes cursing me, if I do not hear him do so I hear of it afterwards. Without exception I think him the meanest & a savage of any one I ever met. He possesses a very quick ungovernable temper, is also very jealous, and is very ignorant of the value of good breeding, and yet has a very high opinion of himself. At times he is very social, and at other times will not answer when spoken to. If we only had decent civil officers I should enjoy life as it is. There is but little to begeth all that induces me to be to endure it is my master's secret. I live hoping for better days when we shall go when we can get some better Officers. Capt is well treated with them, but this very hard to be patient

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Lat 15° 47' Long 111° 45' About noon the Larboard and Bow Boats went fishing along the coast. Mr. Thorpe did not go for some time, in fact over six we left St Catharines. He has acted as if he was mad about some thing, so today George has had some talk with him. I hope it will result in good, it was, how hard it is to know what to do & do right but I can do our best and know whether we went & do right or not and will I trust in answer to prayer, show us the right path. The boats returned about dark with only one small fish, about four a'clock there was a very large school of Porpoise around the ship. The largest school I have ever seen they would not come under the Bow.

Lat 15° 25' Long 111° 58' I have had a beautiful day, the fog cleared up earlier than usual. I have washed. Have been trying the Blackfish, they made about five bls. This afternoon the Larboard and Bow Boats have been fishing again and were more fortunate. They returned with fifteen Seals. Capt has been fixing his boat sails, and this afternoon covered his boat & see how they were going to work. They look very nice and suit him exactly. Mr. Thorpe has also been at work on his Boat, and Capt has cut him a new jib sail. I have finished one Land Crab. I have been better, so he has been on deck doing right work today. He still has a bad cough. I call it the Wharfing Cough.

Lat 15° 14' Long 112° 56' Another beautiful morn with very little fog. I have ironed my clothes this afternoon. The Larboard and Bow Boats have been fishing again, and were more successful they caught about fifty small fish. We are now off Little Fish Bay. Capt is going ashore tomorrow to try to get some more as we are six men short of full crew. I would like to go with him but do not think it best as he will bring off fresh provisions if he can get them, and there will be a Boat load without me.