

1834. Remarks on board Ship Nile of New Bedford

Remarks. April

Wednesday 23

Begins with a fresh breeze from S.E. and fair weather, middle the wind more moderate and squalls of rain, latter part a fresh breeze, and some rain, at 8 took in the fly jib, fore & mainmast sails. Repaired the old flannel. Steered to the N.E. till 4 P.M. To the S. till 12 M.M. to the N.E. till 6 A.M. and to the S. till 10 A.M. Long Obs at 9 A.M. 102° 56'. Lat. Obs. 41° 58'.

Thursday 24

Begins with a fresh breeze and broken clouds, at 6 P.M. took in the M.T. Gaffersail & mainsail, in the morning set the main-sail, a fresh breeze from S.E. flying clouds & heavy weather until the day. A sail in sight the latter part of the day to the N. Steered to the S.W. till 4 P.M. to the N.E. till 12 M.M. To the S. till 6 A.M. and to the N.E. the rest of the day.

Long Obs at 9 A.M. 103° 2'. Lat. Obs. 41° 58'

Friday 25

Begins with a fresh breeze from the S.E. and cloudy, middle quite fair weather, latter part a fresh breeze and clear. At daylight rained while the forecast line without success. The whales going quick. To the S.E. Long Obs at 9 A.M. 102° 51'. Lat. Obs. 41° 18'.

Saturday 26

Begins with a fresh breeze and clear weather at 4 P.M. looked for whales succeeded in killing one and got him to the ship, struck another but might coming on had to cut, took in sail and lay by the whale, in the morning cut him in made sail and worked at wind. To the S.W. A sail in sight to seaward. Lat. Obs. 3° 1'

Sunday 27

Begins with a pleasant breeze from the S.E. and fair weather, commenced looking, at 4 P.M. looked for whales got a slightly view in one which soon disappeared, chased off several without success, while off fell in with the Omega's boat, which reported her 12 P.M. out 453 lbs. In the morning began again for whales without success. Employed in looking. Saw another sail to seaward. Steered to the S. till 6 P.M. to the N.E. till 12 to the S. till 8 A.M. afterwards various. Long Obs at 9 A.M. 102° 55'. Lat. Obs. 5° 27'.

Monday 28

Begins with a pleasant breeze and fine weather and continues the same through out the day. Saw two sail in the afternoon steering to the southward. finished looking at 5 P.M. Hunted whales about 11 A.M. on the weather now going to windward. Long Obs at 9 A.M. 102° 50'. Lat. Obs. 3° 29'

James Townsend, Master, on a whaling Voyage. 1834

Tuesday 9

Begins with a fresh breeze and cloudy, middle and latter part clear. Employed in cutting wood on shore, painting the vessel, & other necessary jobs. Sent a boat with 2 men, and 4 from the Octavia to carry Mr. Bell the pilot to Charles Island.

Wednesday 10

Begins with light and baffling winds from off the land, latter quite a fresh sea breeze as usual. Blacked the barrels in the morning, after that no duty, some of the crew went on shore on liberty a spell in the forenoon and some in the afternoon.

Thursday 11

Begins with moderate winds and fair weather, latter part a pleasant sea breeze, in the evening, heavy flaws off the land. Employed in getting off & staving away wood. The boat returned from Charles Island about 4 P.M. E.H. Devel boatstove cut his foot badly on shore and was taken on board immediately.

Friday 12

Begins with a fresh breeze off the land and clear weather. Took off two boatloads of wood, washed out the boats and got ready for sea. At 9 A.M. got underway and stood out to the northward, baffling winds the rest of the day, worked off the ship. To the S. in obs. C. A.

Saturday 13

Begins with baffling winds and clear weather, in the afternoon a fresh breeze up and lasted all the remainder of the day, middle and latter part cloudy. At 1 P.M. the middle of Shatham Island bore about S.E. by S. Turn Thompson sick & off duty. Various employed.

Lat. Obs. 3° 18'

Obs. Error 3° 22' of wind

Sunday 14

Begins with a pleasant breeze and flying clouds, middle the latter part the wind quite light and cloudy as the first. Steered to the eastward all this day. Various employed the first part of the day, latter part employed in breaking out and coopers some bread between decks. Long Obs at 2 P.M. 89° 34'. Lat. Obs. 24'

Monday 15

Begins with a pleasant breeze and clear weather, middle much the same, latter part cloudy. Steered to the eastward all day. The first part of the day employed in coopers bread, latter part mended the mainsail to repair and lend another. Peter Thompson came on duty the latter part of the day.

Lat. Obs. 11° 13'