

Coast of Japan

Remarks on board Wednesday August 25th 1850

The wind, blowing on set all sail, and at 3 p.m. got the ~~quater~~ the quarter again, lowered the boats to get them head and head again but they see us and got past before we could get to them. At 4 p.m. returned on board and at 5 p.m. the wind ~~blew~~ breeze with squalls. At 15 minutes before sundown got close to them with the ship (they had got now, with more whales which we had come up with) lowered the boats and went on and made fast to two, one went off by a broken iron, the other we got. At 7 p.m. took her along side, so after chasing them at least 50 miles, we got one little whale, that will make about 10 bbls of oil. On the latter part strong gales from West with hard squalls cut in the whale, and began to stow down the oil of the other whale. Lat $30^{\circ}20'$ Long $167^{\circ}55'$ East

Thursday August 26th

Still strong gales with squalls, at 5 p.m. finished stowing down. Middle part moderate with rain, latter part cloudy with moderate breezes from North and N.E. commenced boiling the little whales, ends with fresh breezes from N.E. Latitude by Obs $30^{\circ}29'$ S Long by Obs $168^{\circ}40'$ E

Friday August 27th

First part strong breezes steering to the Eastward, at 3 finished boiling. Middle and latter part light breezes from North and N.E. steering to the westward by the wind, see blackfish. Lat by Obs $30^{\circ}44'$ S Long by Lunar $168^{\circ}24'$ East

Saturday August 28th

All these 24 hours light breezes from the North steering by the wind, working to the Southward. On the latter part repaired the main sail. Lat by Obs $30^{\circ}58'$ Long by Obs $168^{\circ}10'$ East

Sunday August 29th

First and Middle part light airs and calm. Latter part calm with squalls of hard rain. At noon it cleared off. Observed in the Lat. of $31^{\circ}12'$ Long $168^{\circ}30'$

Monday August 30th

First part gentle breezes in the N.W. with cloudy weather, steering by the wind to the N.E. Middle part moderate, latter part. At 8 fresh breezes from North and squalls. Ends, strong with squalls, hove too. Lat $32^{\circ}00'$ Long $169^{\circ}00'$ East

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Remarks on board Tuesday August 31st

First part strong gales and squally, hove too. Middle part moderate with fair weather. Latter part light airs and calm, employed in setting up the rigging. Lat $31^{\circ}12'$ Long $169^{\circ}20'$

Wednesday September 1st 1850

First part light breezes in the N.W. steering by the wind to the S.W. Middle part moderate. Latter part strong breezes from N.W. tacked ship and steered to the N.E. set all sail that the ship could carry, but could not see any thing, not even the sign of whales which we generally see in passing over whale-ground such as porpoises, blackfish, and birds every thing appears to have left the ground but sharks, they are plentier than I ever see them, around a ship, except when they have a whale, but now they hover round the ship, and frequently jump out of water (some thing I never see sharks do before) as though they were in pursuit of food, but that is not the cause, for I have observed them to jump when there was no kind of fish near them, they do not appear to be hungry for I have ~~the~~ have pieces of fish over to them, and they would take little or no notice of it. Perhaps it is some good omen I will observe what follows.

Latitude by Obs $30^{\circ}58'$ Long by Obs $169^{\circ}15'$ East

Thursday September 2nd

First part fresh breezes steering to the Eastward. Middle part moderate run under short sail. Latter part light breezes from the westward. At 6.50 m. saw a large whale close to the ship, lowered the boats and made fast to her, soon after saw more, which came to the first whale, made fast to two more, but we were rather unfortunate, got one boat slightly stove by the first whale and one badly stove by the second, and damaged the iron from the third after getting one of my fingers badly cut with an iron, we saw -ed two, and at noon got one along side.

Lat $31^{\circ}10'$
Long $170^{\circ}00'$
East