

Barque Osceola Captain O. J. Hamblin

Tuesday January 25th 1859

Lat 23° 30' N
This day commenced with a strong breeze from the east and very squally about daylight it began to moderate turned the reef out of the topsails and set main-top-gallant sail. Middle part moderate breeze accompanied with heavy squalls. Latter part had quite a heavy squall and the wind shifted into the E. N. E. which we call the trade wind: broke out the after hatch for meat, and finished off the days work by washing down the deck which needed it very much as by being wet so much that they were quite slippery. hauled out the head carings of the main-top-gallant sail.

Wind E. N. E. Course S. S. E.

Clear heads all day.

Wednesday January 26th 1859

This day commenced with a very strong wind and varying from East to East, South, East accompanied with heavy squalls of wind and rain. Commenced and broke out the chain hold for water. Middle part at work in the hold, raised a sheet on the forequarter which turned out to be a foreback. Latter part very strong breeze with frequent heavy squalls. finished stowing back in the hold and ended the days work by washing down the deck. One of the crew Louis Littlefield, down sick. Chas. Boyle had his thumb hurt in the hold.

Wind S. S. E. Making S. by W. course

Lat 21° 09' N

Thursday January 27th 1859

This day commenced with a strong breeze and squally from the E. S. E. about 1 o'clock this morning had a very hard squall took in main-top-gallant sail and jib and reefed the fore-top-sail. Middle part a little more moderate turned the reef out and set jib and main-top-gallant sail. Latter part fine breeze but cloudy watch employed about the deck, made span lines for the fore-top-mast back stays and reefed them on, put chaffing gear on the top-mast and top-gallant rigging. Saw a school of flying fish.

Wind varying from E. to E. S. E.

By the wind

Barque Osceola Capt. O. J. Hamblin at Sea

Friday January 28th 1859

This day commenced with a moderate gale from the E. S. E. and squally and cloudy. Latter part the same. Latter part more moderate but cloudy the captain, carpenter busy making a strainer cooler. Saw a school of Blackfish on the weather quarter but did not lower as it was to suggest. the mate and one of the hands had a little trouble about relieving the wheel but nothing of much consequence. the sick man does not get any better he has the consumption and fails every day.

Wind E. S. E.

By the wind

Saturday January 29th 1859

This day commenced with a fine steady breeze from the Eastward and very smoky. Middle part the same only a little more wind. Latter part the same. between one and two this afternoon raised a sail which proved to be a large English merchant ship as she crossed our wake exchanged signals. she was steering about S. S. W. Nothing worthy of note occurred. Rove the log at seven and found that she was going about eight knots an hour. All sail set.

Wind E. Course S.

Sunday January 30th 1859

This has been a very fine day, such as you usually find here in the tropics. It commenced with a fine steady breeze from E. S. E. and clear but a little haze around the horizon. this morning passed a bark steering to the Northward. saw a sulphur bottom whale. Middle and latter part beautiful and clear. this has been the first real fine day that we have had. It being Sunday no unnecessary work going on. had the sick man on deck (poor fellow) he looks as though he could not live the week out. This is the first day that we have carried all sail the twenty-four hours round. Logged her at the rate of 8 1/2 per hour.

Wind E. S. E. Course, South.