

Bark Osceola at Sea February 6th 1859

Sunday February 6th 1859

We have had small kinds of weather today, it commenced with a light breeze and cloudy and a few passing showers. Middle part about the same. Latter part about two o'clock the wind suddenly shifted from the South East to North East, and quite strong with considerable rain but soon passed over and fell nearly calm. About four this afternoon raised a beach on our port bow which turned out to be a pumpkin. This being Sunday no unnecessary work carried on. About noon the wind about done but what there is comes from the Eastward.

Course S. by E

Crossed the line today five weeks out rather a long passage

Monday February 7th 1859

This has been a very busy day commenced by getting up the cutting gear overhauled it and stowed back in the fore hold. Middle part commenced to break out main hold for water raised a school of Blackfish called all hands and lowered two boats the mate got a small one and while he was towing along side the Bark the rope parted and lost him, finished getting out water and stowed back. The wind has been light and unsteady; frequent showers of rain and looks as though we might have a wet night it is now raining and a very light breeze from the westward.

By the wind

Tuesday February 8th 1859

This day commenced with a calm and thick hazy weather but cleared of beautiful and warm when the sun rose. Middle and latter part the same a sail in sight about all day.

We have witnessed to day one of the most solemn scenes that occurs at sea that is a burial at sea. One of our number Lewis H. Littlefield departed this life last night about half past seven he has been sick for some time. Disease Consumption.

We buried him this morning with the usual service by reading the fourteenth chapter of Job. I hope this is the last that will occur with us but we know not when the hour cometh for one of us to go.

Calm.

Bark Osceola at Sea February 9th 1859

Wednesday February 9th 1859

This has been a very wet day raining about all the time and calm shortened the Main Top sail sheet and spliced out the runner. Middle part very rainy and the wind going round the compass. Latter part quite a breeze with no rain but very thick and cloudy. Not much work except with the carpenter who has been hanging a new grind stone. I have been grinding a new lance for the Starboard Boat and a tough job it is. About four raised a sail. Good steady breeze. Bark on the wind with Starboard tacks aboard.

By the wind

Thursday February 10th 1859

These twenty four hours may be noted for their extreme dampness it commenced raining by spells untill about half past six when it set in with a right good will, lingering with it a fine steady breeze from N.W. which lasted all day we needed it very much as we have had it calm most of the time for the last week. This fore noon the second mate grafted the Blubber hooks which is about all the work that has been done to day. (Eight o'clock) it is a beautiful clear moonlight night but how long it will remain so remains to be seen for the weather in these latitudes is very changeable. We have made more Southing today than we have for the past week.

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

Friday February 11th 1859

These twenty four hours have been very pleasant with a light breeze. This morning tacked ship and tacked again about ten. Not much work going on only with the mate and carpenter who are building a house over our wheel. The second mate lashed a couple of spars up by the foremast. At twelve there were two ships, a barge, and a brig in sight. signalized the brig who is a Frenchman.

Still and by

1 Blackfish. lost from alongside Starboard Boat