

Ship. Balama of New Bedford Capt Dorman
1856 Wednesday Jan 23rd

This day Comes in with light Breeze from the Westward the Ship Steering N.E. by N. Middle part the wind more Northwesterly than Porpoises... George Gotwalt got asleep in the Galley his watch on deck and had his watch below in the day time untill further orders. Employed repairing fore top Gall sail &c. Lat 36.56 Long 84.15

Thursday Jan 24th

Comes in with fresh Breezes from the Westward the Ship Steering N.E. by N. Ends with light Breezes the Ship Steering N.E. by E at 10 A.M. saw three large sperm Whales going quick to windward. Baring all sail & working the Ship to windward in Chase of the Whales Lat 36.05 Long 83.36 W

Friday Jan 25th

This day Comes in with moderate breeze from the Southward the Ship in Chase of Whales at 3 P.M. found three Boats. the Whales 4 miles off on the Weather bow. & going nearly to windward Chase them untill sunset then gave them up - got on board about 9 P.M. latter part standing to the N.W. the wind from N.W. with thick Cloudy Weather

Saturday Jan 26th

This day Comes in with fresh Breezes from the Southward the Ship Steering to the S.W. at 3 P.M. luffed to the wind on the larboard tack at 4 saw two large Whales going quick to windward. did not lower as the Whales were 3 miles off on the Weather beam Lat 36.31 Long 82.45

Sunday Jan 27th

This day Comes in with fresh Breezes from the S.W. the Ship Steering by Middle & latter part the wind from N.W. Steering to the N.W. & saw one fin back Lat 35.41 Long 83.02 Sun at 10.58

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Monday Jan 28th

This day Comes in with fresh Breezes & Cloudy Weather the wind from South standing by the wind from the Eastward saw a fin back - End with fresh Breezes from S.E. standing to E.S.E. under double Reefs George Gotwalt was allowed to take his watch below this day Lat 35.41 Long 82.40 W

Tuesday Jan 29th

These twenty four hours Moderate Breeze from the Southward the Ship Steering N.E. saw nothing Ends with light Southwesterly winds Lat 35.12 Long 82.00 W

Wednesday Jan 30th

Comes in with fresh Breezes from the South West the Ship Steering N.E. Middle part under short sail standing to the Westward at daylight were found & altered N.E. by N. saw fin backs & Squid and with fresh breezes from S. & rising Weather Lat 34.20 Long 81.25

Thursday Jan 31

This day Comes in with strong Breeze the Ship Steering N.E. under double reefs at sunset took in the Fore & Main topsails and wore Ship to the Westward latter part equally at daylight set the fore & main topsail and wore Ship to the Eastward Lat 34.16 Long 80.55

Friday Feb 1st

Comes in with fresh Breezes from S.E. the Ship Steering to the S.W. by the wind under double reefs Middle part standing to the S.W. at 10 A.M. saw the Island of Masafuera bearing E.N.E. 12 leagues Dist - Ends with strong breeze at Noon the Island bearing N.E. 20 miles

Saturday Feb 2nd

Comes in with fresh trades the Ship Steering to the Eastward Middle part much the same saw fin backs at noon the Island bearing N.E. by N