

we want, we allowed it to pass unmolested. The weather throughout the whole day was very unpleasant - it being foggy and damp the greater part of the day, and little of any consequence was done. Our course to day was to the southeast by south. June 29. The weather during last night was much fairer than Thursday anticipated - the ship was put under easy sail and our course was to the east south east. Rested well during the four hours which were given me, and I arose this morning at half past three in much better feelings than yesterday. The weather to day is beautiful and reminds me of a fine spring day in New-York - the atmosphere is exceedingly clear, and the calm blue waters of the ocean are disturbed only by a fine refreshing breeze I have never seen more beautiful weather. We were pretty busy all day and everything about the ship goes on in good order, the crew being contented and working cheerfully. Observations as usual were taken but being busily occupied I was unable to procure ^{any} but we are not far from latitude 40°. I have not yet seriously begun my studies there being as yet no opportunity for so doing and I long for the time when I will be able to sit down and ponder over my books.

June 30. Last evening and during the whole ^{night} the weather Friday was fair and it being my watch on deck I spent a very pleasant night conversing with the third mate who is a very nice man indeed. The sea was calm and shone like a looking glass. Our course during night was south east by east and towards morning it was changed to the north east. I was at the wheel this morning for two hours after which I went up to mast head for a couple of hours but saw nothing of interest. Nothing occurred to day worth noticing, we were pretty busy all the time and time passed away imperceptibly. I was not so much homesick as before. Towards evening we saw several fin back whales. This is a good sign for sperm whales & we hope to catch some soon.

Latitude 40° 14'

Latitude 40° 58'

Longitude 38° 26'

July 1st Last night was as pleasant as any one Saturday - could well wish and we proceeded well on our course the wind being fair - our course was southeast by south. This morning was rather unpleasant and it rained a little. Nothing of any kind of interest occurred to day save the sight of several sail evidently bound home, but there was no chance of speaking them so I could not send home any letters, tho' I have them ready for any opportunity which may offer. It is now two weeks since we sailed and it seems to me like a year.

July 2^d Early this morning the cry "there she blows" Sunday - was repeatedly heard from the mast head - and on running up the rigging the mate discerned three sperm whales about a mile off right ahead of us. The captain and all hands were called in an instant and they were just about to lower the boats when it began to rain pretty hard. I was ordered to go up to mast head and watch the movements of the whales. It rained for upwards of an hour very hard indeed when it subsided. But not before I had got completely drenched - the boats were then immediately lowered and manned and pulled away from the ship. I had the mortification of seeing ^{the} boats go off and I not in them. The reason however was obvious I being at mast head. The captain soon however joined me and we passed the time watching the boats and the whales. After a chase of five hours the boats returned with hungry crews, but without the whales. The cause of their not having any of the whales was thro' the carelessness of one of the green hands who splashed his oar when approaching the whale and thus frightened him. I had been at mast head now over six hours and felt pretty hungry and it was with pleasure that I saw the boats return and we all then sat down to breakfast and a hearty one it was too. In the afternoon the whales were again chased, but without success - the Captain and crew were much disappointed.

Latitude 40° 40'

Latitude 40° 37'

Longitude 39° 15'