

was seen floating at about a quarter of a mile from the ship, we lowered a boat and went along side the spar, it was covered with barnacles and appeared to have been in the water sometime, we brought it to the ship. An enormous blue shark was seen this forenoon close by the ship, we induced him to come near the ship by throwing overboard some sun fish and when he was near enough the second mate took a spade and with one blow almost cut off its head. we today saw several fin backs, cow fishes, black fish and porpoises but no sperm whales. Latitude 45 longitude

July 18th The day dawned with rather cloudy and Tuesday - unpleasant weather - our course being to the north east and all sail set. I learned from one of the mates that we were bound to the English Channel. I felt rejoiced at this for in all probability we would meet with vessels bound home and I would have a chance of writing home or at least to Virginia for once in the English Channel it should be an easy matter to send letters to Havre. We today saw three ships but were unable to speak any of them. we also saw a large fin back whale close by the ship, he measured about fifty feet and went along as if galled towards evening we double reefed topsails and took in the main topgallant sail. stood masthead and wheel today. Latitude 46° 22' longitude

July 19th The weather this morning was, as was expected. Wednesday - ed however thick and cloudy and promising to be stormy our course was north by west and the wind east by north. This morning saw a barque, one point off the starboard bow. and at about two o'clock saw a ship under full sail. today saw some blackfish fin backs, albacores and ship jacks. towards four o'clock the wind began to howl and the

waves to roll and everything promised a heavy gale. the sea rose very high and the wind blew but still the storm did not increase. We are still steering for the English Channel, and if we keep on we will be there in a few days. Latitude 45° 28' longitude
July 20th Last night the winds died away and the Thursday - weather cleared up. This morning we arose with a fine breeze from the west - in the course of the morning we loosed the main and mizzen topgallant sails - and loosed the reefs of the fore, main and mizzen topsails. Saw some spars today with all the rigging attached and seemed to have been in the water but a short time. it was too rugged to lower for them too seemed to us like the main topgallant yard and royal mast. Saw a large portuguese man of war - stood masthead and wheel. Latitude 43° 47' longitude

July 21st The day opened with a fine smart breeze. Friday - our course being south west. at four o'clock went to masthead saw three fin backs off the weather beam. at three o'clock we hauled up the fly gib - and loosed main and mizzen topgallant sails. towards seven o'clock it began to blow we hauled down the fly gib and towards 10 o'clock the wind increasing we furled the topgallant sails and continued on our course with a stiff breeze at the rate of eight knots. I enjoy first rate health - stood masthead and wheel. Latitude 42° 6' longitude

July 22^d Fine weather and favorable winds. Saturday - sailed this morning - our course being north west by north and the wind north. saw nothing north noticing today in the afternoon the cry of 'land ho.' was heard from masthead but it was only a false alarm and we continued our course towards the Western Islands. at 7 o'clock saw a brig and exchanged signals with her, she proved to be a frenchman. Latitude 40° 08' long.