

August 21st Matters being so arranged now that I can Monday again resume the writing up of my journal every evening, I do so with pleasure for it is an agreeable pass time for me. The stiff breeze which caught us yesterday afternoon is still favoring us, and went on increasing through the whole night and our speed was much increased say to between ten and eleven knots which is doing pretty well and the Ploughboy shows himself truly worthy of his name. If this breeze continues we shall be in sight of the Cape de Verd islands by Sunday or Monday at latest. The breeze continues all day and we make much progress on our way. The weather is foggy and damp and altogether very unpleasant and promises to be squally. Course S by E. W.

August 22nd The weather last night was rainy and Tuesday. I may even say squally. The sea was pretty rough, though the breeze kept on very steady throughout the whole night and still continued so this morning. The captain says that we are in the north east trades and that the weather will be damp and rainy until we get out of them, which I trust will be soon for I do not like this weather. The breeze is as steady as ever and we make good headway on our course. All sails are set with the addition of the foretop sail, studdensail and the main topgallant studdensail. Nothing was seen today from mastheads and we are now two months out without being any further advanced in the object of the voyage than when we started. All the ships we have seen appear to have been lucky all having some oil if not so much and I hope it may soon be our luck to fall in with whales and to take two or three to help us along a little. Course S by E being occupied about the ship I am unable to make any observations.

August 22^d There was no change in the wind last Wednesday night and it still continues the same this morning. I had eight hours on deck last night and it was anything but pleasant it being rainy and squally the most of the time. We altered our course from South by West to South this morning. It is my forenoon watch below and I pass my time in washing myself and writing home which I do with pleasure. I stood masthead this morning from five till seven but saw nothing. The sun showed itself for about half an hour but soon hid itself again an observation was taken and we found ourselves in latitude 24° going on at the present rate we will come in sight of land by next Sunday. Nothing seen from mastheads.

August 23^d We are still in the trades and last night a Thursday averaged nine knots an hour. The course was again changed to south south west. The weather is somewhat better the sun shining as bright as ever. Our speed this morning is not quite so great, but still we are going on pretty well. I stood my masthead this morning from seven till ten but did not see anything worth noticing except some flying fish which I had never before seen and was much pleased. The crew were busy this morning cleaning the guns. Nothing worth mentioning occurred during the day. We are today in latitude 21°.

August 24th I stood eight hours on deck last night. Friday. The wind was pretty strong. Fine day. Still in the trades. I stood masthead this morning from five till seven but saw nothing at all. Course south by west half west. Nothing of any interest today.

August 25th The breeze kept on strong and steady Saturday all night, but this forenoon at about half past eleven it suddenly died away and we fell into a dead calm. The weather is fine