

50 Sunday June 30th 1850 near Cook Island

Tugged reef out of topsails and set main topgallant sail at sunrise
Weather pleasant and wind strong from S. to E. Tacked and stood S.W. by S.
Saw a sail off the weather bow in the morning, tugged reef in and hauled down the sail.
The sail was the Balgue Bartholomew Gosnell of N Bedford.

Captain Taber master 36 months out with 1850 lbs. 430 Kumpback
The ship is just from Nake. Cap Taber came aboard at 11 A.M. and remained
during the day. At 3 P.M. saw the ship Abelilla of N Bedford. Captain
May well master. She sailed the same day that we did bound around
Cook's Horn but sprung a leak off the western Islands and was obliged to
put back for repairs. She is now 6 mos out with 30 lbs. sperm & she has
not in the evening and Capin. Marvell came aboard. At 8 P.M. the Captain
went aboard the Abelilla and from there to the Gosnell. Our own sail
aboard the Bargue all night. The water got drunk and was obliged to stay.

Monday July 1st 1850

The wind strong from S. to E. at 10 A.M. the forenoon got out meat for the
Balgue and she took it aboard. Our own went aboard of her again and
remained during the day. The Abelilla came down again at sunset
and went aboard the Gosnell. We lost some of our provisions.

Tuesday July 2nd

Stowed oil down the main keel which fills them chock a block.
The weather pleasant with light wind from S. to E. steering S.W.

Wednesday July 3rd

In the morning the wind was fresh from the S. and weather pleasant
but in the afternoon it came on squally so that we double reefed.
The islands are in sight on the weather bow. Abelilla on the lee beam.

Thursday July 4th

The day is spent like all other days. At daylight it is all hands at work
the next thing is to scrub decks after which we later around till breakfast
at 1 and then the Starboard watch turns below till 12 the larboard watch on
deck mending the fly jib. The Starboard watch takes the afternoon below
and the Starboard finishes the sail and sends it. The wind is fresh from
E. to S. steering S.W. till 3 P.M. Nake bearing S. 15 miles distant. At 3 Tacked
and stood East. Weather very pleasant. The ship Abelilla on the lee beam.

Friday July 5th

A good breeze blowing from S. to E. steering East at noon tacked and stood
S.W. by N. bearing up to weather of the Islands into the night as whaled.
Upbent the main topgallant sail and patched it with blue cloth.
Boat it again at 6 P.M. Towards night the wind fell almost calm.

Saturday July 6th

It commenced raining at 3 in the morning the wind very light and
rained by spells nearly all day. The wind was very light till 8 A.M. when
it rose to a stiff breeze. Tack in topgallant sail and fly jib. Tacked the mainsail
N.W. the land at 8 P.M. when we tacked and stood off. Tacked the
jib headslope in a squall and in setting the mainsail parted the
lock rope and split the sail nearly in two. At sundown the weather
looked dirty the wind rising. Took in all sail but double reefed topsails.

Sunday July 7th

The wind very strong from S. to E. steering S.W. At sunrise set
double reefed topsails and jib. The weather pleasant and cool.
The wind set to lower and standing short we drift considerable.

Ship St Peter Monday July 8th 1850

51 1850

Put down the mainsail and commenced mending it. The weather
is pleasant with light wind. Set all sail but fore topgallant sails.

Tuesday July 9th

Continued mending the mainsail. The wind hauled S. P.W. steering
W. sighted Denney's Island at sunrise lead ahead. Towards noon the
wind fell to almost a calm and the weather came on squally. In the after-
noon all of the boat went ashore for coconuts & turtle. Chased several
Cops but with no success and finding no turtle took a few coconuts and
returned aboard at sunset. Took in topgallant sail and hove the ship to.

Wednesday July 10th

Braced forward at sunrise and steered N.W. by S. a good breeze blowing
from the S. the weather squally. Mended the mainsail again. In the after-
noon ^{Reefed} Bled Island to leeward about 5 miles distant.

Bent mainsail Bird Island Thursday July 11th

There was a good breeze blowing from S. to E. steering S.W. At 10 A.M.
hove to off Bird Island and the boat went ashore for eggs.

It is a small sandy ^{island} about 1/2 mile each way rising but a few feet above
the tide. The soil in some parts is good. But a large part of it is composed
of a kind of marine substance resembling stone which is easily crushed by
treading on with the foot. A small portion of it is covered with low bushes and
the rest is covered with burning vines which have thorns on them making it
very painful to ^{touch} walk over with the naked feet. There is also a little grass.
The island is covered with millions of birds which lay their eggs all over it.
In some places they are so thick that it is almost impossible to go without
treading on them. Each bird appears to have a chosen spot to deposit their eggs.
The Booby in one spot, the Manx Warbler in another and the Noddy another.
The Noddy birds dig holes in the ground and there hatch their young.
We got a few baskets of eggs and a few fish and returned to the ship at
4 P.M. Braced forward and stood S.W.

Friday July 12th

A good breeze from S.W. steering S.E. Let up fore topgallant. Raking
and returned down rigging &c. In the afternoon the weather was cloudy.

Saturday July 13th

The wind was strong from S. to E. Tacked and stood S.W. Come on reefing in
the forenoon and rained by spells during the day. Double reefed at 11 A.M.
In the afternoon the wind hauled E. steering South. With a ham mackerel.

Sunday July 14th

Sighted Prigste Island at sunrise bearing N.W. about 14 miles off Tacked ship
and stood to the eastward. I came near falling from the main yard this morning.
The sail had been furled when wet and the bunt pasket was jammed and as
I was laying over on the bunt to help clear it and the fellow lying go suddenly after
it was clear I was precipitated overboard of the yard just catching by the leg.

Monday July 15th

A fresh wind and heavy head beat from the S. to E. Flung S. by S. under topsails
sent down the main topsail and mended it. Towards noon the wind lulled
a little Tacked ship and stood S.W. The weather is pleasant.
At 10 P.M. Jaded. Food not much.