

Ship St Peter Saturday August 25th Coast 1839
Fresh gales and fine weather Tacked ship and stood E. S. E. under double reef mainsail furled During the last 24 hours we have drifted 1 and 1/2 of 6 mile an hour 47 miles in 4 hours from Lat 40 to 33 south Double reefed at 6 P.M.

Sunday Aug 26th Lat 34 S
In the morning the breeze was strong but gradually fell to a moderate breeze At 6 A.M. tacked 1 reef out of fore and main topsails and boarded the main tack At 8 turned the other reef out and set main to go about SE and fly jib. At 10 the fore reef were turned out of the main topsail and the fore and main topgallantails set This is the first time we have had them out since we went into Johanna After dinner the mate had a great time catching albacore catching a barrel full in half an hour I took a very large one from the martingale

Monday Aug 27th Lat 34 S
Fresh winds standing W S W on the in shore tack with main to go about SE and flying jib set Another bill of fish to day At night took in light sail Kettled down main rigging &c

Tuesday Aug 28th Lat 34 S
Steered W S W under topsails &c Continued sitting down and picked Oahu to catch ship for the evening the weather came on squally Double reefed the fore topsail at 6 and the main at 10 evening, and furled the mainsail. We are now almost turned into a fishing smack, and more attention is paid to fishing than to coaling. The decks are covered with fish a good part of the time Tacked at 6 P.M. and stood P.E.

Wednesday Aug 29th Lat 34 S
The wind continues to blow strong from P.E. steering close hauled W S W under double reef courses to Beating down the coast

Thursday Aug 30th Lat 35 S
Squally with variable and unsteady winds standing in shore Saw some kind of whales at 6 A.M. and at 8 ran off after them for an hour then came to the wind and laid the main topsail to the mast At 10 past a heavy squall struck us and we clewed down and double reefed and braced forward. At 11 past 10 A.M. they have lost some of the whales At 11 they made them out to be a large school of Grampuses. Afternoon fine set the main to go about and fly jib Towards night passed a large school of fish among which there were several Finbacks scoping

Friday Aug 31th Lat 35 S
Moderate breeze standing in shore on the wind, Coasting the oil, that was on deck. A large Finback was around the ship several hours this morning, scoping. The Captain shot at them several times, but did not hurt em any Tacked and stood off shore at sunset

Saturday Aug 30th Lat 34 S
I lost 34 lbs of oil in the fore hold. When we was slowing off I got my finger jammed between the chimes of a cask, and so on. I then the point of the middle one very bad. We are all sick again to day from eating fish After supper struck an albacore weighing 120 lbs. Tacked in shore till 6 P.M.

Sunday Aug 31th Lat 33 S
We have a good steady breeze from P.E. standing on the in shore tack with main topgallant sail and fly jib out Parted the main topgallant sail too but rose a new one and set the sail again at 7 A.M. Set a sail as before at sunset Tacked and stood off at 10 P.M. but 3 P.M.

Ship St Peter Monday September 1st Lat 33 S
Stood in W S W with a fresh wind from P. We are now in shore where the current takes us again and we are now drifting to the northward at a slow rate. I have never seen so many fish as we find here. Sometimes the space of several acres will be all a white foam caused by fish jumping after their food which is a small fish about 3 inches long which rise in schools covering the surface of the water sometimes to the depth of several inches At 8 P.M. sighted the coast of Africa Tacked at 6 and stood on overhauling the fore brace. Blocks found that where the pins went into the mainmast the mast was considerably decayed Dug out the decayed part and put a strap around the mast for the fore brace blocks. The mate is rather crook to day I set 2 fers of scuppern

Tuesday Sep 2nd Lat 32 S
At 8 this wore ship and stood in shore. Tighted land at 8 A.M. and stood in W till 11 P.M. then tacked and stood off close hauled. E. S. E. The coast here runs about N. E. and S. W. As low and appears to be well wooded We stood along about 8 miles off shore for 4 hours Breakers were raised at 10 A.M. but as we stood in shore we found they were nothing but breakers in Famosa Bay Wind light and weather fine

Wednesday Sep 3rd Lat 32 S
Stood in and sighted land at 4 A.M. then stood off close hauled I with a fresh wind from P. E. Made men for for the topsail yards

Thursday Sep 4th Lat 31 S
Moderate winds steering W Continued to work on the mast Captain and mate all turning canes from bone and along We had some fun tacking ship this morning. The head sheets were just eased off and Mr Lee told the men at the main brace to "haul taut for a swing" when he should sing out "topsails haul" and the man the big braces not understanding sung out "topsails swing" and let go the braces before it was time and the yard came whirling around like a shot. I said to your bloody souls what in hell do you about says Mr Lee you are a d-n set of sleepy heads and later then off for a long time. However the ship come around and the watch turned below to sleep laughing at the "topsails swing" an expression that is never used in tacking or wearing

Friday Sep 5th Lat 31 S
Steered W by N with a good breeze from P. E. The mate and Gray had a little fun this morning and Gray went to the Captain about it but got no satisfaction. Worked on the mate. Steered E. S. E. from 9 A.M. till 4 P.M. then E till 9 P.M. then come to the wind steering P.

Saturday Sep 6th Lat 31 S
In the morning it was almost calm with light showers but during the forenoon the wind freshened to a good breeze Steered close hauled W S W till noon then kept off to N W Powered along turned down to come to the wind at 5 P.M.

Sunday Sep 7th Lat 31 S
Stood W. N. W. and sighted the land at 8 A.M. then tacked and stood along the coast E. by N. The coast here make out into the sea running almost E. S. W. It appears to be well wooded and fertile Distance to the shore 12 miles now and

Monday Sep 8th
Light winds standing in shore till noon then off P. E. close hauled All sail set. The weather continues very pleasant Captain made a set of trials