

Ship St. Peter Monday January 31st
Pleasant weather with a good breeze from N.W. steering S.W.
Burned the reefs out of the fore & main topsails, loosed the
mainsail and furlled the mizen topsail at 2 P.M. Backed
the crossjack yard and overhauled the brace blocks &
hoisted new crossjack and mizen topsail braces. Finished
the gear and set the sail at 11 A.M. At 11 past 11 luffed
up to N.W. & to W.N.W. and at sunset were around and came
to the wind on the larboard tack heading S.W.

Tuesday Jan 31st Lat 14° 49' S
At 4 A.M. squared away and stood off with a good breeze
lighted the land at 10 A.M. At 3 we were close in shore
tacked and stood off S.W. close hauled. There is
a range of islands along here that look very fertile and
a few miles to the southward lies the town of Paita.

Wednesday Jan 31st Lat 2° 12' S
In the morning the wind was fresh but towards noon
it fell and in the afternoon it was nearly calm. At 11
topgallant sail and flying jib stood N.W. till noon and
then wore and stood S.W. Made a bunt gasket for the main topsail
and finished a paunch mat and put it on the crossjack yard.

Thursday Jan 31st Lat 2° 54' S
Fine weather with light breezes standing to the northward.
Made a bunt gasket for the mizen topsail finished and
paunch mat and strapped blocks for main topmast reef tacks.

Friday Jan 31st Lat 2° 18' S
The wind continues very light from N.E. by E. steering
close hauled about N.W. Put a new strap on the heel
of the jibboom and sent in the spanker boom and repair
the gun blocks also overhauled the mizen topsail reef tacks.
The light weather relieves us at the pump. A
little having to pump only once a day. Briskbatted the
main hatches this morning. We have a plenty of work to do
about these times especially when the sea turns out a little rough.

Saturday Jan 31st Lat 3° 08' S
As soon as the men got aloft this morning Ferguson swung
out for a breack on the lee beam and after we got through
cutting hold ran off and raised spouts about 11 an hour before
breakfast. We had a very early meal and lowered away at 1 getting
fast in about an hour after lowering to a good cow. As soon
as Mr. Ryder got fast the rest of the school made off to
windward. We chased the school about 3 hours and gave it up.
Finished cutting in and began to boil at 4 P.M. Weather fine.
Had a strong breeze in the morning but it died away so that
in the afternoon it was nearly a dead calm. A heavy tide rip
was running all the afternoon which can be heard several miles.

Sunday February 1st
Finished boiling at 10 A.M. and cleaned up decks which
kept us busy till noon. In the afternoon we coopered the casks
as they shrink which kept us busy most of the time so our
Sunday was rather short coming. This is what none of us like
though we are an unprincipled set we don't like to work on
Sunday better than any one else. Had fresh winds and fine
weather steering close hauled to the northward under topails &
Monday Feb 3rd

The breeze blows strong standing to the north and with main
topgallant sail and fly jib set. At sunset we were lying
down to it and the old ship was pitching her head
under at every sea. Sailed in light sail only.

Ship St. Peter Tuesday February 3rd Coast of Africa
We are into business again on the rigging to day. Bent down and
overhauled all the main topgallant halliard rigging. At 10
I raised a sail which turned out to be an Arab Doo. The
boat along to the S.W. with all the sail she could muster
looking like anything but a vessel of any kind. We made the
land at 3 P.M. and tacked standing S.W. In the evening tacked
again and stood close hauled N.W. Lat 3° 16' S

Wednesday Feb 4th Lat 3° 16' S
Stood along the coast steering N.E. by N till 8 A.M. when we
tacked and stood off S.W. We had very light winds till we were
dear of land when a good breeze sprang up hauling a little to
the northward. Heavy tide runs here as usual setting about
10 A.M. The current was so strong that it looked in some
places smooth like a river making around a point and there
was a long even swell on so that for some time there was
scarcely any perceptible motion at all to the ship. All sail
was set at 6 A.M. The coast along here is fertile and well wooded.
A range of islands stretch along a few miles from it for 3 or 4
degrees.

Thursday Feb 5th Lat 3° 08' S
Wore ship at 11 past 6 A.M. and stood off S.W. under all
sail with a light breeze and pleasant weather. This afternoon I
sawed and drilled ivory for Capn. Along. Lined down and repaired
the topsail type rope and rove another fall to the halliards.

Friday Feb 6th
This morning at 8 o'clock the 3rd mate raised breeches
the weather bow and we stood along on the wind to the N.W.
but saw nothing more till about 10 when more breeches
were raised on the lee bow. Kept off to N.W. and a little before
noon saw spouts. As soon as we could get dinner we down with
the boats and in a short time all the boats were fast.
Mr. Ryder turned up his whale but was obliged to lay by him to
keep him from sinking. Our line got foul of Mr. Lee's and foul
of his whale's jawbone. Mr. Lee was fast to 3 whales at once one of
them bit off line off but held the turn round his jaw till we
killed him. We thought all the while it was our own whale and
was much disappointed on finding it to be the waist boats whale.
I have never seen so many whales together at one time before.
Cows and calves were literally piled on top of each other and
such fighting among them that it was almost impossible to haul
up and lance them. We were stove considerable by a whale a
short time after we got fast and was obliged to keep constantly
bailing. Took the whales alongside at 4 P.M. and cut in one.

Saturday Feb 7th
Commenced cutting at daylight and finished about 9 A.M.
Cut up the heads and put the case in the pots and began to
boil about 5 P.M. Weather pleasant with strong breezes standing
to the northward under double reefed topsails.

Sunday Feb 8th
At 8 A.M. picked up a dead bull whale. Continued boiling &
weather continues pleasant with strong breezes steering N.

Monday Feb 9th
Finished boiling at 11 A.M. After dinner met the hold and she
up the decks. The best part of the crew are badly swelled in the
legs and feet which is probably a touch of the scurvy.
My own legs are so swelled and stiff that at times
I can scarcely walk. Along dealt and
at a short start of morning of the afternoon.