

Ship St Peter Thursday Aug 17th 1854
Fresh breezes from S.E. lighted the island of Ascension
at 6 A.M. and altered the course to N.W. by E. Ascension is in
Lat 1.56 N Long 14.16 W Finished rattling the fore and mizen
rigging and swifted in the main rigging at 9 P.M.

Friday Aug 18th Lat 6.12 S
The breeze holds steady and strong from S.E. course
at 4 P.M. when it was altered to N.W. by E
Rigged the fore and main royal yards and bent the sails
Set the main royal aloft at 1 P.M. and the fore at 5 P.M. hauled
the ratlines in the main rigging and set up the main topmast
rigging and swifted it in

Saturday Aug 19th Lat 4.18 S
Moderate breezes and clear steering N.W. by E. Tacked the
fore royal and allowed down the main at 6 A.M. They were
set again at sunset. We are obliged to clew them down in the
evening so we can stand mastheads during the day
Reached off work as usual on Saturdays

Sunday Aug 20th Lat 2.27 S
Fine breezes from E.S.E. with fine weather still holding the
course of N.W. by E. The atmosphere is very thick and
smoky although there is scarcely a cloud in the sky. Mean-
while 34 days without taking in topgallant sails and 22 days with
topgallant studding sails out. We are again in the latitude of
Flying Fish and large schools of rise out of the water as we see
them up almost every moment

Monday Aug 21st Lat 2.14 S
Moderate breezes and clear steering N.W. by E. Finished rattling
down the main rigging and tacked down the head stays
and guys towards night the wind fell to a light breeze

Tuesday Aug 22nd Lat 1.28 S
Light breezes from P.P.E. with fine weather steering N.W. by E.
At sunrise took in the mizen topmast and topgallant sail and
fore topgallant sail. The wind being dead aft these sails
would not draw. Tacked down the mizen rigging from the deck
to the royal truck. Finished rattling the main topmast
rigging and began the topgallant topmast at 6 P.M. In the
evening the wind freshened again and hauled to P.E. All
sail was set again and the larboard main topgallant
studding sail shifted to the starboard side forward. The
main royal was set ~~down~~ all day. The Boatsteerers were
sent to stand mast heads forward and the forward hands
on the mizen. Sailed sails standing. Lat 1.10 S

Wednesday Aug 23rd Lat 0.57 S
The weather holds fine and the breeze moderate from S.W. by E.
Shifted the topgallant studding sail back to the main at 5 P.M.
Finished the topgallant rigging and tacked it down at 11
in the evening. A fore and aft schooner passed close to us. Lat
0.57 S and westward in the afternoon passed a Barque steering abt N.E.

Thursday Aug 24th Lat 1.18 S
Set up fore and main topmast backstays and put down lines
on them. Turned in and set up main topgallant backstays. Repair
several vessels standing to the Southward on the wind. To star
at 4 P.M. till 5 P.M. then at 5 P.M. a small current strong from the west

Friday Aug 25th Lat 2.25 S
Moderate breezes from S.W. by E. steering N.W. by E. The wind hauled
to the southward at 2 P.M. Set up the inner bobstay, brought up
and down the fore rigging

Ship St Peter Saturday August 26th Lat 3.55 S
The wind continues to blow from the southward although it
is a little variable and rather unsteady. Steered N.W. by E.
At 3 P.M. passed a Brig steering about P.P.E. on the wind. The
old and broke out water of the foremast this evening so we had a L.B.

Sunday Aug 27th Lat 4.30 S
Light winds from the southward steering N.W. by E. Weather clear
and pleasant although it was cloudy and looked like rain in the
evening. There seems to be a current setting N.W. westerly for us
much more with these light winds than we commonly do.

Monday Aug 28th Lat 5.35 S
Made gaskets for the yard arms and some other light jobs
Got our watch and watch again in the afternoon. The wind
holds light from the southward steering N.W. by E. In the evening
it fell calm hauled up the main sail and took in the lower
studding sail

Tuesday Aug 29th Lat 6.07 S
In the morning had light airs from N.W. by E. and in the
afternoon and evening calm with showers. Through the
night the little breeze we had hauled ahead and we were
obliged to take in all our studding sails. Steered N.W. by E.

Wednesday Aug 30th Lat 6.42 S
Morning rainy with light and baffling winds from S.W. by E.
Afternoon fine with light airs from S.W. by E. The watch was at
work all the forenoon setting studding sails and washing the
bulwarks aft. The watch below was turned up at 1 P.M. to set
topmast and topgallant studding sails on the larboard side
In the afternoon washed the bulwarks forward. Finished at 4
P.M. and washed decks

Thursday Sep 1st Lat 7.22 S
Moderate breezes from S with fine weather steering N.W. by E.
Washed the outside of the ship in the morning and got ready
to paint her. In the afternoon painted the white streak and
jib & fly jibbooms. Evening squally with fresh winds from P.P.E.

Friday Sep 2nd Lat 8.30 S
Equally with baffling winds. At 8 A.M. the wind got into
the northward and we were obliged to haul in the studding
sails and heave up sharp. At 9 it came on calm and we were
lucky all the time till 1 P.M. pulling and hauling - making
up studding sails. At 1 P.M. a light breeze sprang up from
P.P.E. and we set the larboard fore topmast studding sail again.
Cleaned out and stowed off between decks, under the main
hatches. At 3 P.M. set starboard fore topmast studding sail
but the wind hauled to the westward in the evening and was obliged
to take them both in and heave up the yards

Saturday Sep 3rd Lat 8.59 S
Moderate breezes from N.W. by E. steering close hauled
N.E. Took in the royals at 6 A.M. We had hoped to get the
N.E. Trades in these latitudes but this is a clamper to our hopes.
A few days ago we were almost home as it were but now the voyage
seems to be prolonged forever almost so great is our anxiety to
get home. However we do not expect the wind to blow long from
this quarter. There was a heavy dark mass of clouds hanging over
to the southward all day and in the evening it came up and the
wind blew fresh from W.N.W. for a few hours but the rest of the
night the wind was light and baffling from the westward. It
was all night squalling and bracing the yards - setting and taking
in studding sails with much. The place is rightly called Devils Bay
and indeed it really has a few very knock any foolish sailors