

Sunday January 30th 1853

To say my thoughts have been at home my prayers have been for my wife and little ones as I gazed fondly at their pictures my heart swelled with emotion that I could not express and I gave vent to my feelings in prayer in their behalf. My prayer was O Lord protect them from the deadly influence of sin and guard and protect them from every thing that shall hinder them from enjoying thy holy ^{and} ~~peace~~ and keep them as in the hollow of thy hand and spare me to meet them all well once more it appears to me that nothing would please me as well as such a meeting hence I am looking forward with many pleasant anticipations of seeing those pleasant faces again. So ends Latitude 31. 30 S

Monday January 31st

First and middle part a fresh breeze from N. and fine weather. Steering S.W. with fore topmast standing sail set. About 5 in the morning we had a good smart shower of rain and the wind shifted to W.S.W. and died away nearly calm. After breakfast lowered the 3 larboard boats to exercise in pulling and starting at an imaginary whale and no doubt a whale would have fared hard if he had ventured within 5 fathoms. They practised about 2 hours and returned with a fair breeze from the N.W. The Carpenter finished sheathing the deck between the fore and main mast. So ends

Tuesday February 1st

Commenced with a strong breeze from the N.W. and pleasant steering S.W. Middle part the wind changed to the N. and increased to gale accompanied with a plenty of rain and lightning took in sail to a double reef. Main topmast. Latter part more moderate set fore topmast and let the reefs out of m. topmast. The water's trying to do something. Saw a gony. So ends

Wednesday February 2nd

All there 2 1/2 hours a strong gale from the N.W. took in sail to a double reef on topmast a larboard clew of the foresail. Saw a merchant ship steering for home. Saw several gony. Lat 35. 2 S

Off River Laplatá

Thursday February 3rd 1853

The weather continues boisterous and equally a heavy sea arising. Wind N.W. steering S.W. under double reefed topails. In sheeting some the mission to prevail some of the poor sailors could not find the sheets so the 2nd mate took it upon himself to beat it into them with a piece of railing ~~and~~ striking them over the head and face and anywhere he could hit them. O my ears pained my soul is sick with every day's report of wrong and outrage with which this earth or ship is filled. This seems to be grossly violating the golden Rule. Still there some officers say all men are born free and equal but I believe they do not call the foremast heads men. So ends

Friday February 4th

The wind continues to blow us till there is hardly enough to fill the sails and we are blessed again with pleasant weather we should not know how to value it if we never had a storm. The watch employed in cutting onions and burning the root end with a hot iron but at the forge. Saw porpoises. So ends

Saturday February 5th

Another week has passed and we have made some 12 degrees to the S. and have decreased the temperature about 20 degrees. Thus we are quaring away the time and distance. But we are all well and so we have much to be thankful for. I wonder if slaying is good at home this weather will count much with that at home but I suppose my wife and little ones are comfortably seated round a good coal fire. Oh may they be happy in my prayer. To day we have had a gale and a calm. This is the prevailing weather in this country but we shall soon be out of it. So ends

Sunday February 6th

This day we have had all kinds of weather and all kinds of wind and from all quarters and our or mine at thoughts have been as various they have been dwelling upon the affairs of my home and have prayed to be kept from every unhallowed influence with my family. So ends