

Friday March 4th 1853.

The weather has been quite pleasant the most of the day and a light breeze varying from N. by E. to S. W. Course N. W. by W. had all sail set till 10 A.M. when we was obliged to double reef the topsails and the sun was again obscured by thick clouds with some rain. Finished grinding irons the number of 80 which a marked roined and sockets served and stowed in the run and who ever needs them helps himself. About one third of them are tagel irons which are to be used for first iron. No observation.

Saturday March 5

Wind continues to increase took in to a close reefed m. topsail and m. spencer and foretopmast staysail and hove too without any prospect of clear weather very soon. Wind W. by N. heading to the S. W. stormy and disagreeable.

Sunday March 6th

More moderate the sun showings it self at short intervals and toward the latter part the wind changed to the N. by E. so we could lay our course to N. W. by N. set the m. sail and jib and let the close reef out of the topsails. So passed another sabbath rather unprofitably spent. My soul is looking forward to the time when there shackles of restraint shall be knocked off there is but a few that I can converse with on the subject of religion it is too much like casting pearls among swine. Pleasure father Taylor is having good meetings about this time I am in hopes to find him at the old hive when I return with a fruitfull congregation.

Monday March 7th

Commenced with a strong wind from the W. and equally and continued to increase so much that we took in foresail fore and mizen topsails. Latter part little more moderate set close reefed topsails. Steering by the wind to the W. by N. started water and filled the empty casks with ^{salt} water. This is very bad weather. The ship is a rolling and tumbling and shipping seas which are running down the skylight so that I am obliged to lye my back in my berth and stend out side to write this but we are looking for better weather.

Off Cape Horn

Tuesday March 8th 1853

Last night I wrote that we was a looking for better weather but instead of better it is growing worse the ship labouring hard and shipping heavy seas frequently laying too under close reefed maintopsail and main spencer the foretopmast staysail having been blown partly out of the boltrope. This gale is very little inferior to the one we had when four days from home. Could not cook any bread this morning thing for breakfast but as good luck would have it we had a pleasing variety of victuals left at supper consisting of baked beans beef and pork and a plenty of good hard bread. They did manage to make some coffee but that kind of liquid is poor drink for me. Cold Water is good enough. Half of the watch on deck at a time. Bushonies not at all. Will be to be below but not the weather. No observation.

Wednesday March 9th

The gale continues to decrease till we have got all sail set and it has halled to the N. by E. so we can head our course N. W. by N. but there is such a swell on that we make but little headway. Another severe gale has passed and no serious accident has happened. We ought to be thankful. Cloudy. No observation.

Thursday March 10th

It is almost calm what little wind there is blows from all parts of the compass till about 10 A.M. it got fastened to S. by E. It has been rainy and foggy all day. Saw a right whale about 4 miles from the ship but it was too foggy to trouble him. All hands are washing their clothes agreeable to the Capt. orders caught rain enough for all hands. I wish my Wife could see the clothes and the manner in which they washed it would have been truly amusing. The ship is overshadowed with clothes it is estimated that there is between 2 and 3 hundred pieces. It has been such cold weather we have not washed before in 3 or 4 weeks. I think there is but few that like the business but all like clean clothes. No observation.

Friday March 11th

Commenced with a strong breeze from the S. by E. and fine weather. Steering N. W. by N. This fair wind makes us feel comfortable. During the night the wind halled gradually to the S. W. by E. and toward dawn the wind increased to