

141 days out

Amber the four
topgallant sail
for repairs

Put the lath
in the storage

Wednesday May 4th 1853.

We are getting toward whale getting fast and we have a touch of the weather already. It has been foggy all day but we have a fair wind S.E. Steering S.W. The Capt fitted up his stove in the cabin getting ready for cold weather. Fitted what we call a smoke sail inside of the foretopmast staysail shaped very much like it but larger. So ends. Fitted a good place in the foretopmast crosstrees for a lookout for the officers by boarding it over and stretching canvas round the topgallant grooves thus making a bulwark to keep off the wind & good idea
Lat 42.20 N Long 71 W

142

Finished the
leather for turning
iron work first
rate

Thursday May 5

We still continue to make rapid progress to the N. where we suppose right whales make it their home. The weather cold and cloudy and in the night we are visited with a heavy dew. The water white. Wind S.E. Steering S.W. with as much wind as we want. Saw a plenty of finbacks. Not much for the watch to do. So ends. Lat 45.35 N Long 72 W

143

Turning iron
work for a new
lath

Steering S.W. instead E. Friday May 6th
The most of the day has been raining or kind of a drizzly rain cold and disagreeable with a heavy dew night which is about as bad as rain. The blacksmith employed in forging work for a new leather while the rain continued to drip on the hot iron and not only cool his iron but wet his body also but he stuck too it like a good fellow anxious to get it done before the weather is worse or whales should interfere
Lat 46 N Long 73 W

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One with
sick

Saturday May 7th

To day the wind has been light and from all quarters. Steering as near S.W. as we could. Broke out meat and water. The weather has been warm and pleasant. Looked sharp for whales but saw none. So ends
Lat 47 N Long 74 W

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Sunday May 8th 1853

It has been cold and rainy to day and the wind has been very light and baffling. Still we cannot expect sunshine allways and it is best that we should not careen if rain was not needed but in our case we should forget God. This idea Moses set forth to the Israelites and I think it as applicable now as at that time. In affliction we see our dependence
Lat 48 N Long 75 W

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Mr North sick
9 years ago I
was married
but I have no time
to say anything about it

Monday May 9th

Commenced with good weather wind S.W. Steering W. At 11 P.M. lowered for a right whale which appeared to be working to the Westward. So ends. Lat 51.51 N Long 76 W. Mrs Lambert had the west boat. The Capt and myself had the east boat.

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After dodging round first to the windward and then to the leeward the harbour hunt succeeded in fastening. It was then about 4 o'clock. Then he put to the leeward he rounded out the line but the starboard boat was there just in time to land them the end of her. The whale took nearly half of our line and came up to breathe when the West and bow boats fastened. We hauled up the leeward boat line and gave it to her and she found the iron had drawn. The whale ran to the leeward so fast that they could not kill him and a thick fog set in and they were obliged to cut. We got on board about 6 in the evening much disappointed with our hungry. It might have been worse. Doubtless expect the top side. At daylight made sail. Steering West. Saw finbacks. So ends. Lat 52.10 N Long 76.45 W

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Two with off
duty

Tuesday May 10th

Pleasant Steering W. At 2 P.M. lowered for a couple of whales and made calculations to catch them. We got almost near enough to start when they perceived us and probably thought that our plans had been made without reference to his interest and they thought best to leave us. Returned at 4. At 8. Saw what was thought to be a dead whale. They had had the run of him about a half an hour lowered. When the boats had got about half way to him he went down and we saw him no more. It is supposed he was asleep. Returned at 8. In the evening. Later part saw a finback. Wind S.W. and pleasant. Lat 53 N Long 77 W