

Off Kodiak

180 days out.

Tuesday June 12th 1853

We have had very disagreeable weather all day rain fog and wind particularly the latter part. We have lowered once for whales but could not fasten. The boat got ^{so} near that they darted but not near enough to fasten. The boats returned the men wet and cold. This day reminds me of one that passed a little more than 3 years ago when when I was enquiring of the Lord the way to heaven. Such a night as this I started for a prayer meeting held at Washington corner Brother Gardiner Dean presided. The wind blew a gale and the rain fell in torrents but my mind was distressed and I felt at my duty to go. With I got my wife ^{about} consent and started alone. I have heard young converts speak how beautiful the stars looked to them the moment they were converted and I longed to see the same beauties and I went praying all the way for the Lord to forgive my sins and take me to himself. I was much distressed but when about half way to the house of God the light of life broke through my clouded soul and although there was no stars yet the Sun of Righteous was brighter to me than a thousand stars and O what joy filled my soul. My first fear was that it would not last. I had been praying all the way but now my prayers were more fervent that these feelings should ^{not} leave me. The way was never so short before. I then started upon the run and I got there before I was aware of it and was ready to tell them what the Lord had done for me. Thus far the feeling have not left me. My prayers have been answered and I feel to thank my Saviour for it. Whenever any doubts arise in my ^{mind} about the new birth my mind refers back to that night and I know that there is no mistaking it and I feel to renew my pledge to night and pray for my shipmates. Oh that they may turn to the Lord before the death angel shall thrust in his sickle and cut them off in their sin. Pray on brothers and sisters pray for the sailor for if any thing sickens me it is the depravity of the mariner they seem bent to destruction notwithstanding ^{how the} they endeavor to get a christian birthright. Pray the Lord have mercy on them is my prayer. Amen.

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Monday June 13th 1853

The wind increased to a heavy gale from the south with rain took us out to a close reefed main top sail. We felt willing to lose the time in hopes of better weather after the gale. It gives us a good chance to rest and think of home and read the Bible &c.

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Tuesday June 14th 1853

The wind died away to a whole and breeze but fog and rain makes it very unfavorable for our business. Standing watch watches till they can hardly sleep it is found necessary to ~~take~~ in to keep warm. Those of us who have all night in have all day below also this weather. A plenty of whales around but they do us but little good.

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Wednesday June 15th

Light breeze from the westward. Fog and rain the most of the day. At 7 in the morning lowered for a whale. The Starboard boat fastened. The Lord drove in a boat 5 minutes the pin did not break in the togil iron. The first one that I have struck the voyage hard luck. At 10 lowered again ^{for another} but could not get near him. Returned at 12. The sun shining quite pleasantly. So ends
Lott Long West

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Thursday June 16th

Fog and rain. At 5 in the evening lowered for whales. The Starboard and bow boats pulled to the windward for a whale that was about 4 miles off the beam and the Starboard and waist boat went to the leeward for a whale that was 4 points off the bow. I went in the waist boat ~~the~~ boat steered by sick. We chased our whale till we drove him off and returned at 9. The other boats as far as we could see to the windward. They returned at 10 in the evening when we found the Starboard boat had been fast and held on till dark and cut. Some thought the whale spouted thin blood but I think it doubtful as do many others that were there. Turned in and slept as well as we could. Whales blowing in out of water during the night but in the morning there were all gone. The wind died away and a thick fog set in and we had no one to the mast head. Some finbacks and humpbacks. G. Lott