

239 days

Tuesday August 9th 1853Remain of
duty

Scurvy

Saw about

1000 finbacks

Adore in to the land with a light breeze from S.W. and E.W. Steering down along shore near lumps of land which have grown up into various forms and are well covered with snow. Much of it appears to be islands from the ship but I suppose it is mostly main land. Three of our men are off duty with the scurvy which makes its appearance in the knees and feet. All hands are called aft every evening to get 2 or 3 potatoes apiece which they are required to eat raw in the presence of the officers for fear they may throw them overboard as many require pressing invitation to partake of the dainties. They have however a considerable sport over them call them *Codfish Blanches*. The other poor fellow is supposed to have the consumption and is reduced so low that he cannot help himself. He has been off duty about 2 months.

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Wednesday August 10th

A light breeze from the E. and foggy and rainy steering by the wind to the southward. I did not far off yesterday looked for something in shape of a sea fowl. It was probably made for a coy but by who or what nation is the mystery. It has been thought best to present it to Burnum. The mate has carefully stored it away.

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Thursday August 11th

A light breeze from the S.W. and foggy nearly all day steering to the S. Sailed with the main sails to the south all night. Toward noon it cleared up and our latitude to be 57.21 Long. 150.00. We saw oceans of finbacks. Nothing to do.

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Friday August 12th

Foggy and rainy all day. The wind S.W. and blowing strong. Steering by the wind to the S.W. In the morning all hands were called of and treated with about a gill of vinegar from a cask of pickled onions. I think from appearances they imbibed it with a better relish than they did raw potatoes. Well I hope it will do them good. They did not need so many invitations. Saw finbacks.

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Saturday August 13th 1853

Rain and fog all day with a strong wind from the S.W. and S.E. Saw a few finbacks. Killed a pig and made use of all parts of it. Shall have made use of all parts before we get through. As soon as the fat was removed from the intestines they was boiled around a man's scurvy leg and the lights on another so our pig is no more. He was about 8 weeks old when we left home and has been a plaything ever since.

244

Sunday August 14th

To day we are 8 months out of 3 of a year and my friend T. remarked today that we should one day be very happy or very much disappointed referring immediately to our meeting our family at home so it is our minds are dwelling upon the uncertain future. I have been at home in imagination many times this voyage. The voyage had terminated pleasantly and profitably and I had arrived unexpectedly and learned that my wife and family had gone to her mother's in support on a visit. I hurried to the harbor and from there to the roadway made clothing store and got a good suit probably the best I could could without regard to the price and from there to the living stable and ordered the best horse and carry all he had and then to the market and selected a few lbs of his best beef and vegetables with many other things that appeared necessary and started, it then being 10 in the forenoon I drove very rapidly for the first and arrived there at 11 1/2. Yes I pictured to my mind the old bars I jumped out and took them out in a hurry and hardly stopped to put them up. I then let the horse walk over the green grass and stones and I did see the old house half hid behind the apple trees. The horse walking walking a little slower. I then spy 2 or 3 little children at play in front of the house. One of them discovers the carriage and runs in and in a half a minute there appears an old lady and a young one at the door. Looks up the carriage and disappears probably putting things to rights wondering who it can be in driving so slow. They think it may be Edward. The little children run up and are taken into the carriage when many questions are asked, by this time I am at the door jump out and press to my heart my much loved wife and our little ones. The scene that follows cannot easily be imagined. This is my manner of building castles.

Building Castles