

of the line. In the vicinity of the line, where we cruise for whales, it sometimes runs at the rate of 5 or 6 knots, and it requires a very good ship to hold on there. Steering N. and N. N. W. Lat. 14° S, Long. 158° 25'.

8th ~~Lat. 14° S, Long. 158° 25' W.~~ Strong wind.

9th Lat. 8 m. S, Long. 159° 17' W. Steady E. W. We struck the line to-day about two degrees to the windward of Jarvis' island, and hauled on the wind for a cruise, with a roused topsail breeze blowing. Tacked at sunset heaving S. E. by S.

10th Light wind. At work in the hold and on the rigging. Since we left New Zealand the captain has been chafing and worrying like a pent up tiger. Every thing goes wrong, nothing right. He neither eats nor sleeps, and I think if we were to see whales and not get one, he would actually go crazy. He is fast losing favor with the crew on account of his curtailing their grub, and curses loud and deep are heaped upon him.

11th Calm. After breakfast we commenced to caulk the quarter deck to prevent the water from leaking into the land of knives and forks. We were 40 miles to windward of the island at 2 P. M. Steered W. by N. after dinner. Hauled on the wind at 10 P. M.

12th Fine weather. Finished caulking the quarter

deck. The old man is galled as little, as we have been cruising in all directions for Jarvis' island. It is probably owing to his chronometer being out of order. No signs of any whales to be seen, and the old man swears that there is a Jonah in the ship. The crew keep up good spirits, and allow that every dog will have his day. At 2 o'clock the old man took the sun's altitude, and worked the longitude from it. He came on deck shortly after, and exclaimed, "Damn the island. Were to leeward of it. It's off in that squall." pointing off our weather quarter. In two hours a man at the mast-head, forward sang out, "There she breaches!" "What is it?" cried the old man. "Jarvis' Island," replied the 2d mate, who was at the main topgallant mast-head. And so it was. The old man's chronometer was nearly two minutes out of the way, and we had been cruising nearly a degree out of sight of the island. — We saw a school of black fish after we raised the island, — the only thing that looks like whales we have seen for some time. We shortened sail at sunset, steering to the northward. Lat. 28 m. S, Long. 160° W.