

Journal kept on board "Charon"

Thursday September the 1 1842

Had 24 hours light breeze steering to the E. nothing in sight. The Captain turned out and came on deck about half past 10 P.M. When I saw by the name of Jack Baker went aft to the Captain with two small pieces of meat about 4 months old and told the Captain that he found it. Where John Babcock at his supper supposed he left it there the Captain told Jack Baker to put it on the Hencock that stood aft in a few minutes the Captain went and looked at it. Then commenced cursing and swearing at Babcock and called the Steward and told him to pass up his Piece of Rope which was about four feet 6 inches in length with three strands and Hazards in a strand and told John Babcock to keep to work oiling his gun that stood aft by the Mizzenmast. Then the Captain commenced flogging him with this Piece of Whalceline he gave him about 3 dozen. Should think I did not count them. The Captain then went and got his Breakfast and came on deck and told Babcock to take this foot which he had stolen some time before. This the Captain commenced dressing it and kicked him about the face head and temples whilst he was sitting on deck. After he got his foot dressd. he told him to go and draw ~~some~~ water and fill up that tub which stood in the waste it held about 100 gallons. While he stood over him with his Piece of Whalceline in his hand at the same time beating it against his back as hard as he could and telling him to hurry which he did having as fast as he could. After he had got the tub full the Captain told him to go and wash the bulwarks aft he started to go and fell down twice or three times.

Whilst the Captain followed him and swearing at him ~~then~~ at full rate at the same time holding the piece of Whalceline against his back with all his might. Then he started to go forid to get some sand the Captain followed him with the rope still putting it on to him as hard as he could still swearing to an awful rate. He fell down by the side of the Mizzenmast on the larboard side there to rise no more. The Captain told him to get up. Babcock said that he could not stand up then the Captain took him by the arm and held him up and told him to get up then Captain Morris let go of him and straitened him self out on deck. The Captain spoke to the second mate and told him that he believed the nigger was dying he come ther the Captain told him to raise him up the Captain then spoke to him 2 or 3 times but he was so far gone he could not speak. The crew stood and see him ~~take~~ breathe his last in a few minutes the Captain asked some of them if he had a blanket the answer was that he had one. Captain told them to get it. he was foot in to it and sewed up then he was foot on to a plank and laid on the Hencock that stood aft there he laid till 11 P.M. then we haled up our course and haled back our had yards. John Babcock a colored Man was taken to the mast and launched overboard without a word of seramony or a tear shed to my noledge. He has gone I hope to rest he has asked times previous to this What would be become of him if he jumped overboard or cut his throat. When Captain Morris had been flogging him. It seams that he wanted to Dy. But did not want to go to hell as he had said before. I hope that he has gone home to Glory may God bless him. And I hope this will be a warning to Captain Morris and all the rest of his Officers on board.
Sd By Jos. H. Long 16th 9
John Babcock was the last at 9 P.M.