

1891

Journal of the Whaling Bk Wm. Bayless

Thurs Dec 24. Lat N 40

First part a strong breeze from the NWW standing towards the Islands at sundown took in the light sails and laying off and on at Maria Island. Middle part the same latter part light breeze made all sail heading in towards the Islands

Fri Dec 25.

Maria Island

About 1 PM we anchored at Maria Island in about 4 fathoms of water. The Captain went on shore with 2 boats for wood, came on board without any. Latter part called all hands at day light and 12 of the men refused to turn in on account of it being Christmas day. So went to smoking ship

Sat Dec 26

First part still smoking the ship at 4 AM took off the kites and opened ship fore and aft latter part called all hands at day light and took the deck pot out of the hatch and put it forward, got breakfast and the boat went on shore with 3 boats and went to bringing off wood 3 of the men deserted. The Capt sold the old stoveboard

New Boat for Wood

Sun Dec 27

First part still bringing off wood, and about 5 PM the Capt came on board with all the wood 14 boats loads and took our anchor and left moderate breeze from the NWW. Middle part more ship, latter part light breeze laying off and on in hopes to get the men that deserted

Mon Dec 28 Lat 21 50 Long 108 19

First part wind light from the NWW still laying off and on. Saw a Shearwater and Killers. Tom Smith is off duty again, middle part the same. Latter part Wm. scraping the main mast and taking the coal out of the Run and putting it into casks

Benjamin D. Cleveland. Master

Tues Dec 29

First part a good breeze from the NWW, Wm. scraping the fore mast and taking coal out of the Run About 1 PM I and the third mate Mr. Williams went on shore at Maria Island to see they had got those 3 men that deserted... but they had not got them so came on board without them, at sun down took in some of the light sails, laying off at Isabella Island Middle part the same latter part standing in towards one of the Islands, the third mate Mr. Williams went off on board of a Schooner with some bullock for the men we got our wood from at Maria Island. The names of those men that deserted were Frank Smith. See Biggs and Cassin Olson

Wed Dec 30 Lat N 40

First part a good breeze from the NWW steering S W by W with all sail set Wm. finished scraping the fore mast and furnished the fore mast and main mast and got all the coal up out of the run, middle part a calm, latter part Wm. furnished the fore and main mast and taking stone about of the after hole and putting them down in the Run

Thurs Dec 31

First part wind very light from the NWW Wm. still taking stone out of the after hole and scraped the Sparke's Boom. Middle part the same: latter part moderate breeze steering S W by W. Wm. busy storing the coal we took out of the Run and put winter boards back in the after hole, in the place of the stones finished the after hole