

142 Journal of Ship William Thompson
Dec

Thursday December 8

Light winds from S.E. and fine weather going along about four knots. A flying fish came on board of us which I had for my breakfast. I wish they would not stand on so much ceremony and pay me a visit of ceremony. All hands at work in getting up the rigging for Cape Horn. Tell Patrick Croft to day found fault with the mate. Carpenter and blacksmith called Dick a fool for not tying the boat. Lashing properly. Round up this days work with taking my revenge out of a little glass of brandy and water. There is death the Fifth Lesson.

Latitude 21° 11' S
Longitude 38° 4' W

Friday December 9

Wind high blowing from N.E. Sailing about 4 knots. There has been some swell all day all hands busily engaged in repairing main and fore sail. Dick Wether spent his day in getting ready for Cape Horn. The shooting and shocking in the after cabin all the morning. Have to keep two men watching that the don't eat all the sweet cake the Steward makes. The monkey is quit well and cuts up more spranks than ever. Jack the blacksmith has got Religion and is now he says he intends to keep it. He is one of the Cooper's converts. All day I is I hope it will last.

Latitude 22° 52' S
Longitude 34° 20' W

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Saturday December 10

Wind the same as yesterday, all hands are now well except Babber who has been very bad with a sore finger. Louis mending a sail all this morning. John Hawley is to be discharged on Monday from his duty of Stewardship. Our Old Steward commences anew on the same day. There is one who is glad of it and that is Dick Fisher. John not being much of a favorite of his. No fish yet, not even an alarm that is to bad, now that we have got where we should see them — but wait till yet.

Longitude 36° 04' W
Latitude 24° 31' S

Sunday December 11

This day has passed and gone with all Sunday's at sea. That is well enough. Nothing doing in the work line. Our men not having a watch below for two days I have slept it away. Dick Fisher has been aying clothes all day the wicked fellow but he is going completely to the Devil. I will have to put him in the legging before long if he don't mend his ways. The weather is beautiful, wind the same as yesterday.

Latitude 26° 25' S
Longitude 37° 24' W