

1842 Journal of Ship William Thompson

Monday December 12

Light winds from N. E. sailing about six knots, and Mending S. W. all hands engaged in mending sails and other duties about the ship. Bill Smith one of the Linth family, no doubt, a relative of the celebrated John Smith, was taken sick this morning with a fever. all hands say it is of the same nature as the one John J. died of. Superstition sailors will. The sailors sent the end of line.

Longitude 39. 7 W
Latitude 28. 10 S

Tuesday December 13

The wind has been blowing all ways for Sunday. It has been all round the compass several times during the day. Calm and little squalls rains every other thing that makes a disagreeable day at sea. Bill Smith seems much better this morning. He hopes to be convalescent by tomorrow. Could not get an observation it was so cloudy.

Latitude 29. 00 S
Longitude 40. 15 W

Wednesday December 14

Light breeze from the S. W. sailing four knots. Mending W. S. W. everything is moving on about. O. K. Lost Sloop overboard a mid- day sail from this morning. W. down the Starboard boat and soon regained it. All hand on duty & keep

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Rumick who never will be well. If you ask him how he feels he says he is just about the same. Long body is looking ahead. now that we are coming to the River La Plata for the effect, at least 200 lbs if you know.

Longitude 39. 55 W
Latitude 29. 31 S

Thursday December 15

This day commences with strong breeze from S. W. by S. Mending W. at noon took in fore and main top gallants. Sail, I thought saw a beach about 11, either a bay or down. Large fish, many. The doctor has dismissed paymaster with the cook, but the cook says he has given him the doctor's dose. The poor doctor feels very much mortified about the sudden change in the Pawley's conduct toward him. But I must say he gives very philosophical reasons for it. The thought it must be the cabin duff and high graveys which the said John partakes of with him every day. On such good living and dainties his stomach the doctor has fed him with is now making him uneasy and impatient. in the afternoon I suppose it is the same with him as poor Obediah. much the same but the doctor is with saying he has cast him from the shelter of his bosom for ever.

Latitude 30. 31 S
Longitude 40. 28 W