

Journal of Ship W. Thompson

Wednesday 4 This day commences with a calm of some hours, at 8 P.M. wind came light from N.E. and continued until 11. then changed with squalls and rain. The Thermometer is down to 49°. So we may expect some wind. I think Remick is just about the same. The Steward has just put a large blister upon him. Mathews was taken quite unwell last evening with pains in his limbs. I thought he was playing soldier. So I accordingly mixed him a dose, and took a dose. I put half a wine glass of *Chloroform* in a spoon full of Peruvian bark two Table Spoons full of Castor Oil one of Rhubarb he took it and proved most beneficial for he was quite well this morning.

Longitude 59.00 W
Latitude 57.22 S

Thursday Jan 6. 1843

Strong gales from N.W. with clear weather but very cold at 9 P.M. close reefed all the topsails and reefed the fore sail at 11 A.M. saw a bark heading the same way we were caught up with her and weathered her some miles in a hour. I shot work. But the Bill Thompson must go ahead.

Longitude 76.34 W
Latitude 58.30 S

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Friday Jan 6. 1843

Strong gales from N.W. heavy sea, close reefed main and mizen topsail at ten o'clock. M. carried away our main spruce gaff. Wind blowing very heavy at the time. Gifford was taken ill last night. something the matter with his lungs. This makes two of our boat. Steers good for nothing for some time. Remick ill just about the same.

Longitude 72.00 W
Latitude 57.25 S

Saturday January 7

Strong gales from N.W. squalls of the most boisterous kind. I do believe the wind will never change. it is now tormenting to be kept beating about in this horrid place, all hands are tumbling about in every direction. sore heads and barked skins are the order of the day. The Carpenter complains very hard he says if he have his foot down and second his not sure of it. Remick is just about the same.

Longitude 71.59 W
Latitude 57.24 S

Sunday Jan 8

This day commences with strong breezes from N.W. with heavy swell close reefed topsails and reefed mainsail. Everything looks dull and all hands are quite sick of Cape Horn. But I take my comfort by the stove reading all day.

Longitude 72.57 W
Latitude 57.36 S