

1843 Journal of Ship William Thompson

J. 19

Thursday January 19. 1843
Wind blowing from
W. and N.W. getting to the north east,
some swell, and few Squalls
during the night, are the most
prominent features of this day.
Work, Plenty of Porpoises but hard
to kill we have made some
efforts to catch them but
have failed every time; all hands
doing well, waiting for a Whale.
to see who is the most hardy
make, Bill Smith says there
is the time to show off.

Longitude 79° 45' W
Latitude 47° 33' S

Friday January 20

Wind blowing
from N. blowing away at 8 P.M.
there has not been much
during the day. I came from
the N. very gentle breeze. It will
come round to the N. before
morning. A great number
of Tin Snacks in sight this
morning. Weather rainy and
foggy, and unpleasant.
all hands are engaged in making
Scrub Brooms which is good
work in wet weather. Broke
out for Pork and bread.

Longitude 79° 20' W
Latitude 46° 30' S

Saturday January 21

This day commences
with light breezes from N. N.W.
heavy thick weather, plenty of
fog and very little sunshine.
I struck a Porpoise and got
him. It was a right Whale
one the first of the kind we
have caught. Carpenter & 101

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was taken quite sick. I gave him
the same dose that I gave Matthew's
It being a medicine that cures
all complaints. Jifford is getting
much better, all hands busy in
cleaning their Irons and Whale gear
in readiness for the first Whale
that comes along.

Longitude 79° 10' W
Latitude 45° 00' S

Sunday January 22 1843

Light breezes from
W. beautiful weather, sailing
along about 8 knots; at 7 P.M. took
top gallant sails, We are now on
good Whaling ground. we have
been looking out sharp all
day but saw nothing yet.
even a Porpoise tomorrow will
tell a different tale. all hands
doing well. The Jifford has not
made his appearance as yet.
The Carpenter is quite well to day.
truly that Medicine is a valuable
one. If some of the New York
quacks had the receipt they
would turn it to some account.

Longitude 78° 55' W
Latitude 43° 47' S

Monday January 23 1843

Light breezes from
the W. and fine weather. Got a
good haul this morning, all hands
on deck rigged the flying jib boom
and set flying jib, before breakfast
saw below and catch plenty of
Porpoises, but the blacksmith & 10
work, Carpenter Cooper and Cook's
Whale all up to their eyes in work,
false alarm to say turned out
to be Tin Snacks, some Porpoises

Longitude 78° 38' W
Latitude 41° S