

1843 Journal of Ship William Thompson

Sunday February 26. 1843
This day commences with light Trades and fine weather Men employed mending their cloths washing and dressing of course, a fine day for game. The news by the Steamship was quite fresh, for we were sure of a catch 200 Bls before we came to anchor. It said that fish been taken from the West-Indies, some whales, no doubt, and some, we are gaining upon her fast, so perhaps we will come up with her about March.

Longitude 118.42. W
Latitude 2.13 S

Monday February 27. 1843

Good strong breeze and beautiful weather. Spoke Ship Columbia of London bound to Columbia River, went on board had a game with my friend Captain Ray and played to sea. It is an old saying but a very true one a Man born to be hanged will never be drowned. Our Boat was towing at the stern with Carpenter's Mate in it. She was up and ship got on the bottom and being out for help. After some half hours delay a Boat was sent with four men and four chips sprawling on the bottom like a Mud Turtle, lost some of the back gear but all hands got home safe.

Longitude 120.58 W
Latitude 1.13 S

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Tuesday February 28. 1843

Light winds and pleasant weather, Rigging of Ship Jacks around our bows, all hands at work making out and coopers provisions. A Lascia came this morning. Steward laid up again with his leg, Cook has been promoted to Steward Phillips to be Cook, Our Old Cook has earned immovable fame & ready he made a Stiff is a Superior cook. Also given ample proofs as to his being able to keep the high office which has been given to him this day & Anti-Thyphoid in light.

Longitude 123.24 W
Latitude 1.17 Miles S

Wednesday March 1. 1843

Light breeze and fine weather. Shaving day. Men employed in putting out for holes, one sick below, all others well except Gifford and Steward, we have lost sight of the Steamship. Look in for Galapagos sails and fore and main sail last night. Being on good ground hope to get a little oil before going in. The Port things look bad there dose not seem much life about here. Have a good deal of fish.

Longitude 124.35 W
Latitude 1.20 South

Thursday March 2. 1843

Light winds and fine weather but no blubber as yet all hands well but want active employment. Rake in sail every night and have made