

1843
March

Journal of Ship William Thompson

up our minds, not to leave this ground with out some oil. Five men aloft every day only want a chance to prove ourselves. Boats in fine order plenty of sails for the boat, ~~anchors~~ Steerers have been at work for the last month, each man trying who can put most sail on his boat, Gifford thinks they have got more sails than they will get Whales

Longitude 125.40 W
Latitude 2.13 S

Sunday March 3rd 1843

Splendid weather and good breeze. Steaming N.W. sailed some bone sharks and L. like jacks that being the extent of our fun in the Fish line. All hands at working turning in rigging, painting boat blocks and Boats and various other things too numerous to mention. Cook has proved himself truly worthy of the dignified place he holds on board the Splendid Ship William Thompson. Hope he will conduct himself with propriety for he is death on Gib.

Longitude 126.50 W
Latitude 1.30 S

Saturday March 4th 1843

Light wind and fine weather, Most wonderful appearance in the heavens, have not taken much notice but to night it has increased in brightness, the star is 2.20 from the horizon the tail is 28° long

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It is most splendid to look on what makes it more remarkable. I do not mention any thing about it in the Almanac, we have not any of Miller's converts they would by no doubt. It was some of those wonder full things that is to consume this world but no more at present a fuller description to morrow night. All hands breaking out for work

Longitude 127.30 W
Latitude 1.41 S

Sunday March 5th 1843

Almost a calm during the day fine weather a number of others swimming about our bows all hands mending and cleaning up for another week. Philips getting on well as cook improves every day begins to show his importance by hitting the most cowardly chops with the scummet ladle, and the little playful trick, too numerous to mention. The comets look quite bright to night, could not get a very good sight. It being cloudy, it is a most wonderful sight and much impress the track across with with sea and trembling

Longitude 127.31 W
Latitude 1.5 Miles

Monday March 6th 1843

All hands on deck to day towing down our 50 Bils L. them O. My. we thought we would had some hundred