

Journal of Ship William Thompson

by this time, plenty of time yet but would like to be doing a little. something now and then, just to keep our hands in, we have not seen a Whale of any kind for three months, the comch is the principal subject talked of at present, the Church members seem to think that the word is coming to an end indeed, but I don't see them making any preparation for it

Longitude 127° 45' W
Latitude 47° N

Tuesday March 7 1843

Good strong breezes from S.E. all day long Sail set, men engaged in mending sail, splendid weather but have not seen white water yet. How long is this to last? We could come across a blasted old whale how happy could we be; the comch; the comch; nothing is talked of but the comch. I had an awful appearance to night we have measured it the star is 10° 20' miles from the horizon the tail is 36° 41' miles long, the Norton says he always brags for his wife and feels quite unwell I would not be surprised if he was brought to bed himself soon, but I think it will be a young cod fish for he eats things and sounds enough for to make any man but, so don't be alarmed, fail readers if some of these days I appear in this Journal - the Norton doing as well as

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can be expected; was delivered of a fine cod at 4 A.M. this morning

Longitude 128°

Latitude 2° 2' N

Wednesday March 8

Strong winds from S.E. foggy and squalls all day all day long sail set fore topmast standing sail and main topgallant standing sail and we are now bound for the Island of hope we will soon be there to get some fruit and fresh provisions & great number of dying fish the ground looks more like the thing, perhaps we may come across some of them square heads by and by all hands well except Clifford and the steward who remains about the same

Longitude 128° 30' W

Latitude 4° 00' N

Thursday March 9 1843

This day; that has not been decided as yet. however I don't make much difference as we got the ^{fish} we will say at noon because I was asleep and between, raised a whale off deck with four men aloft - that don't say much for the look out - but you must not condemn me for that, because I was thick and rainy, however after the usual quantity of cursing and swearing in all directions but when you are most wanted; the boats were lowered, the Norton struck the whale but Ben Smith done the other part of the business soon after we raised a school and two of the boats