

1843 Journal of Ship William Thompson

after them but without success, all hands returned on board at 5 P.M. began cutting and got through at 7.40 P.M. bring two brown and forty cutting in a forty Bbl. Whale — not bad for a green crew —

Longitude 128.54 W
Latitude 4.20 N

Sunday March 10 - 1843

Strong winds from South East, thick and rainy all day at work on the fish, the lines are running well and everything seems going on about right. Bill Smith says he heard about all giving instructions how to sharpen knives, he being well versed in the art of fish sharpening, got things going at two last night everything is cleaned up you would not think we have had a whale

Longitude 129.10 W
Latitude 5.36 N

Saturday March 11 - 1843

Light winds from the South East, Pleasant weather some swell from North West think we much soon get the trade from that direction. All hands on deck at work on the rigging have not seen any whales these later days Phillips getting sick of cooking wants to give up the situation don't know how he will succeed yet, Steward and Gifford still remain on the sick list and are very likely to do for some time yet.

Longitude 130.4 W
Latitude 7.60 N

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Sunday March 12 1843

Light winds during the night. S.E. Latter Part of the day wind changed to W. and W. by N. weather thick and rainy. We have just lost the trades and are now sailing about waiting for the S.E. to come and take us to our destination. No Whales think the last school must be some stray sheep without a shepherd.

Longitude 130.20 W
Latitude 7.8 N

Monday March 13 - 1843

Strong breezes from S and S. during the day came on to blow about midnight work in all the topgallant sails reefed fore and main top sail heavy sea watch and watch below to day, split our fish and mainsail. Men employed in packing potatoes and tarring wire being nice work of for rainy weather.

Longitude 131.30 W
Latitude 8.40 N

Tuesday March 14 - 1843

Good strong trades which I call about S.E. weather rather squally with some rain all hands on deck mending sails, - long brooms, doing something to keep the side boy out of his shoes, John & Hawley on the sick list complain a headache the doctor not well came to me for a portion of Lard thinks his abdomen is out of order, Mr Phillips has returned to the galley to the great satisfaction of a select few of his numerous friends and particular acquaintances, whom he duly delights with his amusing and edifying