

1843 Journal of Ship William Thompson

We had the wind, some gale
last night, but we have
since left Bedford &
strong wind come at last
we had to stop sailing
and stake in the foreland

Longitude 147° 7' W
Latitude 54° 29' N
Saturday May 20 1843

Calm, mild and
beautiful everything of the
late gale had entirely disappeared
except some little waves we
will be soon sailing by some
and then get ready for another
whale at 10 A.M. raised a
whale on our lee bow. Lived
but broke but the look the
man of him came on board
and went to dinner

Longitude 147° 15' W
Latitude 54° 29' N
Sunday May 21 1843

This day commences
with light winds from the
N.W. all hands on deck at half
past 4 blowing down our back
a light whale is all over and
now for another tomorrow
at 10 P.M. spoke the Margate
Schooner of New Bedford 29 months
of New Bedford two other ships
in sight young the mate
Bully is down with a oil
feaver

Longitude 147° 40' W
Latitude 55° 10' N

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Monday May 22 1843
Good weathering breeze
from the S. cold. Three ships
in sight one sailing at 10 A.M.
saw a dead whale from mast
head. Lowered the boat went
down to get him expecting
at least to find a Finnanad
red chap but come to find out
it was only a small calf. Made
fast, brought him to the ship
and cut him boiled out
and went to bed

Longitude 148° 00' W
Latitude 55° 15' N
Tuesday May 23 1843

Disastrous foggy
and raining considerably
got through with thick drinking
fish and I for one am glad
of it after all our trouble
we had made no only eighteen
pounds. And made a good deal
more drunk than our large
fish. Cook, Mate, Butler, Hawley
some others was numerous
to mention slow sick

Longitude 148° 10' W
Latitude 55° 20' N

Wednesday May 24 1843
Unpleasant weather
fog and rain but from business
in the Blubber Line at 4 P.M.
cleared up and at 5 raised a
whale only half a mile off. Lived
three boats but could not get
at him went to seaward some
2 miles and we lost him came
on board took in tail and
went to bed with strong hopes
for tomorrow

Longitude
Latitude