

1844 Journal of the Whale Ship Wm. Thompson

Monday July 9th

to, to, it seems as though there never would be an end to it; and ^{consequently} have not been able to lower a boat but twice during the last 19 days, looks rather discouraging for 2 or 3 weeks. However as ^{most} faithful says what we can't be helped. Better luck next time.

Lat by Obs 52.03 N
Long by Act 161 42 W

Tuesday July 10th

Thick fog all day. Towell down 17 Bbls of oil in after 4 o'clock finished mending Stove Boat at 1 PM the fog cleared up a little so that 2 right whales from off back lowered streak and afterwards took one to the ship.

Lat by Obs 52.07 N
Long by Act 161.00

Wednesday July 11th

Strong breezes from West with frequent fog squalls at 4 PM took whale to the ship and got ready for cutting. Conclude to let him lie until morning at 12 AM called all hands and commenced cutting; (after mending ship however) at 12 Meridian got 3/4 of the whale in board.

Lat by Obs 52.10 N
Long by Obs 160.50 West

Thursday July 12th

Fine weather strong. About the day at 2 PM finished cutting the largest with fattest whale we have taken during the voyage at 8 began to boil the whale and in the course of the twenty four hours have boiled up from the cooler 26 casks containing about 100 Bbls besides what is in the cooler and try pots pretty good clear work considering the crew have all watch and watch below, and I think there is blubber enough to keep us boiling twenty four hours longer, but hope it will last 36 at least no more to say.

Lat by Obs 52.24 Long 160.45

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Saturday July 13th

Strong breezes from the with rain and fog heading to the E S E still boiling our monster of a ship, the have boiled during the last twenty four hours 17 large casks. 8 & 80 by Gallons and 23 large Breckers containing about 100 Bbls. The heings on as the saying is, like a widows cruise we have about 40 Bbls more to boil think we shall get through by daylight. at 4 PM saw dead whale to windward, did not trouble him to much blast.

Lat by Obs 52.06 N
Long by Act 160 55 West

Sunday July 14th

Weather more moderate since hauling gradually to the Southward accompanied with thick fog at 2 AM finished boiling in all 320 Bbls. The largest whale I ever took in my life Cooper at work trimming oil for stowing below.

Lat by Obs 51.40 N
Long by Obs 160.40 W

Monday July 15th

Fine weather all day employed stowing oil. Towell down 16 Bbls. Saw finbacks.

Lat by Obs 51.30 N
Long by Obs 160.46 West

Tuesday July 16th

Moderate weather finished stowing down our oils all hands very busy taking up Shooks and making Breckers lowered the Boats for whales could strike on account of the fog.

Lat by Obs 51.38 N
Long by Act 160.00 West

Wednesday July 17th

Fresh breezes from S W with fog squalls saw Great numbers of finbacks cleaned our Whale Bone, and arised it.

Lat by Act 51.40 N
Long by Act 159.21 W

Thursday July 18th Gales from N E, thick weather running N. S. West under top sails and foresail at 12 Meridian the wind changed to S S E.

Lat by Act 51.50 N
Long by Act 160.00 West