

Cruising for Sperm Whales

Saturday July 30th 1843

Commenced with clear calm, and pleasant weather. Saml Robinson close by at 9 Capt. Warner came on board, and at 4 part 3. Capt. Place went on board of the Saml. Robinson. Came back at 8 P.M. parted company. Middle part squally from E. S. E. After part cloudy with moderate winds from E. at 2.30 M. John Baker (Boatsteerer) raised a Sperm Whale right ahead, 1/2 mile off. Lowered 4 boats struck and killed him, took him along side at 9 A.M. at 11. commenced cutting in squally with rain

Lat by Obs 30. 30 North

Sunday July 31st 1843

Commenced with squally and rainy weather. All hands employed cutting in the whale, finished cutting in all except the Head at 6 P.M. Whilst we were cutting in I was standing over in the Starboard Main Chains, and a Spade went overboard, I tried to get it, did get it, but went over myself, but I soon got up again, for I was too much afraid of the Sharks to stop them long. After part Gale from the East, at 10. the act of wearing Ship the Chain that held the Head parted and away it went to Davy Jones Lockers. Gale increasing. Watch employ'd Boiling dy to under Close Reefed Main top. sail and fore sail

Lat by Obs 30. 29

Tuesday August 1st 1843

All these 24 hours watch employ'd Boiling. at 10 raised whale off of back close by the ship. He turned flukes, Lowered 2 boats but saw no more of him. Squared the yards and set off West

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Wednesday August 2nd

All these 24 hours Gale from East standing on Starboard tack in search of Whales, at 7 A.M. raised a Sailing 2 points off Weather Bow. After part Moderate breeze from E. Watch employ'd Tarring down Calking decks &c.

Lat by Obs 31. 28 North

Thursday August 3rd 1843

Commenced with pleasant Gale from East, steering full and by with all sail set to catch the breeze. After part much the same at 10.11 saw a whale going quick to windward lowered 3 boats but saw no more of him. Came on board at 11 1/2 Watch employ'd cooping the Oil and Tarring the rigging

Lat by Obs 31. 18 North

Long by Lunar 175. 00 East

Friday 4th 1843

Commenced with pleasant weather. Wind light from S. by East. Steering full and by in search of Whales. Tacked ship at 2. P.M. Middle part much the same. After part Moderate winds from S. All hands employ'd Tarring down Oil. Carpenter Calking 90 Dees at 10.30 M. Mr. Dracher raised Whale 1 point off of our Weather Bow, they showed very much like Sperm Whales. lowered 4 boats for them, pulled, sailed, and paddled till we came up to them when we discovered them to be Fin Backs. -- so near like a Sperm Whale that they thought that we thought they were Sperm until we got nearly out. Came on board at 12 M.

Lat by Obs. Don't know