

Bark Volga in the Kamtschatka Sea May 1851

Remarks on Saturday May the 17th

These 24 hours light winds from the N.W. steering N.E. fine weather but overcast saw grasspares finbacks and Polar whales lowered for them without success they were very wild and all bound to the N.W. so ends this day
Lat 57.50 Lon 169.50

Remarks on Sunday May the 18th

First part of these 24 hours light winds from the N.W. now and then a snow squall in the afternoon saw several Polar whales all going to windward quick lowered 2 boats for them twice in the course of the afternoon without success saw lots of finbacks all this forenoon were in very thick dirty looking water sounded with a 30 fathom line and no bottom here and there a seal gamboling about in his element the water nearly freezing cold the amphibious animals of these latitudes must be very warm blooded likewise well clad first part steering N.E. latter part steering N.W. Lat 58.55 Lon 171.00

Remarks on Monday May the 19th

First part of these 24 hours light winds from the N.W. steering N.E. at 3 o'clock discovered a field of ice ahead of the ship 4 or 5 miles distant brought the ship to the wind heading east at daylight the ship was surrounded with masses of ice from the size of a bucket to size of a tin barrel cask and about one mile to leeward was a ice packed close as far as the eye could see to the N.W. there were some masses appeared to be as large as a boat or larger some pyramidically looking masses to the height of ten or twelve feet above the surface of the water we stood to the eastward and soon lost sight of it at 3 P.M. kept away N.E. thick weather through the day

Lat 59.50 Lon 173.00

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Remarks on Tuesday the 20th

These 24 hours began with light winds from the N.E. steering N.E. at 3 P.M. steered N.W. at meridian 3 ships in sight one of them boiling 1 P.M. saw 2 more ships one of these boiling about the same time raised ice to the N.E. at 2 the five ships heading to the Southward we steered to the North till about 2 P.M. and found that we couldn't get much farther for ice the ice is packed up as far as the eye can see from N.W. to S.E. and no doubt but we would find ice to the S.W. by running ten miles in that direction it is a hard looking place shure we have been this afternoon within a quarter of a mile of where the ice was packed up so that it looked fore like land covered with ice and more than it did look like the ocean at 8 P.M. spoke the ship Acushnet of Fairhaven 32 months out with 600 bbls of sp oil and 1 right whale and 2 Polar whales this season Bradley master latter part of these 24 hours standing to the Southward so ends this day
Lat 60.25 Lon 174.00 East

Remarks on Wednesday the 21st

These 24 hours began with a snow storm from the E.N.E. ship under double reef top sails sailing to the S at 8 A.M. veered ship to the Southward at meridian stopped snowing and shut in thick fog latter part about the same so ends this day
Lat 60.20 Lon 174.25