

Friday Oct 12th

Light winds & fine weather. Ship going along finely turning S.W. by S. Caught a Porpoise this Am. and had his Liver fried for dinner. it tastes similar to a Dog. Nothing unusual happened this 24 hours. Towards night the wind lulled and we had it calm till about half past 10 P.M. when a fine breeze sprung up aft. and so continued through the night.

Lat 25° 32' Long 10° 28'

Saturday Oct 13. Strong winds & fine weather. The wind kept blowing through the day & towards night we had strong winds from E. S. E. Ship heading S.W. by S. and making 7 knots.

Lat 26° 53'
Long 10° 40'

Sunday Oct 14. Strong winds and Cloudy weather. Nothing new this Am. This P.M. it began to blow heavy and great sea running got the ship before it under double Reefed. Sprung up sail & single reefed fore & main.

 Sprung

Lat 28° 13'
Long 11° 50'

Tuesday Oct 15. Gale of wind. Ship under close Reefed fore & main. Topsails & fore sail going nearly before it. Altogether it is a pretty heavy gale & very rough.

Lat 30° 45' S.
Long 13° 53'

Wednesday Oct 16. Weather moderating & wind & sea going down. we have had it pretty old two or three days back as we are off the River La Platte now. made more sail on the ship today and are going along fairly.

Lat 33° 09' S.
Long 16° 02' W.

Ship Alex Coffey at Sea Oct 17. Wednesday Am. Fine breeze and Cloudy weather. we are now off the mouth of the river La Platte, & if we get by without one of those Funnies which are peculiar to it, we shall be lucky. Nothing remarkable has happened so far this day. P.M. The wind began to die off just after dinner & at about 6 o'clock it was stark calm in a little while a light fanning sprung up ahead of the land, and so ends our dream of fair winds, and for a time our prospect of seeing Cape Horn.



Lat Observed
Long 18° 50' West

Thursday Oct 18th Commences with light winds & fine weather. The swell still up and both to go down. The ship backed ship up and heading S.W. by S. Towards 9 o'clock the wind knocked her off to S.W. by W. nothing remarkable happened saw Porpoises. Crew employed in mending Fore Top mast hatches in order to get ready for Cape Horn.



Lat 36° 39'
Long 19° 27'

Friday Oct 19th Commences with light winds & calms. middle & latter parts the same. Towards night had a fine breeze aft set shudding sails both sides and went along nicely. Caught two "Speckled Hagglers" (Cape Horn Pigeons) as the sailors term them, and hauled several "Crabs" (Callinectes) nicely aboard but didn't save any. Saw a Sun fish astern lowered & caught him. And if any one had told me there was such a looking fish I should have thought they were Herring.

Lat 37° 08'
Long 20° 05'

 This fish
for further description turn to last page

It has no tail, two fins at its extremity one on each side. Had no teeth, but a round swollen and a hard



long substance in place of teeth. It has two eyes rather larger than an eye, just back of the eye is an opening for respiration, although it is the most mysterious thing I ever saw with this world.