

Ship Alexander Coffin 91 Days out from New Bedford
bound Gold Hunting to San Francisco California

Sunday November 11th Commences

with light winds & fair weather ship heading N.W. and going at
the rate of 6 knots. The wind fell toward noon and we
had it calm the rest of the day. Caught a Albatross (or Gony
as the sailors call them) and two Blue Birds or Blue Jays, a
large bird about the size of a Goose. This plumage is the
softest and finest of any of the feathered tribe that I ever
saw. They are of a brownish blue colour, with a large blue eye
encircled by a narrow ring of white. The Gony measured 11
feet from tip to tip of his wings, & the Blue Jay measured 6 1/2.
Nothing else happened worth recording in this week.

Atkinson

(Lat. 52° 14" Course N.W.
(Long. 118° 50"

Monday November 12 3 Months out from Home

Monday commences with light
winds & calms and so continues till 3 P.M. when it began
on and before night blew a gale ship under close reefed topsails
& foresail. Saw a ship to windward of us, bound home stating
1 P.M. about 10 am. Saw a seal about a ships length to leeward
of us going the same way we were. Nothing new this day.

(Lat 51° 44" Course N.W.
made considerable lee way on account of
of reducing sail on the ship. (Long 79° 10"

Tuesday November 13th Commences with

the same gale we had yesterday and so continues through the
day ship under close reefed topsails fore & main sail, & heading
N by W 1/2 W. Saw Porpoises two or three times but did not succeed
in taking any. Nothing remarkable happened, at least that
I saw.

(Lat. 50° 33"
(Long. 78° 06"

Ship Alexander Coffin 3 Months & 2 Days out

Wednesday Nov 14th Commences with the
same Gale of the day previous, and so continues without
ceasing the day through. Saw two Penguins close aboard this
am. and another in the afternoon. Saw Porpoises all round
us but didn't take any caught two Cape Pigeons and let
them go again after fixing tethers on their necks. There
has been a tremendous swell on today. Ship heading W. N. W.

9 P.M. Glory to God. The wind has shifted & is now
fair. it is in our quarters, but there is too much swell to make
sail yet. Ship heading N.W. by N. N.W. is the course or rather
will be. Nothing remarkable happened.

Same as yesterday (Lat. No sight to day (Infolio)
(Long. Do - Do - Do (Indemnity

Thursday Nov 15th Duff Day. Commences
with fair wind & fair weather, but a very heavy swell on so that
whole topsails is the most sail we can carry. Saw a large
school of Black Fish close to the ship. I sincerely hope this
wind will hold where it is, (W. N. W.) long enough for us to get
in to Valparaiso or Juan Fernandez whichever place we are
bound to, if it does we shall be more than 8 or 9 days out
most, for the swell would soon be with us. Nothing new
or remarkable happened this day.

Course N.W. by N. (Lat 49° 06"
for Valparaiso (Long 78° 14' 30" by chronometer

Friday Nov 16th Commences with strong breeze
from the W. which soon increased to a Gale, and continued unabated
through the day, at 10 o'clock am. hoisted the ship too, under a close
reefed main topsail and fore topsail. At 12 am. finding she
did not make very good weather of it on the larboard tack, we
wore ship and lay too on the other tack the remainder of the day.
At 6 P.M. saw a large bark to windward of us laying too on the
other tack, about a mile distant. I hope she will keep that
distance good through the night. Nothing new or remarkable.

(Lat 47° 00" South
Wind West. Course S.W.
Ship heading S. N. W. (Long 78° 24' West