

Friday December 28th 1849

138 Days Out From New Bedford

This day commences with strong winds from N.E. Ship heading N.W. and going along fairly. God grant she may keep going to till we get in. Weather quite cool to day. Took in the waist boat on deck, and lashed the rest, preparatory to going out the Coast of California. They seem to expect rather rough times on the coast, but I don't apprehend anything very alarming. Because San Francisco is in lower latitude, than it is round our way, on the other side of Canal. One thing I know, the week that is coming will be the longest one, any of us ever knew. Since we expect to get in Port, some time in the course of it. As it is only 900 miles distant from us now. Nothing remarkable happened this day. So ends all well.

Course N.W. Wind N.E.

Lat No. 34. About 21.50
Long None Taken.

Saturday Dec. 29th 1849. Commences with strong winds from E.N.E. & N.E. Ship heading N.W. & N.W. and going very slow. It is so rough the Capt. makes any great head way. Took in Mizzen Top Gallant sail, & furlled it. Some pretty sure signs of a change of wind soon. I don't care how soon. Towards night took in Fore & Main Top Gallant sails & fly jib. Painted the waist Boat & lashed her in the fore. Crew employed humpbugging round the ship. Nothing remarkable happened this day. So ends all well.

Course N.W. Wind N.E.

Lat 23° 39"
Long 125° 00"

Sunday Dec 30th 1849. Commences with cool, fine weather, wind from N.E. Ship N.W. & N.W. We shall never get to California at this rate. Pray God the wind may shift for soon. This day is another long one in the list of lengthy days. Crew employed "keeping the saltwater, by washing and on thing & another. The wind kept knocking us off & in the night Tacked Ship & stood off on the other tack. Squally weather with rain. Nothing remarkable happened this day. So ends all well.

Course N.W. Wind N.E.

Lat 25° 02" North
Long 126.12" West

Monday, Dec 31. Last day of the Old Year

This day commences with (blue & fine weather. Hope the Wind will come out somewhere for soon. Stood on different Tacks throughout the day, not more than an hour on any one at a time. Ship heading to all points of the Compass. Crew employed on rigging and other jobs. Towards night had a light air from N.W. Ship heading N. So ends this the old year 1849. Adieu. We will shall see the new. Then now art among the things that are past. Old Tim has laid his sickle at thy roots, and swept thee off like Chaff. Then hast gone to make room for a younger & more vigorous Year. Welcome 1850!!

Lat 23° 20"
Long None Taken.

Tuesday January 1st 1850. This Day commences with fine weather and fair wind, although not quite enough of it. This is a fine beginning for the new year, I hope it will continue so, at least till we get in Port. I wish all those whom I have left behind may have a happy New Year & a prosperous one too. Although I am not near enough to them to convey my wishes good & bad by words. Yet probably they will be as well off with their thought as expressed. God bless my. Nothing remarkable happened this Day. That I saw to ends the first day of 1850.

Wind N.W. Course North. Lat 26° 29"
Long None Taken.

Wednesday January 2nd 1850. This Day commences with fine weather, wind aft is to Southward Ship going ahead slow but sure towards her destined Port. Let Shudding Sails aloft & aloft on both sides. I hope the wind will stand so for a week, after that I don't care how it is. Crew employed painting Boats &c. Mr. Senny fitting iron rope stanchions in the Rail. Pray God there may be use for them before long (say 4 days). Since the wind hauled to the Southward the weather is rather warmer. In fact in the day time the it is nearly as warm as in summer it is with. Towards night the wind hauled on our quarter, and hinged up stronger. So the ship goes faster. Nothing remarkable happened. So ends all well.

Course N. Wind S.

Lat 28° 34"
Long None Taken