

1730

S^t Brig Barbarita

Sunday April 4th A clear atmosphere with thin fleecy clouds moving slowly, beautiful weather and gentle breezes. Found myself in excellent health and spirits and had pleasant dreams.

True Course S 36 E Variation 15° 30' W Lat N 13° 52' Long W 23° 01'

Monday 5th Breeze from N.E. and pleasant weather.

True Course S 36 E Variation 16° W Lat N 11° 02' Long W 20° 46'

Tuesday 6th Gentle gales from N.E. and North and fair weather. At 3 P.M. past a Bird (about 6 miles to leeward) steering to the N.W.

True Course S 36 E Variation 16° 30' W Lat N 9° 55' Long W 18° 17'

Wednesday 7th Day warm weather and light winds and calms. At 9 A.M. the people caught a small shark, which they cooked & eat.

True Course S 37 E Variation 16° 30' W Lat N 9° 09' Long W 17° 12'

Thursday 8th Light air of wind and very warm weather. A smooth sea and fine moonlight night. Saw a number of boneta fish but caught none as they did not seem inclined to take bait.

True Course S 39 E Variation 17° W Lat N 8° 38' Long W 16° 26'

Friday 9th Excessively warm and light air of wind. Near the heat of day had some showers of rain, and after the Sun made its appearance the heat was almost intolerable.

True Course S 39 E Variation 17° W Lat N 8° 09' Long W 15° 03'

Saturday 10th Light breezes and clear weather until 7 P.M. when clouds began to gather in, and move from the Eastward and the water to be agitated like the ripplings of a current making a noise similar to that of a river in the time of a freshet.

All sail was immediately furled and it seemed like the silence of Death, save the noise of the ripple. The whole atmosphere had a kind of hazy appearance and at 11 P.M. the whole eastern quarter was enveloped in clouds of frightful blackness, and in a few minutes after it burst forth in a tornado, which no canvas could have stood, and lasted about 4 hours. At 4 P.M. having spent its force the gale was just under sail again.

In the morning a fine fresh atmosphere, with moderate breezes and pleasant weather to the end of the 24 hours.

True Course S 35 E Variation 17° W Lat N 7° 09' Long W 14° 26'

Passage to Africa.

1730

Thursday April 22. Excessively warm with light breezes and calms and pleasant weather. Landed at midnight in 55 fathoms. At daylight saw the land to the Northward. In the forenoon several canoes came alongside and we traded for some fresh fish, giving in exchange tobacco and rum. They call themselves Battoumen. They are entirely naked, except a cloth to cover their secrets, and a hat to shield their heads from the Sun.

At noon Battoumen N.E. by compass about 6 leagues distant.

Friday 23

Variation 19° W Lat N 4° 30'

Commenced a light breeze from N.W. gradually increasing to a tolerable brisk one, and continuing till 10 A.M. when we encountered a heavy squall from the Southward which by noon had spent its force, and left us nearly becalmed with a strong current setting to the Eastward as I judge being strong bubbling ripples and the water in great commotion. Saw the land at daylight to the Northward, and at noon I judge Cape Palmas to bear N.N.W. 10 leagues distant.

No Observation. Variation 19° W Lat N 4° 03' Long W 7° 30'

Saturday 24 Light winds and changeable weather. Find there has been a current which I judge has set us about 2 hours per hour N.E. Sixty days since we left Havana.

Sunday

Variation 19° W Lat N 4° 38' Long W 6° 24'

25 The first 18 hours gentle breezes and fair weather. The remaining 6 hours cloudy with squally around the horizon. Judge there has been a 2 knot current to the Eastward. At daylight the land in sight to the Northward and we have steered to the Eastward about 1 point off until noon, when I judge myself off Cape Lahou 5 leagues distant.

Variation 19° W. No Observation.

Monday 26 First part cloudy with rain and fresh breezes, lying along the land until night when we hauled 2 points off until morning, and then stood in again until the land was within 15 or 20 miles and kept to the Eastward. At 8 P.M. was off Cape Three Points. At noon the land 6 leagues distant. Find a current running Eastward 3 knots per hour. Latter part fair weather. Lat N 4° 39'