

From Africa for Havana (Cuba)

Friday 12th November. Light winds and very hot weather. The minds of Don Nicholas and the Officers are very feeble as regards putting in any where, one day being to put in the first port after making land and the next for endeavouring to reach Havana. There appears to be a great difficulty in entering any but a Spanish port, as the vessel is an uncondemned Prize and they have nothing to pay for Port Charges & repairs. Added to this, a disaffected crew being only 7 of the whole number on board from the Velez, who claim here, and who has the Prizes Original Papers, the Capt. or Prizes Master, having no other Papers to shew than an order from the Captain of the Velez to proceed to the Havana. The remainder of the crew are Prisoners taken from Slave Vessels captured by British Cruisers and delivered up, and are wishing their passage back to Havana, and being destitute and gaining nothing, have very little interest about where the Vessel goes so that they get clear of the labor of pumping the vessel. However I trust to a kind Providence and hope all things will work for the best and that we may reach some Port in safety. Steering Sail on both sides.

True Course N 51° W Variation 2° 30' E Lat N 14° 26' Long W 56° 10'

Saturday 13th Light winds and fair weather, but uncomfortably warm. At daylight a barque passed astern of us steering to the Northward, distant about 3 miles.

True Course N 25° W Variation 3° E Lat N 14° 32' Long W 58° 35'

Sunday 14th Light winds and pleasant weather until daylight in the morning when we encountered a stiff squall from E. S. E. which after passing away left us with a fine fresh breeze. At 9 past 8 A.M. saw the land, being the highest part of St. Lucia and at 10 A.M. saw Martinique bearing N. N. W. At noon the Northernmost part of St. Lucia bore S. W. by W. and the Southernmost part of Martinique W. N. W. the former about 12 and the

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latter about 15 miles distant. Steered W. N. W. to pass between them. Don Nicholas and the officers have settled it in their minds, to endeavour to reach St. Johns Porto Rico. My longitude does not differ much from being correct.

True Course S 69° W Variation 3° E Lat N 14° 18' Long W 59° 13'

Monday 15th Moderate breeze and warm pleasant weather. Saw a Schooner close in with the land steering for the harbor of Port Royal, Martinique. At 6 P.M. the Diamond Rock bore E. S. E. and the Point N. N. W. the former distant 1 league. At daylight saw the Islands of Dominica and Guadalupe to the N. E. and E. N. E. Lower, Topmast, and Top Gallant Steering Sails on both sides, spreading a goodly quantity of Canvas, being 14 wide cloth in the Lower, 9 in the Topmast and 6 in the Top Gallant Sails.

True Course N 70° W Variation 3° E Lat N 15° 18' Long W 62° 00'

Tuesday 16th Commences light winds, and at 3 P.M. died away calm with the whole heavens charged with thick clouds. At 5 P.M. commenced with lightning and heavy claps of thunder, and at 8 P.M. set into rain and blew very heavy, first from the North, then hauling Eastward. Furled all Sail and lay too under bare poles with her head to the Southward and Eastward. At 5 A.M. the weather became settled and clear with moderate breezes from the Eastward. Made all Sail and stood to the Westward. At 8 A.M. saw Dominica bearing N. E. distant 30 miles by estimation.

True Course N 56° W Variation 3° 30' E Lat N 15° 33' Long W 62° 30'

Wednesday 17th Light winds and calms and pleasant weather. Saw the land bearing North at Sunrise which I judge is St. Christophus distant 15 or 20 leagues.

True Course N 53° W Variation 4° E Lat N 16° 25' Long W 63° 03'

Thursday 18th Light air and calms until 6 P.M. the breeze then sprung up from E. S. E. At Sunrise saw the Island of Saba which at full bore is distant 21 leagues. At 11 30 A.M. saw St. Croix N. W. 40 miles.

True Course N 50° W Variation 4° E Lat N 17° 22' Long W 64° 12'