

Journal for the Barque Hector

December 18th Sunday morning commences with light breeze from N.W. steering S.E. by W. about 10 o'clock we raised a school of hump and right whales of our starboard bow warm and pleasant in the afternoon about 12 o'clock we raised the falklands island and at 4 o'clock the wind shifted and began to blow hard from S.W. by W. head wind for us we are close to five of the islands we took in the maintopgallant sail and furlled the gill and for and main top sail and furlled the main sail Latitude 50-40 South

December 19th Monday morning commences with a strong breeze from the S.W. we are steering S.W. by W. with the land of our starboard beam it is the falkland island it is fine and pleasant with a heavy sea on in the afternoon the wind abated some so that we shook out the reef the wind still blowing from S.W. with land in sight Latitude to day 51-40 South

December 20th Tuesday morning commences with a light breeze from N.W. steering S.W. by S. S. round round Cape Horn we have run out of sight of the falkland island it is fine and pleasant few and quite warm in the afternoon the wind shifted and began to blow fresh from W. by W. steering S.S.W. for Cape Horn we set the spanker and gaff top sail and at 3 o'clock took in the gaff top sail Latitude 52-39 South

December 21st Wednesday morning commences with a light breeze from W. by W. we are steering S.S.W. for Cape Horn at 1 o'clock we raised the land it bears S. by E. it is calm and pleasant and we hauled up the mainsail in the afternoon calm and unusually pleasant we saw a few seals along side and the captain sailed at him but did not hit him Latitude 53-53 South

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December 22nd Thursday morning commences with the wind blowing from S.E. head wind for us at 12 o'clock in the morning we raised a sail of our starboard bow and we soon came up with her and the captain lowered down the starboard boat and went on board she was about 2 miles off she proved to be the Mechanic of New Port. R. P. Captain Pratt 8 months out no oil round around Cape Horn in the afternoon we raised the land of our starboard bow the wind still blowing the same we heard S. by W. the sail still in sight of our starboard bow Latitude 53-47 South

December 23rd Friday morning commences with a strong breeze from N.W. steering along the coast off Staten land and at 1 o'clock came up with false Cape Horn and luffed the ship close in the wind with the Mechanic a stern off did we are about 5 miles off the land with the wind blowing fresh off the land so that we had to take in main topgallant sail and double reefed the main top sail and single reefed the port top sail in the afternoon the wind began to blow a gale so that we have too Latitude 54-38 South Longitude

December 24th Saturday morning commences with light breeze from the west steering S.W. by S. and we made all sail again quite calm and pleasant and about 3 o'clock the wind shifted around from S.W. and came in squalls so that we took in sail again with the ship Mechanic right ahead in the afternoon the wind still blowing the same we had to take in the main sail and gill and double reefed the main top sail and single reefed the port top sail Latitude to day 56-20 South