

Journal for the Barque Hector

January 3^d 1843 Tuesday morning commences with a strong breeze from S.W. we made sail again and wore ship standing to the westward with a sail in sight clear and pleasant. In the afternoon the wind still blowing a light breeze from the westward we wore ship and made sail we raised the sprit of two pin back whales Latitude 57-22 South.

January 4th Wednesday morning commences with a light breeze from N.W. steering N.W. by S. and the wind dies away calm and at 11 o'clock the wind began to blow a light breeze from the southward we are busy breaking out for water and got done by 12 o'clock and braced round the yards. In the afternoon the wind began to blow heavy accompanied with squalls of rain about 3 o'clock we raised two sails steering the same way we are we took in the mainsail gill and shanks close reefed the topsail at 6 o'clock it blew harder Latitude 57-24 South.

January 5th Thursday morning commences with a strong wind blowing from the southward steering N.W. by W. we made sail again and at 6 o'clock we raised a sail right a stern standing the same way we are. In the afternoon the wind began to blow very hard and squally with rain we wore ship and shortened sail the sails that were raised in the morning and wore the same time we did and went to mindward of us so that we exchanged signals she was a large American whale ship Latitude 56-25 South No wind the day.

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January 6th 1843 Friday morning commences with a gale of wind blowing from N.W. accompanied with squalls of rain so that we had to have the ship too under close reefed main top sail and main stay sail and for topmast stay sail we furled the foresail. In the afternoon the wind still blowing the same from the N.W. with a heavy sea on and cold and rain.

January 7th Saturday morning commences with the wind still blowing hard and squally from the westward with a heavy swell on we are under short sail standing to the southward and the weather continues cold and very little prospect of better weather. In the afternoon the sea away some and hauls around to N. so that we set the main sail we are steering N.W. by W. Latitude 57-54 South Longitude 72-25 W.

January 8th Sunday morning commences with the wind from the westward still blowing a heavy gale accompanied with rain at intervals a heavy sea which often breaks over the ship fore and aft leaving the decks continually wet and disagreeable laying too under close reefed main top sail and main stay sail we are lay waiting as we have often done for fair weather which there is no prospect of at present. In the afternoon the weather continues the same and no signs of moderating as yet with the sea still running very high Latitude 58-30 South.

January 9th Monday morning commences with wind still blowing from the westward it moderated so that we was able to set the foresail and wore ship and stood to the northward in the afternoon we wore ship and made sail again standing to the westward Latitude 59-06 South.