

Journal for the Barque Hector

Feb 10th 1843 Friday morning commences with fine weather one watch on liberty we broke out one cask of oil and sold it on board of the ship rooco of New Bedford

Feb 11th Saturday morning commences with fine weather all hands busy cleaning ship and is all ready for sea

Feb 12th Sunday morning commences with fine weather we closed the sails and hove the chain short waiting for the Captain in the afternoon we left town to cruise for sperm whales

Feb 13th Monday morning commences with a strong breeze from the northward steering N by E in the afternoon the wind shifted and began to blow a gale from the southward accompanied with heavy rain we had to shorten sail we are steering N.W. by W. and about 4 o'clock the wind died away calm and cleared of with pleasant weather and we saw plenty of humpback whales with 3 sails in sight

Feb 14th Tuesday morning commences with light breeze from the southward steering N.W. with plenty of hump back whales spouting all around the ship in the afternoon the starboard watch busy making a for sail out of one we got from the Luminary Latitude 35-52 S.

Feb 15th Wednesday morning commences with calm and pleasant weather at 11 o'clock we raised a school of blackfish we lowered down the boat and the starboard boat got one of them in the afternoon we spoke the ship Lexington of Nantucket 29 months out & returned home

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Feb 16th 1843 Thursday morning commences with a strong breeze from the southward steering W. we are busy making a for sail to cruise with one sail plenty fin back whales in the afternoon the wind died away calm until about 2 o'clock when it freshened up again from the southward

Feb 17th Friday morning commences with a light breeze from the southward steering N by E accompanied with rain in the afternoon it died away calm and pleasant until about 6 o'clock when it freshened up from the southward Latitude 33-27 North

Feb 18th Saturday morning commences with a strong breeze from the eastward steering S.W. by W. we raised the Island of Juan Fernandez about daylight and soon came up with it in the afternoon we came up with the Island and lifted the ship up to S.W. Latitude 33-27 S.

Feb 19th Sunday morning commences with a light breeze from the southward accompanied with rain steering N.W. about 9 o'clock it cleared away and became calm with Juan Fernandez and Masfuri in sight in the afternoon the weather about the same very little wind Latitude 33-18 S.

Feb 20th Monday morning commences with fine and pleasant weather we raised a sail and she went across our stern closed under the land in the afternoon quite calm and very warm Latitude 33-38 S.

Feb 21st Tuesday morning commences with fine and pleasant weather we raised a spout of a hump back whale in the afternoon all hands busy setting up the main rigging with a pleasant breeze Latitude 33-29 S.