

Remarks on Board of Ship Bowditch, While on the Passage to

Monday April the 1st 1850

Commenced with a pleasant breeze from the N.E., Ship working to the windward after Whales at 1.30 P.M. Saw Whales to the leeward and at 2 P.M. lowered the boats & struck a small one to the starboard boat & at 4 took him to the ship, the boats in chase 6 miles off. at 5 took up the boats, & cut in the whale, & kept the ship off N.W. & sailed in sight to the westward standing S.E. the middle part fresh breezes & cloudy, at 10 A.M. began to boil the whale (nothing in) the latter part moderate breezes and fine weather, (sight from light) Lat by Obs 18° South Long by Chron 172.45 East

Tuesday April the 2nd A continuation of moderate breeze from the N.E. and fine weather, the ship with all sail set steering N.W. at 2 P.M. kept off N.W. by W. & at 4 P.M. finished boiling 116 gallons of sperm, at 1 P.M. hauled up N.W. through the night a light breeze from the N.E. and fair weather at 7 A.M. saw a school of sperm whales going like chain lightning to the windward, lowered the boats & chased them three hours without success at 10.30 took up the boats & kept on our course Lat by Obs 06.56 North, Long by Chron 171.16 East

Wednesday April the 3rd Commenced with a light breeze from the N.E. by E. and pleasant weather, the ship with all sail set steering N.W. the middle & latter part a brisk breeze from the East and fair weather the watch employed with sundry jobs Lat by Obs 2.17 North, Long by Chron 168.54 East

Thursday April the 4th Commenced with a brisk breeze from the East and fair weather, ship with all drawing sail set steering N.W. from 4 to 8 P.M. light air from the S.E., the middle part baffling air from the southward, at 9 A.M. took a squall from the N.W. & lashed ship to the N.E. from 1 to 11 A.M. heavy shower of rain at 11 A.M. light air from the N.E. & haced round the yards heading N.W. the weather clearing off. sun obscure, no obs Lat by Obs 2.50 North Long by Chron 168.04 East

Friday April the 5th the first of middle part of these twenty four hours a light breeze from the N.E. & fair weather ship heading N.W. the latter part a light breeze from the N.E. by E. ship heading up N.W. by W. The watch employed on the rigging & setting of the whale line, the mast heads double hauled Lat by Obs 4.00 North Long by Chron 167.30 East

to Strong's Island, & Japan Sea, Nelson Walker, Master

Saturday April the 6th Commenced with a light breeze from the N.E. by E. with fair weather, ship by the wind heading N.W. by W., through the slight baffling squalls from the North & N.W. at 12 M. took in the gallant sails and double reefed the top sails, at 5 A.M. the wind hauled to the N.E. & set all sail steering N.W. by W., the latter part inclining to a calm with passing clouds Lat by Obs 4.30 North Long by Chron 165.31 East

Sunday April the 7th the first part of these 24 hours a light air from the North and fair weather, ship heading W. N.W. at 7 P.M. a breeze sprang up from the South, at 10 varied to the N.E. & kept the ship N.W. at 5 A.M. a fresh breeze from the N.E. & set the fore top most standing sail at 6 kept off W. N.W. and squared the yards, the latter part a brisk breeze from the N.E. and fair weather, at 12 M. kept off West Lat by Obs 05.09 North Long by Obs 164.00

Monday April the 8th Commenced with a brisk breeze from the N.E. and squally appearances to the North ship with all sail set steering West, at 2 P.M. took a squall from the N.E. N.W. with a shower of rain, took in the standing sail & haced sharp heading West, 3 P.M. until 6 baffling squalls from the North and Eastward, at 7 P.M. faked the top gallant sails, hauled up the courses and luffed to the wind heading up S.W. by S. and off S.W. by S., the head yards aback & jibs down, Strong's Island supposed to bear West dist 30 miles, through the slight & light breeze & thick drizzly weather at 3 A.M. kept off West & set the top gallant sails & the fore sail at 5 set the fore top most standing sail, at 11 A.M. got an altitude and found the longitude 165.12, the Capt has made a mistake in time for three days past by a wrong application of the Longitude these 24 hours end with thick rainy weather, Lat by Obs 5.10 North

Tuesday April the 9th Commenced with a light breeze from the Eastward and the weather thick & rainy, ship with all drawing sail set steering West, at 1.30 P.M. the Chained to the South, at 2 the weather clear & haced the mast heads, from 4 to 6 P.M. the wind veered to the East & squared the yards steering West through the night light breezes from the East and fair weather, at 5.30 A.M. saw Strong's Island bearing per Compass W. S.W. dist 20 leagues the latter part a light breeze from the N.E. by E. and fine weather at 11 A.M. saw a ship to the South, the 24 hours end with a pleasant breeze and fine weather, course W. S.W. for the land, Lat by Meridian Obs 5.31 Long by Chron 164.00