

Barque Bennett cruising off the River La Platte
 Remarks on board Wednesday February ^{the} 1 1843
 commenced with pleasant breeze from the N.W. steering slightly to the S course;
 at 2 P.M. finished & bent the main topgallant sail middle & latter part strong
 gales from the N.W. at daylight set the fore top sail double reefed were
 ship & steered S.W. at 9 wind increased took in the top sail & bore
 to Barque heading East. latter part much the same

Latitude 35° 24' S
 Long by Chronometer 48° 10' 45" W

Thursday
 Feb ^{the} 2 1843
 commenced with strong gales & a high sea from the
 N.W. Barque heading S. at sunset hauled the fore top sail
 middle part much the same with rain & thunder at 7 P.M.
 set the fore top sail double reefed & manned the mast heads
 at 9 news from the mast head there she blows; 4 large sperm
 whales; secured two boats in a hurry got up a line side of
 one but not high enough to strike dories but did not fasten
 they went off; at 10 small rats chased them about two
 hours and some on board quite discouraged with hard labor
 had a round tow with Capt. J. in the barque latter part
 carrying all sail in close chase so ends these 24 hours

Lat 35° 55' S
 Long in 48° 20' W

Friday
 Feb ^{the} 3
 commenced with light breeze from the westward; at 2 P.M. Capt
 Luce took a picket crew & Mr. Lawrence to star him and lower
 his boat; left orders for me to come if saw a whale sat
 he did not give fare before he sat on but before I got to
 him he struck a large one; at 4 P.M. turned him up;
 at 5 took him to the ship put him in chains and
 took in sail & got ready to cut at daylight looked
 down at noon got the head off & got dinner
 so ends these 24 hours



E. N. L. La Platte

Saturday
 Feb ^{the} 4 1843
 moderate gales & a long rolling swell at dark got the heads in
 after a hard days work got supper & commenced boiling at
 6 in the morning called all hands looked down to the head
 the hooks came out several times which made a great
 bother at noon got the junk off spoke the Pentecost Capt. Cur
 came on board had not taken a whale since we last
 saw him so ends these 24 hours

Sunday
 Feb ^{the} 5
 strong gales & rough sea at 3 P.M. finished boiling the
 case middle & latter part wind to the same wind
 from the southward at 7 P.M. were ship to the West
 ward latter part all hands busily employed
 in boiling so ends these 24 hours

Monday ^{the} 6

strong winds & a heavy swell from the Southward
 Barque heading on the Western tack; all hands
 busily employed in boiling & stowing down oil
 at 10 A.M. spoke Barque Alto; Coffin from the
 Pacific bound home with 600 barrels Van Alben 28 months
 I left all work & went on board of her



Tuesday ^{the} 7
 fresh gales from the Southward Barque heading on
 the Eastern Tack at 4 P.M. passed a brig standing
 to the Westward; at sunset hauled the fore top sail
 at 9 in the evening parted company with the Alto
 at 10 finished boiling called all hands & commenced
 stowing down oil at 9 A.M. spoke Brig Ingal
 under way of Rotterdam & unrolled out 600 barrels
 latter part light winds & a heavy swell
 so ends these 24 hours

