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Journal of a passage from London to New York, in the Ship Factor, James Brown Master, in the Summer of 1793 by Benj[amin] Bakewell

On Thursday Morning July 25th I bid adieu to my friends at Homerton, and went on board the Gravesend Boat at Billingsgate at 4 o'clock. The Wind being favourable, we reached Gravesend at 8. The Factor arrived at 7 in the Evening, when I went on board and prepared my Hammock etc.

July 26 1793 Went ashore to provide several necessaries of which I found myself deficient. I embarked at 12; our anchor was weighed by two, and we got under way with a pleasant Western breeze, & arrived 8 miles below the Nore in the Evening, where we cast anchor. Near the Nore, we passed the Sandwich Man of War of 90 Guns, & seven other Ships of the Line; Our

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Captain bound his main top-gallant sail as he went by them, as a token of respect, tho' in the eye of reason & humanity our vessel would, I thought, appear by much the most respectable of the two. Ours was employed in transporting the comforts & conveniences of life, to Shores the most distant, - theirs, in spreading misery, destruction, and death wherever they went.

Saturday July 27. The Wind blew hard from the East attended with heavy rain. We weighed anchor at 6 o'clock, & arrived off Margate in the Evening.

Sunday July 28. The Wind still blew hard from the East attended with heavy squalls, which continued all day & obliged us to lie at anchor. Most of the passengers sick by the Canting of the Ship.

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Monday July 29 1793. Got under way at 4 o'clock, but obliged to cut our Cable & leave our Anchor, the wind blowing so

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hard the men could not heave it up. Passed Margate, Ramsgate, & the North Foreland, & arrived at 12 off Deal; where our Captain went to provide another Anchor & Cable. While he was absent, we were boarded by a press-gang from the Alfred Man of War, who took two of our men, which we could very ill spare, being two hands short of the usual complement already. Capt'n Brown went after them, got them released one because he was a American Slave, the other because he was an Invalid. At 6 in the Evening we weighed anchor for the last time we hoped, till arrived at our destined Port; and got under way with a pleasant gentle breeze from the NE.

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Tuesday July 30. Early in the morning of this day we passed the Straits of Calais, & had an extensive & delightful view of the Coast of France. By our glasses we could see the peasants at their daily toil reaping & leading[?] Corn. On our starboard side we saw the English Coast.

Wednesday July 31 at 4 o'clock we passed Beachy Head at noon Brighton, & at 4 PM the Isle of Wight. The land upon this part of the English Coast is agreeably diversified by hills & dales, but appears barren. The Miniria, a ship from Charleston, passed us a little to windward. The Evening very calm & serene with a light breeze from the S.E.

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Thursday Aug 1 1793. the morning was fine & pleasant & the Wind in our favour, but at noon it died away, & was succeeded by a dead calm, which prevented our making the least way. Capt'n Paul & Messrs Cloofendale & Vantyle bathed in the Sea, whose surface was smooth as a looking-glass; the colour was of a beautiful verdure[?]. In the Evening we had a

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breeze from the NE.

Friday Aug 2. The morning was fine & the wind favourable. At Seven o'clock we descried at Frigate, two Sloops of War, and a Tender, bearing the colours of the French Republic. They directed their course for us, & when about one mile distant, fired a Gun to bring us to. We obeyed the signal and were hailed by the Tender, who demanded

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from whence we came, & where we were bound to &c. As the Captn did not speak French I answered them, & after having wished them a good voyage & success to the French Republic, they very politely took leave of us without further detention. The name of the Frigate was La Capria-euse mounting 36 guns.

Saturday Aug 2[sic]. This morning we heard the report of the firing of several Guns which made us imagine that there must be an engagement at no great distance. In the afternoon we saw a Brig carrying the National Colours of France bearing fast down upon us. They soon fired at us, & we saw the ball drop a little ahead of us, but as we were considerably to the Windward our Captain would not lie to. In quarter of an hour, she fired a second gun at

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our Stern. Captn Brown now thought it prudent to obey the signal. They sent their long boat manned by 8 Seamen whom we took to be French from their hailing us in that language, they boarded us & examined our Papers, but found no property which they could seize. We wished them success & destruction to their enemies & directed them to four Sail of Dutch Merchantmen which we had seen in the course of the day. We were however somewhat surprised when upon upon [sic] their returning to the Brig the Captain hailed us in English & told us

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we little thought who we had been talking to, and that his vessel was an English Brig called the Liberty mounting 30 Guns. To carry on the deception better, the men who boarded us were Guernsey men, & they imaged that by hoisting French Colours, they should be

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able to discover French property on board, but we had nothing which they could make a legal seizure. A few days before they took an American Brig by the same stratagem & carried her into Plymouth.

Sunday Aug 4. Much rain & wind all day and most of our passengers sick. Saw the Lizard Point which we hoped was the last time of seeing land till arrived at our destined Port. I could not avoid casting a a [sic] longing, lingering, look behind as I bid adieu to my native land. England! said I, Farewell! Spotted as thou art with every crime, and groaning as thou dost under corruptions 'hand, yet for the sake of those I leave behind I love thee still.

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Monday Aug 5. The Gale somewhat abated, but the Sea ran mountains high & the Wind direct in our teeth. - The Brig, Lady Washington, passed us quick as lightning. She came from Boston and we supposed her bound for England but had not time to ask her any questions. In the Evening the Gale much abated & the Weather pleasant. The sea was beautifully variegated with a phosphoric appearance.

Tuesday Aug 6. The morning delightful and a gentle breeze in our favour. - Chased for 8 hours by the Druid Frigate & Fury Sloop of War, from England. They fired several Guns at us to bring us to & our Captain

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finding that they sailed faster than we lay to. The Frigate's Boat came to board us, and after examining our Papers &c. the men left us without further molestation. I wrote to A.B. & W.B. by her. It is usual for Privateers, or rather Pirateers, & Ships of War when they mean to bring a vessel to, to fire the 1st Gun a head, the 2^d Gun astern & the 3rd Gun directly at her if no attention is paid to the former. Wednesday Aug 7. Bad squally weather with the wind directly contrary. I was disqualified by seasickness or as the French ^with more propriety say^ mal au coeur for every thing. Thursday Aug 8. The same as yesterday. Our Latitude 49.24N.

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Friday Aug 9. The Wind still against us & the weather squally. We saw a Liverpool Privateer which the Druid Frigate boarded to search for men. Two Lieutenants belonging to the Privateer ordered cold shot to be thrown at the Frigates' men in consequence of which they took the Lieutenants & flogged them & pressed 30 Men from her. Saturday Aug 9. Fine pleasant weather & favourable Wind. We now found our Berth excessively uncomfortable from there being two people (viz. our Second Mate & a steerage passenger) very ill of the small-pox. There was no possibility of ventilating the

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place we slept in & as the eruption upon them was very full, and near the height, it yielded a very unpleasant smell. Our Lat 49".11. Sunday Aug 11. Fair weather & the wind in our favour. Poor Green

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our second mate died this morning after having suffered much from the violence of the fever which attended his disorder. His body was sewn in a hammock & thrown into the deep in the Evening. – Mr. Whaling a rigid Calvinist went to converse with him a short time before he died about the state of his soul & his hopes of Salvation thro 'the merits of Jesus Christ &c. happy would it have been for the poor man if Mr.

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Whaling ^had^ taken the same pains in proper time to administer something comfortable to his body, who by being in the Cabbin had every thing at his command; but that alas he never thought of. – Monday Aug 12. The Wind against us & the weather very squally. Our Captain began to fear our passage would be a long one & our provisions run short. Tuesday Aug 13. A heavy gale of Wind from the N.E. all day, attended with much rain. In the Even'g it increased and the sea ran mountains high but when the sun shone upon it, it appeared exceedingly beautiful. The breaking of the

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waves, and their white foamy tops contrasted with the deep blue hue of the ocean was sublime & grand. Our Ship dipped as if ready to tumble headlong into the sea. We now had been out 20 days & I do not reckon ourselves more than 500 miles Westward of Scilly owing to so many contrary winds. Wednesday Aug 14. This morning the Gale abated and died away into a gentle breeze from the North, by which we sailed at

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the rate of 5 Knots per hour.
The all-cheering Sun once more
after a few days absence darted
his grateful beams upon us &

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dispelled the gloom which had
for some time obscured the counte-
nances of ^the^ principal part of our
passengers.
Thursday Aug 15. The Breeze from the
North still continued, & the morn-
ing remarkably serene & clear.
- Saw a Shark and many Qualls.
At 3 o'clock we descried a Sail to
Windward of us. This was a most
pleasing sight, as we had not seen
any object but sea & sky, for
several days. She soon hoisted
American colours & bore down
for us before the Wind. She was
soon along side us & proved to
be the pacific Snow, Dunbar

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from Boston to London. I much
regretted I had not prepared letters
for my friends. If I was to go
to sea again & leave them behind
I would take a small paper kite
with me by which means letters
might be conveyed from ship to
ship with ease & safety. At 6 in
the Evening a heavy gale of Wind came
on which soon raised the sea very
much. We cut thro 'the Water at the
rate of 8/2 Knots an hour. Lat 50".45.
Friday 16 Augst. The Wind something
abated but still very brisk.
Mrs. Nichols 'little girl taken
ill of the small pox. The wea-
ther hazy which prevented our
making an observation.

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Saturday Aug 17. The morning calm &
serene & we have a gentle breeze in our

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favour all day. The Evening Moon-light & extremely pleasant. The sailors having had their accustomed allowance of grog danced upon deck till 12 o'clock.

Our Lat. 46.46 N

Sunday Aug 18. This morning extremely fine and calm so that we were only able to pursue our course at the rate of 1 knot per hour. this kind of weather the seamen call a Weather breeder being always succeeded by a gale of wind.

Aug 19.- This morning as was foretold we had a brisk Gale of wind from the Westward attended with rain.

The haziness of the day prevented our taking an observation.

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Tuesday Aug 20. The Gale from the West increased & disqualified me for every thing.

Wednesday Aug 21. The wind abated & the sun's chearful face once more visible to us. At noon we discovered a sail & bore down for her. She proved to be the Schooner, Catherine, from Salem near Boston for Bilbao with Fish. The Gale which blew the day before having occasioned a great swell in the sea this poor little schooner was tossed abt like a cork. The sea ran over her deck every time a swell came near her. To the Americans alone it belongs to navigate the Atlantic with such small vessels as these. They have only one Mast & two sails & frequently make a voyage to Europe or the W Indies with three or four men.

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Our Captain told us the following anecdote about one of them. It was bound to Guadaloupe & they had not been at Sea many hours before they were overtaken by a ^heavy^ gale of Wind which lasted three days.

It was navigated by three men; two of them were Brothers named Jonathan & Thomas. Jonathan the

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Master being exhausted with fatigue went to bed before the Gale had quite subsided but requested that if any alteration took place they would call him. He had not retired an hour before a violent squall came on which clea^red the deck. Away Thomas runs to the Cabbin & calls "Brother Jonathan", I say 'Brother Jonathan' why here's a Nation[?] alteration

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'come about; there's a squall has 'carried our Mast & all our sails 'overboard!" – Sarah Starkey, a passenger in the steerage very ill of the small pox but relieved by a mirianige[?] in the Evening.
Thursday Aug 22. The morning very hazy & unpleasant, but the wind right aft from the East which carried us thro 'the water at the rate of 7/ Knots an hour.
Friday 23 Aug. The weather still hazy but a pleasant gentle gale in our favour the whole day. Saw many Sea Gulls & Pittwings[?].
Saturday 24 Aug. Hazy weather

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with variable winds. In the Even'g it settled & blew a gentle Gale from the S.E. We supposed ourselves in the Longitude of 44"-Lat 44.
- Mrs Starkey died & her body was committed to the deep in the evening. – What was to become of her poor little Children who were both ill of the same complaint & her helpless worthless husband I knew not. He managed however better than I expected. –
Sunday 25 Aug. – The Morning remarkably fine & wind to make it more agreeable blows a plea-

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sant breeze in our favour & carries us 7 Knots an hour. At Noon the Gale abated but the

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weather delightful in the extreme. The Sea was perfectly smooth & our horizon boundless by the reason of the transparency of the atmosphere.- Saw many Portugal Men of War or Sailors. Their bodies are from 3 to 6 Inches long & are shaped like the bladder of a fish which they can compress or dilate at pleasure. They have upon the upper extremity of their bodies a beautiful pink or purple ridge & from its belly issue several fibres with which they sting any enemy that approaches them. Their names are derived from their great capacity for

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swimming, for by expanding their sail they can sail before the wind with the most astonishing rapidity. This day by our reckoning we are in Long 44. Lat 43.40. Monday Aug 26. The morning very wet & the air very close & warm. - at 3 o'clock P.M. it cleared up & we had a gentle breeze from the N.E. but it was interrupted by frequent calms. I caught several qualls in the basket which are very curious. About 6 or 8 are by slender threads attached together. Their whole body is composed of a gelatinous matter & transparent except a small streak of purple upon their backs. They are abt. 2 Inches

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long & one thick. Their mouths are very wide & they have a fin upon their backs. It is said that Turtles

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are very fond of them. This Evening about $\frac{1}{4}$ of an hour before sun-set we saw a remarkably bright rainbow & attendant upon the setting sun some of the most beautiful clouds variegated with purple & Gold; a little higher in the horizon the sky was clear as crystal shaded with a greenish yellow and below the whole an extensive range of large deep purple clouds, the whole forming a grand, sublime prospect worthy alone of the Almighty hand which drew it. At midnight we had a number of porpoises played round the Ship. When they came to the

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surface of the Water they appeared like a mass of phosphoric matter, occasioned by the agitation of the sea.

Tuesday 27 Aug. A fine morning & a pleasant breeze all day. The atmosphere clear & serene as possible & our view bounded only by sea & sky as usual.

At 12 o'clock the moon rose as out of the sea in a most beautiful manner. Altho' only half her disk was visible the grandeur & majesty with which she rose can only be conceived. Lat 43:49

Wednesday 28 Aug. The same fine agreeable weather continued with a breeze from the W. We descried a Frigate bearing right down upon us. She fired two

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Guns at us but our Captain disregarded them & pursued his course, & they finding that our Ship was the quickest sailor relinquished their pursuit after a chase of Six Hours. –

Thursday 29 Aug. Fair pleasant weather with a breeze from the E. which carried us 7 Knots or miles per hour. Capt'n Brown supposed himself upon the Banks of Newfoundland, and we began to prepare

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our hooks in hopes of being able to regale ourselves with some fresh fish. The fishermen who are employed upon the Banks are very expert at catching them, and sometimes an

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industrious one will take 200 or 300 in a day. The usual bait is salted Pork which no sooner reaches the bottom than it is laid hold of. When they are in 50 fathoms water or upwards it is very laborious work.

Friday Aug 30. A fine morning with a pleasant Gale from the N. by which we steered 7 Knots. In the Evening we sounded for the Banks with 140 fathoms & found no bottom; this induced our Capt. to think we had passed the Banks in the Night. - Our Lat 42.21. We saw many Haylits[?] (a marine bird rather smaller than a duck).

Saturday Aug 31. At 4 o'clock this Morning I had a delightful view of Venus

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and the Moon, which from the darkness of the atmosphere, appeared to vie with each other in Lustre. Shortly after, the sun rose out of the Sea with all the grandeur & sublimity imaginable. How much superior thought I, the pleasure of contemplating a scene like this than the false & mistaken one of lolling in inglorious ease on beds of down.

“Falsely luxurious, will not man awake
'And springing from the bed of sloth, enjoy
'The cool, the fragrant, and the silent hour,
'To meditation due & sacred song?
'For is there aught in sleep can charm the wise?
To lie in dead oblivion, losing half
The fleeting moments of too short a life:
Or else to feverish vanity a prey
'Wilder'd & tossing thro' distemper'd dreams?
'Who would in such a gloomy state remain

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Longer than nature craves; when every Morn
And every blooming beauty wait without
To bless the wildly, delicious morning walk?

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We had a perfect calm all day and the weather was excessively warm & relaxing, but I was much refreshed by bathing in the Sea. Our jolly Boat was hoisted out & part of the ships 'passengers went a shooting birds. – We saw several albercores, a large fish weighing from 40 to 60 lb. They are excellent eating, but we could not harpoon ^any^ of them. They leap frequently a yard from the surface of the Sea after the flying fish, of which they are very fond. – Lat 42..6.

Sunday Sep 1st. The Weather this morning formed a striking contrast to that we had the preceding day. We had much rain & wind

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which continued to increase till noon & blew a heavy Gale. It was with great difficulty that the seamen could haul in the Top & Top Gallant Sails, & we feared they would have been carried overboard. Suddenly the Wind & Sea subsided & we had a calm during the remaining part of the day. I was much indisposed by sickness & a violent head-ach. Capt. Brown supposed we had entered the Gulf stream from the sudden changes in the weather. Lat 42.17.

Monday Sep 2. The Morning clear & sunny, the Sun now in a most beautiful manner. The gold-illumined clouds

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which attended him were splen-

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did & majestic in the extreme.
- We had a dead calm, or
weather breeder all day, a calm
in the natural as well as moral
world being ^always^ succeeded by a storm.
In the Evening there was the
most brilliant Aurora Borealis
I ever saw. It extended from West
by North to East in the form of
a large curve something like
the annexed figure.

[drawing]

- a. The Aurora remarkably bright
& shaded with a greenish yellow hue
- b. A range of very dark
purple clouds which served
as a foil to the illumina-
ted part above
- c. the deep blue ethereal
sky studded with
stars which shone
excessively bright

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At 11 o'clock at night its aspect
changed & it began to move to
& fro with astonishing velocity &
displayed every colour of the
rainbow. Lat 42 Lon 60
Tuesday Sep 3. The morning very
fine & pleasant with a gentle
breeze from the S.E. We now
wished much to see a sail, it
being 6 days since we had seen
the last vestige of any human
beings except our Ships 'Company.
At Noon our Lat 42.6 at
5 o'clock P.M. we descried a Sail
bearing N.E. We steered for her
but after having ineffectually
hoisted the signal & pursued her
half an hour we returned to

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our course, fearing that we should
not come up with her before
night.
Wednesday Sep 4. Fine pleasant

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weather & favourable wind which carried us 7 Knots an hour. Our Lat 41.47. Lon'de 63. In the Evening while Mr Colpits & myself were drinking our nocturnal glass of Porter in the Steerage we were agreeably surprised by hearing Captn Brown hail a vessel. We jumped on Deck quick as lightning & found a Ship a-long side of us from New York to London. She had been out 10 days & supposed herself in Lon 53. Altho 'by this account we were

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5 degrees farther from land than we expected yet we were rejoiced to speak with her & thought ourselves particularly fortunate at meeting her in the night upon so large a surface as the Atlantic Ocean, and still more so that we did not run foul of her, as she was not perceived till within 30 yards of us.

Thursday Sep 5. The morning very calm & serene. The sun's disk was when he rose eclipsed abt. 2 digits upon the Northern limit. At ½ past 7 it totally disappeared. All hands busy painting our boats &c. Lat 40.47 –

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Friday Sep 6. The morning very fine but very warm. At 6 o'clock I bathed in the Sea & found the Water warm as new milk. At 8 we saw a large Shark over the stern of our ship. One of the seamen threw a line & hook baited with Pork which he no sooner saw that he made for it & swallowed with great greediness. We then fastened a rope round his body & by the assistance of all hands drew him upon deck.

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He was five feet long & abt three in diameter circumference round the thickest part of his body. About twenty Inches from the tail was cut up by the Seamen for breakfast. I tasted it when boiled, but it was very

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indifferent eating. The flesh was very rank & coarse. They are shaped much like a small fish known in Derbyshire by the name of Bulls' Head. Their upper jaw projects so far over the under that they are obliged to turn on their backs whenever they take their food. There is one circumstance relating to this voracious fish which ^{is} very remarkable. He is always attended by a beautiful fish about 10 or 15 Inches long, marked like a mackerel called the pilot fish which is employed in searching food for its master & conducting him to it, in the same manner as the Jackall which it is said caters for the Lion. We might

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with ease have caught this we saw, had we not been too eager in pulling the other out of the Water, but when he found ^{his Master} taken from him, he sheered off. We found upon the sharks' body two sucking fishes abt. 6 Inches long, which lives upon the blood of its supporter. From the means which nature has bestowed upon it of adhering to bodies, it is out of their power to rid themselves of such troublesome companions. Its throat is placed on the back part of its head & it has twelve hooks on the other side which it fixes on the body it is in contact with & a considerable degree of force is requisite to separate them. –
- The calm continued till noon

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when a gentle breeze sprung up which was succeeded by a heavy gale right a-head. These alternate calm & contrary winds had nearly exhausted the patience of some of our passengers.- Lat 40.44 At 11 o'clock we descried a sail to Windward towards which we directed our course, hoisted our Colours & the Jack as a signal, but they did not or would not understand our meaning & as they had the Wind of us we were obliged to relinquish our pursuit.

Saturday Sep 7. The heavy contrary Gale still continued & accompanied by frequent squalls. At Noon it abated & changed to the N.E. At 3 o'clock we descried a sail bearing

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directly for us. She soon came up with us & proved to be the Betsey Schooner from Newbury Port to Guadaloupe. She had been out 6 days & reckoned herself in Lon 63½
Sunday Sep 8. A gentle breeze from the NE in our favour with fine weather. At noon a dead calm came on & continued for the remainder of the day. We found the Latitude we were in excessively warm; it was 40.45N.
Monday Sep 9. The morning perfectly calm & serene. The Sun arose in boundless majesty amidst the numinous host of gold & purple clouds which decorated the Eastern horizon. The Sea was smooth as possible, a striking emblem of a contented & virtuous mind.

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Tuesday Sep 10. This morning a brisk gale from the North attended with frequent squalls. We saw between two & three Hundred Porpoises which leaped before the wind in ranks

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like so many soldiers & made a very formidable appearance.

Wednesday Sep 11. Captn. Brown struck a Porpoise with the harpoon which was swimming around the Ship.

It measured 6 feet 4 Inches in length and 3 feet 6 in thickness. His snout which was long & small like a hog's was 9 Inches long. His skin was beautifully spotted with white & brown like a leopard's. His flesh was the colour of beef & tolerably good eating. In his maw we found the

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remains of several flying fishes.

At noon the Gale increased & obliged us to take down all our Gallant Yards & lie to without sail. The Sea was soon very high & appeared as far as the eye could stretch nothing but alternate vales & mountains, and we shipped several seas which laid the fore part of our vessel under water.

Wednesday 12 Sep. The Gale much abated but the Weather wet & the wind in our teeth which drove us to the Southward of our Port. The very unsettled weather which is found in the Gulph stream which runs from the Floridas by the Coast of America to the Banks of Newfoundland very often occasions great delays in those vessels which get

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into it. According to our Captain's reckoning we had been in this Stream three weeks & we now began to think it was like the Gulph between Lazarus & the rich man. Yesterday's gale drove us as far South as Lat 37°40.

Friday Sep 13. The Morning fine and calm. At 10 a breeze sprung up from the South but soon did away & was succeeded by one from the West.

I saw by the Ship's side a beautiful Dolphin. It appeared to be about two

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feet long. Its back & head were of a rich purple & its tail green. It is said they have the property of changing their colour at pleasure. We shot a Hawk & a small white Gull which Mr. Vantyle leaped overboard for.

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In the afternoon the man at the helm saw a small land bird alight upon the mizen mast. I caught him upon the shrouds intending to restore him to liberty as soon as we made land. This little stranger had every possible claim to our care & protection and if it be in my power to give it thee, said I, thou mayst depend upon having it; first because thou art friendless & unfortunate & secondly because thou **are** the welcome messenger which makes known to us our near approach to land. At night we were becalmed. The atmosphere excessively hot & relaxing. Saturday Sep 14. The morning very fine & pleasant but a continuation of the calm had nearly exhausted the

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patience of the Captn. & passengers. We saw many pitterings a bird very like a swallow but rather larger, and many Gulls. All the marine birds have web feet & are furnished with a large quantity of feathers In the back of their bodies by which means they are enabled to keep upon wing a long time without resting. The night being very warm & clear I did not go to bed. My poor little bird paid the common debt of nature this afternoon. Sunday 15 Sepr. Pleasant weather with a gentle breeze in our favour. About 10 AM we had the pleasure of seeing a sail which bore the same course as ourselves. This we were very glad of having lost our reckoning & being almost in a state of despair

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about finding land. In two hours we came up with her. She was a Schooner from Charleston to Boston & told us we had only 27 Degrees to sail before we made land. This added to our latitude made 192 miles and as the wind was then in our favour we hoped to be in Port in two days at farthest.

Monday Sep 16. Hazy damp weather with squalls. About 10 AM a most violent gale of Wind with excessively heavy rain came on before we were aware and was near carrying off our Masts overboard; fortunately the sheet of our ^main^ top sail gave way & relieved the Ship. In the Evening the rain blew off & the weather was fine. Lat 38..55. Heaved the lead

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but could find no bottom. –

Tuesday Sep 17. The morning pleasant & the wind in our favour.

We now hoped to see land before the expiration of 24 hours, but we again experienced the unpleasantness of hope deferred for before noon we lost our breeze & found ourselves becalmed and had a continuation of it all night. At 70 Fathoms no bottom, but the colour of the Sea indicates our approach to soundings.

Wednesday Sep 18. The weather very fine & pleasant but we are all almost tired of it & should have been glad to have had almost any gale in preference. At 10 o'clock a breeze sprung up but subsided in the Evening. Heaved the lead &

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found bottom at 25 Fathoms; afterwards at 40 & at night we could perceive a volume of smoke to ascend from Long Island.

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Sep 19. At one o'clock this morning we had the inconceivable pleasure to discover the highlands of Newark[?] by moon-light. At four we were boarded by a pilot-boat which passed us quick as lightning to get ^{^to^} another ship which was about two miles distant. At my first sight of land a copious & involuntary flood of tears burst from my eyes & it was some time before I could restrain them.

- The pilot-boat soon put a pilot on board the other ship and passed forward in search of another.

They sail the most expeditiously

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of all vessels whatever. They are very long & narrow having two masts & very capacious sails. Every Captain of a Ship is obliged to take the first that boards him which occasions great competition amongst them.

- at 6 o'clock AM we came in sight of Staten Island Lat 8 of Long Island. The whole of the Coast appeared one continuous wood except here & there a small Cottage & a field.

At 10 we saw the Narrows, a channel formed by the Shores of Long & Staten Islands about 1 mile wide. Here we were obliged to cast anchor & wait the return of the tide. We weighed at two & while we heaved up, the Ship we had seen in the morning passed

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by us & proved to be the Montgomery from London which sailed 14 days before us. We soon passed her again. The weather being remarkably fine, and a pleasant Gale in our favour we had a most delightful sail up the Sound. We had so long been strangers to the all changing face of the green earth that we were almost transported with

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joy. I forgot ^{^all^} our little troubles instantaneously. At 6 o'clock we arrived in the harbour of New York & set our feet once more on Terra Firma in health & spirits, after a passage of 56 days from London & 48 from Land to Land.