

## MARGARET

Margaret, ship, St. John's [i.e., Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada]  
Logbook, 6 October – 22 November 1838  
Whaling Ground: Indian Ocean  
Contents: in same logbook as voyage of 1 August 1835 – 11 May 1837  
Coleman (?), Master  
**Sherman 496**

**NOTE: Grey highlights indicate notations in left margin of logbook**

**[DIFFERENT HAND FROM JOURNAL 1: 1832-1833]**

**[SAME HAND AS JOURNAL 2: 1835-1837]**

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### Ship Margaret<sup>st</sup> Johns N"B" Upon the whale ground

Saturday / Oct 6<sup>th</sup> / 1838

[3 FLUKE DRAWINGS - CLEAR]

Commenced with Strong breezes Stear To SE At 6 took in Sail and Lay by At 6 A"M Saw Whales Loard but so ruff Did not Git fast at 10 Loard Again Whale Got Galied Came On board blew A fresh Gale So Ends Latt 37"9 S – Long 54"50

Sunday / Oct 7<sup>th</sup> / 1838

[3 FLUKE DRAWINGS - CLEAR]

Commences with Strong Gales from N Lay to headed to the ENE A number Of whales in sight At 8 P"M wind hauld To the W continued hauling till it Got to S all The Latter part Strong Gales So Ends Latt 37"3[0?] S

Monday / Octo 8<sup>th</sup> / 1838

Commenced with Strong Gales from S Lay By headed to WSW At 4 P"M Veered Ship to the SE Latter part strong Breezes from SW stear NE at noon Steared N [?] New fore and main Braces So Ends Latt 27"22 S – Long 55"15

Tuesday / Octo 9<sup>th</sup> / 1838

Commenced With Strong breezes from SW cours N hands Employd in Ships Duty At night took in Topsails and Lay by Latter part Strong Winds With Rain Double Reeft and tacked to SSW So Ends Latt 36"35 S – Long 55"03 E

Wednesd / Octo 10<sup>th</sup> / 1838

Commenced with Strong Winds from W At 1 P"M kept of E by N and made More Sail Saw finbacks hands Emp In choreing &c Latter part Run off To the E by N hands Employd in mend Sails Saw Many finbacks So Ends Latt 36"4 S – Long 56"12 E

Thursday / Octo 11<sup>th</sup> / 1838

Cours E by N

Commenced With Clear Wether & Strong Wind from SW to S hands Employed in Mending Sails At night took in Sail as Usual Latter part Steard to E by N with all Sail Set saw Many finbacks So Ends – Latt 35°41'S – Long 57°00 E

## Ship Margaret<sup>st</sup> Johns N°B Cruising in the Indian Ocean

Friday / Octo 12<sup>th</sup> / 1838

Commenced With fine Wether And Gentle breezes from N to NE cours E by S hand Employed in Mending The foresail and Main topsail at Night took in fore & Miz topsails and Lay By headed to ESE Latter part Run off To ESE at 11 A°M spoke the pembroke Newlondon Cap Chester 12 months Out 200 bbls Games with him So Ends Latt 35°20 S Long 58°20

Satterday / Octo 13<sup>th</sup> / 1838

Commenced with fine Wether and Gentle Breezes from WNW Cours ESE hands Employed In mending Sails at 5 P°M Soke the hibernia Newbedford Cap Gray 4 Months out no oil Saw 7 Whales and he chased All the After Noon and could not catch them At night Took in topsails and Lay to headed to the N All the Latter part Steard to the N[E?] So Ends Latt 34°31 S – Long 59°26 E

Sunday Octo / 14<sup>th</sup> 1838

Commenced With fine Wether & Gentle breezes from the NW Cours From NE to NNE hands Employed In making Spun yarn And other Ships Duty &c at night Double Reeft And Stood to NNE Latter part Strong Breezes Saw many finbacks So Ends This D Latt 33°04 S – Longitude 60°14 E

Moonday / Octo 15<sup>th</sup> / 1838

Commenced With Clear Wether And Strong Winds from NNW steard by to the NE at 1 P°M Double Reeft the Fore topsail Saw many Finbacks Run to the N all night under [Shord?] Sail Latter Made All Sail thick Wether With Sleet So ends Latt 31°38 S Long 60°7 E

Tuesday Octo / 16<sup>th</sup> 1838

[2 WHALE STAMPS]

Commenced with fine Wether and Gentle breezes from SW cours N at 1 P°M Saw A shoal of Spirm whale Going [Eyes?] out to SW Loard [Ch boat?] to No Sucksess Came board At 2 P°M bent The Old fore topsail Middle and Latter Parts fine Wether So Ends this Day Latt 31°04 S – Longitude 59°19 E

## Cruising in the Indian Ocean

**[17 OCTOBER-6 NOVEMBER – MISSING IN ORIGINAL]**

Wednesd / Novem / 7<sup>th</sup> 1838

[1 WHALE STAMP]

Commences With Good Wether and Gentle breeze From NW at Sunset finisht Cutting Cleard the Deck Got ready for boiling &c At 3 A°M Commenced at 6 Viered Ship To the NNE At 7

Saw A right Whale Going Quick to windward Loard chased to no Sucksess So Ends Latt 34"36 – Longitude 62"10 E

Thursday / Novem / 8<sup>th</sup> / 1838

[1 WHALE STAMP]

Commenced with fine wether and Strong breezes from NW at 1 P"M Viered and Steard by to NNE Saw Sevrell finback – Continue boiling At 4 P"M Saw A right Whale 1 Point forward the Wether beam 2 Miles off Saw nothing More of him steard to W by S all the Middle part with Strong Gales from NW by N At 2 A"M took in the topsail Fore And Miz All the Latter part thick rainy Wether At 11 Saw 2 R whales Loard and chased but being Gallied by the Ship Got but A poor chance to Dart At one of them from the Waste boat Came on Board Saw A Sail to the W So Ends Latt 35"00 S Long 61"42 E

Friday / Novem / 9<sup>th</sup> / 1838

Commenced with Strong Wind from SW by W Lay to headed to the S by W at 2 P"M. finnisht Boiling and Cleard Up at ½ past Loard for Whales Vary Ruff and Whales shy Did not Git one Came on board At 4 Loard and Chas Till dark Came On board and left a plenty of Whales in sight at 6 took in topsails And Lay to headed to WNW all the Midle And Latter heavy Gales from the SW Saw A Ship pas to the W headed to SSE So Ends Latitude at noon 34"20 S – Long 62"3 E

Satterd / Novem / 10<sup>th</sup> / 1838

Commenced with Strong Gales from SW Lay to Headed to the WNW one Watch Employd In scraping bone at 4 P"M Sot Clost Reef Miz topsail and Fore spencer at 6 P"M Viered Ship and Steard S to SW at Day Light broke Out the After holde for bread and small stores at 8 Brooke out the Main holde and Got ready to Stow Oil all the Latter part fine Wether and Employd in Stowing So Ends this Day Latitude 33"53 S – Long 62"05 E

## Cruising in the indian Ocean

Sunday / Novem / the 11<sup>th</sup> / 1838

This Day Commenced with fine Wether And Gentle breezes from the SW steard by To the WNW at [8?] P"M finnisht stowing Down 5[3?] bbls &c At 9 P.M Vierd Ship to SSE All the middle parts Light airs Latter Mutch the same Saw finbacks So Ends Latitude 34"3 S – Longitude 61"45 E

Moonday / Novem / 12<sup>th</sup> / 1838

[1 WHALE STAMP]

Commenced with fine Wether And Gentle Breezes from W steard by to the SSW with All Drawing Sail set At 4 P"M Saw A Rig Whale A Long Way off to windward Loard And chased till sunset to no Sucksess Came On board Saw 2 or three more from the ship Stood to the Land SSW all night Under All Sail With A Light breeze Latter part Wind to the NNW Saw A great number of finbacks So Ends Latitude - 34"41 S – Longitude 61"12 E

Tuesday / Novem / 13<sup>th</sup> / 1838

Commenced with Strong Wind from the NW Stear SSW Saw A Great number Of fin Backs hands Employed in bending the spanker At night took in [Saul?] and Lay by headed To the WNW At 2 Am wind hauld to The S viered ship and headed to the W by N Sot The topsails Double Reefed and at 10 A"M Kept off NE So Ends Latt 34"58 S – Long 61"15 E

Wednesday / Novem / 14<sup>th</sup> / 1838

[2 WHALE STAMPS]

Commenced With Clear Wether And Strong Winds from S stear NNE Saw finbacks At 3 P.M Spoke the Clamatus New London Cap Baley 1700 bbls 20 Months Out At 5 P.M A small scrag Came Up Clost to the Ship and Standed to Windward Tok in the topsails & Lay to headed to ESE At midnight Viered ship And headed to W by S Made Sail at Daylight Saw 2 scrag Loard for both one at 6 A"M And the other at 9 At 11 Saw and Loard for A Large Whale but he Wass Going Quick To the SW Came On board viered ship And headed to SW wind to the SSE So Ends This 24 hours Latti 34"29 S – Long 61"33 E

## Cruising On the Eastern Ground

Thursday / Novem / 15<sup>th</sup> / 1838

43 bbls [BIG WHALE STAMP / (LQB?) IN CENTRE]

This Day Commenced With Gentle Breezes and Clear Wether Sum Sea on stear by to SW wind SSE at 1 P"M Saw A Whale Spout off wether bow &c At 3 P"M Loard and Got one Lar boat at 5 hooked on and at 9 finisht The Cutting Sot The Watch Latter part fine Wether Loard Sevrell times for Whales but they were Shy [?] could not Get On So Ends boiling Latt 34"31 Long 61"31 E

Friday / Novem / 16<sup>th</sup> / 1838

[1 WHALE STAMP]

Commenced with fine Wether and Calms & Light airs Whales in sight to Windward At 2 saw sight to Windward At 3 Saw A sail at 4 P"M she Loard and Struck A whale and at Sunset Cut and went On Board At 7 P"M bore Up and Run Down And spoke the pocahontus [hohn holde?] 5 Months Out 5 Whales boarded her All the middle Part steared by to the Southward Latter Part Thick Wether Loard twice for Whales to no Sucksess Saw Another Ship to the NW [8?] Finisht boiling So Ends Latt 34"58 S L 6[?]"31

Satterday / Novem / 17<sup>th</sup> / 1838

[2 WHALE STAMPS, 1 FAINT]

Commenced with moderate Wether and thick Foggy Wether Wind from SE Saw Whales To windward beat for them to no Sucksess At 3 P"M kept off N Wether Continues Thick A whale Came up and perceived the Ship and started off to windward hauld The Ship too headed to NE &c Latter part thick and fogy at intervals Commenced stowing Saw 2 R whales did not Loar kept off E So Ends Latt 34"55 S – Longitude 61"4[?] E

Sunday / Novem / 18<sup>th</sup> / 1838

[1 WHALE DRAWING]

Commenced with Moderate Wether and Gentle Breezes from NW stear E Continue Stowing At 3 P"M Loard for And Struck A right Whale kild and Sunk him Came on board and Finisht

stowing 41 bbls Saw 2 More Whales A Long Distance Off at Dark took in Topsails And Lay by headed to NNE Latter Part Saw And Chased Whales to no Sucksess Saw A Ship to Leward Maneuvering At 10 A"M Loard Again to no Sucksess So Ends Latt 34"26 S Longitude 61"42 E [BIG WHALE STAMP / 20 (LQB?) IN CENTRE]

## Margaret Cruising On the Eastern Ground

Moonday / Novem / 19<sup>th</sup> / 1838

[1 WHALE DRAWING]

This Day Commenced With fine Wether And Gentle breezes from NNW Loard At ½ past Marideon for Whales Chased till 2 P"M Struck and kild one took him to the Ship At 4 hooked On And finnisht At Sunset Bore Up and Run Down and Spoke the George of New London All full Cap [?entor?] Bound [?] Got 6 [Ooars?] Stood to the NNE Till 1 Am then Veerd to the WSW At 6 Am Loard for Whales struck and Drew to [LJB?] All the remainder Strong Wind and Ruff So Ends Latt 34"41 S L 61"40 E

Tuesday / Novem / 20<sup>th</sup> / 1838

[1 WHALE STAMP]

This Day Clear Wether and Strong Wind From NW At 1 P"M Loard for another Whale that took to windward Saw More Ahead Going to the Windward At 4 P"M Loard One boat and chased one to Wind Ward to no Sucksess at night took in Tops?] And Lay by headed to the N Middle Part Vierd Ship and headed WNW Latter part A light breeze from WSW made all Sail At Daylight saw the pocahontus to Leward Vierd Ship at 10 A.M and Steard to the NE Commenced boiling So End Latt 34"14 S Long 62"31 E

Wednesday / Novem / 21<sup>st</sup> / 1838

[BIG WHALE STAMP / 80 bbls / (LQB?) IN CENTRE]

Commences With Light airs from WSW Stear by to the NW hands emplid in Boiling & At 4 P"M finnisht Latter part Moderade Wether Saw whales At 8 Saw And Loard fer Whale And Chased at Noon struck and kild one At 2 took him along side So Ends this Day Latt 34"42 S— Longitude 61"50 E

Thursday / Novem / 22d 1838

Commenced with Strong Wind from NW And Cloudy Wether At 3 P"M hooked On At 7 finnisht Cutting took in sail and Sot the Watch &c All the middle Part Emplid in Clearing Decks Latter pat Commenced boiling At 10 Sot topsails Wether hazy till 11 A"M Viered Ship to The WSW Strong breezes from NW So Ends Latt 34"37 S Longitude 62"20 E

NEXT PAGE: CUT OUT IMAGE OF 4 FASHIONABLE WOMEN - PAGE FROM *GODET'S LADY'S BOOK*?

NEXT PAGE: PRINT GLUED IN:

lower left, ISOMETRICAL VIEW / of the / WASHINGTON MILLS / AND BOARDING HOUSES / LAWRENCE MASS.

lower right [of image] inscribed in ink, 35 [m i 2 4 ?]

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## VESSELS ENCOUNTERED:

**Sources:** Starbuck, Alexander. *History of the American Whale Fishery from its Earliest Inception to the Year 1876* (online)  
American Offshore Whaling Voyages, National Maritime Digital Library (online)

**Note: Dates as recorded in logbook, not adjusted to account for first, middle or latter parts of the day**

**Clematis**, ship, New London, June 1837-March 1839, South Atlantic, Joseph Bailey, spoken by the *Margaret* on Wednesday, 14 November 1838

**George**, ship, New London, July 1832-March 1839, South Atlantic, William M. Baker, spoken by the *Margaret* on Monday, 19 November 1838; seen by the *Margaret* at daylight on Tuesday, 20 November 1838

**Hibernia**, ship, New Bedford, June 1838-November 1839, Indian Ocean, George W. Gray, spoken by the *Margaret* on Saturday, 13 October 1838

**Pembroke**, barque, New London, October 1837-April 1840, Josiah Chester, spoken by the *Margaret* on Friday, 12 October 1838; they gammed

**Pocahontas**, ship, Holmes' Hole, June 1838-1840, Dillingham, spoken by the *Margaret* on Friday, 16 November 1838

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