

April 20th 1856. Sunday

Run into the Stream at 3 o'clock this morning and took squalls of rain accompanied by thunder and lightning continued till 5 P.M. the wind generally striking fair when a heavy squall brought the wind strong from the N. Double reefed topsails and soon after took in main sail jib and fore topsail. Found the water at 76 degrees. If we get out soon it must be owing to the strong current which being on our lee bow may favor us some. To night head west by N. Rain over boards.

April 21

First part squally and wind generally from S. E. at 11 A.M. took a squall from S. S. W. the severest we have ever felt. Commenced taking in but wind and rain increased so that our watch was called to assist in reducing sail. Got everything in but fore topmast stay sail and main Spencer.

Don't think I ever knew it to blow harder. The sea rose rapidly and the spray with which it was covered kept us almost continually wet. At 1 P.M. rain held up but gale continued in its fury till about 4 when it abated and we set both topsails close reefed and soon after foresail and fore Spencer. Saw two sails. Have had a cold disagreeable day of it but to night there are signs of better weather. Steering N. Lat 37° 00' Lon 72° 00'

April 22

Moderated last night and set jib and mainsail. To day much finer. Spoke a fisherman and got his longitude. At noon turned out reefs and at 2 P.M. set top gallant sails wind to night going down S. by E. Clear course N. by E. Caught a porpoise. Lat are now well out of the Stream Lat 38° 46' Lon 72° 17'

April 23

Wind holds steady in the S. W. till night hauling eastery with light rain. Made Long Island at 11 A.M. Hoopay am I to gaze on Yankee land once more were steering N. by E. the land bearing at noon N. N. W. Saw several Schooners and at 2 P.M. were hailed by a pilot who soon after came on board to take us in to the mouth of the bay. It seems almost impossible that we are so near home yet we will soon be there, with a favorable wind. Made Block Island about 3. Now bears N. by E. Steering N. E. 2 lights are now visible at Montauque point and at Block Island. No obs.

April 24

Contrary to our expectations have had a calm foggy and disagreeable day. Consequently have made little progress since the wind died away about 3 this morning. It is very disagreeable to lay here with home so near when we can't go there. Pilot gives us some hopes that if it brightens up by 12 to night we may get a breeze here.