

in the evening we were threatened with a squall but fortunately it did not touch us, however the wind increased a little.

24th: This morning before breakfast a shoal of bottle nose (a species of whale) were sporting within 20 yds of our stern. The heat has been most oppressive scarcely a breath of air stirring, the sky looking very equally, what wind there was changed in the afternoon but it was not sufficient to sheer by, we were describing circles, the bows at one time pointing south & another north.

Quarrel. &c. occurred this evening, the bone of contention being the bath, high words rose, and blows were threatened. Mr Grierson and family possessing the three cabins nearest to the bath managed nearly to monopolize it before breakfast which gave great offence to three or four others having obtained the ear of the captain formed themselves into a committee under his authority and framed rules which virtually deprived the gentlemen of the use of the bath; would it be believed? they gave it to the exclusive use of the children, before breakfast the gentlemen were not to bathe till the evening unless they chose to do so on board before 6. a.m. this of course caused vehement opposition from the other party, however after the exhibition of a great deal of party feeling an immense amount of squabbling and calling each other hard names &c. it was put to the general vote, the captain having first torn up the rules passed by the committee & such to the chagrin of at least two of the members whose only object was to annoy Mr Grierson, and who seized this as a fitting opportunity whether the gentlemen or the children were to have the use of the bath before breakfast, strange to say there were two for each side. the casting vote lay with the captain, who said puppy. being gave the gentlemen the preference, and settled the matter. It is strange how little suffices to raise a quarrel, the death of a fowl interfering with digestion of its owner fanned the