Ship Herald Stonington
1841 September 12–1845 August 10

Abstract: Ship's log for the ship Herald documenting two whaling voyages out of Stonington, Connecticut, between September 12, 1843, and August 10, 1845.
Descriptive Summary

Identification: MSS 097, Item 036
Creator: Herald (Ship : 1818-1873)
Title: Ship Herald Stonington
Inclusive Dates: 1841 September 12–1845 August 10
Extent: 1 v. : ill. (ca. 220 p.) ; 53 cm.
Language: Materials entirely in English.

Administrative Information

Citation: MSS 097, Item 036, Ship Herald Stonington, University of Delaware Library, Newark, Delaware.
Shelving Summary: Item 036: Shelved in SPEC MSS 097 oversize
Location: Special Collections Department, University of Delaware Library Newark, Delaware 19717-5267 Phone: 302-831-2229 Fax: 302-831-6003 URL: http://www.lib.udel.edu/ud/spec/
Source: Purchase, 1956.
Access Restrictions: The collection is open for research.
Terms Governing Use and Reproduction: Use of materials from this collection beyond the exceptions provided for in the Fair Use and Educational Use clauses of the U.S. Copyright Law may violate federal law. Permission to publish or reproduce is required from the copyright holder. Please contact Special Collections Department, University of Delaware Library, http://www.lib.udel.edu/cgi-bin/askspec.cgi
Historical Note

The ship *Herald* was a whaling vessel based in Stonington, Connecticut. The first voyage under Captain Charles O. Brewster lasted from September 12, 1841, through May 4, 1843. The ship traveled to the whaling grounds and ports of the Indian Ocean. Captain Elijah B. Morgan headed the second voyage around Cape Horn toward Chile from June 24, 1843, through August 10, 1845.

**Sources:**

Information derived from the collection.
Scope and Content Note

This volume documents two whaling voyages aboard the ship Herald occurring between September 12, 1841, and August 10, 1845. The authors are unknown but it is likely a crew member wrote the logbook. The log largely contains navigational data, weather reports, and various notes about the health and desertions of the crew.

The logbook is bound in canvas or sailcloth with twine stitching on spine and right side, circa 220 pages, 166 which are filled with ink entries. The account of the second journey begins on p. 92 of the volume. The cover has hand printing in ink that reads "Ship Herald Stonington." Images of whales have been stamped into the log book during the first journey. Such stamps generally indicate that a whale was taken on that day. The stampings are individualized with additional illustrations and many also have a red or orange colored substance spouting out of the blowhole. (The techniques for killing a whale during the nineteenth century involved stabbing the whale until blood spouted out of its blowhole.) Some of the daily notes are in columnar format providing the hour of the day, knots, fathoms, course, wind, and general notes. In the back of the volume, lists of provisions for the journey are recorded.
Selected Search Terms

**Personal Names**

Brewster, Charles O., fl. 1841-1845.

Morgan, Elijah B., fl. 1841-1845.

**Corporate Names**

Herald (Ship)

**Topical Terms**

Logbooks--19th century.

Whaling--New England--19th century--Sources.

Whaling Ships--19th century--Sources.

**Form/Genre Terms**

Ships' logs.

**Occupation**

Whalemen.

**Related Materials in this Repository**

This item forms part of MSS 097 Diaries, Journals, and Ships' Logs collection.
Detailed Description of the Collection

Ship Herald Stonington, 1841 September 12–1845 August 10 [Item 036]