A Guide to the Nautilus (bark) logbook

HDC0059

San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park, National Park Service

2012, National Park Service

Title: Nautilus (bark) logbook
Date: 1849
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Building E, Fort Mason
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Abstract: The NAUTILUS (bark) logbook (SAFR 14269, HDC 59) consists of a single volume and contains a nearly daily record of James Lamoureaux Pangburn's long voyage around Cape Horn to the California gold fields in 1849. It seems that a company was formed to purchase the vessel for the voyage. The name of the company is never mentioned in the journal although a few meetings of the company were held on board and there is mention of the company dissolving. The voyage was difficult due to the severity of the weather that they encountered.

Physical Location: San Francisco Maritime NHP, Historic Documents Department

Language(s): In English.

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Preferred Citation
[Item description], [Location within collection organization identified by Collection Number/Series Number/File Unit Number/Item Number], HDC0059 (SAFR 14269), Nautilus (bark) logbook, San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park

Acquisition Information
SAFR-00001
This collection was transferred from Golden Gate National Recreation Area to San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park.

Historical or Biographical Note
James Lamoureaux Pangburn was born in 1823 in Albany, New York. He married Mary Wilkes in San Francisco, California in 1853. They had a daughter, Alice Pangburn Harrison on 9 August 1954 who died 2 August 1846.

Collection Scope and Content
The NAUTILUS (bark) logbook (SAFR 14269, HDC 59) consists of a single volume and contains a nearly daily record of James Lamoureaux Pangburn's long voyage around Cape Horn to the California gold fields in 1849. It seems that a company was formed to purchase the vessel for the voyage. The name of the company is never mentioned in the journal although a few meetings of the company were held on board and there is mention of the company dissolving. The voyage was difficult due to the severity of the weather that they encountered.

The journal consists of 50 pages of text with two pencil sketches of mountains and two of Cape Horn attached to the end papers. The entries vary in length, are well written, and contain detailed information about weather, rigging, life aboard the
vessel, marine fauna and the few ports in which they stopped.
Some of the interesting items mentioned in the journal are: the five physicians and band aboard, the dog on board contracting hydrophobia, games of whist, books read by Pangburn, learning to do his laundry, and his attitude toward Negroes and South American natives.

Collection Arrangement
This is a collection of a single item.

Subjects and Indexing Terms
Gold Rush--California--1840-1850
Pangburn, James Lamoureux
Logbook