

Sultana Nearly Sinks in a Powerful Storm September 12, 1768



His Majesty's schooner Sultana made three known crossings of the Atlantic Ocean between the winter of 1767 and December 7, 1772. These crossings were very dangerous for Sultana, which measured just over 52 feet on deck and was the smallest schooner to serve in the Royal Navy. During her second ocean crossing in September 1768, Sultana was caught in a powerful storm and began taking on dangerous amounts of water. In a desperate attempt to make the vessel less top-heavy, Lieutenant John Inglis ordered the crew to cut loose and heave overboard twelve half hogsheads of beer that had been lashed to the deck. This was a huge gamble because without these provisions, there was a good chance that Sultana's crewmembers would die of thirst. Luckily, Sultana righted herself, and the thirsty sailors arrived in Halifax, Nova Scotia five weeks later and immediately re-supplied the vessel with fresh drinking water.

Week Days	Mo Days	Wind	Courses	Dist in Miles	Latitude	Long Made	Bearing and Distance at Noon	Remarks
Monday	12	N W NbE	Sb ₃ W	0 — 69	43 – 16N	21 – 33W	St Point N68E 321Lgs	Strong Gales and Squalls with Rain, brought too under the foresail shipt a Deal of Sea Obligated to heave overboard into the sea 12 Half Hogsheads of Beer to Save the Schooner from foundering
Tuesday	13	NbE	WbS	0 — 72	43 – 5N	23 – 11W	St Point N66E 344Lgs	Fresh Gales & Cloudy, See two sail in the SW Standing to the Eastward one with Ivory Mast Set out the Reefes and got up the Topsail yards got the sails up and dried them having received a great deal of water in the Boatswains store room

Log Entries for September 8 - 18, 1768

Lt. John Inglis' Logbook

Week Days	Mo Days	Wind	Courses	Dist in Miles	Latitude	Long Made	Bearing and Distance at Noon	Remarks
Thursday	8	SbW WSW NWbS	W ₈ WbW	0 — 51	45 – 43N	17 – 15W	St Point N68E 248Lg	Fresh Gales with rain & Parts, mid & latter strong gales and squally Reefed the Courses got down Topsail yards & lay too under a Reef'd foresail
Friday	9	NWbN, SWbS WSW	N ₈₇ W	0 — 59	45 – 46N	18 – 39W	St Point N71E 264Lgs	First Part fresh Breezes, middle and latter squally
Saturday	10	W WNW NWbS	SSWbS	0 — 48	45 – 01N	19 – 2W	St Point N68E 276Lgs	Moderate and Hazy at 1/2 Past Set the Reefes out of the Courses, at 3 am Reefed the courses shipt a great deal of water
Sunday	11	NWbW, N	S ₃ bW	0 — 77	43 – 49N	20 – 06W	St Point N65E 296Lgs	Ditto Squally with Rain
Monday	12	N W NbE	Sb ₃ W	0 — 69	43 – 16N	21 – 33W	St Point N68E 321Lgs	Strong Gales and Squalls with Rain, brought too under the foresail shipt a Deal of Sea Obligated to heave overboard into the sea 12 Half Hogsheads of Beer to Save the Schooner from foundering
Tuesday	13	NbE	WbS	0 — 72	43 – 5N	23 – 11W	St Point N66E 344Lgs	Fresh Gales & Cloudy, See two sail in the SW Standing to the Eastward one with Ivory Mast Set out the Reefes and got up the Topsail yards got the sails up and dried them having received a great deal of water in the Boatswains store room
Wednesday	14	SbW SbE	S ₈₂ W	0 — 51	42 – 58N	24 – 20W	St Point N67E 364Lgs	Light Breezes with Calmes Employed making mats for the fore shrouds Read the Articles of War & abstract to the schooners company
Thursday	15	SSE	W ₁₂ S	0 — 29	42 – 55N	24 – 59W	St Point N67E 372Lgs	Light Breezes and Clear Weather, intermixed with Calms
Friday	16	SW Calm WNW	N ₁₉ W	0 — 24	43 – 17N	25 – 9W	St Point N68E 372Lgs	Light airs and Clear Wr, at 10 saw a sail in the NW fired 13 guns to bring too a French brig from Nfoundland bound to Bayone
Saturday	17	NW, NNW	Sb ₈ W	0 — 68	42 – 52N	26 – 37W	St Point N68E 396Lgs	Moderate & Clear Wr, Nothing remarkable
Sunday	18	NbW NNE NWbW	S ₇₂ W	0 — 53	42 – 35N	27 – 33W	St Point N68E 410Lgs	Light Breezes & Cloudy with Calmes at 1 Tack'd