

and got two on board. Mr Smith and myself there are but few ships in the ice yet but a good many outside waiting for a chance to run in in a thick fog found the ship rather the worse for wear in the ice. I am afraid that you will have a very wicked husband if I have to bump much more ice I heard of the Adelphi to day outside the ice she has got nothing yet there are a good many more in the same predicament the Rapide has struck nine whales and got but one so reported by the Charles Phelps I have got my darling some china goods and hope they will please her because but when to have his Sixie pleased I hope I shall be able to get up to the head of the Bay in a day or two and then perhaps we shall be able to catch some whales, so you must excuse brevity as I am in a hurry and to tell the truth I am, frighty because there is no wonder to get through the ice with

July 31st you will think I have forgotten you altogether it is so long since I wrote any but I have been so busy and so bothered that I could not write I worked up the bay through the ice after getting a good many hard knocks and getting a good deal and got very little for my pains in trying so hard to get through the ice first I have got 450 bbls of oil seven whales and have had eleven more missed and blundered away from the ship on

account of having poor boats and not a man in the fore-castle to put in their places if I break them so you see that if I had had men who could do their duty I should have had a first rate seasons work now My Officers are as good as dead by no better in the Ochotk sea I thought Mr Howland would go Crazy when we were having the old Henry to pay with whale blubber he stayed off in the boat two days and nights in the ice and would neither land or come aboard and the other officers told me that he did not eat two ounces during the time he felt so bad to think that the Charles Phelps that came up after we did should get 10 whales close to us and we could not get fast so soon as he could aboard I talked to him and told him it was no use to feel so that he ought to feel that he had done his duty and was not responsible for others not being able to do theirs the next morning the boats went off and he got a whale and we got 350 in a few days my officers have worked like slaves and been out night and day and I have been up and have not averaged two hours sleep during the 24 trying to get the ship where the whales were and have gone with the ship where others would not go