12th Kept headed in through the night in the morning found ourselves among the ice among ships. The Addison with her Consort decided to run along a little farther and see what was to be seen, as there were three ships farther in the ice, and one had her boats down. Soon afterward the Champion repented and turned back and we kept on alone. After dinner we saw a "Muscle-digger" which we suppose to be the same one that the boats were in pursuit of. Spoke the "Gay Head" Capt Lowen came on board and made us a short call. I was very glad to see him, as I saw him on Hodiack last season. There are 10 ships around us, of which are the Marengo, the Omega of Edgartown, America, John & Elizabeth, and two French ships. I was very glad to hear of the Marengo being so near I hope we may have an opportunity of seeing Mrs Skinner, also of seeing our neighbor Mr Whitten in the Omega — as it was thick and coming on to blow we all started to clear the ice.

13th. This morning found ourselves near the Champion again. The wind blew quite a gale last night, and it is thick and foggy today.

14th. Another blow last night and thick today. No ships in sight, quite a snow-storm in the afternoon.

15th. Clear and cold. are working our way towards the ice. P.M. saw a ship and saw some floating ice after tea spoke the ship ~~Soule~~ Milo, Capt Soule came on board. he is a sperm whaler — 30 months out, has 900 sperm and 600 whale. had not received a letter from his wife during his absence. had been in no place that he could get papers or news from the States, had seen no ships and was as he said ignorant of every thing that was going on. I looked him up all the late papers that I had, which I presume were very acceptable. At 9 o'clock three other ships were in sight.

16th. We are again in the ice, there are quite large pieces floating about — and long pieces of field ice that has not been broken up, but they say there is but very little depth to it for this season of the year and every thing so far indicates a mild season. We have heard of

no one as yet getting a whale although Capt Lowen reports that one of the French ships had seen two. I hear that the Speedwell is around us. hope we may be so fortunate as to fall in with her occasionally. Six ships in sight this morn the Milo close by us. About six o'clock a real "Bow-head" was raised and three of our boats, beside several from other ships went in pursuit of him, but he went under the ice and disappeared. The sight of the creature pleased them wonderfully — even if he was not to be taken.

17th. The good old Addison has taken a Bow-head, the first that we have heard of being taken. The boats were down from several ships near us — and so we thought our boats might as well be down also, even if we could see nothing. our boats had not been down more than ten minutes before the whale came up between our bow-boat — and a boat from another ship, they both started for him, but our boat, having the best chance, struck, he ran under the ice soon after they fastened but our brave crew were not going "to give him up so" so two boats went around on the other side of the ice to lance him and send him back — which they finally did, after having quite an exciting time. Mr Nickerson got out of his boat and went on the ice to try to shoot him while another boat's crew from another ship landed and snow-balled the whale — probably wounding him severely — an officer from the Milo wished an opportunity of greasing his lance, which they afforded him. The Saratoga, Milo, John & Elizabeth, Gay-Head, Majestic and two more are close by us — most of them been chasing all day without success — spoke the Milo this morning — We have had very delightful weather for three days past. we hope it may continue. This P.M. all hands have been busily engaged in cutting him in.

18th. The Gayhead took a whale at 10 P.M. last evening. Samuel went on board the Milo in the morning to procure some cutting spades if possible, Capt. P. sent Minnie a jar containing about two quarts of raspberry jam which was very nice, failing to