

Friday May 8th Fresh breeze from E to SE

and good weather most the day, with a little snow broke out. Shooks & Cooper went to setting up Shooks. We are close to the Chalakchukto & close to the Florida. This afternoon I went on board the Chalakchukto and spent the afternoon with Capt Wilcox & Capt Graizer, better ice to be had to day, 8 ships in sight just in the bay Chalakchukto. Saw a bowhead yesterday. Sailed in light to the West, about 30 miles to the E of Capt. Thoms. Capt Wilcox gave me some salmon.

Saturday May 9th

Moderate wind from NW and fine clear weather. We are just here in the ice and set all sail on the foremast all day to back the ship around, but could not stir the ship. Dried our bones. Cooper setting up Shooks, Florida & Chalakchukto close by. Three Brothers 6 miles off & 1 man came from her on the ice and went on board the Florida. 3 or 4 more ships have come in sight to the S of us, there is 12 ships in sight. There is a bad place for catching and land 20 miles off to the West of us.

Lat by obs 61° 44' North

Sunday May 10th

Light air, from SE and fine weather. Ship just in the ice, I went on board the Florida and spent the forenoon with Capt Graizer and Capt Wilcox and spent the afternoon with Capt Wilcox. Saw the three brothers hurrying to the North toward a bluff where I think that she has a winter. The ice opened one half mile to the S of us a little, and we saw 2 bowheads come up in the hold twice.

Lat by obs 61° 40' . . .

Monday May 11th Fresh breeze from SE and good

weather. At 4 in the morning set all sail to move the ship. The ice broke and shot up close by the ship. Mr. Colson went to the three brothers. Stinker and Capt Taber was there getting the gear. In the morning I went off gunning & got nothing. Capt Graizer came on board of us. Also Capt Wilcox came aboard and took dinner with me and then left. At 4 PM the ice split by the ship and I started, we laid on the lee side, so our foreboard boats was all clear. Saw several whales during the day. At 6 PM 2 whales came up close by the ship, lowered 3 boats & started 2 long in to a whale & bombed the whale. The whale went to the bottom and the guns drawn. Saw more whales. Three ships a long way off to the SE & in the ice. The ice opening in strips. Land in sight 25 miles to the West.

Lat by obs 62, 32

Tuesday May 12th

Light wind from SE and fine weather. At 6 in the morning, saw a number of whales in a strip of clear water, ahead of the ship. Lowered the boats and drew 3 boats across the ice in to the clear water and the Florida drew 2 boats across the ice in to the hold. At 11 came to the ship for dinner. After dinner all our boats went off and chased whales. Saw a number of whales. At 6 PM ship all most closed in, boats came to the ship, dropped their nets to the big strip of water & made her fast to the ice. The ship sent her boats off again and struck a whale. Took in the old bow boat & put out a new boat. Towed the bow boat in drawing her across the ice. Three brothers in cutting the stinker on the ice. Chalakchukto put her boats in to a hold and and stored them both. Dried our bones. 3 ships in the ice to the SE, land plain in sight.

Lat by obs 62, 33. Long by Ch 172, 46 West