

Stephen W. Spaulding
at the BottomWednesday May 13th

Light variable wind and fine

weather, Ship Anchored to the ice. The bond of water was frozen over this day. Sent off the boats to the heavy ice to the East of this hole. Saw plenty of whales and the big ice. The Colborn struck and fasted his line & bombarded another and did not get his line in to the whale. Florida struck and fasted from the whale. The Florida had her whale along side of latter part of the night and gave room. At noon they ice opened so the Florida got her whale most to the ship & night she had her whale to the ship. Massachusetts cut out and warped nearly where we was & I went on board of her. I went on board of the Florida. Latter part of the day all the ships boats was in this hole a whaling. At 6 P.M. I set sail and went over on the Eastern part of the hole. Made fast to the ice & hauled the sails. Three brothers cutting the stink on the ice and bailing. 4 ships in sight to the S.E. of us. Land plain in sight to the West. Lost 3 shots of line by the whale we struck.

Thursday May 14th

Moderate wind from E.S.E. and good

weather, Ship Anchored to the ice in a strip of clear water & young ice making around the ship. Saw plenty of whales. I struck a whale and drew. The Florida struck a whale and drew. The Massachusetts struck a whale & I think they lost him. It is a hard chance here to save a whale. Florida & Three Brothers a bailing. 4 other ships in sight to the S.E. There is plenty of whales in this ice. Boats off all day till 8 P.M. At 6.30 P.M. while in the round house I heard Stephen W. Spaulding tell the cook in the galley that he wished the ship in hell or burnt up. Latter part of the day called all hands aboard to stand out to be had been cutting the hams hanging up aboard. Stephen W. Spaulding said that he had been cutting one ham.

Friday May 15th

First part of the day light wind from

N. and fine weather. Ship in the strip of clear water and froze up in thin ice. At 3 in the morning called all hands & had breakfast and lowered all the boats and broke our way to a channel of clear water to the East of us. Number of whales came out in the strip of clear water. Struck and bombarded one & drew. Florida & Massachusetts broke through in the hole. At 12 M all the boats broke their way to the ship and laid them up. Adonah Well leaving in from N.E. At 2 P.M. a fresh breeze came from S.E. & S.W. The Massachusetts set sail and broke her way through the new ice and ran a mile to the East of us, to the heavy ice and then she took in sail. Three brothers cutting her stink on the ice & bailing. The Florida is a bailing. 3 ships in sight to the S.E. of us. The whales are in the big ice to the East of us & there they keep and there we hear them spout.

Saturday May 16th

Begins with a fresh breeze from N.W. and cloudy weather. Ice packed up close and all the ships laying snug in the ice. Florida a bailing. 3 brothers making a smoke now and then. Saw several whales come up in holes. Latter part of the day wind moderate & thawed a little. Ice too snug for whaling. Saw 2 whales in the evening.

Sunday May 17th

Light wind from N. & S.W. and good weather. Ship froze up in the ice & 3 ships in a mile of us. Saw 3 whales one of them a calf bailing in a flaw. Don't see the ships to the S. of us. Latter part of the day the sun came out bright & warm. So the new ice gave some. Strong current setting us 9 mile per day E by S.

Lat by 62, 47 Long 2 by Ch 178, 19