

towards the whale but they both failed to reach him. "Why didn't you fasten" sings out the mate "He was too far off" is the answer. "Give it to that one" cries the mate as one comes plump up against the boat. Having got his row again into the ^{boat} he takes one and darts again. It goes clear over him and into the water the other side and then he throws the other which strikes flat on his back and rolls off into the water and the whale disappears in no time and that was the last we saw of that school. "Oh you lunk-head" says the mate "what did you miss them whales for". The poor boatsteves had nothing to say for he was so completely what is termed in whaler's phrase "galled" that he hardly knew whether he was on his head or feet. The whales coming up so suddenly around him had completely confounded him.

It being now useless to chase the whales any more and the return signal being set by the ship we took to our oars and pulled alongside. As soon as the unlucky boatsteves came over the side the Capt. sings out "what did you miss those whales for. I didn't have a good chance" he answered. "You lie, for I was watching you through the glass" returned the Capt. "and if you ever miss another whale into the fore-castle you go bag and baggage". As our boat was the only one that got near enough to have a chance at the whale the other boatsteves had their fortune yet to make or was.

We had now been out from home about three weeks and were beginning to get accustomed to life at sea but there was one thing that we thought would take some time for us to get used to of which the following is a sample.

One afternoon as the watch below were turning out at four o'clock one of the men having mislaid his cap could not find it readily

and therefore was the last man to get on deck. As he came out of the fore-castle the mate who was standing by hit him on the side of his head, saying, "what are you doing down there so long". "Looking for my cap sir" says Dan, and stepping up to the mate says "if you ever strike me again I will knock you down". As Dan was a large, stout man and fully capable of carrying his threat into execution the mate who did not dream of resistance was evidently staggered but began to bluster and swear and the Capt. coming forward wanted to know what the matter was. On being told he then scolded to Dan "what are you going to do aboard this ship". I am going to try to do my duty sir" says Dan "but I won't be struck by anybody". "Well" says the Captain "you do your duty and nobody will strike you" and then turning to the mate "when there's any striking to be done on board this ship I'll do it myself" and away he walks aft followed by the crest-fallen mate who did not venture to strike any one else for some time and then his victory was far from complete. But of this more in its proper place.

One day soon after this one of the men saw some fish swimming along with the vessel called in to look at them. They were pronounced by those experienced to be Dolphin and a rush was made for lines and hooks in hopes of catching one as they are very good eating. I had a small line and I got it and baited it with a white rag as I saw the rest do and flung it over the side. It had hardly touched the water before it was seized by one and I began to pull but as he was a large one my line would not hold him but as soon as he was clear of the water it parted and he and the rest of the dolphin immediately disappeared and we saw no more of them. A morning or two after this the lookout aloft reported something floating in the water about a mile off. It