

some muscles with which the rocks are covered and roasting them we started for the vessel but after pulling five or six miles a fog came up so thick that you could almost cut it with a knife. Our ship was out of sight when we started but we should have found without any trouble if it had not been foggy but as we kept blowing our horn which every boat carries we were in hopes soon to hear an answering blast and then enabled to regain our ship but after pulling an hour or two longer we stopped and held a consultation. Having come to the conclusion that it was useless to look farther for the ship we concluded to try to try to reach the shore as it would be better than remaining in an open boat all night. But by some oversight our compass which every boat is supplied with had been left on board and so not having that to guide us we pulled about a shell longer without seeing or hearing anything when we came to another halt and anchored the boat with the intention of passing the night where we were. We took the boat's sail and spreading it over us twice to sleep but it was hard work for it was cold although in July and the fog was nearer rain than anything else. We passed a long weary night but day broke at last however. We took a look around us but we could not see a ship's length. All at once one of the crew sang out "sail!" and we looked in the direction that he pointed and there was a vessel indistinctly seen through the fog. We took our oars and started for her but had not gone more than a ship's length before it turned into a tree floating with the tide and the branches sticking up seen through the medium of the fog looked like masts and spars.

As we had eaten what provisions we brought the day before our chances for a breakfast began to look small if the fog continued and which there was no abatement of as yet. But in

a few minutes we were all electrified by the sound of a horn which we answered immediately and now hearing it again we started for it and guided by the sound in a few minutes we were along side of the bark *Panmy* of N. B. and going on board the cook soon got us some break. We began to think our chances better for a breakfast than half an hour before and soon it came smoking and we did not need any urging to eat as we all had very good appetites. Having finished our breakfast and had a good smoke we were just upon the point of turning in when the fog lifting a little disclosed our own vessel within a mile of us and we were soon on board of her and snug in our bunks.

We were unable to leave for two or three days on account of the fog but the first fair day we leaved away again but took good care that we were better prepared than before. We cruised here a week or two but without getting a chance at the whales though we saw them every day. In fact our officers were not very anxious to tackle them in the ice as it needs an expert whaler to handle them there. As soon as one is struck he instantly makes for the compact ice and if he runs under a cake they are obliged to give him line till they can get the boat clear and it often happens that before the boat can be cleared the line is gone it being useless to try to hold it. Sometimes when he is running and they are holding on to the line which is done by taking a turn or two round the logghead an upright stick of hard wood in the stern of the boat placed there for this purpose the boat will strike with its full force against a cake of ice and if struck fairly with his stem it will split and the boat go between the pieces but if not struck fairly we to the boat. Often times the line will be cut or chafed off against the ice and then farewell Mr. Whale. In spite of all this however they are often taken without damage to anything.

We cruised here a week or two as I said