

coarse black hair which serves to strain the water that they expel retaining their food which is a small jelly-like substance with which the water where they are found is filled.

The next thing to be done with the blubber is to prepare it for tallowing out. One or two men are stationed in the blubber room cutting the blanket pieces into "hose pieces" about a foot long by six inches wide and they are then passed on deck and carried to the mincing machine which minces them as thin as sliced pork and they are then transferred to the tin pot and the oil boiled out the scraps serving to replace the fire underneath. The oil is then boiled into a scum and when sufficiently cooled is put into casks which in their turn are emptied into tanks between decks which are drawn off into casks in the vessel's hold. When first tried out the oil has the appearance and taste of fresh lard but soon becomes rancid.

After the oil is tried out and stored down then the bone has to be scraped and cleaned. The large end of the bone is coated with the gum of the whale which adheres to it and in substance resembles a horse's hoof but much softer. It is easily scraped off and then it is scrubbed and dried and then packed away between decks.

The whale that we had just disposed of stored us down 115 barrels being a large one for these waters. After we had finished tallowing out we took our departure back again to Tehant's bay. On our way we saw what at first seemed to be the carcass of a whale floating but on a nearer inspection it proved to be a dead whale called by whalers "a stinker" and rightly named for on coming close to it the smell was overpowering but as the blubber was on it it was taken alongside and cut in. It had been killed

a week or two but had no isons in it so that we could ^{not} tell who had killed it (as the name of the ship is marked on this ison) but had evidently been killed by a bomb lance. And now let me say a word about bomb guns in this place. A bomb gun is a short heavy-barreled gun with a large bore and are very good things in helping to capture a whale in the hands of anybody that understands them. For this purpose a bomb lance is used which is a hollow tube of iron filled with powder and having a lance-shaped head and which when fired from the gun and entering the whale bursts inside and does good execution often killing him outright. Our first and second mates each carried a gun and although often fired yet I never saw either of them so lucky as to hit a whale with one. But to return to our stinker. The oil from one of these dead whales though not quite so pure is still worth nearly as much as the fresh so that a dead whale is quite a prize. The one that we picked up made 25 barrels.

Being now once more anchored in Tehant's bay we commenced our cruising again. The ice had now disappeared but the whales remained although shy as ever. A number of ships were at anchor in the bay while their boats were cruising around day after day some times being provisioned for a week and taking a cruise the whole extent of the bay at night going ashore and either occupying some unclaimed hut which are sprinkled all along the shores or building one themselves out of branches and limbs of trees and covering the ground inside with grass and building a fire before the entrance they occupy it that night and then leave it for the next comes.

One afternoon after we had been here about a week it being still and calm and the second mate being about half a mile from us we were drifting slowly along when we began to hear away towards the entrance of the bay the