

bags and explored both bags but without success. Three or four days before a boat from the ship baroline took a whale and the ship being some distance off the whale was anchored and one of the boats sent for the ship while the other remained out the shore to watch it. Early one morning we discovered it to be adrift and close to us and their boat nowhere in sight. We lowered away and towed it alongside and got as quick as possible their irons out and stowed them away out of sight but had no sooner done so than their boat came along side claiming it. They were told that they were mistaken as we had taken it ourselves but they insisted that it was and finally the captain told them that they might wait and see it cut in and if their irons were found in it they might have the whale which was a very safe statement on our side for their irons had been extracted and our shored into the places they had occupied. They insisted however that it was their whale but in the absence of all positive evidence they were obliged to forgo their claim and left us declaring that they would play us a trick if they ever had a chance but that chance they never had for the whale that we took were far and far between.

The mate who ever since his encounter with one of the hands when we were first out from home which I have mentioned before had managed to keep his hands off of us until now taking his ill humor out in threatening ventures now to make another display of his prowess. One of the hands named Thompson was scraping the deck in the waist when the mate who had been growling at one and another all the morning began to find fault with his scraping and on his answering slapped him in the face which was no sooner done than he received one between the eyes from Thompson and both clinched each trying to throw the other but the decks being so slippery they slid about until approaching the gangway

which was open Thompson began to manoeuvre to get the mate in the gangway when he would either have to give up or the two go overboard together. They were just on the point of going over the side when the mate whose fear of a cold bath overcame his fighting propensities sang out "that's enough Thompson" and sneaked away quite crestfallen and did not venture to trouble any of the crew again. Thompson said afterwards that he would willingly have gone overboard if he could have had the satisfaction of carrying the mate with him.

And now while on the subject I will relate the second mate's passage of arms and the manner in which his pugnacious disposition got cooled down. Thompson the same one that the mate had a trial with was in the main rigging rearing on satins and had his masts-pike by him changing by a lanyard to the rigging and after using it would let it drop as far as the lanyard would allow it and once it happened to touch the second mate on the top of the head who thereupon commenced to swear at him. Thompson excused himself by saying it was accidental and he would try to be more careful but it did not quiet the second mate who finally told him to get some tar and tar down some of the stags. Accordingly, Thompson taking a bucket went onto the hold to draw some but it being cold it did not run very fast and while he was waiting for it the second mate came along and told him to hurry up or he would come down there and hurry him at the same time kicking down at him from the hatchway. Upon which Thompson asked him why he did not come down and strike him like a man if he wanted to whereupon he jumped down into the hold and knocked Thompson down but was knocked down in his turn by Thompson and they exchanged blows for a minute or two when Thompson getting him down was pummeling him when the second mate seeing that it was of no use to continue the fight sang out "enough" and came out of the