

out there and taking the line the end of which was fast to the iron in the whale was relieved every four hours the ship keeping near by under short sail. We laid by him in this manner three days and on the morning of the fourth all of the boats proceeded out there and all hands getting hold of the line began to pull in hopes of raising him. But in the midst of our pulling the line parted and that ended our connection with that whale. We saw whales in a day or two for the last time on this ground and knowing the mate was soon fast and the whale being made sick by the iron did not offer to run but lay still and allowed itself to be killed without any trouble.

On this ground we spoke the ship William Thompson and learned from her that she had picked up our whale that we had lain by so long on the very next day after we left it and it made them 70 bbls. Not seeing any more whales we entered the Japan Sea and shaped our course for Tsakodadi where we came to anchor about the first of May 1851.

Chapter IX.

A Cruise in the Arctic.

There was but little difference between now and a year before when we were here no trade being allowed except through a custom house which had been established during the past year. But there was this advantage in it. We could purchase of any boy that we chose by taking the article to the custom house and paying the officials there the value of it in silver and they paying the owner of the goods in the currency of the country. Another custom we found introduced within a year. A house of prostitution had been erected during the year and was in full operation when we arrived the inmates being Japanese women. The Japanese called it the American house.

In a week or two we again found ourselves at sea bound up the coast of Kamtschatka to the Arctic. Nothing of any consequence took place until we reached Cape St. Thaddeus when we encountered a heavy gale of wind and were forced to take in everything. We laid to until the next day when it began to moderate and about four o'clock it was nearly calm but still a heavy sea on. All at once whales appeared around the ship thick as grasshoppers and lowering away the second mate was fast in a very few minutes. But the whale instead of running showed fight and began to whip round gaily with his tail. The third mate now bore down to fasten and he had got nearly to the whale when the second mate sang out to him not to go on to windward of the whale on account of the heavy sea but to fasten from leeward. To which the third mate responded "you look out for your boat and I will for mine" and continued his course. Just as the boatswain started a sea catching the boat in spite of the third mate's exertions, brouched her to and threw her broadside on to the whale and she was instantly smashed by