

Western Ground July 1869

Sat July 24<sup>th</sup>

This day commences with a light breeze from the N.E. steering by the wind on the Port tack finished hoisting at 1 1/2 o'clock & put on the stem turned up 2 bbls & 20 gallons. put the oil in casks & coopered it at 4 o'clock. Cleared up and washed off decks. Saw 1 sail. at sunset double reefed & took in the main-top-gallant sail. Lacked ship at 5 o'clock. at sundown double reefed the top sails. Mid part the same. Latter part fresh breeze from the E.N.E. steering by the wind on the Starboard tack broke out a cask of hoops also broke out water at 10 o'clock. got the reef out & got the main sail. Saw 1 sail

Sun. July 25<sup>th</sup>

This day commences with a fresh breeze from the N.E. steering by the wind on the Starboard tack at 2 1/2 o'clock raised a school of Sperm Whales off the lee Bow. run for them and lowered all 4 Boats at 3 o'clock. The Bow Boat came very near striking a 30 bbl Whale but owing to hard luck did not succeed the whale then started to the leeward with eyes put chased them until sundown & then returned to the ship with poor success as usual. 2 Whalers in sight one Bark & 1 Brig after coming aboard took in the light sail & double reefed also furled the main sail. Steaming by the wind on the Starboard tack

Log the life of a Whalman I wish that I was out to old Dartmouth

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Merid part the same Latter part light breeze from the N.W. steering by the wind. Lacked ship 3 times. Saw a school of cowfish. 2 Whalers in sight made all sail this morning. had several rain squalls

Mon. July 26<sup>th</sup>

This day commences with a moderate breeze from the N.W. steering by the wind under all sail but fore-top gallant sail. 2 Whalers in sight one of them is a Bark on the same tack at 4 o'clock the said Bark lacked standing towards me at 5 o'clock spoke her and found her to be the B. E. Oray Capt. Howland 2 months out clean & unharmed. at 9 o'clock at sundown took in the light sails & double reefed also furled main sail heading by the wind. after coming aboard Brown a foremast hand came aft saying that the foremast bar. therefore the 3<sup>rd</sup> mate ordered the fore hatch taken off to see if the bar-cask had sprung a leak or any thing of the kind. and the spile was found to be out and the bar running out fast. there was also a lot of oakum ~~was~~ found near the cask saturated with oil & tar therefore there was strong suspicion that some one had undertook to set the ship on fire. there was also a bottle of oil found near the cask. there was a board between the fore castle and fore hold found to be stove off. The Capt. told them that they might go ahead & set the ship on fire but not one of them should have a chance to get clear of her except the after gang