

Friday May 12th

on Monday last we raised whales, but no boats were lowered. Whales were again raised at day light (5 A.M.) & all boats lowered & cruised off about 8 miles till 10 A.M. one boat made fast once but soon slipped, when all boats were off & nearly out of sight there were hundreds of large sperm whales within rifle shot of the ship. None were taken.

Sunday May 16th 1869

Whales were raised yesterday & the day also on Friday afternoon but no boats were lowered. It is quite cool with us & to day is very unpleasant - and rainy. saw a sail bound W. this A.M. about 12 miles off. Course N. N. E.

Sunday May 23rd

on Wednesday last we gained the Bark Cicero of N. B. from the North Pacific 4 years out with 300 sperm & 1100 ton head. bound here I wrote & sent my 2^d letter to Father also one to Mrs. B. We gained her again on Friday eve & gave her a keg of tea & load of wood & took from her a potato bin to put up on deck. opened a cask 3 1/2 bls of flour on Monday last been on board 4 years & was in one cake but it is made into the poorest bread I ever ate, can be tasted for a good 24 hours after eating.

Sunday May 30th

During the past week we have had much rain but for the past 3 days it has been calm with scarcely a ripple on the sea. yesterday was very hot & the tar & oil started out of the deck when the sun struck it. The boats were lowered yesterday at 10 1/2 A.M. for black fish but the sea was too smooth to approach them & after trying in vain till 2 P.M. returned. Last eve 8 or 10 of us went in swimming & I enjoyed it greatly. Lat 30th Long 55th W.

Sunday June 5th 1869

Lat 33 N. Long 52 W. Thursday & Friday of the past week was very windy & rough, but is much calmer to day. Course N. by E. a schooner passed on bow yesterday about 4 miles off. Lowered for black fish at 11 A.M. yesterday. sea very high & boats returned at 11 1/2 P.M. without success.

Sunday June 13th - Lat 36 N. Long 58 W.

The past week has been somewhat varied from our usual monotony. on Monday morning last we took a young porpoise which made about 2 gallons of oil & gave fresh meat to all hands for two days. on Tuesday morning our starboard boat was lowered & a large turtle hopped & a piece of timber picked up which was painted white & covered with crabs on which the turtle was feeding. he made an excellent dinner for all hands. about 3 P.M. we gained an English Merchant man Brig from Spain with 375 tons of salt & 3 months out the crew had lived on bread & water for three weeks & had only 1/2 barrel left we gave her one barrel of beef, pork, flour, tea, coffee, dried apples, rice &c. she was bound for Cape Horn. I sent my 3^d letter to Father by her captain. on Wednesday last it began to blow & rain very hard & for 56 hours, it blew a ^{gale} most of the time, we were hoist too during this time under fore topmast staysail & main spencer. split on spencer Friday morning. I lost my foot hold while on deck Thursday morning by fall striking my breast on the windlass which has lamed me severely. Friday afternoon the wind was quite light but the sea was high & a school of large sperm whales was raised about 3 1/2 P.M. two boats were lowered with picked men & after being out 4