

Journal on board

S.P.O. 11 September 1871

Saturday Sep. 23rd

Strong breeze nothing to do. the Martha and Morning Star. Finbacks humpbacks and porpoises in sight

Sunday Sep. 24

A gale of wind and cold enough to suit an Esquimaux merchant ships in sight no mastheads this afternoon

Monday Sep. 25th

No mastheads in the forenoon. Was under cover reefed topsails. nothing in sight

Tuesday Sep. 26th

Much better weather, a pleasant day in fact. Land in sight. Chili. somewhere near Talcahuano. Martha and Star in sight

Wednesday Sep. 27

Fine weather: gammed. the Morning Star. an all day gamme. the worst kind of gamme. nothing in sight

Thursday Sep. 28

Good weather. a light breeze. we was on the starboard tack heading E. S. E. two whales in sight. nothing more

Friday Sep. 29th

Cold fall the slat and rain cold winds blow with cold water under and around us but - "little care I how winds may blow tonight but we are struck it's my watch below

Saturday Sep. 30

Clear and cold. nothing in sight until 2 O'clock then sperm whales were raised and three boats lowered for them the mate struck a 20 bbl. whale and we struck second boat. but seeing a chance for loose whales we cut and started in pursuit but it was useless. had the whale along side by 4 O'clock

Bark Alfred Gibbs

S.P.O.

October 1871

Sunday Oct. 1st

Called all hands at six this morning and had him in the blubber room at half past seven, and boiling at noon. two whales in sight and Ormequines an island in Teleahuano Bay

Monday Sep. 20

Finished rolling this morning before daylight. scrubbed ship and stowed down try gear. turned up 2 bbls. Martha in sight

Tuesday Oct. 30

A disagreeable day. being both wet and cold. nothing in sight. wind blowing strong from the South. the first of this month was the large appointed for port but it is a matter of doubt in my mind whether we get in this month

Wednesday Oct. 4th

Whales we certainly have been today. raised sperm whales this morning at seven O'clock. they were small in size but great in number. but great or small we did not get any of them, although we tried hard enough. Well, tomorrow is my birthday and we will have better luck

Thursday Oct. 5th

But better luck certainly we did have in the forenoon spewed down 20 bbls. oil and after dinner Shuman raised sperm whales off the lee quarter and our boats, lowered the mate struck a good sized whale then the third mate struck and lost our boat and in landing line the second mate's hand was carried around the logghead breaking his little finger and wrenching his arm very bad. but he killed the whale in short order. the mate's line parted so we saved only two. the Martha's boats were among us but did not get a spill, so here we are with 590 bbls and two whales along side