

Journal on board

S.P.O. 11 July 1872

Thursday July 18

Good weather. at half past six this morning sperm whales were raised off the lee quarter, and immediately the larboard waist and bow boats were ready and lowered. after chasing him about an hour close hauled on the wind the mate went somewhere near the side of him but did not get fast. the whale then 'rilled' and started to lurch the waist boat in hot pursuit. and at about ten the waist b- went alongside of him but he saw us - rolled from us and when we had passed him he apparently thought it his turn to chase but he could not get us in that ugly looking jaw any better than we could him. at last however we got two irons in him and soon finished him and had him along side at 12 when we got dinner & breakfast - for we had had none - then got up cutting gear and commenced cutting took his jaw off and called it a days work done then was sperm whales in sight all this afternoon

Friday July 19

Rather bad weather for cutting but we were at it as soon as we could see. and had his body on deck before 12 and his head in - case bailed and overboard before night. now I think we all feel better with this nice lot of oil and thank God for it.

Bark Alfred Gibbs

S.P.O.

July 1872

Saturday July 20

Fine weather a light wind from the South. we started the works early in the morning cut the junk and hauled things fairly underweigh before noon

Sunday July 21

This day for the first twelve hours it was very good weather but the remainder was rainy cold and a pretty good breeze from the South. was under close reefed main topsail and foresail and on the port tack

Monday July 22

Cloudy and cold. was on the port tack heading about N. N. W. was boiling all day and sometime during the night finished. nothing in sight

Tuesday July 23

Good weather with a cold dry south wind. commenced stowing down in the morning and before 12 O'clock had put 88 bbls out of sight and now we have 1120 bbls towards a voyage scrubbed ship in the afternoon nothing in sight

Wednesday July 24

Nearly calm. we on the starboard tack heading E. by N. the trypworks were repaired a little and a few other small jobs done I wonder how long it will be now before we have a little more excitement and work.

Thursday July 25

Fine weather with a light breeze from the N. W. was on the port tack and heading W. by S. nothing to be seen but porpoises and finbacks