

Journal on board

S.P.O. 11 December 1872

Monday Dec. 16

Good weather, but bad luck sperm whales were raised this morning at about six. three boats lowered and chased them until noon and came on board. at two lowered again and we went alongside of one and put two irons in him but he kicked them out we got close to another, but not close enough to get him. the other ships got one each

Tuesday Dec. 17

More of the same kind of luck only the whales did not get any irons in them to kick out saw them in the morning but did not lower until after dinner, and then we pulled and pulled then lay the boat around until she headed for the ship and pulled again

Wednesday Dec. 18

Too much wind to call it pleasant and too cold for comfort

Thursday Dec 19

Pleasant weather but not a thing to be seen except two or three whales. and in the afternoon gannetted the good old pie box *Cornelia* I am more than ever disgusted with this business

Bark Alfred Gibbs

S.P.O.

December 1872

Friday Dec 20th

A strong south wind was on the Port tack and under double reefed topsails, nothing in sight

Saturday Dec 21

No lookout, the greater part of the day, consequently, nothing in sight. but at four they were shut up and at six sperm whales were raised off the lee beam, going to windward, eyes out, and the *Cornelia's* boats after them. we got ready but did not lower

Sunday Dec 22

Light breeze, then whales in sight and in the afternoon we gannetted the lot of them the *Mars*, *Manly* and *Suzan* and *Cornelia* the *Mars* had taken 120 bbls.

Monday Dec. 23^d

Fine weather

Tuesday Dec. 24

Under close reefed main topsail, in the afternoon men from aloft were called down, our brother whalers here all disappeared

W. Christmas

A fine day at about nine o'clock two ships came down for a visit they were the *Manly* and *Suzan* and *Mars* after noon the old *Cornelia* hove in sight and we ran down and gannetted her. so we passed a very pleasant Christmas although far away from home