

for us by some of our tried-and-true friends so distant. It looks now like almost an impossibility that that feeling should ever animate our bosom so often and so many times have we been disappointed. But we will get hope "faint heart ne'er won" is a saying which in most cases generally proves true. Strange to say Capt. did not learn the name of the ship nor even the whaler that there but a short time Lat. $33^{\circ}45'$ Lon. $45^{\circ}38'$.

Feb 23.

Strong breeze some rain with sea rising in the morning. Afternoon wind increasing from N. N. E. and shortlanded sail frequent showers nothing in sight. Read papers Lat $33^{\circ}35'$ Lon. $44^{\circ}50'$

Feb 24.

An uncomfortable gale from the same quarter and some rain. Lying to under short sail No obs.

Feb 25 Sunday.

During the night wind changed to N. N. W. and continues strong from that point. Also frequent and hard showers of rain with no signs of better weather. No obs.

Feb 26.

Feb 26th 1855.

Gale moderating with occasional showers. Raised sperm whales this morning - what a sight - saw them going S. E. and to leeward of us. Though the seas were rough we chased them from 8 A. M. till late in the afternoon but could never get within the length of 3 boats from them though they kept the same course. The boats came alongside and were hoisted up but there were very little of triumphant feeling mingled with our company originating from this chase of which we had previously entertained the highest hopes of success. It had been the general received opinion of all that if we could see whales we would surely get one. Reasoning our crew to be as competent as any out but little circumstances - if a large whale swimming along just out of our reach worth \$5,000 may be called such - often makes great changes in the mind and so our yesterday's adventure today with hard pulling has again lessened our confidence in a considerable degree. Let us see them under favorable circumstances if we fail in our attempts we may well give up all hopes of a prosperous voyage but till then Lat $34^{\circ}18'$ Lon.

Feb 27.

The weather has now become fine again and we have got spit on once more. No wind no change. At 5 P. M. Saw