

Sept 20th 1865

Last night took a hard squall which lasted 3 hours. The look in some sail. After this died away to a calm.

At daylight light breeze from N. E. Set sail again Course S. S. W. Lat 27° 15' Lon 18° 18'

Sept 21.

Seal pretty sure we have got the trade now from the E. N. E. Weather pleasant Course S. S. W. Raised blackfish this afternoon.

Lowered and waist and lashed boats got one each. We did not go down till the 2 boats were fast and had no chance to strike. Took them aboard and kept on our course Lat 25° 38' Lon 18° 46'

Sept 22.

Wind steady and breeze as last. Caught 2 turtle and had a good soup for dinner. Lat 23° 42' Lon 19° 10'

Sept 23. Sunday.

How very pleasant it is for me to record the fact that we have got another whale and that a good sized one. Such is nevertheless true. Raised them about 10 A.M. 5 or 6 of them separated. They were just in our weather bow and we stood along till their next rising. Then 2 boats lowered.

Pulled for some time and as they appeared to go to wind ward while down began to thin

the chance rather small. Pretty soon however a fellow came up spouting to leeward and the waist boat being the nearest kept off for him and in spite of all fears of his going down before they could reach him shot right up along side and chuck to the socket went 2 irons - this was "very good" as the Frenchman said.

but something else remained to be done which was however accomplished after a little.

After getting fast the whale commenced sounding and the second time took all the line but not till he had received several good well directed lances which had the effect to start blood in his spoutings. In the mean time we had lowered and were fast pulling for them. They were waiting us to come on giving us to understand they were loose and we did our utmost to reach them so as to take the whale when he came up and "rather guess we want slow not nothing" for it would have puzzled any kind of fish to have kept up with us at that time - over the left - but we did go fast and was somewhat ahead of the L. boat and just far from the fish when he showed his hump above water. He was to all intents and purposes a sick fish when he made his appearance and lay quite still spouting large columns of blood so that we had nothing to do but go up and fasten and kill him. Binding to our bars we soon pulled up just ahead of the waist boat and I gave him 2 irons there was little need of