

Feb 2nd 1856

Calm till night when a good breeze sprang
up from S. S. W. Chased killers till near
noon couldn't begin to come near them Lat 5° 45' -
Long 10° 05'

Feb 3 Sunday

A long swell running from S. Fresh
fish for dinner Lat 5° 47' Long 9° 23'

Feb 4.

Spoke Bark Clara Bell. Capt.
Robins of Mattapoisett. Thinking there might
be letters for us Capt went on board but found
none though she is only 5 mos. out. Last
from Boston 200 whale. Raised another
sail to night Lat 6° 00' Long 9° 22'

Feb 5

Made a sail this morning which
proved to be the Mearch. To night we had
a gam and I had a pleasant time aboard of
her. Returned at 9 this evening Lat 5° 00' Long 9° 30'

Feb 6

No change yet in wind and weather
swell rather going down. Came with Clara
Bell, and to night I went on board. They
had fiddling and dancing in any quantities.
Had some acquainted with two of the boys
who sail from N. Say the Mearch tonight
to leeward. Gam up at 8 o'clock
Lat 6° 13' Long 9° 19'

Feb 7.

A good breeze to day. Plenty of small fish
around. Caught some. Catch them now most
every day. Took one above as large as a
porpoise these are excellent eating - the head, nabe
and fin being much fatter than in the small fish
Lat 6° 16' Long 8° 58'



Feb 8

No luck again on that memorable day
Friday. Raised whales about 2 P.M. to windward
breaching and coming down towards us.
Then within about 4 miles we all lowered
and were soon in amongst them a large
school of small ones. The first boat struck
first when they all brought top and gave
as just such a chance as we have long wished
for. Our turn came next and I fastened
to one and pretty soon the L. boat some
were all fast and the whales about equally
divided laying around the boats like logs
only a little more life in them. We kept lancing
any we could get a chance to sometimes the
fast one, and sometimes loose ones. Had been
fast but a short time when owing to their
laying so thick round us our line got a
turn round another fellows jaw and he kept
winding it up so fast that to save it we had
to cut off and we then struck another. The
first one soon died and sunk in sight of
us so he was a goner, as also did 2 other loose
ones we had lanced. However we managed