

June 1870

Friday 24th

Lat
6° 10' S
Long
121° 2' E

The Boats got to the shore about eight o'clock without the whale. Mr Holmes had to cut from him, after firing seven bomb lances and three hand lances, rather a poor beginning, but we saw the season will end well. Immediately after dinner, saw two Harporhodes and several boats but did not succeed in taking anything as they would sport but once at a time, the Boats had no chance to get to them. We saw but two whales from the ship but the Boats saw four. I hope we may get one tomorrow. About ten o'clock this morning we were off the mouth of the Congo River. The water that flows from the River is a different color, and does not seem to mingle with the water of the ocean, you could see a long distance the difference in the color, in a straight line, and it seemed to be but a few feet deep and the ships would see this in the green water underneath. The current is very strong, we have been heading on the land, and have drifted off from it. We shall be to get away the shore in the morning and drift anchor. Mr Holmes Boatstew is sick so Glen goes in his boat.

Sat 25th

Lat
5° 27' S
Long
111° 50' E

About ten o'clock this morning raised two whales and several three Boats. Mr Holmes, was seen first, and killed the whale at the same time. Glen was his Boatstew and used one of his harpoon lances all day, got back to the ship about 1/2 past six, without taking anything. Mr Holmes and Mr Layton came on board about twelve, to cut in the whale have got it all in the blubber room, and are now getting it ready for the Mining Machine. The whale was small but the blubber is good, about five o'clock Mr Holmes lowered for another but it was so late that he had to come back to the ship, without getting near enough to strike, the whales saw the ship, starting on this ground. We have made a beginning. I hope we may do well, have finished butting

June 1870

Sunday 26th

Lat
5° 2' S
Long
111° 38' E

Have had a pleasant day, but no wind, and the current is so strong it is impossible to get in near enough to anchor. This morning from the boat discovered something that at first was thought to be a cluster whale but proved to be a lot of drift stuff covered with long mussels, supposed to have come out of Congo River. This afternoon Mr Lishem saw two green turtles from the boat. Mr Holmes went down after them and got them both. Mr Holmes has a sore hand, and a bad cold, his Boatstew is quite sick. We think he has the Dropsy. He has been sick most of the time since leaving home his stomach and bowels are now badly swollen. I fear he will not live long. Last night the Stewage boy went forward, he has wanted to for some time. The Cooper has used him very badly, and last night, knocked him down and beat him and Captain gave the Cooper a good scolding for it, and a little while afterward, Glen came to him and said they did not want the boy there any longer as he was very dirty etc. so he was gone into the Louanthe, and seems pleased to go. We have seen no whales today.

Mon 27th

Off
Mon 27th
24
Lat
4° 43' S
Long
111° 21' E

This morning had some of the Turtles fried but I could not eat it, for dinner had Turtle soup but the thought of Turtle sickness me I could not eat it. Every one else thought it beautiful. Perhaps I should had I not known what it was made of. A little wind and a strong current off shore so it is almost impossible to work when we want to and anchor. Commenced firing this morning and have almost done. Mr Holmes is almost sick but a bad cold and looks much sorer. I have made a shot for medicine but not a whole lot. Wait for him on my Machine.