

July 1870
Sunday 24th

Another Sabbath eve, and I know not where the day has gone. I long for a quiet Sabbath, when I can listen to a gospel sermon. This day has been a very busy one. Two boats have been down chasing whales all day. While the other men Capt. Inglehart, have been steering oil tar canoes, have been off with Mats Parrot, & have not yet sold one. One is here now, but left the night. Capt. bought thirteen Mats, and I gave an empty bottle for a comb such as the natives use to comb their hair. Mr. Holmes purchased another Parrot. After he came on board, tonight Mr. Laker has also bought one. The one Mr. Holmes gave Sheddie gets along nicely.

Monday 25th

This morn. lowered the Larboard and Main Boats, and not long after saw Mr. Holmes was fast, and the other boat soon fastened to the same one, and Mr. H. killed him soon after. We soon perceived something was the matter, and sent the Bow Boat to them, he helped the main boat tow the whale to the ship. Mr. Holmes got his boat close to the ship, so he was obliged to come to the ship, but was there around the bow, so they could not row, but all got in the stern and paddles, was very fast to find no one was injured. The whale is small but quite good. Capt. Sheddie shows the remains of the whale while the boats were off.

330 all told 290. on this coast, and this whale we hope will make out 250. This morn. Capt. purchased a Parrot, and ten more Mats, commenced boiling out but the blubber is so green have decided dinner and shall wait until tomorrow. I have finished by 12.

Tues. 26th

This morn. lowered three boats, they returned without anything but saw plenty of whales but they were all going fast and there has

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been no wind so they could not get to them. Mr. Holmes brought some more guttafish. He brings me some nearly every day. I have fifty or more. I have cut out three pairs of drawers for Capt. Smith, and made one pair for him. Another 2 canoes came off. Capt. bought five more mats. We were here forty time.

Wednesday 27th

Lowered three boats this morn. they have been in sight of the ship all day chasing whales about. Three select three whales came up near the ship, and Capt. lowered his boat taking the cork for one of the crew and was then one man shot. He set signal for the other boats to come to him. They did so but the whales were going very fast they could not get near them, got back on board about six select. I spent the forenoon in refecting a lot and packing the things contained in others. So that the box could be used to make a cage for Mr. Holmes and the Capt. made it, but did not get as much as I thought for it. Salas mustel my cattle fast and fastened them away and cleaned the floor of my room on deck.

Thurs. 28th

This morn. lowered the Larboard and Main Boats. Capt. has been at work busting out the after hold to clean out the gassy that was through, when we shot that four whales in the blubber soon. Saw several whales during the forenoon, quite near the ship, but they were all going fast. Immediately after dinner, saw one near that seemed quite still, and Capt. with his boat and the Bow Boat started for him. Capt. was soon fast and was moved through the water faster than I ever saw anything go before. Capt. shot him about dead before the other boats could get to him, although he lacked another great disadvantage, having a green Boublieren and one man shot in less than four hours from the time they lowered he was alongside the ship.

W. Campbell, Chasing 40 file