

immediately proceeded to quit our anchorage and get away from the shore. In consequence of our windlass working badly we were ~~at~~ ^{for} some time unable to break from our anchorage, and we at one time thought of letting the anchor and chain go, as the captain was impatient desirous of getting away from the shore. We finally set sail without doing this and by night were nearly out of sight of ~~the~~ land.

Sunday, Sep 29th. A good fresh breeze and this afternoon we again reefed topsail. Whilst aloft a large whale blowed about a dozen times, at a distance of several rods from the ship, and then rolled fins out, and turned flukes. This is the first whale we have seen, but as it is Sunday we did not lower for him. We have a prospect of having a very disagreeable night on deck.

Sep 30th. We had a cold night and some snow fell. The Capt allowed us to have hot coffee through the night, which I suppose he will do every night until we are round "the Horn". I had some fun this morning snowballing. Two of us snowballed Mr Williams (the Surgeon) who is always joking with some of the boys, and he chased us around the deck and in the boats trying to catch us. We hit him a number of times and once or twice rubbed him. The Capt showed me something about Navigation this morning, and with what he showed me I worked out the Latitudes & Longitudes. Lat. $55^{\circ} 21'$ Lon. $64^{\circ} 41'$. We are yet in sight of Staten Land there being a strong current which prevents us from making much headway. Oct 2nd. We have a fine dry and remarkable weather for Cape Horn. We are now to the southward of the Cape, but must go westerly more, before we pass the Cape.

Oct 3rd. We are now ninety miles to the southward of Cape Horn. We have a fine breeze and will soon be to the northward of the Cape on the other side.

Oct 4th. Lat. about 60° Lon 74° . We have passed Cape Horn and have had much better weather than I expected. Capt R says he never had so little of bad weather in passing the Cape before, and this is I believe the

fifteenth or sixteenth time. We are now upon the "Good Pacific" and if we have fair winds will be upon the whaling grounds in about two weeks.

Oct 10th. We caught a black fish last night just before sundown. Mr Williams' boat took it. A very large school of them were around the ship but we succeeded in fastening to no other.

Oct 11th. Plenty of "flukes" are seen from aloft, but they turn out to be "fin backs" mostly. Before topsails this afternoon as the weather looked squally. The steward caught a large gony or albatrop numbers of which have been flying around since we took the black fish. He has a very sharp bill and is in no way scrupulous about using it sometimes. He has three points to his wings which I should think I would strike over 7 ft. I have moved from the fore-castle into the stowage this week, but I can hardly make up my mind which I like best.

Sat Oct 12th. To day the black fish was "tryed out" and yielded about 2 1/2 bbls of oil, so much towards 30th. Towards night it looked squally and we reefed topsails.

Sun Oct 13th. We "lay to" to day ~~under~~ having only a "quarter watch" on deck; spent the day very pleasantly, and much quieter than usual.

Oct 14th. "Made sail" this morning, steering about N. There shag flukes" was heard from mast head this morning, but it proved to be only a "fin back". We are now on the whaling grounds, and are cruising about for whales.

Oct 15th. To day we took our first whale, a sperm one. He was "fastened to" by each of the boats. The Capt struck him first but the "iron" sever; the mate then fastened to him, but was obliged to cut his line. He was running loose when the "waist boat" struck him, and with the bow boat, he lay very still and scarcely run at all, so that we soon pulled along side and lanced him. It was about noon when we got him alongside the ship, and about 10 o'clock we had him "cut in".