

and if they wish to try it you can say that as soon as they get into the stream and find a blow coming on with rain, they can look out for whales. We use a great many irons with these small whales have had a great many to break after using them once or twice, but have not lost any whales by iron breaking - they break in straightening or in whales while towing or alongside the ship - Capt. Howland makes the same complaint - I always use a new iron for a first head iron and don't intend for anything to get away from us after we once get harrowed - In regard to bombs I would say that my officers are not so well skilled in their use as some officers I have seen - Should you hear of any good ground please inform me of the same.

And Sir Oblige

Yours with respect
J B Borden

Master Bk Ocean Stead

Sayal Nov 17th 1868
Jacob B. Borden Esq
New Bedford

Sir, Yours under date of Oct 29th came duly at hand yesterday - and those of gun and gun on the 13th inst - Bbls of Loading of Shocks &c and of Steering Apparatus has been duly received. I was quite surprised to find here awaiting my arrival nearly 400 Bbls of Shocks - you must think that we can make whales or do something big by sending us out east within three months of our sailing from home - I cannot ship my oil from this place with any degree of certainty of its being sent home until spring. I shall therefore ship it on board until my arrival at Bermuda unless I have a chance to ship it previously - could I have shipped here should have put in a quantity of rocks for ballast and cruised about these islands, and gone out where Capt. Burke saw those whales to the W of these islands - Now must go to the Canaries for water &c and then think of cruising about the Cape & Verde and in at Hamilton Is of Bermuda in Feb - you will therefore please send my Gross Boat Scares &c to that place - If convenient and agreeable with yourselves should like for you to advance to John W. Howland as he requests a sum or