

Remarks on board Barque Cecilia 3^d Capt. C. B. Hamblin

Thursday March 15th 1860

This day commenced with fine weather and calm. I sail in sight the Dartmouth and Edward Carey. At ten A.M. the captain went on board the Dartmouth. Capt. Gardner also went there and the mates here. I & mates to the E. G. the game broke up about ten P.M. We have been steering to the Northward when there is any wind, there being a very strong current we go stern first which is rather a poor way of sailing.

Friday March 16th 1860

The weather continues about the same, three sail in sight south head bears about N.N.E. distant 20 miles at 3 P.M. we saw a large lone sperm whale going quick to the N.W. lowered the boats but could not get near enough to strike came on board about about 7 P.M.

Saturday March 17th 1860

This day fine weather and calm. Between six and seven M. Woodell raised spouts ahead but could not make out what they were. After breakfast the Captain raised sperm whales nearly astern; tackled ship and soon after lowered the boats and chased them till half past twelve when the mate struck chased them for about two hours longer but could not get very near them as they were going quick. took the mates whale alongside and got him cut in by sunset. the whales then in sight going about S.W. Off we had, had a breeze there was a good sight for all the boats to have got fast.

cruising off the Gallapagos Islands March 1860

Thursday March 22^d 1860

This day fine pleasant day and calm. At five P.M. raised a school of whales lowered the boats and the mate struck one and took him alongside.

Friday March 23^d 1860

The same as yesterday saw whales but it was so calm that the boats could not get near enough to strike.

Saturday March 24th 1860

The same as the day before saw whales at about eight A.M. lowered the boats but did not strike as it was too calm and still came on board at sundown.

Sunday March 25th 1860

This day the same as before, saw whales again about seven A.M. lowered the boats, the Starboard boat got one the Larboard boat fastened but drew and the Main boat struck four and secured but two, she had hard luck.

Remarks for the past week.

The past week has been a very busy one to us, catching whales and trying them out. The weather has been very fine and warm; also very calm sometimes scarcely a ripple disturbed the waters.

There was last week a great many whales around us if we had had a breeze we might have taken from 200 to 300 barrels of oil; as it was we were quite fortunate in getting what we did for there was not but one struck with the sail set.