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was looking at me and I did not want him to think I was afraid. I soon got into it however and can now go all over the rigging without hesitation. I must try to learn the names of the ropes soon as I do not understand the officers when they name them. I begin to think I will not be sick. Towards evening it became cloudy and rained a little, we furlled the foretopgallant sail, and reefed the main top sail, and I helped in doing both - it is very easy. I have not had much chance to study yet, but the Captain says he will see that his son and I have time enough to do so, Mr. Bell also feels inclined to study and between us three, I expect to pass some pleasant hours with my books.

June 27 I got up this morning at seven o'clock after 11 hours sleep and went on deck - where I found everything going on in order and the weather pleasant. After Breakfast the mate told me to go to the foremast head and look out for whales; this is what is called going to mast head on the lookout; the watch up there is for two hours and every one has his turn - this was my first masthead, and I enjoyed the cool breeze for two whole hours without seeing anything, after my time was up I came on deck and a short time afterwards, my successor saw a sail at a great distance and reported it to the Captain she was a barge and we thought bound to the West Indies as she was steering to the West. An observation was taken at the usual hour but being busy at some work, I could not be present to make my own, and when I got through with my work it was too late. Our course to day is south east by south, the weather pleasant and the winds light - we are going about 3 knots an hour. I loaned Mr. Bell my Sheet Anchor and he finds it very interesting, he intends studying navigation with me, and it is my intention to apply myself to that study

Latitude 20° 20'

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as much as possible. It rained during the afternoon towards evening, Mr. Bell, who is rather weak minded had an attack of craziness, and spoke pretty harshly to the Captain and Mate who were conversing with him. This gentleman partly from the loss of his mother and partly owing to dissipation has lost his mind. he attempted to kill himself twice but unsuccessfully, once he cut his neck from ear to ear and the second time he tried to shoot himself he was placed on Blackwell's island where he remained and was released a short time only before he sailed. This is one of the many terrible ends to which dissipation may lead a person. Several sails were seen in the distance, but they were at too great a distance for us to make them out.

June 28 Last night the weather was pretty fair, but rather Wednesday - damp - our course during the night was to the westward. When I arose this morning the first thing that struck my ear was the cry of "oil ho" and going on deck I saw a vessel about a mile off steering our course - she was under all sails, and evidently endeavouring to pass us - she was however no match for us and we were soon out of sight - the vessel proved to be a whaler. Mr. Bell still labors under his attack and imagines strange things indeed - for instance - he imagines that the Captain ordered him to leave the cabin and take up his quarters in the steerage - and laboring under that impression he took all his things from the cabin and came into the steerage, where not finding any empty berth he lays his mattresses on the seamen's chests and there sleeps very uncomfortable I should think - I felt homesick and downhearted all day to day, and many a time wished myself home again. In the afternoon it being my turn I went up to the foremast head to look out for whales but while up there did not see anything worse than noticing. After supper we saw a large whale, which passed very near the ship, but it not being the kind

Latitude 40° 35'