

may as ourselves - she is a whaler and is I think bound to the same place as we are.

Sept 13th Weather and winds fair - made good Thursday progress during all last night - the said is still sailing in company with us and as we are about the same speed it is likely we will reach the ground together - many names are given to it but no one can say with any certainty what ship it is - the prevailing idea is that it is the Mercury - course SW half W

Sept 14th Friday Weather and winds fair - the ship still in sight astern of us - at noon we hauled back the main yard so that the ship might come up with us - it being the Captain's intention to gain - at about ten o'clock we were enabled to speak the ship, she proved to be the "Hutchinson" of New Bedford. Our Captain asked Capt. Slocum to come on board and spend the afternoon ~~on board~~ with him, and this one having acquiesced ~~has~~ lowered a boat and came on board while our mate went on board the other ship - this is called gaining - at night the Capt. returned to his ship and we kept on our course. She had taken two very small sperm whales since we spoke her off Fayal - these were very small making only thirty barrels.

Sept 16th Saturday Winds and weather fair - the Hutchinson kept up with us all night and this morning was about five miles distant on the lee beam, but she fell off gradually and at four o'clock this afternoon was almost out of sight astern of us. She is not as good a sailer as the Ploughboy - a sail was descried from masthead this morning about 3 points on the weather bow. We are gaining on her and will I think overtake her - We are today 3 months out

and have not a drop of oil. As our name Sept 17th Sunday Weather and winds fair - passed the ship on the weather bow last night and this morning she was far astern of us - this afternoon we squared in the yards and stood off before the wind having set fore topmast Studdensail and main topgallant, studdensail. We are today in latitude 11° 45' and going at this rate, we will be on whaling ground by Wednesday and then I trust we will get some oil - course WSW

Sept 18th Monday Winds this morning pretty fair - the weather is damp and cloudy, and it threatens rain - course WSW

Sept 19th Tuesday Winds and weather fair this morning, though it rained during last night. All hands were called on deck this morning after breakfast, and they began to set up the rigging - we worked all day at the main rigging, but were not through by night - nothing seen from mastheads today - course W

Sept 20th Wednesday Winds and weather fair - all hands employed at the rigging - we began to rattle down this morning - nothing seen from masthead today - we will be on whaling ground by tomorrow morning, and then I hope we may fall in with whales - course W

Sept 21st Thursday Winds and weather fair - finished rattling down the main and fore rigging today and there is nothing left but the mizzen, which will not take long, being on whaling ground at night we hauled back the main yard and laid to under topsails and main topgallant sail - course W

Sept 22^d Friday Winds and weather fair - watch below was again given today - we are still at work at the rigging - exchanged signals with a Peruvian brig of war and also gave her the longitude - ours was 36° 30' and hers 35° 21' - course W - nothing from mastheads