

Dear Willie Dec 3rd 1857

Jan 28th Another Christmas has arrived at last
time after all seems to pass around
very quick it hardly seems possible that
this is the third Christmas I have been
on the sea but it is so. I can now think
with a certainty by the time another Christmas
arrives if nothing happens on shore as to
the married bond. These words I can assure
you my dear Mother I am as cheerful
as my sons. We had a sea for as
you would call it a pretty good
dinner we got that for us though
as we have been sailing there I am
fair times a week since sailing port
the light winds and fair sailing
sails at last & abt. 10 miles day
but cool night with a great deal of
Dew falling

Sat 26th
We have had no rain in so long a
time that we are entirely out of rain
water and the consequence is we are
obliged to do without washing to day

Dear Willie Jan 3rd 1858

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Jan 7th It seems like an age since I have been
able to write in my Journal. My eyes have
troubled me so for the past 2 weeks
I have not been able to bring them to
light at all. We have had two very
heavy gales one of them was the most
severe that we have seen since leaving Hong
Kong. We saw one said a few days since the storm
lastly and in fact it was so strong
so strong we could not speak here.
We are now on the whaling ground in Lat
49.20. Yesterday we saw 10 whales for
the first time. It was blowing fresh and
quite rugged when we met & down for the
first make. Mr. Rudolph called the whale
and no came on board. He got up the boat
and got our supper this morning away
again after another whale. We had an
other whale but we and fastened with
myself. The whale wounded twice heavily
but the iron or harpoon drew out and away
went the whale in up with our Boat
and some on board just sundown 9 P.M.
saw a ship on our weather bow. Last night
some 3 miles off judged her to be trying out
her tale in the air very high and fast. 9 months
match regular since Jan 2nd. The old man
has been giving me medicine for my eyes and
I am happy to say they are getting better.
During the last gale Frank Portage fell
down on deck and broke his arm

Jan 8th Sailed with Basil Moom's light 10 whales
down here this season. We have come
4 months. Also gained 400 lbs. Basil
sailed cloudy. my whale trip here it's quite
sailed for whales since to day without
any success. I am troubled with a sore
throat in my throat. The old man told me
not to get in the boat until I get better