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near the west coast of Mexico - The longest of these Islands is about 5 leagues long the middle Island about 3 & the smallest not quite 2 leagues - The largest is in lat 21° 30' N & long 107° 46' W - On the 11th at 1 P.M. the Ship Thames of London Capt Lonsom 9 months out with 300 lbs of oil at night parted with her - On the 12th at 6 A.M. saw two ships about 12 miles to leeward - we immediately squaring away in order to run down to them - after standing towards them about half an hour we discovered that they were an American man-of-war for whales - we accordingly hauled a wind in order to get the better chance - in a few minutes the lead ship wore off & left her partner - in coming nearer to them we discovered three boats fast to a large whale which was running them very fast to windward - we stood on till we brought the boats about half a mile to windward & the ship about 3

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miles to leeward of us - The whale had been harassed some time & stopped to extricate himself - he settled & came up under one of the boats broke her in two & scattered the crew in different directions - One of the remaining boats cut from the whale & picked up the men the other held fast & sent a message for assistance - we immediately lowered the barboard & waist boats - the former went to the whale the latter to the stern boat - They were very glad to see us though we were yawking & they Englishmen for by that time their ship was about 5 miles to leeward which rendered any assistance from that quarter impracticable - we rowed along side the whale & gave him a bounce he immediately turned upon us & though we exerted our self to cut manœuvre him he run his jaw through the boat & tore her considerable of us however stopped the