

August 1822

In the course of the day we saw 8 of these Islands of ice - some of them rose in awful grandeur above the clouds - our situation was at this time very disagreeable nothing but Islands of ice on one side & the inhospitable rocks of Rannerg on the other - for 10 days we had not been able to get a correct observation & were obliged to shorten sail every night - ^{even if the wind was favorable} the next day the weather was extremely cold & the latter part the decks were covered with ice - in the afternoon we saw two more mountains of ice - On the 4th we saw land supposed it to be the E. end of Rannerg - the next day went up the main top gallant mast & yard - the weather very pleasant with a light breeze from the Southward - in the evening had a heavy squall of snow - On the 10th Staten land bore N by E dist 40 miles the wind & the blowing a light breeze - On the 11th in lat 52° 37' long 56° 29' we saw a large sperm whale talked of lowering for him but the ice then being extremely rugged we found it impracticable - On the 12th in lat 47° 55' S long 47° 53' W had a severe gale of wind which obliged us to take in all sail & leave her under bare poles at 11 P.M. all hands were called to secure the sails which were blowing loose in every direction - at 12

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on a sea bordered us which carried away the Starboard boat part of our bulwarks & a cask of water that was lashed on deck - finding the ship would not be too safe without some after sail we were obliged to lace a strip of canvas in the mizzen rigging which kept her headed 4 more to the sea - for about 7 hours it blew so as to baffle all description & even our ablest seamen acknowledged that they never experienced so heavy a gale before - in the morning it moderated so that we set the fore sail & kept the ship her course - in the afternoon shifted a sea which broke the garboard of the larboard boat in three places & stove a hole through the bottom of the waist boat leaving us no boat to lower - even if a man should have fallen overboard - On the 22nd in lat 48° 8' S long 40° 43' W saw eight whales lowered the larboard boat & fastened to one - in a few minutes he scinded & took himself off with two irons & three hundred fathoms of towline all that we had in the boat & we returned to the ship - in the afternoon put off & fastened with the waist boat & after a half hours contest she got her own