

Thursday May 12th 1853.

Too down the blacksmiths forge. The weather most beautiful with a light breeze from the N. and the sky as clear as a bell. All hands look with the greatest anxiety for a whale but he does not make his appearance yet. Steering N. Latter part cold and windy and cloudy. Steering N. by N. Wind S. About sunset appeared a flock of birds they were all huddled to death in the water and presented a very singular appearance as there were thousands of them and all black. We ran the ship so near that they took to themselves wings and flew away. Saw a humpback. Latt. N. Long. W.

Friday May 13th

Commenced with a thick fog and brizely cold and disagreeable. At sunset took in sail to a closer reef main topsail. Latter part moderate weather. Latter part more moderate. Made sail. At 9 o'clock saw 4 whales. Lowered and the Starboard boat fastened. Go over. Latt. N. Long. W.

Saturday May 14th

At 1 P.M. took the whale to the ship and took dinner. To day we tried the bombance for the first time with good effect. The whale was sporting blood when they shot him through running fast but as soon as he received the contents of gun he stopped immediately and turned up. It is supposed he would have sunk if it had not been used. At 2 commenced cutting but looked down after taking the two lips for fear loosing the head as the ship layed in the trough of the sea and surged heavily. Got water watch at 9 o'clock and at 2 1/2 in the morning called all hands and took breakfast and commenced cutting. Rather earlier than I ever eat breakfast before but times are arriving. Finished cutting at 7 o'clock. At 10 A.M. took dinner and saw another whale. Lowered but could not catch him. Returned at midnight. Latt. N. Long. W.

Sunday May 15th

A strong breeze from the N.E. Steering N.W. At 4 P.M. lowered for whales again but could not get near enough. Returned at

at 8 in the evening almost in a frozen condition but we have good courage because whales are plenty which lends a pleasing prospect for the future. We will catch them by and by. At dark commenced boiling. The seabath has passed and nobody would have guessed from appearance that the Lord had chosen it for himself. Saw humpbacks and finbacks. Latt. N. Long. W.

Monday May 16th

Commenced with a gale from the N. with squalls of rain very disagreeable but we still managed to boil until about 10 in the evening when we was obliged to close down on account of rain. In the morning the weather moderated and the watch started a fire. About breakfast time saw a whale 1/2 of a mile off our lee beam but it was too rugged to lower. We felt a little sorry but it could not be helped. Latt. N. Long. W.

Tuesday May 17th

First part a light breeze, more pleasant. Middle and latter parts stronger winds and squalls of rain. At breakfast time lowered for 2 whales. The bow boat struck and got stove a little but she held on about 3/4 of an hour when the whale sounded out the line and the boats could not overtake him as he went off to the windward railroad speed. Returned at 11. The watch a boiling. So ends. Latt. N. Long. W.

Wednesday May 18th

First and middle part strong wind and squalls with rain. Chased the galled whales till they left us out of sight to the leeward. Finished boiling at 1 o'clock. At 4 in the morning commenced breaking up the main hatchway to stow down. Calm and foggy. Saw finbacks. Latt. N. Long. W.

Thursday May 19

Commenced with a light breeze and pleasant. Finished stowing down a quantity of about 209 bbls. Leaving about 40 bbls in the tanks. Middle and latter part a strong breeze from the N.E. Steering by the wind to the east. Saw humpbacks and finbacks. So ends. Latt. N. Long. W.