

Off Gores Island

hunted till it parted without meeting him so left in
in search of more. He had a small boat and was
with a half a line. He took all our good hopes and peace
many calculations. Took dinner and started for another
but could not fasten. He lowered for another but did
not get near him. The boys are very tired but in
good spirits. Two ships in sight. It is thought one of
which have just taken a whale along side. Both have
been in pursuit all the afternoon. I do not envy
them but in proportion as we see other prosper we
feel our poverty. Wind W.S.W. and pleasant.

Friday August 16th

The boatmen has at last got a whale along side.
He lowered once in the forenoon but could not
get near the whale. In the afternoon at 3 o'clock
the boatmen got fast to a fellow and the
other boatmen killed him. The captain struck
the other a very large one supposed to be the mother
of the first. They had pretty severe times with this
as they hounded their flocks in a fearful manner.
Knocked two Oakenmen overboard with Robert
the aftercousman Oakenman got in immediately
but it was a miracle that Robert escaped. As
the whale struck directly over him and when he
was next seen he had his back and trousers cut
off all ready for a long swim. He had
taken them off while he was under water with
the two whales. He does not complain of being
much hurt. The whale brash the steering gear
and injured the boat some. I do not know
how much. They ran together and got
their lines foul so they were obliged to cut
from them twice and the second time was
once to moving for they could not get near
enough to fasten afterwards though they tried
more than 2 hours. The poor fellow will soon
die as he had many fearful wounds. Blood got into
his eyes and he was in his life. He has now given up
the chase and is going to the shore for cutting.

176 Monday August 15th 1851
Breakfasted at 8 in the morning and then began to
hunt our whales. Finished ship and lowered for a flock
of large whales which were a daunting the worst way.
The boatmen struck and he went to the windward
with him so fast that he could not get near him and
at last took him. Returned at 11. Hunted for a
few more but without success. The little one in W. S. W.
he will make 30 or 40 bbls. At 5 P.M.
spoke the ship Majestic Percival
New Bedford. 5 whales this season.
Clear 8.00 all told, two seasons out.
Hunted for a while and stopped till 7. They are hauling
one and sent them take last Monday. They think of
getting a 60 bbl. whale this day. Fair weather
wind S.W.

177 Tuesday August 16th
Drove hard luck. Another whale gone off without a
line. Spent a long time and two hours. Lowered for a
1 1/2 in the afternoon and the white boat struck a
large whale. He went out lower and returned with two
straw boats. He showed several chances to kill
but our great second mate could not do it.
The crew finds much fault with him but the captain
has nothing to say. They think the boat ought to
be on duty. The wind strong from the S.W. with
a bad sea for the boats. The poor fellows all came
wet as drowned rats and nearly as cold but they do not
grumble. The captain fastened but he showed no
chance to get nearer than he flukes so they go it.

178 Friday August 17th
Wind still from the S.W. and foggy. Going to
hunt double whaling topsails. Saw several
whales but too dark and thick to try them. Carpenter
and I repaired the starboard boat. Put her on
the starboard boat cranes and took in the starboard
boat to repair. Put a new boat in the starboard
cranes for the captain. Better luck is expected by
the end of the week.