

off our lee bow. About the same time a signal was discovered at her mast-head showing that she was whaling. We were full 15 miles off, but we knew there was nothing like trying. We made all sail and kept off. The John A. Robb was hulled down on our weather beam, and seeing us make sail and keep off, followed suit. About 1 o'clock we saw the stranger's boats down. They had killed a large whale and left one boat to lay by him. The other boats went aboard, when they braced forward and started after the school. Our sight now was as good as theirs. In an hour two large whales came up not four ships lengths off. Both ships hauled aback and lowered their boats. We were the weather ship, consequently we had the best chance. Our larboard boat got the run of one whale under water and kept right over him till he came to the surface, when the boatsteerer planted two irons in him, one of which entered his life setting him spouting blood. Both of the other boats came up, and in 15 minutes from the time we lowered we had six irons in him. The John A. Robb came up just in time to witness his death struggle, but had no chance to grease their irons. When we got the whale alongside it was blowing fresh. We got a fluke-chain fast to him and made a hauler fast to it, determined, in the event of a gale, to hurry to him to the last. Our barometer was very low; there was 4000 dollars along-

side, and the old man vowed that should he save that whale he would give the first poor woman he saw twenty dollars. I believe that woman's good genius heard that declaration, for it soon lulled, and by midnight it was almost a calm.

Feb. 7th. - Cloudy, light breeze. All hands turned to at daybreak and got up the cutting jalls and commenced to cut in the whale. Every thing went smooth, and by sunset we had him on deck. Got supper, the watch went below, while the other watch commenced cutting up blubber and started the fires. Got and Sunday islands in sight.

Feb. 8th. - Fine light weather. Trying out. 9 A. M. exchanged signals with a ship showing a red, white and blue flag. About 4 o'clock her captain boarded us. It was the ship Barclay, of Nantucket, 30 mus. out, with 700 sperm. She was leaking 4000 strokes per day, and was bound to Otahiti to haul out and repair.

Feb. 9th. - Calm. Trying out. Saw the ship that we were whaling with trying out to leeward. The Barclay in sight.

Feb. 10th. - Light breeze. Finished trying out before daybreak. 6 A. M. we saw the stranger's boats down. The Barclay lowered her boats soon after. One of the stranger's boats had turned up a red whale, while the others kept on after the school. We kept our boats aboard, and passed the stranger, whom we discovered to be the Ocean, of New Bedford, and got ahead of all the boats, then hauled aback and lowered away. We chased the whales till one o'clock when the old man called