

us aboard. The whales had gone to windward, and a ship bore in sight off our weather bow, and lowered for them. We got dinner and our watch went below. I had just got into a doze, when I was roused by three knocks on the scuttle accompanied by - "Starboard watch ahoy; stand by the boats." I turned out, wishing all whales in a very warm place. Going on deck I found the whales were going to leeward which somewhat consoled me. The ship to windward had taken one of them. We lowered away - up sails and after them. There was about a dozen of them, all in a row sporting as regular as a clock. They were very large, either of which had a back large enough to dance a fore and after on it. Our waist boat had the first chance at them. They got within a half ship's length when all but the largest pitched and went down. In another minute he had two irons in him. The mate's boat came up to him, but the first iron the boat'steward gave him he slewed round and seized the boat with his jaw and crushed it to splinters. The crew jumped overboard and were picked up by the starboard boat that was close by. The waist boat then hauled up to him and gave him a lance, and was about to repeat it, when he turned and served them as he did the others. We picked up all of them but two, who saved themselves by getting on the bottom of their boat. There was 16 men in our boat, and it was almost impossible to work the oars. The whale began to come slowly towards us, but we managed to keep out of his way. The old man saw the accident from the ship

and came down under two ~~tapes~~ to our assistance. We got aboard and launched another boat to have another dash at him. Two boats then started for him - one to attack, and the other to stand by in case of accident. We first took the two men from the stoven boat and then lay on to the whale. The mate was in the head of the boat, and the 3d mate steered her. The whale lay like a log, but but stirred himself on hearing the rollicking of our oars. We took the two men off the stoven boat, then pulled up to the whale and gave him a bomb lance. He turned and came towards us, but we were too quick for him. After reloading the gun we worked up to him a second time and gave him a second dose. This lance hurt him badly. We were about to pull up and fasten to him when we saw a signal from the ship to come aboard. It was nearly dark and all hands turned to and got in our stoven boats, and saved what oars and craft we could find floating around. The whale carried off three lines which almost broke the old man's heart. This is the only whale that has got the best of us this voyage, and had it not been so late in the day we should have vanquished him.

Feb. 11th. - Strong breeze. Off Sunday island. Abandoning the waist boat. 9 A.M. passed the ship Lancaster, cutting in a whale. They were 6 mos. from home, and three days from the Bay of Islands. Our mate went aboard to buy a boat, without success. The crew being just from home had a great many questions to ask. On finding that we had two boats stove yesterday, they wanted to know