

The larboard & waist boats were lowered, and the crew well armed. The three mates then took charge of them and pulled ashore to trade with the natives for game. They took with them for barter about 150 lbs. of iron hoops cut into pieces about eight inches long. At 1st. A.M. a large 80 lb. sperm whale was seen right astern about half a mile off. A signal was immediately made for the party ashore to come off. The starb. boats crew, that had remained aboard, got the boat ready, and lowered away with the old man for boat-header. The whale went down when we were about a ship's length off. Every body was confident of getting fast at the next rising. In the meantime the other boats came off to the ship. We waited an hour but no whale was seen. After he had been down about an hour and a quarter, we saw the other boats leave the ship and pull to windward, and a half hour afterwards all hands were called aboard. The last seen of him was five miles dead to windward going "eyes out." We got to the ship about 4 P.M. Nothing was done the rest of the day but wash off the deck. 8.138.150.456.

Oct. 12th. Cloudy. Light breeze. Off Cape Dennis. All of the forward hands, except the informer, were turned to after breakfast. During the day we finished scrubbing the spare topsail yard and gave it a coat of varnish, and scraped & varnished the jib & flying booms, and all the dead eyes on larb. side. Broke out beef & pork.

Oct. 13th. Breeze. The mate wanted to set us all at work to-day, but the old ^{man} stopped him. He said "No. They shall never go off and say I did not give them Saturday to wash and mend their clothes." I don't think Capt. M. would have carried this matter so far had his officers not urged him on. I have talked with him in the long night watches, before this affair took place, and am pretty well acquainted with his character. I have always found him to be between right and wrong with in accordance with my own sentiments. Since then it has been the true character of his mate. Many a time after they have been discussing some subject and the captain had gone below I have heard them hold him up to the world, when he actually knew more than all three of them. 4 P.M. not cold. Sat. 8/120.