

New Bedford Aug. 10th 1865.

Lemuel D Adams.
Master St. Francis Birds.

As soon as you are well clear of the land, put the Bark at once under easy sail— See that everything is secure on deck and under deck, and provide for the safety of your boats, bearing in mind that your crew will not be yet accustomed to the ship, and although the summer season, you may possibly be overtaken by a storm or severe squalls, while in and about the Gulf Stream, and make it a point never to have a piece of sail on deck when working for whales that are in sight— Four or five miles an hour is fast enough when cruising.

Of latter time I have required the ships to go out and work off on the parallel of 40° say 39° to 41° and had thought of having you go off on that parallel as I think you would be less subject to squally weather than further south, — but in looking over information that I have been accumulating for twenty years, and strongly desiring to place you as soon as possible on good whaling ground, I have concluded to require you to proceed and cruise as I shall now direct to wit— under easy sail prepare promptly for whaling and steer for a point in lat. 39° 30' N long. 69° 30' W. where, if the weather is favorable, stay long enough to pass over

that point as nearly as possible two or three times. Two or three hundred barrels sperm oil caught there would serve as just as well as caught further eastward. But after a day or two there, if you find no inducement to stay longer— then run directly south across the stream to lat. 37° N long. 69° 30' W. where take a good sharp lookout, and be assured that on that point and from that point on the line I shall direct, you will be all the way on as good whaling grounds as can be found anywhere. And should you strike whales anywhere on the route, feel quite at liberty to stop anywhere that you find the whales.

From lat. 37° N long. 69° 30' W. work off eastward, looking carefully over the ground, and touch long. 65° W. in lat. 36° 50' N. which point I think you will not reach and pass without seeing whales if you have a good lookout.

From long. 65° W. work off gradually and touch long. 55° 30' W. in lat. 36° N. and from there to lat. 37° 30' N long. 44° W. — where the "Rescue" saw them last year when coming in, four times, and took two whales that made 100 Blb. — they saw them say

8 mo. 10	in	37° 30' N	44° 30' W.
12	"	37° 35' N	44° 30' W.
14	"	37° 30' N	44° 30' W.
18	"	37° 05' N	44° 20' W.

In passing over the route I have laid down thus far, I would not have you run off faster than four or five miles an hour in the day time, and lay hove to at night except where the ground appears quite barren. But looking carefully all the way— if not detained by whales