

board Provisions and Stores of good quality, sufficient I think for eighteen months, except Bread, Beef & Pork — of which you have a year's supply, and for the other six months I propose to meet you in the winter at Bermuda with Beef & Pork & Bread.

I intend you shall have enough of good sound provisions, and if I should fail to supply them in sufficient quantity — then take care in time and when you can conveniently to make up all that you need, so that our disposition to provide sufficient food may not be called in question.

Under the forward deck are four casks drinking water and some Beef & Pork — under the after deck, four casks Molasses, one of Butter, one of Sugar, and some Beef & Pork. — The four cask nearest the keelson on both sides, from fore hatch to main hatch, are fresh water, and contain about 260 Bbls. — eight casks on fore hatch or about 35 Bbls. — two casks in wing, star-board side, 16 Bbls. and the butts make up about 328 Bbls drinking water. As they are emptied, have them filled with salt water. Your Bread & Flour, and other stores are in the after hold.

Should you fall in with Capt. Grape, in the "Roscius" let him have the benefit of any abstracts and views herein, that I have not already given him. Avoid ~~the~~ other whalers and see to it that you have

such a lookout always in the night and thick weather, as will protect you from collisions with other vessels.

As a general rule, when whales are seen, two boats or even one is better than more in the water, until the first whale is struck, and the Captain or Chief Mate should be in charge of the ship until the first boat fastens.

And when you ^{first} see the whales, and before you know how much to rely upon your boatsteerers, it will be ~~very~~ important that the boat that goes first to the whales should be the most reliable. And should the Captain think it best to lower first himself, the Mate should cheerfully ~~acquiesce~~ acquiesce, because if the first boat does its work well the result would doubtless be much more satisfactory than if the first opportunity was missed.

In looking over the matter again, I repeat my impression that you will not do better for the Summer of next year (1866) than to keep the "Tropic Bird" on the parallel 40° N. long. 60° W. to 45° W. until 6 m. 1st and then limit yourselves all the remainder of the season, from lat. 42° N. long. 39° W. to lat. 46° N. long. 40° W. — and when stopping in any one place, should you be without whales, bearing in mind that you might in any other place, also be without whales. When the "Tropic Bird" took ~~about~~ 600 Bbls, she was from 6 m. 28 to 8 m. 18 say 51 days without seeing a whale.