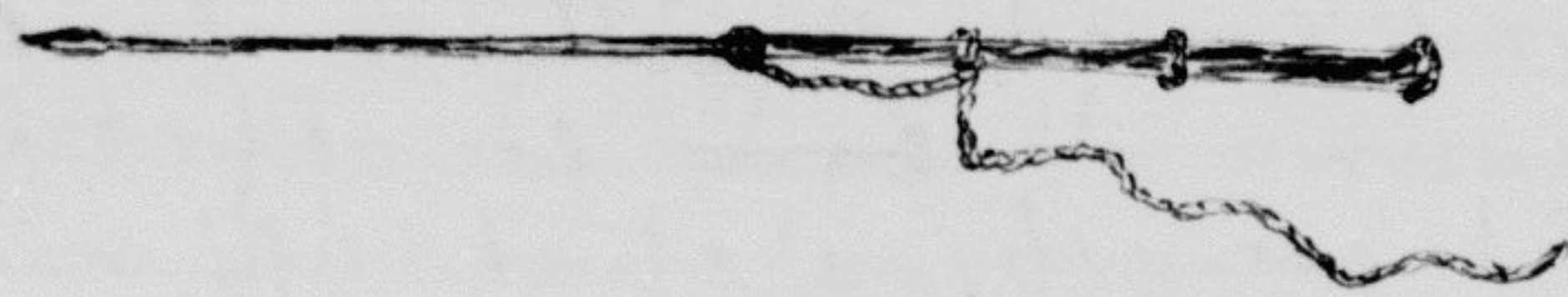


on at the contest - at last the poor birds head was held still for a moment and the dog ^{not} gave him a mortal wound: the ~~poor~~ goney was then ~~killed~~ despatched with a club.

Now many think me cruel but I confess I looked on with but little pity for the albatross who appears to be one a stupid, useless bird.

I was afterwards told that this specimen was ~~only~~ probably only 5 or 6 weeks old and that an old Cape Horn Goney would have ^{been able to} killed the dog with his wings and beak.



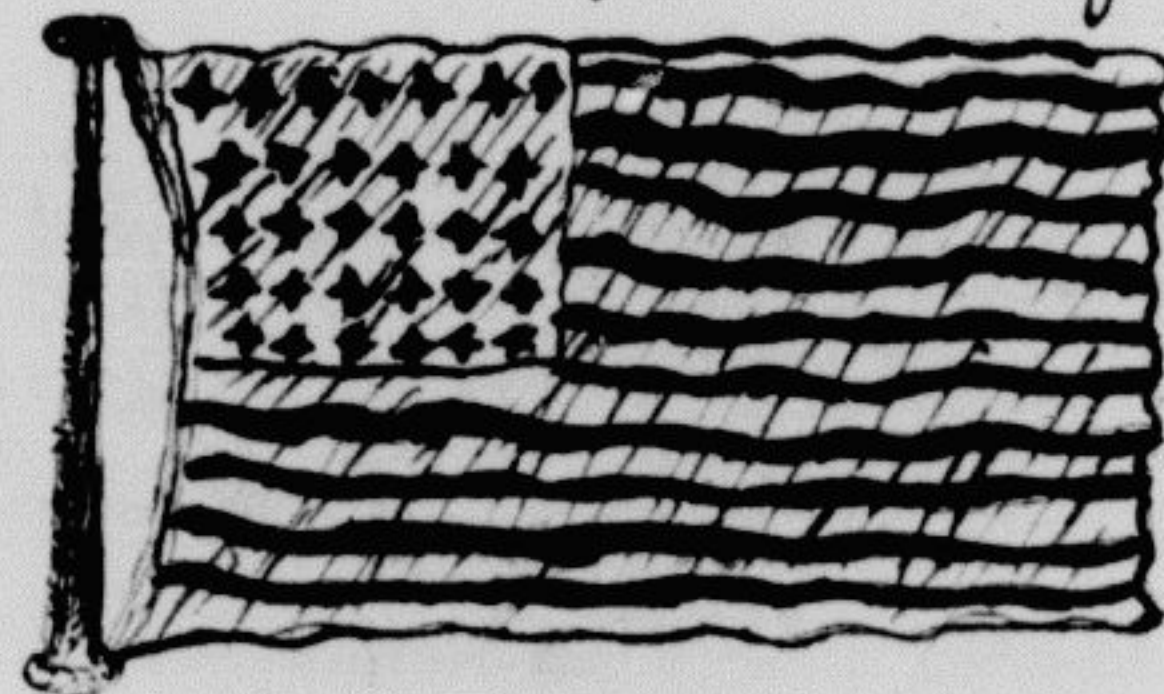
Monday 8th Dec^r 1856

We continued to run along before the wind until about 3 PM yesterday when our watch who were below asleep were roused out to the tune of "All hands take in sail!!" A squall was blowing: ~~Everybody~~ though not a very severe one: all hands ~~except the officers~~ were soon in the rigging and the fore sail + fore topsail were being furled and the m topsail close reefed ~~in shot du~~. The ~~gale~~ sky gradually cleared but the wind did not abate and at this (8 am) a gale is still blowing from NE so that we are obliged to lay to. Everyone is out of patience with the weather. A "Right whale" porpoise

was killed yesterday and hauled aboard. ~~The oil of~~ The head oil of the porpoise is said to be very valuable: a considerable quantity was obtained from this one.

We should ~~like~~ ^{like} to get a right whale if we could: however I think all the whole ship's company will be glad to round the Horn ~~how~~ as soon as possible.

The weather today is mild and would be quite pleasant were it not for the gale.



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Tuesday 9th Dec^r 1856
Gale abating, seas still heavy.

Wednesday 10th Dec^r 1856
Fine weather steering full & by and heading about S.E. until 4 PM when tacked ship + now head about W. All sail set - Ice birds in great numbers poured the ship - mastheads kept but no sails or fish seen.