

No 8

Bark Daniel Webster Jan, 11<sup>th</sup> 1878  
Mr C. N. Swift Esqr  
New Bedford

Dear Sir

We are now cruising off Martinello Reef have been here one week, have had very rough weather since arriving - being to nearly all the time - had right weather on passage down from Dominica - Saw large sperm Whaler yesterday and had one missed by a man put in to fill the place of Chat Davis - He had a first rate chance a schooner close by struck but did not save his whale. Have heard only two whales being taken here this season, the Admiral Blake one, and schooner Petrel & Golden City the other.

Should it not be possible for you to send me Chat Davis please, send me another good boatsteerer to meet me at Bermuda by the mid of March.

The weather has been too rough for me to go in near the Reef, but shall go in as soon as the weather will admit of it. As I understand the whaling is mostly done from five to twenty miles off the Reef.

Yours Truly  
G. B. Borden

P. S. Feb: 17<sup>th</sup> 1878

Have had two more whales missed 40 or 50 bbls. by my boat, by the man put in as a substitute for Davis

Have taken 90 bbls. this season.

Don't fail to send me a boatsteerer to meet me at Bermuda by the mid of March.

In haste

Yours &c  
G. B. Borden

No 9

Bark Daniel Webster January 11<sup>th</sup> 1878  
Messrs. Water Reed & Gardner  
New Bedford

Dear Sirs

I regret very much to inform you that a portion of your Heats, (the Brown ones) consigned to me for sales and returns, have, through no fault of mine, become spotted, and unsalable; and now I wish for instructions in regard to their disposal. The Heats were put into the run, and when I opened the Box a short time from home, found the sea air had caused them to spot.

I have seen whales here on Martinello Reef - but one had a large one missed by a man put in to take the place of Chat Davis - Am in hopes of getting 300 bbls. here.

Spoke a day or two ago Admiral Blake 70 bbls. this season - got a large whale, but lost his head, - I shall be at St. Georges Bermuda about the mid of March at which place let me hear from you, I shall consider it a great favor if you will send me some N.B. papers, especially a Shipping List or two. Why can't you think of sending me a paper occasionally during the voyage.

and Oblige

Your Friend

G. B. Borden

No 9

Bark Daniel Webster March 17<sup>th</sup> 1878  
Mr C. N. Swift Esqr  
New Bedford

Dear Sir

In my last No 8 - I wrote in regard to a man missing whales. Perhaps you may think it strange I should keep a man in as boatsteerer after missing ones. But he is a smart capable man, in the boat at the mast head, or anywhere he may be placed & I had great confidence in him, as smart so and is as smart as any boatsteerer I have. The first whale he missed was for the mate, 70 bbls. a first rate chance, but disliking to break him, and thinking he might do better in another boat, took him in mine. The first time we lowered he did well, as well as I could expect, in fastening to a small whale. The next time I put