

I hope you will write me your views in regard to the voyage, to meet me at Flores in Sept. & give me all the information you can in regard to whales being taken the past season south. Mrs. Borden join me in regards and best wishes to yourself & family and believe me dear yours Most Respectfully
G. B. Borden

No 12
Bk. Dan. Webster, Morris Ground, June 14th 1875.
W. C. W. Swift Esq.
New Bedford

Dear Sir

Thinking

you would like to hear from your vessels on this ground I will give you what information I can in regard to them. The Dan. Webster arrived here about the 1st. of May, and has not seen a Sperm Whale get of our own raising. Saw E. W. coming up, and got one 60 bbls. Soon after getting here on May 8th fell in with three Right Whales, finning. The weather very rough could not pull a boat to windward. Landed & unintentionally struck all three whales, Mr. Wyman soon drew. Mr. Williams hung on for about four hours, then parted line. I was following with my boat but could not get on, although the whale did not run very bad to windward. The line carried off. I don't think Mr. Williams done much to kill the whale. Mr. Pope's whale started to windward quick, and by the time he could get his line clear, and haul up to the whale, was nearly out sight of the ship and all alone, but he went to work. Killed his whale, and tried tawing, got his boat stove, nearly filled, night coming on he was obliged to abandon his whale. This was a large cow and very fat, and would probably make rising 100 bbls of oil. We hunted for the whale about a week but saw it no more. Owing to the wipers neglect to work the ship to windward we soon lost sight of Mr. Pope, and for five hours we knew where he was. I had about given up hope, but when the hope was, I would have been worked up, and no doubt we should have saved the whale. We have seen S. Whales three times after being galled by other ships.

but only once have we lowered with any prospect of success. Then Mr. Williams had a good chance to go on and fasten, but somehow he got across the whale's head and did not get fast. This was a regular blunder. The whales started off quick and late in the P. M. Mr. Pope got up and fastened. This was a very large & cunning whale, he was also deformed. We got two boats stove & I got crippled with my gun. At night we was obliged to leave him. I never saw such an ugly whale. He seemed to be all tail and head, what little body he had he kept deep under water so we could not reach his life. I did not see his back at all. He kept constantly sweeping with his flukes, and should a boat get forward of them he would instantly settle and turn upon the boat with his jaws, keeping his body constantly buried. He seemed to have the intelligence of man combined with his mighty strength.

The Ohio 2d is now in sight has seen nothing except galled whales. Com. Morris seen whales four times, taken three, 250 bbls. Lost one whale, one head and one body. Peindear seen whales seven times, once galled, saw whales three days in succession in April. Taken three whales, 200 bbls. has not seen a whale for months. Seagoda seen whales twice, struck three, saved two 260 bbls. Minerva seen whales once, got two 110 bbls. Calais seen whales once, got one 65 bbls. Medusa once, got one about 60 bbls. Lydia clean. This is from last report but the probability is that some have changed ^{their reports} by this time. as the weather has been very good all this month, in general I think the weather has been better than I ever have known on this ground, very little fog, but we may expect it to set in any day now.

But a very few of the large old S. whales have been seen this season, a new course of 60 bbl. whales have taken their place, and the ground has been pretty well cut up. I don't think it ever got such a scouring before. The prospect for another season looks slim, and I would like for you to send my provisions to the islands & Fagals that I may go south early. My luck in the N. Atlantic seems to have run out, and perhaps I may do better by changing to the S.

I must say that I am sadly disappointed in ^{the} whaling.