

No. 13.

W. C. W. Swift Esq
New Bedford

Dear Sir

Enclosed please find Capt. F. H. Smith's receipt of June 28th for 4 bbls of Flour of your shipment to Fagal last fall. My expenses on it at \$8 per bbl. which please charge to Bk Ohio & I received from Capt. Smith at the same time, as per receipt given him 4 casks of Bread, weighing 161-163-183-181=688 gallons. Also 15 Branks Bomb Lances—small. I am not in immediate want of these articles but as Capt. Smith would take them home and I shall need them on the voyage I took them off his hands with the view that you would charge the D. W. for only what they are really worth. No arrangement was made with Capt. Smith in regard to the price. we agreed to leave that matter with you. The Bombs we supposed to be as good as new, but the Bread is old with wear in it and certainly not worth more than half price of new. The casks I am to deliver to Bk. Reindeer. They will not pass for only second hand as they must be reshaped for oil. Did you receive Capt. Leroy's Gold Tft. I sent you last fall?

I regret that we had but one Grindstone when we came from home, and that is now nearly worn out. I see you have two marked down for the D. W. but the Com. Morris got one of them. Capt. W. has a story about Mr. Fred. telling him to take one if he wanted it. I want another Eltone, and I don't think it will be unfair for the C. M. to pay the cost and expense of it out.

The best Bomb Gun belonging to the ship when bought one I picked out for my own use. I regret to say did not come out in the ship. Our Guns are so badly eaten with rust on the inside that the officers dislike to use them. The first I tried on a whale knocked me down with such force as to fracture one of the bones in my fore arm near the elbow, and sent a piece of the cap from the nipple into the inner corner of my right eye, disabling me from further operations on the whale, and undoubtedly causing his loss.

I think Egg Gun far superior to anything yet made for killing whales.

But a small part of our Bombs explode.

I have known the shaft of several to break on entering the whale, and this I think is the great trouble, as the bomb enters the blubber, that being of an elastic nature, that it closes up around the shaft causing the Butt to bring up with so much force as to break the shaft.

So far the Reindeer has been very fortunate. has seen Sperm Whales this season on her own raising, seventeen times from other raising five times. Twenty two times altogether and taken 1000 bbls. being high tide 1700 bbls all told. It seems to matter but little how or when she goes she will fall in with whales, if he is going to drift among them, if running or in the night the whales will breach under his bows. I suppose Capt. B. will give you all the particulars of his seasons work.

He left the W. Ground on the last of Aug. for the Banks. The C. M. has seen S. Whales thirteen times of their own raising and taken 800 bbls. has lost a great deal.

The Lagoda has seen S. Whales some 8 or 9 times and taken 480 bbls. Dan. Webster seen them 4 times of her own raising and 3 times by others and taken 375-4 whales.

All the other vessels that have been here you will have the report of ere this reaches you. I left on the 7th inst. for the Banks via Flores. Mr. Pope got 3 whales and 8. I have never been so much disappointed in a man as I have been in Mr. Williams. He is a good officer attentive and all that, but nothing of a whaler, and Mr. Wyman about the same, I judge or flier in either. Mr. Pope has done about all the whaling I would put Mr. Williams in as shipkeeper but his eyesight is very poor and I cannot trust his judgement, but I shall do so until I can get a better man in his place. then discharge Mr. W. and take Mr. Wyman to steer me. he is a good boatsteerer and an excellent man at the masthead and shall keep him for those quantities. They are both good officers, but in a boat after a whale they go as though they were going to a funeral. I have coaxed and scolded, but the spirit, ambition, goaheadativeness, or whatever you may call it, is not there.

During the season Mr. Williams has attempted to go on to two whales. both real good chances. Blundered on the head of one as I have already informed you. went on to the flukes of the other—happened—and got badly stove and knocked some dozen feet or more high out of the boat. Since then he is very cautious.