

Duck Ids are about 5 miles to N.E. of position on chart.

June 10-1884 At anchor to ice at Duck Ids. Melville Bay. Overcast. with heavy fog. wind light from E.N.E. and N.E. Ice alongside very rotten. At 8.35 AM - Aurora got under way and stood to W. At noon Bar 29.87 Therm 37°. At 12 M got out another ice anchor and planted it. - Aurora left her moorings in pack and stood in for the Ids again.

June 11-1884. Making passage through ice to Cape York. Greenland. Generally thick with snow in squalls from N.E. Cold. At 4.35 AM. whaler = Arctic got underway and stood off to the W. for a lead. Ice broken to N.E. as far as could be seen about 4 miles. At 8.00 AM. cast off and stood to N.E. steaming through open water until stopped by ice. when made fast to floe. = Bear followed. Four whalers supposed to be the - Arctic - Aurora - Wolf - and - Narwhal - made fast to next floe across about 5 miles of open water. At 2.55 PM. cast off moorings and started ahead to find a lead. Signaled to = Bear - when we start follow at once. At 3.25 PM. hauled in the line and started ahead for a lead that had opened on the Port Bow. At 2.20 PM. whaler = Nova Zembla - Cornwallis - Polymia and Trium came up and made fast to floe near the Bear. Got cast of lead in 96 fathoms Bar 29.74. Therm. 27° - Lat. at M. 74° 00' N. Long. 58° 35' W. At 4.25 PM. Made fast to floe followed by Bear. At 4.35 PM. Whaling fleet close by. Got cast of lead in 73 f. bottom gravel and white sand. At 9.45 PM. hauled in line and started ahead standing up a lead. Commanding officer coming Ship from "Grove" back.

At 11.00 PM. stopped having met solid ice. = Bear in position astern. Whaler = Arctic right ahead. Sighted two Bears on Port Beam.

June 12-1884. Making passage from Liverpool to Cape York. = Gloucest. and coal. Snow during most of watch. Bear in pack in Melville Bay. Eight whalers in sight 7 astern and 1 ahead. At 10.00 AM. expressed the ship's company at abandoning ship. planning 60 days provisions in each boat with a crew of 7 men. found they would have a fore board of about 14 inches. Late by dead reckoning worked up from position of the 11th 74° 07' N. Long. 58° 22' W. Bar. 29.85. Therm 28°. Got under way at 3.15 PM. and stood in toward open water off shore. At end of watch (afternoon) Sugar Loaf bore (p.e.) S.W. and Middle Duck Id S.W. standing through leads under direction of commanding officer until 5.05 PM. when stopped ship being beset = Whaler = Arctic ahead = Wolf and Bear astern.

June 13rd 1884. Off Devil Thumb Ids Melville Bay. Greenland. Stiff breeze blowing from S.E. and A.E. Anchored to an ice floe in company with = Bear = Arctic and = Wolf = waiting for a lead to the N.E. Land in sight of Starboard haul. Three whalers in sight on Starboard quarter about 7 miles distant. At 4.26 PM. cast off line signaled to Bear and made for open water about 2 miles to W. & W. Forcing a lead by backing engines and going ahead full speed. Come to at 6.45 PM. with our line out at stern being jammed by broken ice in the lead about a mile from our original anchorage.