Aug. 13 1883

About 11 A.M. Bramaval came back from a tour of inspection about the bergs. and reported it possible to go between the bergs. so we at once started passing between them. they were about 100 feet apart and fifty feet high and they were a grand sight we however run only a short distance when we were obliged to haul up. It was snowing very hard and was disagreeable. after a few hours of detention we were able to get a couple miles further. but was hard work as the little launch had to butt her way all the time. Went into camp about 7 P.M. with a hard looking pack ahead. and unless we have strong Westerly winds I don't see how we are going to get through it. We shot and secured a small seal and had him for supper.

Aug 14 1883.

The pack does not change. and we can see a long distance. no water in sight towards the south. Observations give us Lat. 80.°44'
The wind at 5 P.M. changed to southwest. but was quite light. at 6 P.M. the ice seamed to be mooving from the shore. The northern part of this pack that we passed is now coming back and filling holes as fast as made. and there seams to be no prospect of our getting out unless we get a strong Westerly wind.

Aug-15 -1883-

The temperature has reached 20° and new ice is rapidly forming in the little bay where we are. About noon we pulled the steam launch and boats out to a floe. being a few hundred yards from the shore. It took us several hours. it was so packed and held to gather by new ice. Our position is a very disagreeable one on account of the lack of room and cold N.E. wind.



Aug 16. 1883:

No change! The N.E. wind still continues. The polar ice is coming down in great quantities Ellis was ashore this afternoon and reports a great deal of open water on the west side

Aug 17 1883

The N.E. wind continued untill night when it lightened up and changed to the S.W. It is getting very tedious and this must come to a slow-blower pretty soon.

Aug 18 1883

This morning we had a genuine experiment! The large berg which is alongside of us began to move and Ralson who was on watch at the time, shouted for dear life. and the way the bergs began to plough out of this Bay is a caution We were asleep in the boats and ours = old = Narwhal = had a narrow escape. I went ashore about 7 A.M. and found as far as I could see from shore the ice was mooving away. I think we will start before night. at 7 P.M. we got our boats out to where the launch was. and then all hands got to work, and got the launch in open water? The boats were then got up and we started at first it looked as if we could run but a short distance. but lead after lead opened out. and not untill we had gone about 10 miles did we have to pull up. and then not untill we had narrowly escaped being caught in the slush ice. We are now having Spring Tides and the tide races at least 10 feet. so it runs like a mill race. It carried our boat against the ice and we were obliged to cut loose from the others. and it was with some trouble that we got her back. Our usual good fortune in regard to harbors still keeps by us. and we found an excilent retreat. and none to soon for in a short time every lead filled We made another close run between two immense floes. that were when we arrived.