

FRIDAY, MAY 12TH.—We sighted, in the morning, a vessel which turned out to be the "Novaya Zemlya," of Dundee. She was in the loose ice, where we soon followed her. A fin-back whale and several schools of walrus were seen, but it was not until late in the afternoon that we launched a boat, and I went after four asleep on a piece of ice. I had my '303 with solid bullets: we got to within 20 yards of them. They all took to the water after I had fired, but one, wounded, immediately came to the surface and endeavoured to get back on the ice; we gave him the harpoon. He was an enormous brute, but had only one tusk, a good one, the other being broken off at the roots. The others came up close to the boat, and I had to fire at them, one sinking immediately. The eye of a wounded walrus is a terrible thing to behold. It took the seven of us some time to haul the walrus on the ice with a tackle and grappling; we finished him, and returned on board. The captain estimated the weight of the skin alone at 300 lbs. R. shot a very fine bearded seal. The walrus were very shy and we did not get another chance at them. Latitude 66.48 to-day; so we are well within the Arctic Circle. Greenland some 25 miles off. A lovely day.

SATURDAY, MAY 13TH.—Ran along the edge of the pack; under canvas all day; fog and rain after 2 p.m. White whales seen in the morning; I have never seen one of these fish dead, but from what I can note they are simply a white porpoise; their skins find a ready market at home. Although we are on a good bank, the walrus are not on the ice, on account of the thick weather. The "Novaya Zemlya" is still in our vicinity. Crew engaged filling up the bunkers from the forehold. Joe hard at work getting out stores. Numerous bottles of our great pickle supply going aft.

SUNDAY, MAY 14TH.—Steamed slowly along edge of pack in thick weather, passing several very large icebergs. "Novaya Zemlya" cruising about near us. Sighted a dead fin back whale at 3 p.m.; we steamed up to it only to retire as quickly as possible; it was evidently very high. Hundreds of gulls and mollies were around it. Weather cleared at 4 p.m., and Disco Island showed up well to the E., some 40 miles off. Snow in the evening.

MONDAY, MAY 15TH.—Very foggy morning and dead calm, but