

and entered the Gulf of St. Lawrence on the morning of the 1st of August. While passing through the Strait of Belle Isle, a very heavy gale prevailed, which kept us from landing at Chateau bay, where we intended to land to send our last mail. On August 4, we were through the strait and were sailing and steaming along the Labrador coast northward. Several icebergs were passed on the east side of Double island, from which place we saw the last light on our voyage northward. At this point we left the Labrador coast and shaped our course towards Greenland.

*Sailing towards Coast of Greenland.*

On August 4 and following days, we had variable weather up to the 10th; several drifting icebergs caused us to diverge from a direct course until we had successfully passed them. The officers and men at this stage received their heavy clothing, as we were approaching the Arctic circle. I may here remark that some of the men were poorly clothed when they came on board, and, to my astonishment, had not supplied themselves with suitable changes for a long voyage in extreme cold weather. These men were under the misapprehension that the vessel would find all the heavy clothing that was necessary. In future voyages, the precaution should be taken to inform all men when engaging them, that they must provide a good supply of warm clothing on their own account before leaving. This will prevent a recurrence of drawing so largely upon the stock on board, which is intended for emergencies and for use in case of loss and to replace worn out apparel.

On August 11, we passed over Hellebank in 23 fathoms of water. The current was running to the northeast. This bank is a large feeding ground for halibut, and the quantity taken at present is no doubt of considerable commercial value; besides the Danish, Scotch and American whalers who fish for their own use, American schooners visit the banks to fish for the market. The fisheries can, of course, be more extensively prosecuted, with advantage. The bank lies in about 64 degrees north latitude and extends northward for many miles. The distance from the entrance of Hudson strait is about 240 miles north or above the strait, and about 400 miles in a northeasterly