

looking at the various sorts of sea birds we met with, and also the fish. The greatest of the latter we saw was the Grampus, a species of whale. We saw a great many of these fellows, one day especially, May 3rd, about  $40\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$  latitude and  $62^{\circ}$  and  $64^{\circ}$  longitude. They were skipping about, throwing out water in clouds. We also saw many porpoises. These latter are very amusing; they follow one another in the water like a pack of hounds or a string of wild geese, rolling and tumbling along over the surface of the water. We did not catch any fish except one cod and one dogfish as the weather was too rough and we were driven too low down to the southward. Every night we had those beautiful sparkling phosphorescent appearances in the sea. Sometimes they were more bright and in greater quantities than other times, the water appearing sometimes full of fire.

May 1st, 2nd and 3rd were very fine, beautiful, clear, pleasant days, and we now began to look anxiously forward to a speedy and safe arrival at our much desired haven.

May 5th. It was very fine to-day. About twelve it fell away to a perfect calm and we prepared our line with the intention of catching some fish, but just as we got them ready the breeze sprung up again favorably and we again went on our way rejoicing, although we lost the opportunity of getting some fresh fish for dinner. One of the steerage people caught a cod, and a dogfish. I observed on this day a brown butterfly about thirty miles from land. It is very delightful after being cooped up in the narrow limits of a vessel for the space of five or six weeks and sailing upon the fathomless deep, to arrive once more in soundings, to see the line thrown out, to hear the cheering voice of the man in the chains, giving out the exact depth of the water, now "by the ma-r-k seven," and then "and a h-a-l-f six" growing less and less at every successive cast.

It is very delightful to see the color of the water changed from the dark blue of the main ocean, to the yellowish tinge of the shallower waters girting the sea coasts, to see quantities of sea weed floating by and many birds that never wander far from land, sure indications that the vessel is approximately towards the end of her voyage. Joy gladdens every heart, smiles appear upon every countenance, from the veriest landsman in the ship, to the oldest and fearless sailor; all alike are moved by the cheering knowledge of being within one day's sail of the looked for port and with a favorable wind diminishing the distance that separates us from the shore at every successive moment. All this is heightened and increased tenfold, by the pleasure of hope and imagination, if the voyager (as most of us were) is bound to a quarter of the globe he has never been before, to other climes and other countries, where many things that meet his observation are totally new and novel, and all are interesting.