

but it being very calm, they could not approach near enough to strike one. The fore-castle was cleaned out this morning and looks much better for it. I have a watch below this afternoon, and while the others have turned in I have a chance to read and write. Not much wind during the forenoon, but after dinner it sprung up a little. Capt R thinks we shall be at the Western Islands in 14 or 15 days from our departure. Whilst at mast head this afternoon I saw a couple of flying fish.

July 7th - The first Sunday I ever spent at sea. A very pleasant morning, and after breakfast they who were disposed to read dispersed themselves round the ship to do so. Most of us boys were gathered round and on the carpenter's bench. A pretty stiff breeze all the morning, which continued to increase through the day so that before night we were sailing under reefed topsails.

July 8th - Sea very rough so much so, that we had to hoist up the boats higher lest they should be filled with water, rainy and squally all day.

July 9th - Much pleasanter than yesterday and we have a fine breeze. This afternoon "there she blows" was heard from mast head, and 3 of the boats immediately started in pursuit but the fish whatever they were, were not seen after the boats left the ship. Capt R was of an opinion that they were a species of fish called Sillies which frequently deceive whalers. The boats were absent about 2 hours but saw nothing.

July 10th - This morning before breakfast several black-fish were seen within a couple of rods of the ship, but the Capt did not think it worth while to "lower" for them. We have no breeze, and lay like a log on the water.

July 11th - A fine breeze this morning, and nearly all sail set.

July 12th - We are now shaping our course direct for the Western Islands. A fine breeze, and blowing along gallantly. We are not more than 60 or 70 miles from the Islands, and if this breeze continues we shall probably arrive there the middle of next week.

July 13th - This morning a whale was seen from mast head but was not seen again after he went down. Plenty of fin back whales in sight this afternoon but did not lower for them.

Sunday, July 14th - A pleasant day and fine breeze, lead nearly all the day. After supper some of us had a good time singing.

July 15th - This morning early we passed two large ships so near that we could almost see the persons on their decks. We are daily looking for land. To day I wrote a letter home, which I shall send, when we reach Fayal.

July 16th - Weather the same as yesterday nothing occurring.

The island of Flores is just in sight towards night.

July 17th - This morning a school of porpoises were seen around the bows of the ship. One of the boatmen went out on the martingale guy, and with a harpoon soon transfixed one of them, and he was pulled upon deck very shortly. The flesh of them very much resembles sheep in looks, and they have ribs like a hog. We shall probably have this one, or part of him for dinner to morrow. We had hardly got through with our fish before "Land ho" was heard from mast head, and the peak of Pico was soon seen from deck. It kept increasing in size till night when we were almost along side of the island. We shall probably go in to Fayal to morrow.

July 18th - This morning we came in sight of Fayal, and soon after breakfast the Captain's boat went ashore. I went in this boat which was the first boat that left the ship. We had got within a short distance of the shore, when we were told not to land until the inspector or surgeon of the port, (I don't know which,) arrived. When he came he asked us about our crew, and learning that we had two invalids on board told us to go to the ship and get them, or we would not be permitted to land. We accordingly returned, and took them in and then rowed back to Fayal. Most of us then went on shore. As I did not care much about going ashore I remained in the boat until Capt R came aboard which he did shortly. Several more boats went on shore again in the afternoon, and as night came on we set sail and sailed away from the shore not wishing to be near the land in the night. Our provisions came on board this afternoon, consisting of