

1869

Journal of a whaling voyage in the Barque
Sea Ranger of New Bedford Capt Chas C Allen

Coast Port - Monday Oct 12th 1869
Well here I go again on another whaling
voyage to cruise on New Zealand where large
Sperm whales blow. At 6 o'clock bright & dry
according to agreement the Stage arrived at
the door of Capt Seth Nickerson's Mansion. A
two horse team driven by Buck-Eye Capt
Seth Nickerson my father is going with me to
New Bedford to see me off consequently he
makes himself useful by helping me carry my
dunnage to the wagon, which consists of a chest
three small boxes a clothes bag & bed clothes,
after these are snugly stowed away, I run
into the house snatch a kiss from Mother
& Sister & then jump into the wagon. & we all
take a ride to the Depot at West Barnstable
arriving at quarter past 7 we at 25 minutes past
got on board cars for New Bedford changed
cars at Middleburg, arrived at New Bedford at
11 o'clock got a hack to take my things around from
Ferry to the Ship. She looks mighty gay with
all her colors flying. She sails tomorrow morn at
about 8 o'clock from Tabers wharf. Still in with cousin
George Phinney he is after a new fore-mast for his
vessel Sch Heaton, the old one having been badly dam-
aged by lightning last Friday night during the
Tempest. We went in to a restaurant together & ate
dinner. Also fell in Genas Adams Capt Adams son
who invited us to his fathers house to take tea whom
we repaired at 5 o'clock took tea & returned at about 9 o'clock.
What a blessing it is to have friends - - -

Tuesday Oct 13th

We arose at 6 o'clock after a good nights rest ate breakfast
and took leave of Capt Adams family & repaired on
board Ship. The crew are all on board the sails all
set & at 8 o'clock our Pilot gave the order to let go & was
quickly obeyed. The Ship moved slowly away &
when at a proper distance all hands took mistletoe
off & gave three hearty cheers to our numerous
friends upon the wharf & which was heartily returned