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WESTON R. GALES,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.
TERMS
Subscription—Three Dollars per annum—half in advance.
Advertisements—For every 15 lines, first insertion, One Dollar; each subsequent insertion, 50 cents.
Court Orders and Judicial Advertisements will be charged 25 per cent. higher; but a deduction of 25 per cent. will be made from the regular price, for advertisements by the year.
Advertisements, inserted in the Semi-Weekly Register, will also appear in the Weekly Register at a charge.

THE OIL.
From the New-Bedford Mercury.
TAKING A WHALE.
A FISH STORY BY AN OLD WHALER.

It was one of those delightful days so often passing beneath a tropical sun in the Pacific Ocean, that our attention was suddenly roused by one of the look-outs at mast head, who reported that he saw spouts at the weather bow.

There was, at the time, as is usual on board of a whaler when several days have elapsed without seeing whales, an air of quietude pervading all parts of the ship; there being nothing at these times in the monotonous, every-day occupations of a ship, to call forth the active energies of her crew. Some were occasionally making audible a wish that we might "see a sail for home," or some sperm whale—or in fact, any thing to change the scene. So, to catch a shadowy glimpse of what was passing, or rather what had been passing, in the solid portion of the world, were below poring over old newspapers that bore date a year or so back, and which had sailed more than half way round the broad ocean before they got into their hands. Some were verbalizing and reading for the fourth time since receiving them, cherished letters from friends at home; and some there were of less sedentary, temperment, who could only keep enuff at arm's end by pacing rapidly to and fro the deck, and who, from their downward, vacant look, were evidently holding communion with—perhaps their thoughts wandered about as far from the ship as the ship was from home, if it may be, they were resolving, as they had often done before in voyages back, that if they could get footing once more upon their native land, they would leave it to others who have a greater love for adventure than themselves, to pursue their career of conquest over these giants of the deep.

But no sooner had the loud, long-drawn sound "there she blows!" saluted our ears from aloft, than this Flying-Dutchman-like stillness was changed into something like the bustling activity of a ship-of-war just going into action. An officer nimble as a deer soon pronounced the spouts to be those of a large sperm whale. At this sound every eye was set in motion—some went top-gallant sheets, bend up, went the yards aloft to the shroud-ends. All sail being speedily made, braces and bowlines getting an extra pull, our ship made a rapid headway over the heaving swell. The after-reefer in the meantime filled their boat-kegs with water, and their bags with bread—for there is no knowing when a whaleboat leaves a ship but that it may be absent all day, and, as not unfrequently happens, all night besides; and this too in high and stormy latitudes.

recovering a little from his fright, he pursued his way to windward, and exerted his propelling powers with such success, as to bring him forward with a fleetness that gave to the crew who were thus harnessed to him, a "glorious sleigh-ride," as whalers sometimes love to term these flighty transits. But his speed was all in vain. He might as well have tried to run away from himself as from his merciless pursuers—go fast as he would they were towing close behind in his wake ready to deal a mortal blow the first favorable opportunity.

Finding flight along the surface of the sea of no avail, he now tried what security the depths below afforded him. Pointing his head downward and rearing his flukes in the air for a perpendicular descent, he made a plunge and away he went, down, down, down—the line whistling merrily around the smoking loggerhead as he went. The line, by the way, was not put round the loggerhead for the purpose of checking the whale's descent at all; we might as well have attempted to stop the world from whirling. The line runs out more readily and clearly round this than from the tub which contains it; and besides, by keeping a tight strain on the line as it runs out, the boat is drawn almost directly over the whale, although he should descend obliquely, and consequently there is less danger of having a line all drawn from the boat, and the whale so escape.

The whale continued his downward course with such rapidity as to take the whole length of a line from one boat in an incredibly short space of time; but luckily another boat chartered to be near by, the line of which was fastened to the latter end of the first one, just as it was about to leave the boat.

Whether our whale found bottom and so could go no further down, which is not very likely; or whether he went so far as to get a most terrible squeezing from the vast body of water pressing upon him, and so was glad to come to the surface for relief; or finally, whether he thought there was absolutely no limit to the length of line appended to him can only be matters of conjecture. But this much is certain—after taking from the boat between four and five fathoms of line, he came to the surface again, and seeming to find all efforts to save himself by flight useless, now gave up in despair. Here he lay motionless in the trough of the sea, his rippling waves washing over his broad back, while at measured intervals he sent forth dense, audible respirations, from his monstrous nostril.

The whale assumed an attitude of defiance at once ceasing his efforts to escape, so that it now required a good share of intrepidity to approach him again; for whales like individuals and nations, when put to a test shift and roused to desperation, are sometimes most formidable animals to encounter. A second boat, however, was rowed up, and another brace of harpoons thrown in him as before, but this time with less success to the attacking party. The whale doubling once in agony after receiving these other missive instruments, either purposely or by chance rolled under the boat before it could be backed astern out of his way, and sweeping his broad tail around as he lay here, it came in contact with the boat's bottom, and this afforded him an excellent object on which to convey his spleen. He now converted his ponderous tail, the organ which had served him so long for sails and for oars, into his arm of self-defence; and if the boat had been the animal, instead of being the machine that carried the animals, that assaulted him, he would have exercised his prerogative of the first law of nature with a vengeance. Raising his tail several feet in the air, where it hung vibrating to and fro for an instant, producing a breeze that might have fanned a whole congregation of people—brought it down with a bag that stove in a whole broadside of the boat; and not content with this, he drew his mighty organ of motion under what remained of the boat, and with a single effort whirled it bottom up. Here, then, was a scene for a painter; and it was as one about which we might say without any misgiving of words—that your calculating consumer who sits and sees the fatty fluid that is obtained with so much risk, expire away in a pretty little blaze, and thinks, it may be, he pays too dear for it—would much rather be a spectator of, than an actor in it. But although it was a scene in which there might have been a mixture of the tragic, there was on the whole (whatever the immersed ones thought to the contrary) much more of the ludicrous. Here amidst a miscellaneous collection of floating articles, consisting of fragments of the boat, broken oars, line tub, boat keg, &c. were seen a half dozen halless human heads bobbing up & down the sea; the owners of some of which, having the safety of number one in view, and possessing a few fish-like qualities, were diverging with tolerable progress away from the ruins, well knowing that of all situations to receive the embraces of a strong man, and of course a bad swimmer, on the surface of a bottomless sea is the most undesirable one he hugs so. Others not quite so well skilled in the swimming art, were pawing away in the best style they could towards the largest portion of the stoven boat, bawling out lustily at the same time for help, and keeping a vigilant eye on the whale, which was only a few yards distant gazing on the mischief he had produced. They keep an eye on the whole lest he might shoot forward and take a whaleful of the boat, including themselves therein, for the poor fellows well knew that these animals can bite as well as kick—and they had no inclination for enacting the part of Jonah.

Now, though man can flip his way through the sea rather better than he can wing it through the air, he makes after all but an indifferent fish, especially on the open ocean, where topping waves are roaring about his ears, and a monstrous leviathan is within a few feet of him. In such a case, even though a whaler swim like Hero's Leander of classic lore, he will never object to having what a late noble poet had when he swam the Hellespont—that is, a boat beside him. But this is what we whalers can seldom have, at least a whole one; and therefore, all that remains when we chance to get a plunge of this kind, is to keep ourselves by some means or other specifically higher than the sea until a boat can be rowed a safe distance to pick us up.

A person having a taste that way, might amuse himself with the study of hydrostatics in the mean while, as here is the subject before him, and beneath him. But the truth is, sailors care little about investigating the abstract laws of fluids; if they can keep their heads above the great saline ocean, and can get a quantum occasionally of certain other kinds, they will look no farther into the matter, but leave it to those with all other abstruse things, to their close thinkers, who take care and never ventures his head in such perils as these.

The crew of the stoven boat, supported, part of them on its bottom, and part with oars under their arms, lay soaking in the brine until their zeal for the attack was most effectually cooled. They were taken in however, by the first boat that could get to them and conveyed forthwith to the ship.

After this specimen of what our whale could do in the way of patronizing boat-riders, it was necessary to proceed with some degree of caution. The boats were next rowed up, one on each side; but as he had before given up all hopes of finding safety in flight, so now, on seeing these, he abandoned all thought of self-defence, and stretching himself along the surface of the sea, calmly submitted to his fate. The poor animal may have thought that whale-boats, like the fabled Phoenix, could rise out of their own ruins, and therefore, that demolishing was but an idle waste of strength.

As the whale lay thus passive, like a lamb to the slaughter, a well-poised lance was darted from one of the boats, which entered his vitals; and the next respiration sending forth copious jets of blood, which rose up a few feet and then fell down to mingle with the sea, told how well the deadly weapon had sped. The blow was so mortal and caused the current of life to flow so freely, that, notwithstanding his mighty bulk and giant strength, there was no possibility of his escaping, nor even of spinning out his existence beyond an hour. He continued spouting thick blood for some minutes, reddening the blue waters with the vital fluid wherever he bent his way. At length the emissions of blood became gradually less frequent, and finally issued forth so feebly as only just to gurgle about the spout-hole; and the whale laying like a hulk upon the sea, seemed about to draw his last gasp. But all at once he concentrated his whole strength for a momentary, and as it proved, his last effort. Raising the upper part of the head a little above the sea, he started off with amazing velocity; but instead of going straight forward as before, he went circularly round like a horse in a circus, only with this difference, that each circle became narrower and narrower like the main spring of a time piece. His first circle was performed in an area something like a hundred yards across, but by the time he had gone round a half dozen times his centripetal tendency brought him up the centre of this circle, and when he had thus fully wound himself up, as it may be termed, he closed his spout hole, rolled on his side, and lay a lifeless monster on the bosom of the Ocean.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, GRANVILLE COUNTY, Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, August Term, A. D. 1840.
John S. Eaton & Co., Plaintiffs, vs. William Wilson, Defendant.
Summons as Garnishee, Pr. E. A. Jones, et al. Same. N. N. Southall, et al. Same.

RALEIGH & GASTON RAIL ROAD.
Expedition increased and no detention.

The Raleigh and Gaston Rail Road is now completed and in full operation. This road connects the Great Hill and Penock Rail Road at Gaston, with the Raleigh and Gaston Rail Road near Bedford. A continuous line of Rail Road and Steamboat communication is thus formed between Raleigh, N. C. and Boston.

Travellers from the upper parts of South Carolina and Georgia, the Middle and Eastern portion of Tennessee, and the Southern part of Virginia, and North Carolina, and the Eastern part of Alabama, wishing to go to Raleigh, will find the route via Raleigh and Gaston Rail Road, the most expeditious than any other.

From Knoxville to Raleigh, by way of Abingdon and Wm. Springs, Ashcraft and Salisbury.	Miles.	Fare
Knoxville to Wm. Springs, 75	29	\$10
Wm. Springs to Ashcraft, 28	4	2
Ashcraft to Salisbury, 136	56	10
Salisbury to Raleigh, 136	36	10
	385	94 \$30

MAGNETIC SCHEMES FOR OCTOBER & NOVEMBER.
D. S. GREGORY & Co. Managers.
FIVE CAPITALS OF 20,000 DOLLARS!!!

BLACKSMITH.—The Subscriber has commenced the Blacksmithing business in this City, on his own account, and will be prepared to carry it on in all its branches. He occupies one Forge in the City of Raleigh, near the junction of the City and Market Streets. He has had much experience in the business, and will faithfully execute all work entrusted to him. All kinds of Coach Springs, Blipite and others, made to order.—Iron work of Carriages neatly and substantially done. All kinds of Edge and other Tools, made to order, and fully selected. Reference is made, as to my skill as a workman, to Thomas Coatsman.

SWAIM'S PANACEA—FOR THE CURE OF SCROFULA, OR KING'S EVIL, RHEUMATISM, Ulcerous Sores, Syphilis, and the host of painful and hitherto incurable affections resulting therefrom; White Swellings, Diseases of the Liver and Skin, General Debility, &c. and all diseases arising from Impurity of the Blood.

Swaim's Panacea is an accredited antidote to the diseases peculiar to tropical latitudes. It is made up of all plantations, and produces a speedy cure of all eruptive diseases, and a more certain and less expensive medium of purification than any other medicine hitherto known.

Swaim's Panacea is a round bottle, flat topped glass, with the following words blown in the glass: "Swaim's Panacea—Phila." having but one label, which covers the cork, with the signature of Wm. Swaim on it, so that the cork, (bearing also upon it a seal of the impression, "Wm. Swaim," cannot be drawn without destroying the signature, without which none is genuine. The medicine may consequently be known to be genuine when the signature is visible; to counterfeit will be punished as forgery.

VALUABLE REAL ESTATE ADJOINING THE CITY OF RALEIGH, FOR SALE.
By order of the Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church, that valuable property known as the Episcopal School, together with the Land attached thereto, is now offered for sale.

MILITARY ORDERS.—Attention, Officers of the 9th Regiment of North-Carolina Militia! You are hereby ordered to appear in the Town of Louisa, at 10 o'clock, the first Thursday in October next, being the 21st day, fully uniformed and equipped for Regimental Drill and Court Martial. Also, on the following day, the 2nd of October, at 10 o'clock, at the same place, with your respective Companies, for Regimental Review. Herein fail not!

Roanoke Navigation Company.—The annual meeting of the Roanoke Navigation Company will be held at Weldon, on Tuesday, the 27th day of October next. A. JOYNER, Secretary, 15.

JAMES G. McPHEETERS, COMMISSIONER MERCHANDISE, Petersburg, Va.
Continues to transact business on his usual liberal and prompt terms, at the old stand, formerly occupied by Holley & McPheeters, Bollingbrook Street, where he will be pleased, at all times, to see his North Carolina friends, and solicit a continuance of their favor.

WOLESALE AND RETAIL BOOK AND STATIONERY ESTABLISHMENT IN VIRGINIA.
Country Merchants and others will find at this Establishment, in addition to the many books suited to their wants, a large and general assortment of Stationery and Fancy articles; and promises that they will compare in price to quality and kind with any house, South of the Potomac.

Wm. Swaim & Son, Philadelphia.
PREPARED AT SWAIM'S LABORATORY, Philadelphia.—HENRY JOHN SHARPE, General Agent, No. 46 Pine St., New York, and sold by every Druggist in the United States.

NOTICE TO MEMBERS OF THE Approaching General Assembly.
The Subscriber would respectfully inform Members elect to the Legislature, that he is prepared to accommodate comfortably with Boarding and Lodging, from 30 to 40 of their body. His residence is in the spacious brick building of Mr. B. B. SMITH, (where the last Session of the Legislature was held) it will be in his power to furnish eligible rooms to those who apply early.

FRANKLIN HOTEL.—The Subscriber has opened a first-class Hotel at Franklin, 26 miles from Raleigh, on the High and Gaston Rail Road, where he is prepared to accommodate Rail Road and Stage Passengers and the public generally with all kinds of refreshments. He also keeps a good Hack and Horses, and will be ready at all times to transport travellers, who may desire it, to any part of the surrounding country.

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JOB PRINTING
EXECUTED AT THIS OFFICE.