

## *The GREENLAND WHALE FISHERY*

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IN EIGHTEEN HUNDRED AND FORTY-FOUR  
ON MARCH THE EIGHTEENTH DAY  
WE HOISTED OUR COLORS TO THE TOP OF THE MAST  
AND FOR GREENLAND PULLED AWAY, BRAVE BOYS  
AND FOR GREENLAND PULLED AWAY

THE LOOKOUT ON THE MAINMAST STOOD  
HIS SPYGLASS IN HIS HAND  
"THERE'S A WHALE, THERE'S A WHALE,  
THERE'S A WHALE-FISH," HE CRIED  
"AND SHE BLOWS AT EVERY SPAN, BRAVE BOYS,  
AND SHE BLOWS AT EVERY SPAN!"

THE CAPTAIN STOOD ON THE QUARTERDECK  
AND ICE WAS IN HIS EYE  
"OVERHAUL, OVERHAUL, LET YOUR JIB-SHEET FALL  
AND GO PUT YOUR BOATS TO SEA, BRAVE BOYS -  
AND GO PUT YOUR BOATS TO SEA!"

THE BOATS WERE LOWERED AND THE MEN ABOARD  
THE WHALE WAS FULL IN VIEW  
RESOLVED, RESOLVED WAS EACH WHALER-MAN BOLD  
FOR TO STEER WHERE THE WHALE-FISH BLEW, BRAVE BOYS  
FOR TO STEER WHERE THE WHALE-FISH BLEW!

THE HARPOON STRUCK AND THE LINE PAID OUT  
WITH A SINGLE FLOURISH OF HER TAIL  
SHE CAPSIZED OUR BOAT, AND WE LOST FIVE MEN  
AND WE DID NOT CATCH THAT WHALE, BRAVE BOYS  
AND WE DID NOT CATCH THAT WHALE!

THE LOSING OF THOSE FIVE JOLLY MEN  
IT GRIEVED OUR CAPTAIN SORE  
BUT THE LOSING OF THAT SPERM WHALE FISH  
NOW IT GRIEVED HIM TEN TIMES MORE, BRAVE BOYS  
NOW IT GRIEVED HIM TEN TIMES MORE!

"UP ANCHOR NOW!" OUR CAPTAIN HE CRIED  
"FOR THE WINTER STARS DO APPEAR  
AND IT'S TIME WE LEFT THIS COLD COUN-TER-EE  
AND FOR ENGLAND WE WILL STEER, BRAVE BOYS  
AND FOR ENGLAND WE WILL STEER!

"FOR GREENLAND IS A BARREN LAND  
A LAND THAT BEARS NO GREEN  
WHERE THERE'S ICE AND SNOW  
AND THE WHALE-FISHES BLOW  
AND THE DAYLIGHT'S SELDOM SEEN, BRAVE BOYS  
AND THE DAYLIGHT'S SELDOM SEEN!"