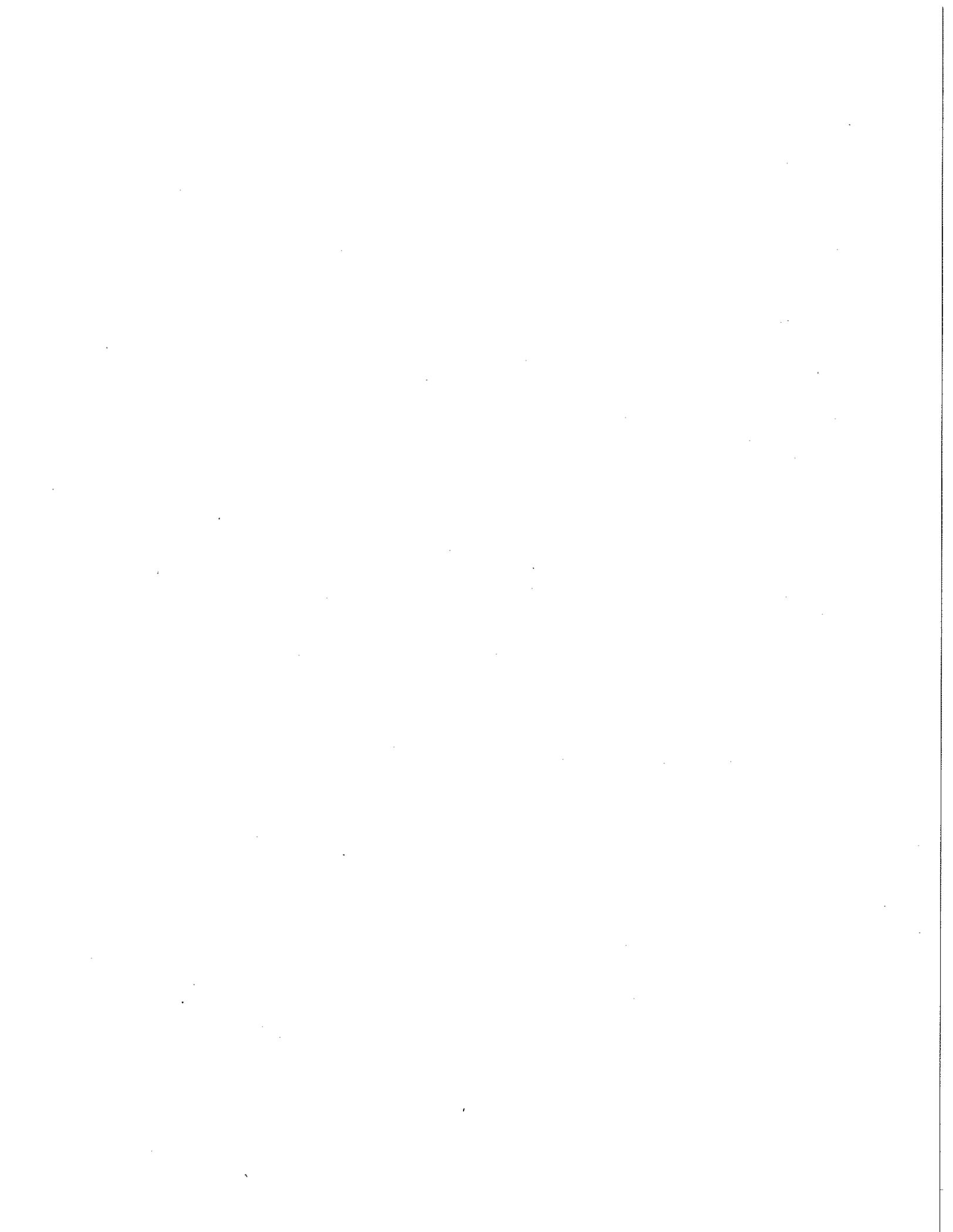


NANTUCKET WHALING IN THE EARLY 18TH CENTURY

By Elizabeth A. Little

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*Nantucket Whaling  
in the Early 18th Century*

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*Introduction*

Since whales of a number of species range seasonally off certain coasts of the western North Atlantic and strand or wash ashore dead on certain shores, people of these shores may have always used whale oil, blubber, bone, baleen, teeth, tendons, and meat. However, between about 1536 and 1700, Spanish and French Basque whalers in shore-based boats hunted whales in the Strait of Belle Isle and Gulf of St. Lawrence, and processed the oil on shore for European markets (Barkham 1984). The Dutch, interested in Davis Strait and Labrador since 1614, began a major whale fishery there after 1700, with some English competition (Kupp and Hart 1976).

The American whaling industry grew by sequential discovery and exploitation of whales in areas where whales congregated at various seasons. Commencing in 1690 with winter whaling from shore-based boats, Nantucketers, according to sometimes discordant historians, sometime after 1712 began using sloops carrying two whaleboats, in spring, summer, and fall, at sea southeast of Nantucket, at Newfoundland, and, approximately in the following order, at the Gulf of St. Lawrence, Strait of Belle Isle, coast of Labrador, Davis Strait, Greenland (Cape Desolation, Disco), south of Virginia and east of the Newfoundland banks, the coast of Guinea (1763), Western Isles (1765), Brazil and the Falkland Islands (1774), and by 1805 in the Pacific Ocean (cf. Crèvecoeur 1971:116; O. Macy 1835:54; Z. Macy 1792; A. Starbuck 1964; Little 1981b; Stackpole 1953).

In 1935 C.W. Townsend (1935) studied the behaviour of whales by plotting the location and season of whale captures from American whaling logs. Well-defined seasonal right whaling grounds are identified in most temperate oceans of the world, but the North Atlantic is blank, as few 18th-century whaling journals survive. Recently, 32 19th-century North Atlantic right whales documented by Townsend have been mapped by Schevill and

Moore (1983:5), who state in their paper, "because so little is known, the location and season of even Townsend's few North Atlantic right whales are important." Using recent observations, whaling logbooks, journals, newspapers and other historic records, Schevill, et al (1987) have documented right whales near Cape Cod, and Reeves and Mitchell (1987a, 1987b) have published documentation for right whale grounds at Long Island, Southeast US Coast, and Cape Farewell (Greenland). Reeves and Mitchell (1987a) also identify whaling grounds east of the Grand Banks of Newfoundland, in the Strait of Belle Isle and along the east Labrador coast used by Nantucket and Dartmouth whalers in the second half of the 18th-century. In this paper I document at least 99 whales caught between Carolina and Greenland and credited to Nantucket Indians between 1721 and 1758 in an account book.

Peter Folger reported in a journal of 1760 that he "Went over the Bar In Company with Stephen Paddock and Come to Anchor and waited for our Indians" (as reported in Fonda 1969:9). According to Obed Macy in 1835, the 13-man crews of the whaling sloops "were made up in part of Indians, there being usually from four to eight in each vessel. They were pleased with the business, and always ready to engage in it when called upon" (O. Macy 1835:38). In 1730, the 25 Nantucket sloops would have required 100 to 200 Indians, and Byers (1987:159) cites a mid-18th-century report that the Indian population of Nantucket in 1746 increased to 900, many of whom were Vinyarders who had "gone to settle on Nantucket, being a place of better employment". Macy's view has been challenged by Daniel Vickers (1983:579, 583), who argues that the Nantucket English controlled Indian labour chiefly through the use of indebtedness. I examine accounting methods in Mary Starbuck's (1662-1768) and Sylvanus Hussey's (1724-1734) account books and show that debits characterized the account book barter system, which was used also by the English.

*"Mary Starbuck's Account Book with the Indians" (1662-1768)*

A sheepskin-covered manuscript account book at the Research Center of the Nantucket Historical Association<sup>1</sup> has provided material for studies by Worth (1915), Little (1981a), Vickers (1981, 1983), Bragdon (1986) and Byers (1987). It is dense with data, with scratch-outs, blots, and mistakes, and at least 23 pages missing from an original 147. Although these hurdles

<sup>1</sup> I should like to thank Edouard A. Stackpole, Helen W. Chase, J. Clinton Andrews, and William Schevill for suggestions, and Louise R. Hussey, librarian, and Jacqueline Haring, curator of Research Materials, and her assistant, Gayl Michael, for assistance in using the manuscript collections of the Nantucket Historical Association.

create difficulty for the reader, Mary Starbuck's account book (hereafter referred to as MS) continues to repay study. All of the data pertaining to whaling are in the last period of the accounts, from 1721 to 1768, kept by Mary's son, Nathaniel Starbuck, Jr., until 1750 and then by someone who spelled "share" as "shear" (Worth 1915). Credits in the account book consist of a wide range of items: sheepskins, fishing, carting, plowing, fetching wood, hoeing and hilling corn, mowing and cocking hay, shearing and washing sheep, winding wool, work — at £1 a week in 1739 (MS:125) — threshing oats and barley, whale oil and bone (baleen), whale shares, towing whales, fish, corn, oats, barley, wheat, beans, feathers, baskets and bills.

*Whales, Species, Seasons, Grounds*

For this paper I have transcribed all of the whale credits, a total of 198 entries, from Starbuck's Account Book for the 17 Nantucket Indian whalers (Table 1). These data were then converted to a chronological list of credits to Indians for their whale shares. Chronological ordering demonstrates that there were no more than 6 or 7 Indian accounts in any one year (Figure 1a). The places of those who died were taken by others. Chronological ordering also shows that sometimes a number of Indians had shares in the same whale. Payments for some whale shares clearly extend over several years, and some entries are additional credits for a previously credited whale. Table 2 provides a list of whales distinguished by date, place, captain, species, etc., and contains 99 whales, the maximum number identifiable with confidence. As species descriptions in the accounts are limited to "whale" or "sperm", I have noted in Table 2 the presence of baleen, where given. Future studies may allow additional inferences.

Figure 1b and Figure 2 display the locations named for whale catches. Nantucketers since 1690 had been catching right whales along-shore during the winter. At least nine along-shore whales caught between 1726 and 1754 are here documented. Staples's whale in 1726 may have been one of the 86 along-shore whales previously documented for 1726 which was the peak year for along-shore right whaling at Nantucket (Little 1981b; Macy 1835). An along-shore whale, assumed to have been a right whale, was often represented by both oil and bone and identified by a boat captain, who was sometimes an Indian (Eben Smugg, Eb. Coduda, Jonathan Mycah, Staples?). The season, when given, was winter.

By 1715 Nantucketers had begun using sloops of 25 tons and up to pursue right whales off-shore, which initially meant the Nantucket Shoals, including Bowbell (Chamberlain 1964:92) where at least nine whales were caught between 1728 and 1747. Beyond the continental shelf, ten whales are listed between 1729 and 1735. Here they could have been hunting sperm

whales (which have "head matter" but no "bone") as well as baleen whales. Six sperm whales are identified (Table 2) from unknown grounds.

By 1734 the Nantucket Indians recorded by Nathaniel Starbuck, Jr. were catching whales during the summer near Canso, Nova Scotia (three recorded), by 1738 near Newfoundland or the Land (Baxter 1945:51) (five recorded), and one Greenland whale was recorded in 1737. Some Indians were paid for fish as well as for whales at Canso. From the use of place names, I assume that the whaling grounds were in the vicinity of the lands named (Figure 2; Kupp and Hart 1976: Fig. 2).

In spite of the number of whales caught at unknown grounds, Starbuck's Account Book documents whaling patterns between 1726 and 1746 which are poorly known at present. According to Obed Macy (1835:38), after whales became scarce near shore, whaling sloops began to go to the southward until July 1 and then, after a stop at Nantucket, went to the eastward of the Grand Banks of Newfoundland. One "Cariliner" whale is specified in Starbuck's Account Book, but not until 1753, and only after 1753 are the grounds east of the Grand Banks documented (Fonda 1969). These findings support Crèvecoeur's (1971:116) 1782 list of early Nantucket whaling and/or fishing grounds which includes the Cape Breton banks, Sable Island, Newfoundland and Cape Desolation.

Probably, because of their value, most of the whales with oil and bone products and many of the unidentified whales must have been right whales. However, in the Gulf of St. Lawrence and north some bowhead whales may have been caught (Crèvecoeur 1971:125; Reeves and Mitchell 1987a:233). These resemble right whales but have more oil and longer baleen than the right whale, and the term "long bone", which appears in the accounts as early as 1724, may indicate bowheads. Some humpbacks or blackfish may have been included in the catches, but were not the primary objectives of Nantucket whalers. For what is called a "whale share" in the accounts, both the number and the species is uncertain.

#### *Account Book Barter*

"The Indians obtained very successful returns which they expended on English commodities on their arrival home" (Worth 1915:31). Indian accounts show purchases of: buttons, thread, yard goods, blankets, clothing, shoes, molasses, beef, rye, corn, salt, a testament book, a horse, saddle, calash, firewood, line, hooks, flints, powder, shot, sturgeon iron, lance warp, candles, building materials, plowing, cash and bills. In order to spend their earnings these 17 men credited Nathaniel Starbuck, Jr. with their whale shares and other goods and labour. Starbuck, who was a blacksmith and trader, acted as their banker, credit manager, and storekeeper. He also ac-

cepted bills for Indian purchases at other stores where he had credit. Thus, we find Tom Poney, Natt, Josias, James Pock, Samson, Isaac Wooso, and John Tashame purchasing items at Sylvanus Hussey's and charging them to Starbuck's account (Hussey 1724-1735:259).

This complex accounting system, called "bookkeeping barter" (Baxter 1945:17), came about because in the early 18th century there was an acute shortage of money in the American colonies. If you gave Starbuck your whale share, he needed a large range of goods, or arranged a form of triangular trade, evidence of which lies in the numerous debit and credit entries with third parties. Examples include Japhet's debit of 22/8 to S. Hussey and Japhet's credit from Diamond for towing a whale (MS:36, 37). The bills, notes, and orders in the accounts are clearly substitutes for cash.

I have checked these accounts and have found that Starbuck's accounts include some mistakes in addition and subtraction. There are illegible corrections and strike outs. Reckonings are not always done in a timely fashion. Byers (1987:161) cites Paul Quaab's complaint that Indian accounts contain overcharges and misrepresentations of credits as charges. Such errors do occur in Starbuck's accounts, but I have found no evidence that they were deliberate.

As some Indians were literate and many were skilled in number games (Williams 1936:25), some could have kept their own accounts. At least one account book kept by an Indian exists (Account Book #210, Nantucket Historical Association) and there are enough references in Starbuck's Account Book to "a piece of paper" or "a little book" (MS:37) to suggest that Indian-kept account books were not uncommon. Examples of corrections in the Indians' favour are frequent in Starbuck's Account Book (MS:123, 37, 9, 146, 145) although errors still remain.

#### *Account Book Debits and Credits*

Starbuck's Account Book shows credits and debits for 17 Indians. Tom Poney had an account at Starbuck's for 35 years, during which he earned and spent an average of £40 per year. Isaac Tashame had an average income of £73 per year for 17 years. For comparison, Byers (1987:93, 168) cites an annual income for a laborer on the mainland as £12-18 per year from 1726 to 1774, or one quarter that at Nantucket.

The average final account for 15 Indians in Starbuck's Account Book was £32 (with a range from £3 credit to £97 debt) and for 8 Indians in Sylvanus Hussey's Account Book was £16 debt (ranging from £1 credit to £58 debt). Exactly the same system held for the Nantucket English in Hussey's Account Book, where 15 Englishmen's accounts taken at random show an average debt of £120 (a range of from £16 credit to £491 debt).

In other words, the Nantucket English had more credit with Hussey than did Indians with Starbuck or Hussey.

Credit accounts were based on mutual trust. That the system broke down occasionally is shown by Nantucket court records, which need to be consulted for individual Indians, a potentially valuable study. However, the only evidence for indentured service in Starbuck's Account Book is a note that Tom Poney was assigned for service to Starbuck for 2 1/4 years by the Trustees of the town for £17 in 1743 (MS:56). During this time Poney had no income credited to his account, but he continued to rely on Starbuck for credit.

### Conclusions

The Indian accounts between 1721 and 1758 in Starbuck's Account Book provide unique, if incomplete, data on 99 whales caught, their seasons and species, and on the economic structure of early American whaling. During the period when colonial whaling was expanding outward from the shores of southeastern New England and New York, Starbuck's Account Book identifies a sequence of Nantucket whaling grounds and their changes with time. Additional studies are in process.

Although some records for the exploitation of some Indians exist and have been examined (cf. Little 1981b; Byers 1987; Vickers 1983; A. Starbuck 1964), account books available at Nantucket do not contain evidence for claims that most of the Nantucket Indian whalers were indebted servants obliged to return their earnings to their masters. The accounts do show that between 1721 and 1756 some Nantucket Indian whalers earned up to four times the annual wages of a Boston seaman. The development on the island of a system of credit which included the Indians helped provide for the remarkable growth of the whaling economy of Nantucket (Baxter 1945:17). That some Indians participated successfully in the developing economy of New England, which was fueled in large part by oil exports to Europe, deserves recognition and thorough study.

A. INDIAN WHALERS:		B. NUMBER OF WHALES CAUGHT AT:	
		A: Ish Bobl Deep Cans Grid Nfl Unkn	
1721	Abe		1
1722			
1723			
1724	x Jap		2
1725			
1726		Woo Pon Poc	1
1727		x x x	2
1728	x	x x Mis Dia Sam	2 1 1
1729	x	x x x	1 2 1
1730	x	x x x	1 1 1
1731	x	x x x Jos	2 2 2
1732		x x x ATo	1 1 1
1733		Smu x x x	1 1 1
1734		x x x x	(1 or 1)
1735	x	Nat x x x JTo	1 1 3 1
1736	x	x JTa x x JTj	1 1 1 1
1737		x x x x	1 1 1 1
1738		x x x x	1 1 1 1
1739		x x x x	1 1 1 1
1740		x x x x	1 1 1 1
1741		x x x x	1 1 1 1
1742	ITa	x x x x	1 1 1 1
1743	x	x x x x	1 1 1 1
1744	x		1
1745	x		1
1746	x		1
1747	x		1
1748	x		1
1749	x		1
1750	x		3
1751	x		2
1752	x		1
1753	x Jon		1*
1754	x		1
1755	x		4
1756			1
1757	x		2
1758			1

Abe: Ben Abel	Sam: Samson	JTa: John Tashame	Bobl: Bobbell
Jap: Obed Japhet	Jos: Josiah	Nat: Nat	Deep: ye Deep
Poc: James Pock	ATo: A. Towadde	Jon: Edmund Jones	Cans: Canso
Pon: Tom Pony	Smu: Eben Smugg	[died: ]	Grid: Greenland
Woo: Isaac Wooso	JTo: Joe Towaddy		Nfl: Newfoundland
Mis: Missing name	ITa: I. Tashame		Unkn: Unknown
Dia: Diamond	JTj: J.Tashame, Jr	A: Ish: along-shore	*Carolina

Figure 1. A: Chronological List of Indian Whalers; and B: Whales and Whaling Grounds, from Starbuck's Account Book (1662-1768).

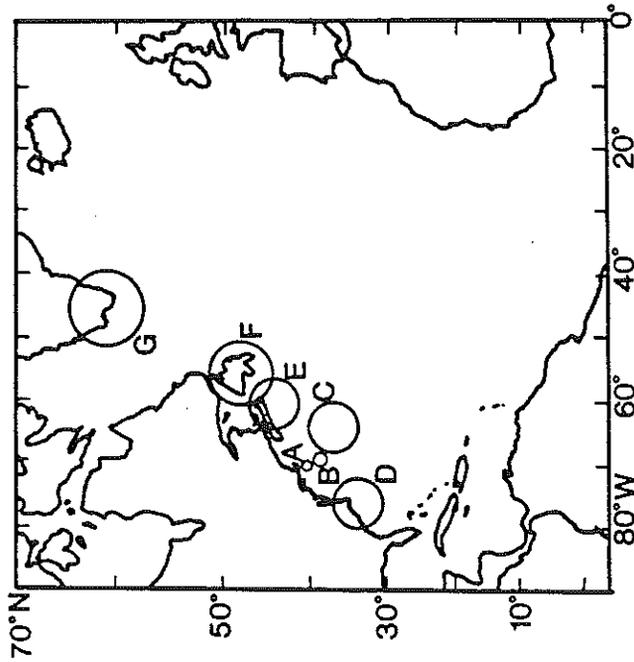


Figure 2. Western North Atlantic Whaling Grounds of early Eighteenth Century Nantucketers. The whaling grounds, circled, are estimated from place names in Starbuck's Account Book (1662-1768): A, "along-shore" at Nantucket; B, "bobel" (Bowbell); C, "ye deep"; D, "Carliner"; E, "Canso"; F, "Newfoundland"; G, "Greenland". Base map after Schevill and Moore (1983:5).

## APPENDIX

TABLE 1

NANTUCKET INDIAN WHALING ACCOUNTS 1721-1758,  
FROM MARY STARBUCK'S ACCOUNT BOOK  
WITH THE INDIANS

Ben Abel (p. 17):	
1721	By oyl & Bone: 1.10.00
1724	By 23 gall & 2 qts oyl with Batchelor H. at 5% & bone 6 1/2 at 3/2: 2.18.04
	12 mo by 1 barril oyle & 14 glls at 5% & 10 1/4# of long bone at 4s got with M.Gen:5.15.0
1728	1 mo by oyl & bone. ye bone 18# stunts 1bb 45/ with P:S: 5.08.09
	4 mo 13 by Vinyard whale 63/4: 3.06.04
1731	by oyl & bone got with Tristram along shoar in ye winter 1730: 2.17.00
1735	By 1/2 bb oyl formerly got by lying on Shoar: 1.05.00
Dimond (p. 138):	
1728	By a whale share got with Andrew Gardner or to be pd by E.G.: 3.17.6
	9 mo By a whale share got with Elias Coffin to be pd pr E.G.: 1.17.3
1729	3 mo By his whale share got along shore oyle 13 gll & 1 pint, bone 20#: 7.04.2.
Obed Japhet (pp. 36, 37):	
1724	By 2 bbs & 14 gallons of oyl, at 55/0 pr bb: 6.15.03
	By 24# Long bone at 4/0 pr # & 6# Short at 3/0: 5.14.00
1729	By oyl & bone got with Smugg along shore: 0.19.6
1730	By oyl & bone gott with Smugg along Shore 20 1/4# bone, oyl 13 gallons: 7.13.0
	By Dimon for toeing a whale in 1728 & for old ancor: 0.13.0
1731	By his whale share got along shoar with Smug: 20.00.09
1732	By 2# short bone got with Andrew Gardner 1731 ye 9 mo: 0.6.8
Edmund Jones (negro) (p. 127):	
1753	By one half of his Shear with E:S: 15.3.5
	Carliner Bone 2 pound 1/2: 2.6.6
	By one pound & a half of Short Bone: 1.13.9
1755	By his Sheear whith Benjamin Buncker: 1.13.9

Josiah (p. 62):

- 1731 By a whale share with Jonathan Pink. last Spring in ye deep: 02.02.02  
 1731 1 mo By 5.2.0 fish caught with B. Hussey at Canso at 15.p.: 04.02.06  
 1743 By what he got ye trip before he was lost is 28/3: 1.8.3
- [Missing name] (p. 145):
- 1728 By a whale Share got with P:S at bobel: 1.07.01  
 1729 By a whale Share gott with P:S at bobel: 9.16.4  
 1730 3 mo By a whale Share got with Paul S: 12.0.8  
 1731 4 mo By a whale Share got with Paul:S: 4.17.4  
 1732 4 mo By a whale Share got with Paul Starbuck in ye deep: 19.7.10  
 1733 4 mo By his whale Share got at bobel: 8.16.8  
 1734 5 mo By his whale Share got with Shubael Folger in ye deep or bobel:  
 39.9.0  
 1735 5 mo By a whale share got with Shubael Folger in ye deep is: 21.10.6

Natt (p. 126):

- 1735 7 mo By a whale share got with Jethro Folger in deep: 10.3.0  
 1736 2 mo By a Smal matter got with Jethro F. in ye Spring Spermaceetic  
 or whale: 3.0.0  
 By his part of Canco voyge, his fish: 11.18.0  
 1737 By his part of ye Spring voyage with Simeon Bunker: 18.3.4  
 1738 By whale got with Jethro Folger in ye Summer: 2.6.2  
 By his part in ye Spring with Nathan Coffin: 7.10.0  
 1739 7 mo By a whale share with Jos Coleman: 3.8.9

James Pock (Pockana) (p. 123):

- 1726 1 mo by his whale with S:H in ye Spring one trip is: 6.07.00  
 By Share of Staples whale 15/9. his share with Paul is 6.14.4: 7.10.01
- Tom Poney (pp. 35, 9, 55, 56, 37, 23, 26, 109, 112, 116):
- 1726 By oyl & bone got with John Gardner & [?] short bone [?]:2.16.07  
 10 mo By 12# of bone, . . . oyl got with J.Way [?]  
 1727 By his whale share got with my son Paul S. this year: 14.18.00  
 1728 By oyl & bone got with Paul, ye bone 12# stunts: 18.07.07  
 By 12# bone got with P:S & oyl 27 gll, oyl last year 5 glls: 5.13.03  
 4 mo By . . . his part of oyl in ye spring: 1.13.01  
 By . . . his whale share along shore, 13 gll: 1.13.02  
 1729 By his whale share got with Paul Starbuck in ye deep: 9.16.4  
 By . . . his oyl & bone got along shore 13 gll, 1 1/2# bone: 7.04.2

- 1730 By spermaceti got with Nathll Folger in 1729 on a trip, not much: 0.0.0  
 By miscasting his last winter's whale: 0.9.4  
 3 mo By his spring voyge of whale got with Paul S. in ye Deep: 22.16.01  
 By whale got with Smugg along shore: 00.00.00
- 1731 1 mo By prt of a Sperm whale got with Nathll Folger in 1730: 00.18.08  
 By his whale Share got with Smugg along shoare: 15.02.00  
 By his part of our whale voyge with Paul in ye Deep: 4.17.4  
 By his prt of irons found 1/1 & his prt of some whale yt went to ye  
 bay: 0.02.10
- 1732 5 mo By his part of our whale voyge got with Paul he staid: 14.14.11  
 1733 4 mo By his whale share in ye deep: 8.16.8  
 1734 5 mo By his whale share in ye deep with Shubael Folger: 23.12.00  
 8 mo By 2# muslers bone got at Canso with Shubael Folger at: 1.5.00  
 By his whale share with Shubal Folger at Canso: 36.18.5  
 By a share of whale got with John Russel not reconed before.: 5.12.0
- 1735 4 mo By a whale share got with John Russel in ye Deep: 10.5.9  
 6 mo 23 [cash] of Paul ye day he arrived . . . : [?]  
 9 mo By a whale Share got with Shubael Folger at Canso: 46.7.7  
 11 mo By a whale Share got with S. Folger in ye Sumer at bobel (omit-  
 ted): 3.0.9
- 1736 2 mo 13, 1/6 cash ye next day after came in  
 8 mo By a whale share got with J. Russel: 12.17.7
- 1737 2 mo By a share of whale with Antony Solomon, bone 2# 14/: 0.19.3  
 1738 By his whale share with Jethro Folger in ye Spring: 6.8.6  
 By his share got with Tho Crook last year onward: 8.14.0  
 By his Share got with S. hussey Newfoundland: 9.7.0
- 1739 By oyl got with Anthony Solomon not yet reconed, it may be: 0.15.3  
 By 37/1 undercast in his Newfoundland voyge with S:h  
 last year: 1.17.1
- 8 mo By . . . his whale with Jos Col.: 16.16.10  
 7 mo By a Share with Z:Bunker: 59/6
- 1740 11 mo By his Share of whale with S:F last Spring is: 24.18.6  
 1741 11 mo By his whale share with Shubael Folger: 23.18.2  
 1742 11 mo By his whale voyge with Shubael Folger: 65.15.2  
 By a share caught with G:H this fall: 10.2.2  
 1743 By a share with ye hannah 00.00.00

- 1745 7 mo By his whale share with Shubael Folger this summer past not made up yet.  
 11 mo By whale share caught with S:F: 40.3.2  
 To Sundries Clothing just on his going off to ye lapilles.  
 1746 By a whale share caught with E. Starbu: 30.0.9  
 1747 11 mo By his whale share caught with E:S: 55.0.5  
 By thy Newfoundland voyge with S:H: 5.00.00.  
 1748 7 mo By a whale shear caught with Edward Starbuck: 47.15.8  
 By more of his Newfoundland voyage with S:h: 7.0.0  
 1749 By thy share Last Spring with Edward Starbuck: 122.09.08  
 1750 By his half shear with Edward Last Spring: 50.05.00  
 By his Sheare of head matter that went to Felladelfa: 4.16.6  
 By his Sheare with Francis Swain one trip: 8.11.6  
 1751 By his Shear with Edward Starbuck: 31.3.6  
 Oct. 9 By his Share with Edwd Starbuck: 97.12.0  
 1752 By his Shear with Peter Coffin one trip: 0.19.4  
 1753 By his 1/2 Shear with E:S: 3.3.9  
 1754 By his Sheare with E. Starbuck last Spring: 2.2.6  
 By his Sheare with T. Masy at the land: 5.7.7  
 1755 By his halfe Sheare with Jeams Coffin: 96.15.0  
 By his halfe Shear with Shubal Pinckham: 96.2.7  
 1757 By a omission of his half shear with S. Pinck: 2.13.1  
 By his Shear of whalboon with S:P: 4.4.9  
 By his Shear with Benjamin Buncker Last Spring: 75.11.7  
 1758 By his Shear with Benjamin Barny: 27.15.0

## Samson (p. 68):

- 1728 By a whale share got with P:S at bobel 27/: 1.7.0  
 1729 By a whale share got with Paul Starbuck in ye Deep: 9.16.4  
 1730 3 mo By his whale voyge in ye deep with Paul Starbuck: 22.16.1  
 1731 1 mo By part of a whale formerly yt went to ye bay. I had wine: 0.2.10  
 By his whale share got with Paul in ye Deep: 4.17.4  
 1732 4 mo By his whale share got with Paul in ye Deep: 19.7.10  
 1733 4 mo By his whale share 2.13.1 & Joes 8.16.8 in ye Deep: 11.9.9  
 1734 By a whale share: 3.13.0

## Eben Smugg (p. 19):

- 1733 9 mo 1, To cash 2S, ye next day after Came home from Canso. Salt  
 9d: 0.2.9

- 1734 8 mo By 2 1/2 of muslers bone got with S. Folger at Canso: 1.5.0  
 10 mo By his share got with Shubael Folger at Canso: 36.18.5  
 1735 8 mo By whale got with shubael Folger in ye 7 mo at Canso: 46.7.7  
 John Tashame (pp. 125, 120):  
 1736 10 mo By his & sons whale share with S:Folger is 9.0.8. Canso: his is  
 76/8: 12.17.4  
 12 mo By prt of a whale got in Tristrams boat 2 bbls oyl & 6 1/4#  
 bone: 12.3.9  
 1737 10 mo By his & sons part of the Spring voyg with Simeon B. is: 36.6.8  
 1738 1 mo By . . . bone 1.4.6, more oyl 4g: 3.0.0  
 1 mo By whale got with J. Coleman late last year: 1.8.3  
 By his & sons Shars in ye Spring with Nathan Coffin at bobel: 15.0.0  
 By Johns Share with S:h at Newfoundland: 11.4.1  
 1739 11 mo By his whale with Jos Coleman is 10.13.07 & his son John's is  
 16.16.10: 27.10.5  
 1740 11 mo By his whale Share with Shubael Folger last Spring: 21.5.0  
 1741 11 mo By his whale Share Caught with Shubael Folger in Sloop Ann:  
 28.16.7  
 1742 2 mo By his & Isaacs whale with Shu Fol.: 135.6.10  
 1743 11 mo By his Share Caught with Shubael Folger 69.9.3 & Isaac ye Same:  
 138.18.6  
 John Tashame, Jr. (p. 122):  
 1741 By his oyl got in Sloop ann with S.F.: 1.10.0  
 10 mo By his newfoundland voyge caught with S. Hussey comes to:  
 34.0.0  
 11 mo By his Share caught with Shubael Folger: 22.16.8  
 1742 9 mo By thy Share with Simion Bunker: 58.3.0  
 10 mo By a whale Share with Jonathan Myccah in R. Mitchel's bote,  
 bone 3/6  
 By a whale share with W. Aldrich. bone 26# at 14/8. oyle 33/4: 2.8.0  
 1743 1 mo By his Newfoundland voyge with S:H: 52.17.4  
 By oyl caught with R. Mitchel 9/2: bone 3/6: 0.12.8  
 By oyle caught with S. Folger in ye Spring 1743: 30.7.6  
 1743 11 mo By his part of a whale caught with Jonathan Coffin Jr. ye boon  
 72/2: 3.12.2  
 Isaac Tashame (brother of John Tashame, Jr.) (pp. 113, 106, 110):  
 1744 7 mo By his share caught with Shubael Folger at Bowbel: 48.14.3  
 1745 By a whale Share caught with Shubal folger: 39.8.1

- 1746 By a whale share caught with Edward Starbuck: 39.3.4  
 1747 By his whale share caught with Edward Starbuck at bobells: 52.09.9  
 1748 7 mo By his whale share Caught with Ed. Starbuck is: 47.15.8  
 1749 By his whale share Caught with Edward Starbuck is: 122.9.8  
 1750 By his half shear with Edward Star.: 50.5.0  
 By his Sheare of Headmatter went to Feladelfa: 4.16.6  
 10 mo By his half Sheare Last wintter with Jonathan Colman: 5.14.6  
 1751 By his Sheare with E. Starbuck: 31.3.6  
 1752 Oct By his 1/2 Share in Sloop Ann with Edwd Starbuck: 97.12.0  
 1753 By his sheare with Edward Starbuck: 3.17.8  
 1754 2 mo By his Sheare with E. Starbuck Last Spring: 3.13.5  
 2 mo By 2 pounds & 3 ounces of Bone Caught with Eb. Coduda: 0.5.8  
 1755 7 mo By his Shear with Abisha Barnard: 26.18.11  
 1757 By his Shear with Shubal Pinckham: 18.15.6  
 By 10 pound Long Boon Caught with Job Moers last winter: 10.0.0  
 By his shear of boon with Shubal Pinckham: 4.4.4  
 By Tashamas shear with Jonathan Mory: 8.13.9  
 By his sheare with Benjamin Bunker: 75.11.7

## Abram Towadde (pp. 69, 70, 124):

- 1732 By his prt of our whale voyage got this Spring in ye Deep: 19.07.10  
 1733 4 mo By his whale Share in ye Deep: 4.3.0  
 1734 5 mo By his whale share got in ye deep with Shubael Folger: 34.15.10  
 1735 6 mo By a whale share got in ye deep: 12.1.0  
 1736 By a whale share with S:Folger to Canso 4.10.0, but in ye Spring 76/8:  
 8.7.0  
 1737 1 mo By a whale share caught with G:Swaine last Summer: 3 bbls  
 omitted  
 8 mo By a whale share got with Simeon Bunker this Spring: 11.0.10  
 11 mo By prt of whale got with Cromwel ye bone 2#: 0.14.0  
 1738 By ye oyl gott with Cromwell, 7 1/2 glls clear 25/, ye boo[n] at 7/:  
 1.7.3  
 By whale got with Nathan Coffin Spring voyge at bobell-  
 By his wale Shale with Nathan Coffin in ye Spring: 7.10.0  
 1739 11 mo By his whale with Jos Coleman last sumer is: 13.7.4  
 1741 6 mo A whale Share in Pauls vessel: 9.2.9

## Joe Towaddy (pp. 66, 67, 115):

- 1735 3 mo By oyl got with Jethro Folger in ye deep: 4.18.0  
 8 mo By oyl & bone got with Shubael Folger at Canso, a whale share:  
 46.7.7  
 1736 3 mo By his whale share wth G:Swain[*in*]: 9.15.9  
 11 mo By his part of whale is with Jethro Folger Spring is: 8.2.6  
 1738 7 mo By a whale share got at Greenland with T:Crook last year omitted:  
 8.14.0  
 By a share got with Shussey at Newfoundland this year: 41.4.1  
 6 mo 24: To cash 4/3 Same day he arrived from Newfoundland with  
 S:h got 85 bbs oyl  
 To panjames son for a wigwam & salt meet 3.11.6  
 1739 11 mo By his whale with G:H 43/ Ditto with S:H Newfoundland 25/:  
 27.3.11  
 1740 11 mo By his whale share in the Hannah, Jo: Chase master: 29.13.2  
 1741 3 mo By a whale share got with Z:B at Boebell, 14:14 & with S:F:  
 19.8.0  
 1742 11 mo By his whale share caught with S:Folger at bobel this Summer:  
 63.11.4  
 1755 By his Sheare with Tristram Swain: 74.10.2 (Old tenor)  
 1757 By his half sheare with Shubal Pinckham: 98.15.7  
 By Walle Boone with S:P: 4.4.4

## Isaac Wooso (p. 146):

- 1727 By his part of ye 4 barrils oyl got for towing last winter is 5 glls: 0.8.9  
 By his Share got with Will Swaine 5.9.9, ditto with ditto 1728: 7.18.6  
 1728 By whale got along Shore 13 glls oyl & 1 pint. bone 3 1/4# at 60/ &  
 4/6: 2.01.9  
 1729 3 mo By oyl & bone got with Jethro Folger at bobel: 15.10.2  
 1730 By his part of a whale got at wewedah: 13 gll oyl, 20 1/4 bone: 6.17.9  
 1731 By oyl & bone got with Smugg: at wewedah 20.0.9. 1/6 overchargd:  
 20.02.09  
 1732 By his prt of 3 sperms with Edward Bennet which is: 0.18.6

TABLE 2

CHRONOLOGICAL LIST OF THE MINIMUM NUMBER  
OF WHALES CAUGHT  
(STARBUCK'S ACCOUNT BOOK)

I have collapsed the entries of Table 1 into as few whales as consistent with the data. Indian names, in parentheses and standardized, are given in full at their first appearance.

1721	1	Whale (baleen) (Ben Abel)
1724	1	Whale (baleen) (Abel) with Batchelor H. [Hussey]
	1	Whale (baleen) (Abel) with M. Gen.
1726	1	Whale (baleen) (Tom Poney) with John Gardner
	1	Whale (baleen) (Poney) with J. Way
	1	Whale (James Pock) with S.H. [probably Sylvanus Hussey]. Spring (trip)
	1	Whale (Pock, Isaac Wooso) with Staples, along-shore right ? (Little 1981)
1727	1	Whale (Wooso) with Will Swaine
	1	Whale (baleen) (Pock, Poney) with Paul Starbuck
1728	1	Whale (Wooso) with Will Swaine
	1	Whale (baleen) (Abel, Poney) stunts, with Paul Starbuck
	1	Whale (Samson, Missing) with P. S. [Paul Starbuck] at Bowbell
	1	Whale (Abel) Viuyard, Along-Shore
	1	Whale (Dimond) with Andrew Gardner
	1	Whale (Dimond) with Elias Coffin
	1	Right whale (Poney, Wooso, Obed Japhet/Dimond) Along-Shore
1729	1	Whale (Samson, Poney) with Paul Starbuck in ye deep
	1	Right whale (Poney, Wooso, Dimond, Japhet) with Smugg along-shore, winter
	1	Whale (baleen) (Wooso) with Jethro Folger at Bowbell
	1	Sperm whale (Poney) with Nathaniel Folger (trip)
	1	Whale (Missing) with P.S. [Paul Starbuck] at Bowbell
1730	1	Sperm whale (Poney) with Nathaniel Folger
	1	Whale (Poney, Samson, Missing) with Paul Starbuck in ye deep
	1	Right Whale (Abel) with Tristram Along-Shore, winter
1731	1	Whale (Jostiah) with Jonathan Pink[ham] in ye deep, spring
	1	Whale (Samson, Poney) "yt went to the bay"

	1	Whale (Missing, Samson, Poney) with Paul Starbuck in ye deep
	1	Whale (baleen) (Japhet) with Andrew Gardner
1732	3	Sperm whales (Wooso) with Edward Bennet
	1	Whale (Abram Towadde, Samson, Poney, Missing) with Paul Starbuck, ye deep, spring
1733	1	Whale (Poney, Samson, Joe [Towaddy?], Towadde) in ye deep
	1	Whale (Missing) at Bowbell
	1	Whale (Poney, Eben Smugg) with Shubael Folger at Canso
1734	1	Whale (Poney) with John Russel
	1	Whale (Poney, Towadde, Missing) with Shubael Folger, in ye deep or Bowbell
1735	1	Whale (Joe Towaddy, Natt) with Jethro Folger in ye deep
	1	Whale (Abel) (formerly got) along shore
	1	Whale (Poney) with John Russel, ye deep
	1	Whale (Missing, Towadde) with Shubael Folger in ye deep
	1	Whale (Poney) with Shubael Folger at Bowbell, summer
	1	Whale (baleen) (Poney, Smugg, Towaddy) with Shubael Folger at Canso, September
1736	1	Whale (Towaddy, Towadde) with G. Swain, summer
	1	Sperm whale (Towaddy, Natt) with Jethro Folger, spring
	1	Whale (Towadde, Natt, John & John Jr. Tashame) with Shubael Folger at Canso, spring
	1	Whale (Poney) with J. Russel
	1	Whale (baleen) (J. Tashame) of Tristram's boat, Along-Shore
1737	1	Whale (J. & Jjr. Tashame, Natt, Towadde) with Simeon B[unker], spring voyage
	1	Whale (baleen) (Poney) with Antony Solomon
	1	Whale (baleen) (Towadde) with Cromwell
	1	Whale (Poney, Towaddy) with Thomas Crook at Greenland
	1	Whale (J. Tashame) with Coleman
1738	1	Whale (Towadde, Natt, J. & Jjr. Tashame) with Nathan Coffin at Bowbell, spring
	1	Whale (Poney) with Jethro Folger, spring
	1	Whale (Natt) with Jethro Folger, summer
	1	Whale (Poney, Jjr. Tashame, Towaddy) with S. Hussey at Newfoundland, summer

- 1739 1 Whale (Towaddy) with G.H.  
 1 Whale (J. & Jjr. Tashame, Poney, Natt, Towadde) with Jos Coleman, summer  
 1740 1 Whale (Poney) with Z. Bunker  
 1 Whale (Poney, J. Tashame) with Shubael Folger, spring  
 1 Whale (Towaddy) with Jo. Chase, master, in the HANNAH  
 1741 1 Whale (Towaddy) with Z.B. at Bowbell  
 1 Whale (Towaddy, J. & Jjr. Tashame, Poney) with Shubael Folger in Sloop ANN  
 1 Whale (Towadde) with Paul (Starbuck)  
 1 Whale (Jjr. Tashame) with S. Hussey at Newfoundland  
 1742 1 Whale (Jjr. Tashame) with Simion Bunker  
 1 Whale (baleen) (Jjr. Tashame) with Jona. Mycah [Indian] in R. Mitchel's boat  
 1 Whale (baleen) (Jjr. Tashame) with W. Aldrich  
 1 Whale (J. & Isaac Tashame, Poney, Towaddy) with Shubael Folger, at Bowbel, summer  
 1 Whale (Poney) with G.H. [George Hussey], fall  
 1743 1 Whale (J., Jjr., I. Tashame) with Shubael Folger, spring  
 1 Whale (Jjr. Tashame) with S.H. [Hussey], at Newfoundland  
 1 Whale (baleen) (Jjr. Tashame) with Jonathan Coffin, Jr  
 1744 1 Whale (I. Tashame) with Shubael Folger at Bowbell  
 1745 1 Whale (Poney, I. Tashame) with Shubael Folger, summer  
 1746 1 Whale (Poney, I. Tashame) with Edward Starbuck  
 1747 1 Whale (Poney, I. Tashame) with Edward Starbuck at Bowbells  
 1 Whale (Poney) with S.H. [Hussey] at Newfoundland  
 1748 1 Whale (Poney, I. Tashame) with Edward Starbuck  
 1749 1 Whale (Poney, I. Tashame) with Edward Starbuck, spring  
 1750 1 Sperm whale (Poney, I. Tashame) with Edward Starbuck, spring, went to Philadelphia  
 1 Whale (I. Tashame) with Jonathan Coleman, winter  
 1 Whale (Poney) with Francis Swain (trip)  
 1751 2 Whales (Poney, I. Tashame) with Edward Starbuck, Sloop ANN  
 1752 1 Whale (Poney) with Peter Coffin (trip)  
 1753 1 Whale (baleen) (Poney, I. Tashame, Edmund Jones) with Edward Starbuck, Carolina

- 1754 1 Whale (Poney, I. Tashame) with Edward Starbuck, spring  
 1 Whale (Poney) with T. Macy at Newfoundland  
 1 Right Whale (I. Tashame) with Eb. Coduda [Indian], Along-Shore  
 1755 1 Whale (I. Tashame) with Abisha Barnard  
 1 Whale (Poney) with James Coffin  
 1 Whale (Towaddy) with Tristram Swain  
 1 Whale (baleen) (Towaddy, Poney, I. Tashame) with Shubal Pinkham  
 1756 1 Whale (Jones, Poney, I. Tashame) with Benjamin Bunker, spring  
 1757 1 Whale (baleen) (I. Tashame) with Job Moers, winter  
 1 Whale (I. Tashame) with Jonathan Mory  
 1758 1 Whale (Poney) with Benjamin Barney

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