

With these four essentials, or in order to remedy or verify additions and omissions, researchers at this point should always refer for full confirmation to the definitive compilations of every individual American whaling voyage by Alexander Starbuck entitled *History of the American Whale Fishery from its Earliest Inception to the Year 1876*.

From this invaluable treasury can also be obtained, with hard work, the necessary particulars of every American whaler of the same name so that grossly imprecise details such as 'the "Mary", believed to be an American whaler off New Zealand in March 1842', may be whittled down to perhaps a dozen ships of that name absent in that year from eight home ports. A single locality is given in Starbuck for each ship's intended terminal destination, and occasionally it is New Zealand or nearby.

A continuation of Starbuck's immense work, and a few corrections, entitled *Return of Whaling Vessels Sailing from American Ports, 1876-1928*, was published in 1959 by Reginald B. Hegarty, Curator of the Melville Whaling Room of the New Bedford Free Public Library.

Any request for assistance which is sent to an American whaling institution should include reference to Starbuck or Hegarty which are the standard texts. (The Turnbull Library, Wellington, has a copy of Starbuck.) Hegarty's work is less seldom of immediate relevance to New Zealand workers because few American whalers visited New Zealand waters after 1876.

Even beginners are now adequately prepared to consult the disconcertingly huge individual indexes to collections, copies of which have been deposited at Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington. Those institutions which have published lists of their holdings are as follows:

The Nicholson Whaling Collection, Providence Public Library, Providence, R.I. Refer to *The Voice of the Whalemen* by Stuart C. Sherman which includes a list of 836 whaling journals, logbooks, and account books. 1965.

G. W. Blunt White Library, Mystic Seaport, Mystic, Conn. Inventory of Logbooks and Journals of Whaling, Trading and Sealing. (Total 775). 1965.

Old Dartmouth Historical Society and Whaling Museum, New Bedford, Mass. (Total list about 700 - all whaling.) May 1959.

Melville Whaling Room of the Free Public Library, New Bedford, Mass. (Total list about 450.) 1963. In addition, this library possesses handwritten abstracts of 2,500 whaling voyages between 1831 and 1873 relating to the more important aspects of these voyages which were compiled by Mr Denis Wood, Esq about 1888.

The Kendall Whaling Museum, Sharon, Mass. (Total about 250 - all whaling.) 1965.