

Whales x

Pitcairney Nov 1856

Dr George

One day when James Sadler
of the St Lawrence before a fine fair
wind, Mr Youston and I saw
a great many Porpoises, tumbling
about in the water - they were
very large and as white as snow.

I do not know very much about
the nature or character of these
animals, but they are called
by some ^{naturalists} Sea Hags, or betaceous
Mammals - living upon one another
and other fishes, and often dig
in the mud for shell fish - they
are therefore very properly named
the Hag fish. In speaking on occasion
of these fishes and other objects
in Natural History, you say
there are some words occur
that are very hard to under-
stand, to help you with this

you ought to have a Good Dictionary - which I pretend to get you before long but untill that time, when you meet with a hard word you will have to ask for your Teacher, to Explain it to you.

About the same time that we saw the Porpoises, we also saw a Number of small Whales blowing up great Columns of Water and playing about the Ship - we also saw some Seals, you have likely seen some of all these Animals when you were at Sea yourself, but did it ever occur to you, who made them all and for what purpose they were made? who provided meat for them all to live on and

Make them all happy? I think you
will say it is God - well, but
then their Existence, must have
some reference to man, to
minister to his Comfort, and so
they do - from Porpoises & Whales
and Seals we get plenty of oil
Whale-Bone & nice warm Fur -
to give us light - to make Umbrellas
and Fur Caps - the offal of them
also makes good manure for
the Land - a little of it would
do nearly as much good in
your Garden, as the little
quantity of Guano we use.

But you will ask me, are these
animals happy and comfortable
in the Cold Water? Yes. They are
happy because God has given them
a Nature suited to their habi-
tation, and because, unlike Men
they have committed no Sin, they
unanimously obey the Law, which

God has laid them on us, and
it is called the Law of Instruction.

Ought we not to take our Example
from them and try to obey the
Moral Law which God has laid
on us - if we could obey
it, we would be much more
happy than we are - it is Sin
that brings all our Misery
and Unhappiness on us.

Knowing this, please you will
always be a good obedient Boy
to your Parents and Teachers,
This will make them and you
all Happy, and the hearing
of it will be most pleasing
to

Grandpa

