

## FINDS A BASE FOR FIALA.

Capt. Comer Confident That Expedition Will Reach the North Pole.

*Special to The New York Times.*

MIDDLETOWN, Conn., Nov. 2.—Capt. George Comer the old whaler and sailing master, who sailed north this Summer commanding the New Bedford, Mass., whaling vessel Gifford, on a whaling expedition and to establish a supply base for the Fiala North Pole expedition, which starts next year, under the command of Capt. Comer, has written to his wife from Cape Fullerton, Hudson Bay region.

The Gifford arrived there Aug. 29. and has since been looking for whales, but has found none. The Captain has been successful in his work for the Fiala expedition, and says that he confidently expects that the men under Fiala, by merely entering one of the northward drifts and sailing with it, will reach the north pole.

The Canadian Government has forced Capt. Comer to pay a duty of \$200 on goods he took along to trade with the natives.

The Gifford has gone into Winter quarters near Cape Fullerton. All of the crew are well.

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