



## Endquote

### *The Maldive Shark*

*About the Shark, phlegmatical one,  
Pale sot of the Maldive sea,  
The sleek little pilot-fish, azure and slim,  
How alert in attendance be.  
From his saw-pit of mouth, from his charnel of maw  
They have nothing of harm to dread,  
But liquidly glide on his ghastly flank  
Or before his Gorgonian head;  
Or lurk in the port of serrated teeth  
In white triple tiers of glittering gates,  
And there find a haven when peril's abroad,  
An asylum in jaws of the Fates!  
They are friends; and friendly they guide him to prey,  
Yet never partake of the treat—  
Eyes and brains to the dotard lethargic and dull,  
Pale ravener of horrible meat.*

**—Herman Melville**