

the Peacock got beyond hearing of our horns, bells, drums, and guns, and was parted with. This, however, I did not now regret so much, as it was of little consequence whether we sought one or two vessels at our rendezvous, although it might cause a longer detention there.

The wind was now (5th January) veering rapidly to the northwest, with some thunder and lightning, and we in consequence expected the wind to haul to the southwest, but to my surprise, it went back to the northeast, with thick rainy weather. This return of the wind to its old quarter followed a fall of the barometer to 29.60 in., and in a few hours afterwards to 29.30 in., while the weather continued moderate; a large number of albatrosses, Port Egmont hens, and petrels, were seen.

For the last few days we were unable to get any observations, but on the 6th we were favoured with a sight of the sun, and found ourselves in the latitude of $53^{\circ} 30' S.$, and longitude $157^{\circ} 35' E.$ Our variation had increased to fifteen and a half degrees easterly. This being a fine day, we completed our calking, and the more effectual securing of the ship. At midnight we were about fifty miles from Macquarie Island.

The morning of the 7th was misty, with squally weather. A heavy sea rising, and a strong gale setting in, we lost sight of the Porpoise for a few hours. Being unable to see beyond an eighth of a mile, it was thought imprudent to run, for fear of passing the island, and we hove-to to await its moderating. It cleared at noon, and we obtained an observation, by which we found ourselves in latitude $54^{\circ} 20' S.$, and longitude $160^{\circ} 47' E.$ I found that we had been carried to the eastward upwards of twenty miles in less than eighteen hours; this, with the wind hauling to the southwest, brought us to leeward of the island, and the sea and wind increasing, I saw it was useless to attempt to reach it without great loss of time. I therefore bore off to the southward for our second rendezvous, Emerald Island, or its supposed locality.

On the morning of the 8th, the wind, which continued from the same quarter, with heavy cumulous clouds, began to moderate, and we were enabled to make more sail. By our observations, we found a current setting to the southeast, of one mile an hour. Our longitude was $162^{\circ} 13' E.$, latitude $55^{\circ} 38' S.$ The barometer stood at 30.00 in.; the temperature had fallen to 38° ; and this change, on account of the rawness of the air, was much felt by the crew.

During the 9th we passed the site of Emerald Isle, situate, as has been stated, in latitude $57^{\circ} 15' S.$, and longitude $162^{\circ} 30' E.$, but saw nothing of it, nor any indications of land, which I therefore infer does