

purple spot at the root of the bill, and with straight beaks. Mr. Eld was too much exhausted to return with him to get specimens, and the hour being late, it was necessary to return to the boat, which had been waiting for some time for them. The quarter-master succeeded in getting his penguins to the boat, but Mr. Eld's began floundering about, and although their legs were tied, managed to get into the water, where they were at home, and were soon out of reach. The tying of the legs did not seem any impediment to their exertions in the water, and thus several interesting specimens of natural history were lost, the trouble that it cost making them doubly valuable. With great difficulty Mr. Eld reached the boat; for, having again missed his foothold, he fell among the kelp, but by the timely aid of those on board he was rescued. After an hour's tug at their oars, they reached the ship in safety. During their absence the ship sounded with a line of three hundred fathoms, two and a half miles from the shore; but no bottom was found. The temperature of the water at the surface was  $43^{\circ}$ , and at three hundred fathoms deep  $39^{\circ}$ . The current was tried, but none found.

The south end of Macquarie Island lies in latitude  $54^{\circ} 44'$  S., and longitude  $159^{\circ} 49'$  E. The island is high and much broken; it is apparently covered with verdure, although a long tufted rank grass was the only plant seen by those who landed.

The highest peak on the island is from twelve to fifteen hundred feet high, and as far as our observations extended, it had neither tree nor shrub on it. At 6 P. M. the ship filled away, and at eight was abreast of the Bishop and Clerk. Macquarie Island affords no inducement for a visit, and as far as our examination went, has no suitable place for landing with a boat. The only thing I had to regret was not being able to make it a magnetic station.

On the 11th and 12th nothing particular occurred on board the Peacock. All sail was set, and running to the southward on the 13th, in latitude  $61^{\circ} 30'$  S., longitude  $161^{\circ} 05'$  E., the first ice-islands were seen. The dip was observed with Lloyd's and Dolland's needles, which made it  $86^{\circ} 53'$ .

There was no occasion on the night of the 13th to light the binnacle-lamps, as newspaper print could be read with ease at midnight. On the 14th, while still making much progress to the south, and passing occasionally icebergs and brash ice, the water appeared somewhat discoloured. Robinson's, Lloyd's, and Dolland's needles, gave, the same day, in the cabin,  $86^{\circ} 37'$  for the dip, and in the ward-room,  $86^{\circ} 46'$ . Albatrosses, Cape pigeons, and other birds about.

On the 15th, they passed many ice-islands. The weather was thick,