

On Sunday, January 19th, while standing into a bay of ice, in latitude $66^{\circ} 31'$ S., and longitude $153^{\circ} 40'$ E., we made (what we believed to be) land to the southward and westward.

It was seen towering above and beyond some large icebergs, that were from one hundred to one hundred and fifty feet in height. We endeavoured to work up for this land, which presented the appearance of an immense mass of snow, apparently forming a vast amphitheatre, with two distinct ridges or elevations throughout its extent. After working up until midnight through detached portions of ice, we reached the barrier at the head of the bay, and were compelled to give up any further attempt to near it, (what we believed to be land,) and passed out of the bay again, which was some twenty miles in extent, through drift-ice, into a more open space for pursuing our course to the southward and westward along the barrier.

On the 23d of January we made, beyond the barrier, which was thickly studded with bergs and islands of ice, (what we believed it to be,) high land, at least so far as terra firma can be distinguished where every thing is covered with snow, and worked into a bay for a nearer and more minute examination. The sea-water had been discoloured for some days, but no bottom obtained by soundings; in the bay, however, it changed to a dark dull green, and gave every indication that we were on soundings, and not far from land.

The result confirmed the appearances: we obtained bottom in three hundred and twenty fathoms, of slate-coloured mud, and the lead brought up with it a piece of stone, about an inch in length, of nearly the same colour, while the lower part of the lead showed a fresh and deep indentation, as though it had struck on a rock. Dip observations were made on the ice with Robinson's and Lloyd's needles; the former gave $86^{\circ} 10'$, the latter $86^{\circ} 23'$.

While ascertaining the dip, a large king-penguin was captured on the ice, and brought to the ship; to add to our collections, in his stomach were found thirty-two pebbles of various sizes, which appeared to have been very recently obtained, and afforded additional evidence of our immediate proximity to land.

While further pursuing the object of our search in this vicinity, on the morning of the 24th, and endeavouring to clear some ice ahead of us, the ship made a sternboard, and came in contact with a large piece of ice, which carried away one of the wheel-ropes, wrenched the neck of the rudder, and rendered it useless.

We immediately commenced working ship with the sails and ice-anchors into a more open sea. In this we were successful for a time, until an increase of wind, and a change in its direction, brought in