

vessel, an extensive belt of sea-weed was found encircling the island, forming a natural breakwater, and so preventing the violence of the heavy Atlantic surf breaking, as it otherwise would, along the shore.

Before reaching the land, all, more or less, got a wetting, as the rollers break along the beach, but after a scramble all landed right enough, and made a tour of the settlement, which is named Edinburgh, in compliment to Prince Alfred, who visited here in 1867, when in command of the *Galatea*.

About fifteen houses are seen scattered over an open space on the north side of the island. There are several enclosures where potatoes and other vegetables are grown, and the islanders possess, in common, some four or five hundred head of cattle and a plentiful supply of poultry and pigs.

As the day advanced, the weather changed to wind and rain, and it was with some difficulty all got on board in safety.

During the visit to the shore a story was told of two Germans, who had been living at the well-named Inaccessible Island 30 miles farther south, who had voluntarily exiled themselves with the hope of obtaining seal skins, but lately nothing had been heard of them, and it was supposed they had perished. Throughout the night the vessel was steamed across the channel, and on the following morning the land was closed, but nothing indicating life was at first seen.