

nificent birds covered the ground in great numbers. It was evidently the commencement of the breeding season, as few eggs were obtainable. These splendid birds, weighing 20 lbs., and measuring from 11 to 12 feet from tip to tip of wing, seen to such advantage while in their glory at sea as they sweep so gracefully through the air, are altogether out of their element on shore. In order to rise again after settling on the land, they are obliged to run some distance before they obtain sufficient velocity for the air to get under their wings and allow them to feel themselves masters of the situation. Three descriptions of penguins were found on the island, in considerable numbers—the king, a black and white, and a small yellow-crested one. Their breeding season was nearly over; but there were still some eggs unhatched. A flock of pretty white birds, only found in these seas, about the size of a large pigeon, was met with here. While the naturalists were on shore, the vessel was engaged sounding and dredging in the channel which separates Marion from Prince Edward Island, in from 75 to 100 fathoms, with good results. It was intended, on the following day, to land on Prince Edward Island, but from the unfavourable appearance of the weather the idea was reluctantly given up. After having accurately fixed their position, we bore away for the Crozets, distant 600 miles. The former islands were discovered so long ago as 1772 by M. Marion de Fresne, who was in command of a