

mossy grass, mixed with a dirty brown plant; while on the higher land were patches of perpetual snow. Later in the day anchored in Betsy Cove, and remained for eight days, during which time many excursions inland were made for collecting specimens, botanical and zoological. One evening we were surprised by the arrival of an American sealing schooner, from the captain of which much information was obtained relative to this inhospitable coast. We sailed on the 17th, and, before clearing the land, encountered a strong head-wind, which speedily worked itself up to a heavy gale. Under sail alone we rolled and pitched about in the turbulent sea like a plaything, causing woeful destruction to furniture and crockery, while the masts and ropes creaked and groaned, producing a perfect medley of sights and sounds. The next day it moderated sufficiently to close on the land, and later we anchored in Royal Sound, the deepest bay on the south coast. The scenery was very lovely, with a labyrinth of islets interspersed over upwards of twenty miles of nearly land-locked waters, sheltered on the south by the Wyville Thomson range, containing a fine volcanic peak, 3160 feet high, rising as an enormous cone in the midst of a surrounding circlet of sugar-loaf peaks, each dwarfed only by the parent mountain; on the west by Mount Tizard, and the towering snow-clad summit of Mount Ross, rising 6200 feet in one continuous slope from the sea; while on the north ex-