

curiously shaped arch, about 100 feet wide, worn through the middle of it. On getting clear, a southerly course was shaped along the land.

*Feb. 1st.*—With a capital breeze we proceed on our course, rapidly passing the land and some of our familiar landmarks of the preceding three weeks—Mount Ross, Mount Campbell, Wyville Thomson, and Crozier ranges, all snow-topped and glistening in the morning sun. At noon we were off Cape George, and an hour later we had reached the most southern extremity of this isle of desolation, which was named Cape Challenger. A fair wind had sprung up, and away we went farther south to the Heard Islands. On our passage, sounded and dredged frequently; bottom from 200 to 400 fathoms. We crossed the track of the Australian clippers running by the great circle route, and it was in one of these vessels that Captain Heard, in 1853, first saw the islands we are bound to. For three days very light winds, with fog and rain, were experienced. This, added to the risk of meeting icebergs, during the misty and dark nights, made it anything but cheerful, for it is very questionable if these islands are correctly laid down on the charts.

*Feb. 5th.*—The fog continued, and for two or three days previous, the cry of the penguin, and several patches of sea-weed, gave indications we were not far from land. The next morning during a lift in the fog it was seen right ahead, which we closed