

dredging and sounding frequently with good results. From this time the icebergs became very numerous, and great was the excitement on board as we passed these novel sights. The rich cobalt blue tints blending into the white of the ice produced a very fine effect. The weather was very fine, and each day now we continued to meet icebergs of all shapes and sizes, some apparently much worn by the sea into cavities and great fissures, as if they were ready to split asunder; others of tabular form, with heavy surf breaking up their perpendicular sides. Sailing on, we pass much loose ice, evidently fragments of broken-up icebergs; and a beautiful white petrel, *Procellaria glacius*, was seen for the first time. From this we were led to believe we were in the vicinity of large masses of ice, for it is known that these birds never wander far from the main pack.

*Feb. 13th.*—The weather became hazy, with occasional snow-storms. Many large icebergs in sight, some of which are of magnificent dimensions, nearly a mile in length, and from 150 to 200 feet in height, with sides perfectly smooth as if they had been chiselled; others again exhibited lofty pinnacles, with sides and ends of many-coloured tints, leading into deep caverns open to the swell of the sea. At noon to-day we were within 120 miles of the Antarctic Circle. Continuing our course until midnight, we found ourselves in a fog, close to an extensive area of brash ice, extending far away in a