

67° east. In 1839 Captain Balleny reported land in latitude 66° 44', longitude 163° east. D'Urville, with his vessels of the French expedition, discovered (?) Adelia Land and the Ciaria Coast (?) about the same time. And in 1840, Captain Wilkes, in command of the United States exploring expedition, gave forth to the world his discovery of the Antarctic Continent, which he describes as follows:—
“ In latitude 64° 31' south, longitude 93° east, we made what was believed to be land to the south and west, at least so far as ‘terra firma’ can be distinguished when everything is covered with snow. Soundings were obtained in 320 fathoms, which confirmed all our previous doubts, for on later observation a dark object, resembling a mountain in the distance, was seen, and many other indications presented themselves confirming it. Advancing to the westward, the indications of the approach to land were becoming too plain to admit of a doubt. The constant and increasing noise of the penguins and seals, the dark and discoloured aspect of the ocean, strongly impressed us with the belief that a positive result would arise in the event of a possibility to advance a few miles farther to the southward.” *

This, to a certain extent, they thought conclusive, and fully believed that an extensive continent existed within the icy barrier, extending perhaps for nearly 1000 miles near the Antarctic Circle, between the

* ‘United States Exploring Expedition.’