

again resumed, and showed a depth of 2550 fathoms; and the next, 2600 fathoms; the temperature at this depth being 33° , and at the surface 64° .

From this date the soundings commenced getting less, showing 1975 fathoms. A day or two after this it was 1100 fathoms; the temperature rising to 36° . These indications of shallower water were not without cause, for now unexpectedly we came into 400, 300, and at last only 275 fathoms. This was about 200 miles from the land. The question of the nature of the bottom at this part, where the land was being neared, was especially interesting and important. Results showing that the bottom was of a hard, stony kind, probably rock, which became more marked the nearer we got to the shore; while the temperature had now risen to 38° , giving additional evidence of a decrease in the depth of the water.

Placed in the very track of storms, and open to the sweep of seas from every quarter, exposed to waves that run from pole to pole, the shores of New Zealand are famed for surf and swell, and so we had found it up to the time that Cape Farewell was sighted, when the wind freshened considerably and increased in force, blowing violently from the south-east, with a very heavy sea, and it was decided to take shelter in Port Hardy (an inlet in the north of D'Urville Island); and none too soon, only just in time to escape the fury of the gale, which lasted