

clothed almost to their summits with trees, while others more distant were dark and gloomy, their high, jagged peaks covered with glaciers and many a winter's snow.

As we proceeded farther southward, changes became noticeable in the appearance of the land, which on either side became of a much bolder and more elevated character. The sky had become cloudy and overcast, and the temperature of the air had fallen several degrees, while icy blasts came howling down deep gorges and crevasses, with occasional squalls of rain, giving us warning of what we had to expect on our further progress through these wild and inhospitable regions. On arriving off Saumaurez Island, we stopped and dredged in 147 fathoms, obtaining a few starfish, some *ec'hini*, corals, a couple of fish, and some stones. After this we stood across to the mainland, and entered the excellent and well-sheltered harbour of Port Grappler. On anchoring, a small steam-vessel was observed at the head of the harbour, which, when we boarded, was found to be a supposed total wreck. On the boat returning, it was accompanied by a stranger, from whom the following particulars were elicited.

The vessel was named the *Karnack*, belonging to a German company trading between Hamburg and Valparaiso, and had left the latter place about a month before. On her way through the straits (about ten miles to the north) she had struck on a sunken