

vegetation and trees, consisting of winter's bark, evergreen birch, &c. ; while beyond, and as far as the eye can reach, are extensive bare hills, with occasional patches of stunted shrubs, and tracts of boggy ground covered with a thick, low vegetation. In the evening the weather was very squally, with thunder and lightning and heavy rain, and all were thankful we were lying in so comfortable a berth instead of being at sea. However, in the intervals many parties started for a run over the country with gun and rod, but the sport was not very encouraging.

PUERTO BUENO BAY TO ISTHMUS BAY.

Jan. 10th.—Left the anchorage at an early hour; the rain fell heavily, it was exceedingly cold, and the landscape presented a most wintry appearance; the snowy hills ranging along on each side, and the bare rock looking most desolate and dreary in the surrounding haze, and this was midsummer. Steaming on through Sarmiento Channel, we dredged in 400 fathoms (soft green mud); temperature 46.5° Fahr.; we got several specimens of coral, sponges, and fish. On the conclusion of this operation, we proceeded, passing Esperanza, Vancouver's, and Owen's Islands, Staines Peninsula, Carrington Islands, and through the Farquhar Pass into Collingwood Straits; passed Newton and Hunter Islands, and so through Victory Pass, a lovely spot studded with small islands; reached the Zach Peninsula, and anchored on its