

mountain and laid on the ground to be fashioned, are sometimes tumbled about by the force of the wind.

They have on the island a few strong spars, mostly the masts of wrecked vessels, and to get the great blocks up to the top of the wall after it has risen to a certain height, they use a long incline, made of a couple of these spars, well greased, up which they slowly drag and shove the blocks, much as they are represented as doing in old times in some of the Egyptian hieroglyphs. The furniture of the rooms is scanty, owing to the difficulty of procuring wood; but passing ships seem to furnish



FIG. 35.—Cyclopean Architecture, Tristan Island. (*From a photograph.*)

enough of woven fabrics to supply bedding, and in the better cottages some little drapery, and to enable the people, and particularly the women, to dress in a comfortable and seemly style. Low stone-walls partition the land round the cottages into small inclosures, which are cultivated as gardens, and where all the ordinary European vegetables thrive fairly. There is no fruit of any kind on the island. The largest cultivated tract is on the flat, about half a mile from “Edinburgh.” There the greater part of the potatoes are grown, and the cattle and sheep have their head-quarters. The goods of the colonists are in no sense in common; each has his own property in land and in stock. A new-comer receives a grant of a certain extent of land, and