

or lay, of a certain stamp among them would be an enormous advantage; but an educated man of another stamp, such as they were much more likely to get, would be very much the reverse.

My own impression is that it would have been just as well to have left the settlers of Tristan d'Acunha alone. At present there is a general feeling of equality, and their arbiter is of their own choosing; and they took special care that it should be fully understood that their deference to Peter Green was purely voluntary. I should fear that the appointment of magistrates from among themselves by external authority may give rise to all kinds of jealousy and ill-will. If the place is understood to belong to Great Britain at all, it is no doubt important that, in such a case as that of the *Shenandoah*, they should be able to produce evidence to that effect. The Tristaners of the present day have certainly not left the most favorable impression on my mind. They are by no means ill off; they are very shrewd and sufficiently greedy; and their conduct to the Stoltenhoffs, if their story be true, which we have never had any reason to doubt, in landing surreptitiously and killing the last of the flock of goats on Inaccessible Island, if not actually criminal, was, to say the least, most questionable.

While the party on land were struggling among the tussocks and penguins, and gaining an experience of the vigor of spontaneous life, animal and vegetable, which they are not likely soon to forget, the ship took a cruise round the island to enable the surveyors to put in the coast-line; and in the afternoon the hauls of the dredge were taken in 100 and 150 fathoms. A large quantity of things were procured of all groups, the most prominent a fine species of *Primnoa*, many highly colored *Gorgonia*, and a very elegant *Mopsea* or some closely allied form. *Lophohelia prolifera* or a very similar species was abundant, associated with an *Amphihelia* and a fine *Cænocyathus*. Hydroids and sponges were in considerable number, tangled in