

grass grows in dense tufts from six to ten feet high. The leaves and stems are most excellent fodder, and extremely attractive to cattle; but the lower portions of the stems and the crowns of the roots have unluckily a sweet, nutty flavor, which makes them irresistible, and cattle and pigs and all creatures, herbivorous and omnivorous, crop the tussocks to the ground, when the rain, getting into the crowns, rots the roots; or if they have the means, they tear them out bodily. The work of extermination has proceeded rapidly, and now the tussock-grass is confined to patches in a narrow border round the shore, and to some of the outlying islands. When we were lying off Port Louis, at the head of Berkeley Sound, there was a pretty little islet thickly covered with a perfectly even crop of tussock-grass about eight feet high, and so dense that it could be mown with a scythe. We sent a boat's crew for a supply for the animals on board, by whom it was highly appreciated.

The peat of the Falkland Islands is very different in character from that of the North of Europe; cellular plants enter scarcely, if at all, into its composition, and it is formed almost entirely of the roots and matted foliage and stems of *Empetrum rubrum*, a variety of the common "crow-berry" of the Scottish hills, with red berries, called by the Falklanders the "diddle-dee" berry; of *Myrtus nummularia*, a little creeping myrtle, which also produces red berries with a pleasant flavor and leaves, which are used as a substitute for tea; of *Caltha appendiculata*, a dwarf species of the marsh-marigold; and of some sedges and sedge-like plants, such as *Astelia pumila*, *Gaimardia australis*, and *Rostkovia grandiflora*. The roots and stems of these, preserved almost unaltered, may be traced down several feet into the peat, but finally the whole structure becomes obliterated, and the whole is reduced to an amorphous carbonaceous mass. The general flora of the camp is much like that of the low grounds of Fuegia and Patagonia; but one misses the pretty flowering shrubs, especially the *Pernettyas* and the lovely *Phi-*