

seem a perfect paradise after the terrible struggle and fight through the Penguin rookery, which it is necessary to endure in order to reach them.

In landing it was necessary to pass through a broad belt of water, covered with the floating leaves of the wonderful seaweed already referred to, *Macrocystis pyrifera*, termed "Kelp" by seamen, which here, as at Tristan and Nightingale Islands, forms a sort of zone around the greater part of the island, and which was afterwards met with in great abundance at Kerguelen Island.

As the shore was approached, a shoal of what looked like extremely active very small Porpoises or Dolphins was seen moving through the water. They showed black above and white beneath, and came along in a drove of fifty or more, from the sea towards the shore at a rapid pace, by a series of successive leaps out of the water and splashes into it again, describing short curves in the air, taking headers out of the water and headers into it. They landed on the black stony beach, and there struggled and jumped up amongst the boulders, and revealed themselves as wet and dripping Penguins. It would have been impossible for any one previously unacquainted with them to have believed the animals to be birds, had he seen them only thus in rapid motion in the water.

The beach was bounded along its whole stretch at the landing place by a dense growth of Tussock, a stout, coarse, reed-like grass, growing in large clumps, which have at their bases large masses of hard woody matter, formed of the bottom of old stems and the roots. In Penguin rookeries, the grass covers wide tracts with a dense growth like that of a field of standing corn, but denser and higher, the grass reaching high over a man's head. The Falkland Island "Tussock" (*Dactylis cæspitosa*) is of a different genus, but it has a similar habit. In the Tristan group there is a sort of mutual-benefit-alliance between the Penguins and the Tussock. The millions of Penguins sheltering and nesting amongst the grass, saturate the soil on which it grows with the strongest manure, and the grass thus stimulated grows high and thick, and shelters the birds from wind and rain, and enemies, such as the predatory Gulls. On the beach were to be seen various groups of Penguins, coming from or going to the sea. There is only one species of Penguin in the Tristan group (*Eudyptes chrysocome*). The birds stand about a foot and a half high, and are covered, as are all Penguins, with a thick coating of closely set feathers. They are slaty grey on the back and head, snow white on the whole front, and from each side of the head a tuft of sulphur yellow plumes projects backwards. The tufts lie close to the head when the bird is swimming or diving, but they are erected when it is on shore, and then almost seem, by their varied posture, to be used in the expression of emotions, such as inquisitiveness and anger. The bill of the Penguin is bright red, and very strong and sharp at the point, as the legs of the various exploring parties testified before the day was over; the iris is also red, and remarkably sensitive to light. When one of the birds was standing in the zoological laboratory on board the ship, with one side of its head turned towards the port, and the other away from the