

Near this rookery was a shallow freshwater lake, on which some young Albatrosses were swimming. There were numerous White Albatross's nests scattered about, but they did not extend more than 100 feet above sea level, and hardly anywhere as high up as that. High up, at about 500 feet elevation, were some four or five Sooty Albatrosses (*Diomedea* [*Phæbetria*], *fuliginosa*, the "Piew" or "Pio" of sealers), soaring about the tops of the cliffs; probably they nest there. This bird is continually to be seen flying about cliffs and higher mountain slopes, and never seems to nest low down like the Mollymauk and Goney.

In holes in the banks at this elevation, a Prion (*Prion banksi*) was extremely abundant, but it was also pretty common down about sea level. Its peculiar angry cry, somewhat like the snarling of a puppy, uttered as it hears footsteps about its hole, is very puzzling at first as listened to coming up from the ground at one's feet.

The rocks, about high-water mark, are covered with a dense growth of the large brown seaweed (*Durvillea utilis*), which is of great assistance in breaking the surf. The plant has stout stems, as thick as the wrist, attached to the rock by large conical boss-like suckers, and with large spreading leaves on the stalks, provided with floats composed of a series of honeycomb-like air-cells within a thickened frond. Beyond the ordinary reach of the sea, but still within the beach-line, the rocks are covered with a Crassulaceous plant (*Tillæa moschata*), which occurs also in Kerguelen Island. Above the beach is a thick growth of herbage investing a swampy black peaty soil, which covers the underlying rock more or less thickly everywhere on the lower ground, and extends up with the herbage almost to the snow. The principal plants forming the thick growth are *Acæna adscendens*, by far the most abundant plant on the island, *Azorella selago*, forming bright green patches in intervals between the *Acæna* or cake-like masses at its roots, and a grass *Poa cookii*. *Azorella selago* is a characteristic plant of the southern islands, and will be frequently referred to in the sequel (see Pl. XV.). It belongs to the Umbelliferæ, and forms large convex masses often several feet in diameter, which are compact and firm, and when on solid ground yield little to the tread. The masses are made up of the stems and shoots of the plants closely packed together side by side, with their flowering tips and small stiff and tough leaves forming an even rounded surface at the exterior, being all of the same length; the interior of the masses is full of dead leaves and stems. The whole, where growing in abundance, formed sheets and hummocks which invest the soil, sometimes for acres in extent at Kerguelen Island, with a continuous elastic green coating. An allied plant, *Bolax glebaria*, forms similar masses at the Falkland Islands, and there is a tendency in many Antarctic plants to assume a similar habit, as in the case, e.g., of *Lyallia kerguelensis*.

*Pringlea antiscorbutica* (see Pl. XVI.), the Kerguelen Cabbage, is, at least in the part of the island explored, by no means so abundant as at Kerguelen Island. It was some