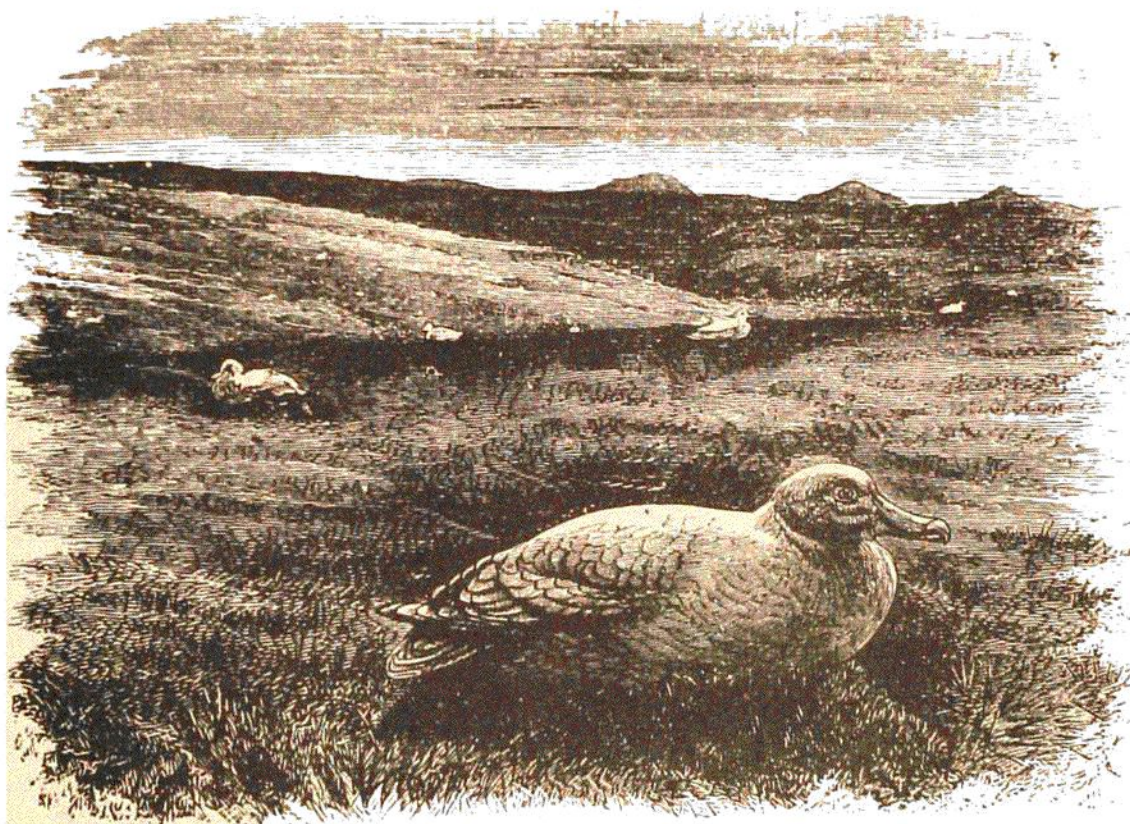


progression excessively wearying. Further, the sun coming out bright and hot every now and then, made us, who had gone on shore thickly clad, perspire very freely.

The albatrosses were all around, raised from the ground. Their nests are in the style of those of the Mollymauks, but much larger, a foot and a half at least in diameter at the top. They are made up of tufts of grass and moss, with plenty of adhering earth beaten and packed together, and are not so straight in the sides as those of the Mollymauks, but more conical, with broad bases.



GREAT ALBATROSS ON ITS NEST, MARION ISLAND.

(From a photograph.)

The female albatross is sprinkled with grey on the back, and is thus darker than the male, which is of a splendid snow-white with the least possible grey speckling, and was now seen in his full glory and best breeding plumage; the tails and the wings of both birds are dark. The albatrosses one meets with at sea are most frequently birds in young plumage or bad condition, and have a rather dirty dragged look.

The brooding birds are very striking objects, sitting raised up on the nest, commonly with the male bird beside them. They sit fast on the nest when approached, but snap their bills savagely together, making thus a loudish noise. They will bite hold of a stick when it is pushed up against their bills. They