

There were numerous nests of the Skua about amongst the herbage in dry places. Two nests of these birds are never built near together. The birds always have a wide range of hunting ground round their nest. The Skuas in Marion Island were extremely bold and savage, as they were also in Kerguelen's Land. When one approaches the nest they swoop down, passing with a rush close down to one's head, whizzing past one's ears in a most unpleasant manner.

The two birds take turns at towering above, and thus swooping. They have sharp claws and beaks, and no doubt would injure one's face or eyes severely if they touched them as they passed. One has to beat them off with a stick or gun barrel. They are very clever in avoiding the stick as they rush past, but several were knocked down. Sometimes I have had to waste a charge on them to get rid of them. Some pairs are much more savage than others. They have a harsh cry. Of course, when their young is handled they are most furious, and one has to keep a stick going as one carries it off. The birds are very like the Northern Skuas in their habits. One of them swooped down on a duck which I had shot one day at Kerguelen's Land which fell in the water. The bird picked it up when I was not more than half a dozen yards off, and was making off with it in its beak, carrying it easily, when I brought it down with a second shot, the duck thus costing me two barrels.

I searched the sea-shore for a considerable distance in the hope of finding Fur Seals, but saw none. Three sorts of penguins were abundant. One was a penguin called by the sealers the "Johnny" (*Pygosceles teniata*), the "Gentoo" of the Falklands. This penguin is a great deal larger than the crested Penguins, in fact nearly as big as the King Penguin. The beak is bright red, long and sharp-pointed, the back dark blackish, the breast white. The colour of the back is continued on to the head, but a white patch on the top of the head in contrast with the dark colouring is the marked feature about the bird. These penguins we nowhere met with nesting. They are often associated with the King Penguins. They were usually to be met with here and in Kerguelen's Land in parties of a dozen or twenty or thirty on the grass, close to the shore, and were apparently moulting at the time of our visit. At Christmas Harbour, Kerguelen's Land, some lots of them camped at 100 feet, at least, up the steep but green hill-side at the end of the harbour.

These penguins do not hop, but run, and when closely pursued throw themselves on their bellies on the ground, and struggle along, rowing themselves with violent blows of their