

similar to that of the Prion." We dug out a bird with its egg.

I saw a hole with ears of grass dragged into it, and like a mouse's. It is not unlikely that there is a mouse in the island, as at Kerguelen ; in Goodridge's time mice were so abundant on St. Paul's Island, that he speaks of feeding hogs, which he kept in confinement, on them. They were found lying in heaps in a dormant state in the early mornings.* A *Curculio* and two *Staphylinidæ* were found by Von Suhm on the island, and also a small land shell which was common. A fly with rudimentary wings was also found by him, apparently the same as one of those at Kerguelen's Land (*Amalopteryx maritima*). No land bird was met with, and no duck was seen, though one species of duck is so abundant at Kerguelen's Land.

Crozet Islands, Jan. 2nd, 1874.—We ran on towards the Crozet Islands, before the westerly winds, and after lying about close to this group in a dense fog, which prevented our sighting it and landing on Hog Island as we had intended, the fog at last lifted slightly on the evening of January 2nd.

We ran in between Possession Island and East Island, as Ross had done thirty years before. As we steamed towards the land, the coast of Possession Island could just be discerned under a dense fog bank, the white breakers being plainly visible. The fog lifting a little more, a long range of cliffs could be seen ; the tops of these, however, were still hid, together with all the higher portion of the island, in the densest fog. The fog seemed to lie some little way off the land, for the cliffs were lighted up by sunlight. Down these cliffs in several places waterfalls poured into the sea.

As we neared the island and entered the passage between Possession Island and East Island, and came opposite the sealers' anchorage at Navire Bay, we had a clear view of this end of the island. It here presented a series of gentle slopes, bounded by low littoral cliffs. Further off, towards America Bay, the cliffs were seen to be much higher. Navire Bay is a very slight indentation of the coast line, affording hardly any shelter : it has a beach of large pebbles, and from it extends up inland a sinuous valley, appearing to my eye as rather a space left between two lava flows than the result of denudation. On one side of the beach was seen a hut and a store of oil barrels.

A shot was fired, but no one showed himself. The place was evidently deserted. There was too much surf on the beach to allow of landing. It was late in the evening, and

* "Narrative of a Voyage to the South Seas," etc., p. 65, by C. M. Goodridge. London : Hamilton & Adams, 1833.