

turbed, as one sees a bear sway his head. One of the party came up as we were watching him, and running close up as if to a helpless Sea Elephant, was forced to retreat in a hurry, for the beast made a savage dash at him, open-mouthed.

The seal was very difficult to kill outright. Fur Seals are easily knocked over with a blow on the nose, but are very tenacious of life, and require to have their throats cut directly they are stunned, or they escape after all.

There are still a considerable number of Fur Seals about Kerguelen's Land. I killed two; two were killed by our party at Howes Foreland, and two others were seen there. Two of the whaling schooners killed over 70 Fur Seals on one day, and upwards of 20 on another, at some small islands off Howes Foreland to the north. It is a pity that some discretion is not exercised in killing the animals, as is done in St. Paul's Island in Behring's Sea, in the case of the northern Fur Seal. By killing the young males, and selecting certain animals only for killing, the number of seals may even be increased.* The sealers in Kerguelen's Land kill all they can find.

The sealers told us that the southern Fur Seals sometimes eat penguins, and that they had found the remains of them in their stomachs. Seals feed to a very large extent on Crustacea. Thus *Otaria jubata* is said to feed more on Crustacea and smaller fish, than on large fish, and in the Campbell and Auckland Islands to eat also birds,† and Mr. Brown, in his account of the habits of Arctic seals and whales, says that the food of the northern seals consists mostly of Crustacea, species of *Gammarus*, called "seals' food" by the whalers.‡ In summer the Northern Seals eat fish. They sometimes take down birds, but not often. Dr. Buchholtz found only Crustacea in the stomachs of *Phoca greenlandica* in the Arctic regions, mainly *Gammarus arcticus*, and *G. themisto*.§

The sealers told me that sometimes, but very rarely, they found another kind of seal, like the Fur Seal somewhat, which they called the "Sea Dog." A second species of eared seal probably thus occurs as a rarity at Kerguelen's Land.

The whole beach of Christmas Harbour was covered with

* "The Eared Seals." J. A. Allen. Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool., Harvard Univ., Cambridge, Mass., Vol. II., No. 1.

† For an account of the habits of the Southern Sea Lion, see "Twenty Months in the Campbell and Auckland Islands." Peterm. Mitt. 1866, s. 103.

‡ R. Brown, "On the Mammalia of Greenland," with succeeding papers on the Seals and Whales. "Proc. Zool. Soc.," 1864.

§ "Die zweite Deutsche Nord-Polarfahrt in den Jahren 1869 und 1870," 2. Bd. Wissenschaftliche Ergebnisse. Leipzig, F. A. Brockhaus, 1874. W. Peters, "Zeugethiere und Fische."