

hills just above it, at Mutton Cove, were quite free from snow at the time of our visit.

In a pool of water, on the summit of Table Mountain, I found a quantity of specimens of a small *Lumbriculus*, or allied form of Annelid.

The phonolith of which Table Mountain is composed, is full of olivine crystals, occurring in large rounded masses as in the Ardeche valley, and many other volcanic districts.

A comparatively low ridge separates the head of Christmas Harbour from the sea directly beyond. On a flat expanse of this ridge are two small freshwater lakes, in which grow two water plants, *Limosella aquatica* and *Nitella antarctica*, both widely spread plants, the first occurring, amongst other places, in England; and the second being very closely allied to a common English species.

I found *Limosella aquatica* only in these particular lakes, and then only after a very long search, since it resembles extremely closely, in its general appearance, when growing in masses, a *Ranunculus* (*R. Moseleyi*, *Hk. f.*), which grows with it in the water.

Above the lakes the ridge rises somewhat, and then terminates in an inaccessible precipice fronting the sea, with short talus slopes below, on which are rookeries of crested penguins. Under the peculiar overhanging rock, on the south of the harbour, are beds of fossil wood, and the excavation beneath its base is hence called Fossil-wood Cave. The wood occurs in beds lying nearly horizontal, and a few feet only in thickness.

The beds are of a soft whitish clay-like matter, which is full of black vegetable remains, all apparently so charred and decomposed as to give little or no hope of any structure being made out in them.

The wood is in large trunk-like masses; the largest which I saw was about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  foot in diameter; in some the bark is preserved. The wood is in various states of fossilization, some of it being comparatively soft, other specimens extremely hard, passing even in the centre into actual basalt, containing small amygdaloidal masses of zeolites. Analcite and other zeolites are abundant in the Kerguelen lavas, as are also agates.\*

On the talus slopes beneath the cliffs, along the whole south side of Christmas Harbour, are vast Penguin rookeries; the Penguins here nesting amongst the stones where vegetation is entirely wanting: and to the north of the harbour at its entrance are other similar rookeries. Towards the upper part of the harbour, the rookeries are those of the smaller crested penguin called "Rock-hopper" by the sealers (*Eudyptes saltator*), the

\* See J. Y. Buchanan, "Proc. R. Soc.," No. 170, 1876, p. 617.