

Andes,\* so great is the chilling influence of the vast southern sea.

Heard Island is in a corresponding latitude to Lincoln. No doubt, when England was in its last glacial epoch, Heard Island enjoyed a much milder climate, and it was possibly then that the large trees grew, the trunks of which are now fossil in Kerguelen's Land, and that the ancestors of *Lyallia* and *Pringlea* flourished.

A stretch of land on the north-west side of the plain was covered pretty thickly with green, which was on closer view seen to be composed of patches of *Azorella*,† growing on the summits of mud or sand hummocks, which were separated from one another by ditches or cavities, usually of bare brown mud.

Some of these *Azorella* patches were of considerable extent, and the plant was evidently flourishing and in full fruit. On some hummocks grew tufts of the grass *Poa Cookii*, in full flower and with the anthers fully developed; and on the sheltered banks of the hummocks the Kerguelen cabbage (*Pringlea antiscorbutica*) grew in considerable quantity, but dwarfed in comparison with Kerguelen specimens, both in foliage and in the length of the fruiting stems. Most of it was in fruit, but some still in flower, as at Kerguelen's Land.

Around pools of water in the hollows grew a variety of a British plant, *Callitriche verna* (*sub. sp. obtusangulata*), in quantity, and it occurred also in abundance submerged; in company with a *Conferva*. In the same sheltered spots grew *Colobanthus kerguelensis*, in greater abundance even than at Kerguelen's Land.

These five flowering plants,‡ all occurring also in Kerguelen's Land, were the only ones found in the island, and it is improbable that any others grow there. Heard Island has thus a miserably poor flora, even for the higher latitudes of the southern hemisphere. The Falkland Islands, in lat. 51° to 52° S., have 119 phanerogamic plants, and Hermit Island, far to the south of Heard Island, in lat. 56° S., has 84 phanerogams, and amongst them trees of which this island is the southern limit.

An Antarctic flora can in reality hardly be said to exist, since there are absolutely no phanerogamic plants within the Antarctic circle, and on Cockburn Island, lying off the coast of Palmer Land, in about lat. 64° S., Sir Joseph Hooker found §

\* Grisebach, "Die Vegetation der Erde." Leipzig, 1872. 2. Bd. s. 467. *Ibique citata.*

† See p. 143.

‡ Prof. Oliver, F.R.S., "Journal of Linn. Soc.," Vol. XIV., p. 389.

§ "Flora Antarctica," p. 216. Ross, "Antarctic Voyage." London, 1847, Vol. II., p. 335.