

I do not understand it ; probably the cows visit their young from time to time unobserved. I believe similar stories are told of the fattening on nothing of the young of northern seals.

Peron says that both parent Elephant seals stay with the young without feeding at all, until they are six or seven weeks old, and that then the old ones conduct the young to the water and keep them carefully in their company. The rapid increase in weight is in accordance with Peron's account.

Charles Goodridge gives a somewhat different account, namely, that after the females leave the young, the old males and young proceed inland, as far as two miles sometimes, and stop without food for more than a month, and during this time lose fat. The male elephants come on shore on the Crozets for the breeding season at about the middle of August, the females a little later.

There were said to be forty men in all upon Heard Island. Men occasionally get lost upon the glaciers. Sometimes a man gets desperate from being in so miserable a place, and one of the crew of a whaler that we met at Kerguelen's Land said, after he had had some rum, that occasionally men had to be shot ; a statement which may be true or false, but which expresses at all events the feelings of the men on the matter.

The men that we saw seemed contented with their lot. The "boss" said, in answer to our inquiries, that he had only one Fur-Seal skin, which he would sell if he was paid for it, but he guessed he'd sell it anyhow when he got back to the States. He had been engaged in sealing about the island since 1854, having landed with the first sealing party which visited the island. For his present engagement his time was up next year, but he guessed he'd stay two years more. He'd make 500 dollars or so before he went home, but would probably spend half of that when he touched at the Cape of Good Hope on the way.

The men had good clothing, and did not look particularly dirty. They lived in wooden huts, or rather under roofs built over holes in the ground, thus reverting to the condition of the ancient British. Around their huts were oil casks and tanks, and a hand-barrow for wheeling blubber about. There were also casks marked Molasses, Flour, and Coal.

The men said they had as much biscuit as they wanted, and also beans and pork, and a little molasses and flour. Their principal food was penguins (*Eudyptes chrysolophus*), and they used penguin skins with the fat on for fuel. Captain Sir G. S. Nares saw five such skins piled on the fire one after the other in one of the huts.

The bay in which we anchored was thronged with Cape