

charge water, but only its breath ; this, however, in rushing up into the air hot from the animal's body, has its moisture condensed to form a sort of rain, and the colder the air, just as in the case of our own breath, the more marked the result.

When the spout is made with the blowhole clear above the surface of the water, it appears like a sudden jet of steam from a boiler. When effected, as it sometimes is, before the blowhole reaches the surface, a low fountain as from a street fire-plug is formed, and when the hole is close to the surface at the moment, a little water is sent up with the tall jet of steam. The cloud blown up does not disappear at once, but hangs a little while, and is often seen to drift a short distance with the wind.

The expiratory sound is very loud when heard close by, and is a sort of deep bass snort, extremely loud, and somewhat prolonged ; it might even be compared to the sound produced by the rushing of steam at high pressure from a large pipe.

Smaller Cetaceans, probably of a kind of Grampus (*Orca*), were very common near the Circle ; these had a high dorsal fin placed at about the middle of the length of their bodies. Immediately behind the fin there was a large white saddle-shaped patch, extending across the back, and they had further a conspicuous white blotch on each side just behind the head, and in front of the flippers. The white patches contrasted strongly with the dark general colour of the body. These Grampuses swam about in small shoals with their high dorsal fins projecting far out of the water, as those of sharks do sometimes, and also those of Sword-fish. The Grampuses seemed habitually to swim thus, and the group of pointed sickle-shaped black objects moving through the water had a curious appearance at a distance. I cannot identify this Grampus with a described species.

As soon as we neared the edge of the pack ice, a petrel which we had not seen at the islands we had left became common (*Thalassaca glacialisoides*), and as soon as we reached the ice we fell in with the beautiful snow-white Petrel (*Pagodroma nivea*), which is never to be found far from the antarctic ice. The bird flies very much like the Whale Bird (*Prion*) : it settles on the water to feed ; it remains on the wing late at night when the other birds have disappeared. I have seen the birds flying about the ship as late as 11 o'clock at night, when it was quite dusk. The bird was found by Ross breeding on Cockburn Island in lat. 64° S.

Besides these two petrels we saw when at the edge of the pack, the Sooty albatross (*Diomedea fuliginosa*), the Giant