

A large flock of the very widely spread bird, the Phalarope (*Phalaropus hyperboreus*), was seen flying over the drift-wood. The birds no doubt follow the timber out from shore, and roost on it. In England we consider this bird as one of our visitors from the far north. It seems strange to meet with it at New Guinea. It was previously known from the Aru Islands. Some specimens shot had small surface Crustacea in their stomachs.

The various smaller animals no doubt congregate about the drift-wood because it seems to act as a sort of sieve or screen, and to concentrate amongst it the surface animals on which they feed.

The Charles Louis Mountains seem to be one of the most promising fields in the world yet remaining unexplored by the naturalist. They no doubt contain an Alpine flora which might prove allied to that of New Zealand, since the great mountain of Kini Ballu in Borneo has southern forms of plants at its top; probably there will also be found on these high mountains allies of the New Zealand Parrots of the genus *Nestor*, one species of which (*Nestor notabile*) is Alpine in its range. There is a *Nestor* in Norfolk Island, and the genus *Dasyptilus* of New Guinea is allied to *Nestor*.

“Talok Lintju” or Humboldt Bay, February 23rd and 24th, 1875.—We sighted the New Guinea Coast as a dark purple line along the horizon, with its upper margin hidden in banks of mist, at about mid-day. On February 23rd, as we approached nearer, in the afternoon, the misty clouds lifted somewhat, and the sharp peak, the highest point of the Cyclops Mountains, 6,200 feet in height, lying just to the north of our destination, Humboldt Bay, showed out isolated and clear above the bank of cloud which concealed all the lower parts of the range.

The opening into Humboldt Bay, between Cape Caillie on the north-west, and Cape Bonpland on the south-east, both precipitous and rocky, became gradually well defined. The coast appeared far nearer to us than it was, and its distance was judged at six miles when it in reality was at least 25 miles.

Between 5 and 6 o'clock, the mist lifted almost entirely from the Cyclops Mountains, and they were seen to consist of a series of irregular peaks and sinuous sharp ridges culminating in the one simple terminal peak, which had been seen before above the clouds. The mountain is thickly wooded to the very apex, as could plainly be seen with a telescope. The lines of trees which showed out against the sky along the outline of the mountain and its ridges showed few or no Palms.