

grass close to the houses, looking just like farm-yard geese. The birds take no notice of a gun, but I soon found that they were very quick at seeing a bolas when I carried one, well knowing that they were going to be molested. I could not catch one with the bone bolas, though I came very near it, and should have succeeded with a little practice. The bone bolas comes curiously near that of the Esquimaux in structure. The Esquimaux bolas, used also for catching birds, has more than three balls, and these are made of ivory.

Near Darwin Harbour, I found some Dipterous insects with rudimentary wings, a species of Fly (*Muscidae*) and a species of Gnat (*Tipulide*), which are of especial interest because similar *Diptera* incapable of flight occur, as already described,* at Kerguelen's Land, and the Fly at least appears to be of the same genus as one of the Kerguelen Flies; a genus which has been hitherto found nowhere else but in Kerguelen's Land and Marion Island. It is of importance to find further connections between Fuegia and the distant Kerguelen's Land, the connections between which regions in the matter of the flora were so long ago demonstrated by Sir Joseph Hooker.

The Fly has small rudiments of wings. It appears closely allied to *Amalopteryx maritima* (Eaton) of Kerguelen's Land, and corresponds closely to that insect in its habits. The flies were found near Darwin Harbour, only on the sea-coast, in hollows under overhanging slabs of the sandstone rock, and sheltering in crevices. They spring nimbly like fleas or small grasshoppers, and are a little difficult to catch. They cannot fly at all.

The Rev. H. C. Lory, late Colonial Chaplain in the Falkland Islands, writes to me that these flies inhabit in immense numbers dried matted seaweed which is to be found on the sea-beaches. He says that they escape in hundreds from the seaweed masses when they are broken up, and that the masses are full of the chrysalides of the flies.

The Gnats which I found, also cannot fly, having even smaller rudiments of wings than the flies. They were found crawling on rocks, on the shore in sheltered places, and also on the sunny sheltered face of a peat-bank, which formed the cattle fence across the narrow neck of the promontory of Lafonia. The gnats run quickly, and when in danger draw up their legs and drop amongst the grass in order to escape. A Gnat with rudimentary wings occurs also in Kerguelen's Land. Some species of flies and gnats with rudimentary wings are known in Europe and elsewhere, and Prof. Westwood has shown me an apterous fly which occurs in England

* See pp. 167, 168.