

All those prearranged plans were, however, frustrated, for during the night the barometer fell, and the weather put on a very threatening appearance. The anxious circumstances now under which we were placed on this inhospitable coast caused a move to be made at a very early hour the following morning, at which time it was snowing very heavily as we proceeded to sea. Before well clear of the land (for we had endeavoured to make a rough running survey), the expected gale burst upon us; still it was a fair wind, and the ship ran on pleasantly towards the Antarctic ice until the middle of the night, when the sea and wind increased to such an extent that we had to heave-to. But it was not of long duration, and as daylight came, the weather moderated, and under a bright sun and clear sky, with a favourable breeze, we sped on at a rate of 9 or 10 knots an hour to the southward, causing us to forget the few miserable days spent at and near the Heard Islands. During the next three days, we pushed on under sail, the weather continuing very squally, with rain and frequent snow-storms, the temperature of the air being down to 33°.

*Feb. 11th.*—This morning at an early hour we encountered the first Antarctic iceberg, bearing E.S.E. to our course. On passing within a few miles, it was from observation considered to be three-fourths of a mile long and 200 feet in height. We are now in latitude 60° 52' south, longitude 80° 20' west,