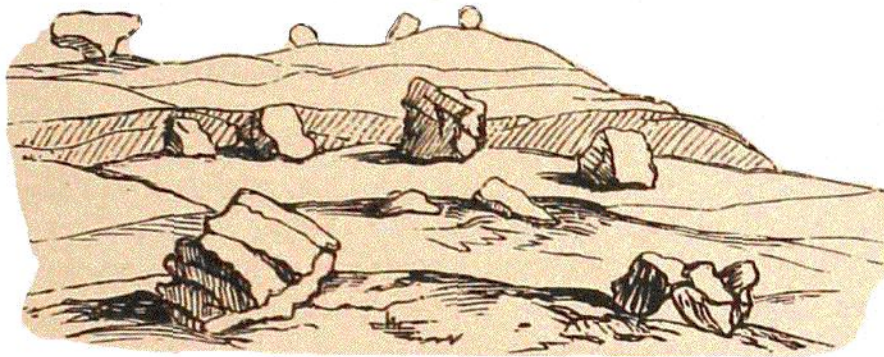


The ridges north and south of the broad valley look at first glance as if they might be moraines, but their main structure is rock, in its original position, though covered mostly by talus. A similar ridge to the south of the great fjord, Royal Sound, has likewise very much the appearance of a moraine; but here also the main constituent is volcanic rock *in situ*. There is nowhere to be seen a free-standing ridge composed entirely of moraine matter; but about the flat-topped hills, just described, there are beds of sand and stones that may represent broken-down remains of moraines.

Resting on the rounded surfaces of the flat-topped hills, and scattered over them in all directions, are immense quantities of stones of all sizes. The stones have all their angles sharp



ICEBORNE ROCKS RESTING ON GLACIATED SURFACES, NEAR
BETSY COVE, KERQUELEN'S LAND.

and unweathered, they rest in all sorts of positions on the smoothed rock, and they have most evidently been dropped into their present position by ice floating over the glaciated surfaces when these were in a submerged condition.

The summits of the flat-topped hills are formed of caps of basalt, showing usually columnar structure in their cliff faces. These caps of basalt of the several hills appear, undoubtedly, to have formed at one time a continuous sheet.

Exactly similar flat-topped hills occur everywhere about in Kerguelen's Land, and notably in Royal Sound, which is a deep and grand fjord studded all over with numerous rocky islets, probably 100 or more in number. These islets are all flat-topped with erratics on their upper surfaces, and they appear to increase gradually in height towards the head of the Sound. The hills are of the same constitution as those about Betsy Cove, and if the great valley at Betsy Cove were submerged, we should have on its northern side the hills projecting as islands, and giving a miniature representation of those in Royal Sound.

There can be but little doubt that the whole of these islands