

## II.

## THROUGH THE NARROWS.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26TH.—Weighed anchor at 6, and steamed slowly out of the Narrows, giving the inhabitants a taste of our siren on the way. Ice blocked the mouth of the harbour, so we dropped our pilot after going  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile; forced our way through some rather thick stuff; passed a small schooner poling through the ice; and at 7.30 p.m. set our course E. by N. An iceberg aground at the Narrows was quite 200 feet high and 400 feet long, showing a majestic pinnacle at one end and a tower shaped prominence at the other. R. amused himself after dinner by a series of quick changes, Arctic costumes.

THURSDAY, APRIL 27TH.—Glorious morning, with nice breeze from N.W.; changed our course at 6 a.m. to N.N.E., fore and aft canvas set. I was busy all morning arranging my cabin, etc. C. made himself useful carpentering. Position at noon, 15 miles off Cape Freels, engines going at half speed. Cloudy, with snow showers in evening. Fin-backed whales seen from the crow's nest.

FRIDAY, APRIL 28TH.—All the forenoon the crew were busy taking the coal out of the forehold and filling the bunkers; this will by degrees improve the sit of the vessel. We are decidedly down by the head, and likely to remain so until we have moved 100 tons of coal. Our position at noon, 35 miles S.E. of Belleisle Island, and entering the stream ice. A few seals seen on passage. R. shot a bedlamite, which was gathered. At 5 p.m. a nice breeze sprang up from N.E.; set fore and aft canvas. Abreast of Belleisle at 6 p.m.; Island 15 miles distant; hazy. Dead slow through the ice till