

glacier-capped islands in 81 deg. 38 min. N. lat. and 63 deg. E. long., numbers of that scarce and weird bird appeared. Its beautiful rose-coloured breast, wedge shaped tail, and airy flight, make it, as Nansen tells us, "the most beautiful of all the animal forms of the frozen regions." Though too late to find its nest or eggs there appeared no doubt that its breeding grounds were in that area.

Lastly, some results are published of great value in a geological and palæontological sense. The second and third papers in the volume are by Dr. Pompeckj, Professor Nathorst and Dr. Nansen; they deal with the stratigraphy and fossils of Cape Flora and the adjacent territory, and of Franz Josef Land. Dr. Nansen treats of the geological structure of Cape Flora, while the fossils obtained there in the Jurassic sedimentary rocks are described by Dr. Pompeckj, who determined twenty-six species of animal forms in the collection—a less extensive list than that made by the Jackson-Harmsworth expedition. Both collections go to establish close affinity with the Jurassic of Central Europe, and invalidate Neumayer's scheme of climatic zones in the Jurassic period. Dr. Nathorst's report on the palæophytology of Cape Flora is valuable, as the fossil plants he describes from Cape Flora are relegated to the Upper Jurassic, and to an earlier horizon than the Wealden, which in his view is not Cretaceous but Jurassic. Fine plates accompany these papers.

Most readers of Nansen's simple but thrilling story "Farthest North," had their attention rivetted upon the mammals, few in species, which make their home in these fields of eternal ice. Foxes were found by Nansen and Johansen further north than any other air-breathing animals. It was in 86 deg. N. latitude on April 25th 1895, very little south of their most northerly point (which was 86 deg. 14 min. N. and about 95 deg. E. longitude); and their astonishment may be imagined when they observed the foot-prints of two foxes in these remote Arctic snows apparently untrodden by any other living thing. These foxes probably subsist on small crustacea, which they must dip out of the shallow watery lanes between the rugged ice-ridges. They shot a large bearded seal in 82 deg. N. latitude, and a little further south killed three polar bears. It appears as though animal life (so far as