

assisted in piloting us into the harbour before indicated, in the entrance to which we anchored under the lee of a spit projecting in a curve nearly half a mile from the shore. The temperature became very much reduced during the night, and ice formed around the ship sufficient to cut through a lead line which hung from the "chains."

On the 18th the harbour was covered with a crust of ice which only melted away in the noon-day sun. We were again visited by the natives, among whom were now some women; and on their making signs for something to eat, one of the ladies was presented, as a jest, with a small tallow candle, called a purser's dip. It was, notwithstanding, a very pleasant joke to the damsel; who deliberately munched it up with evident relish, and finally drew the wick between her set teeth to clear off any remaining morsels of fat. This was rather too much for some of us, unaccustomed to such sights; but it was a mere trifle to scenes often afterwards witnessed.

At night the first appearance of *Aurora Borealis* was presented at N.W. by W., with rays converging to the zenith. We were engaged on the 19th in a search for water, but the rivulets were already frozen up; we were consequently obliged to fill our tanks with ice. The natives being, as usual, on