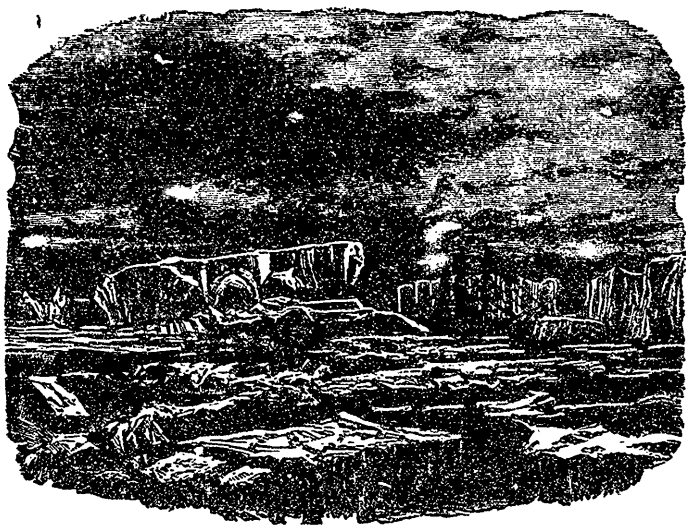


the hospitality of the inhabitants. The naturalists were delighted with the lavish beauty and abounding life of the Brazilian forests.

A series of soundings was now made across the South Atlantic to the Cape of Good Hope. Table Mountain, with its flat plateau, as if its top had been cut off by some giant hand, presents a very singular appearance, as shown in the engraving on our first page. Cape Town has more of an English than African look. Hottentots and Bushmen can only be found by a long journey into the interior. The diamond fields are 600 miles off, but the discovery of the precious gems has greatly stimulated the prosperity of the colony.



THE CHALLENGER AMONGST THE ICE IN THE ANTARCTIC REGIONS.

Sailing southward before a roaring gale, they seek the regions of the albatross, (a magnificent bird with wings of twelve feet spread,) the petrel, the penguin, the seal, and the whale. New Year's day, 1874, is spent at the lonely Crozet Islands. The penguins swarmed in countless numbers, and their noise was fairly deafening. On February 16th, the *Challenger* reached its furthest southern point, within the antarctic circle. An icy barrier stretched as far as eye could reach. No sign of the land