

gress towards the water, and as their limbs are so very short, they are forced to hunch themselves along much as does a many-legged caterpillar. Everyone has noticed how, in the progress of a caterpillar, a hump arises behind the head and travels back to the other end. With the seals the motion is very similar, and the effect of a whole section of a beach wobbling down into the water in this peculiar style is one of the most ludicrous sights I ever beheld, and the mainlanders broke into roars of laughter at the attempts of each successive band.

Almost at the opening of the history of the island, cattle were liberated on it, and gradually multiplied until there was quite a good herd there. These, however, were hunted by parties from the mainland, who came over in boats for the purpose, and finally all the wild cattle were exterminated. Horses were next introduced, and some of their progeny are there yet. Swine were at one time wild upon the island, but they were said to devour human bodies from the frequent wrecks, and they were killed off for this reason. Rats have once or twice been a plague to the inhabitants, on one occasion making such inroads into the food supply as almost to threaten their very lives. At another time rabbits were liberated in small numbers and multiplied very rapidly, having a serious effect upon the pasture for the horses; cats were therefore imported to kill them off, and when they had this last nearly accomplished a few foxes were liberated. It took the foxes but a single winter to kill all the rabbits and all the cats, and the inhabitants have been endeavoring ever since to get rid of this last and worst pest. Whether they will succeed or not is hard to say; but for the sake of the birds it is to be hoped that their efforts will not falter.

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