LIQUID HYDROGEN.

Gray Fork-tailed Petrels (*Oceanodroma furcata*, Gmel.) were seen resting on the bosom of the water, also an occasional Murre flying past and three Terns hovering about over head.

The Terns were particularly beautiful: the head was black on the top, the back ashy grey, the breast pure white, the tail forked. I was attracted to them by the cry. I was further unabled to examine this tern, as one example came on board towards night-fall, and I had it in my hand. There was a white mark along the crown of the head, and 1 would have pronounced it the Aleutian Tern (Sterna aleutica, Baird), except that the bill was orange on the under mandible, and Coues says the bill of that species is black. The feet were also orange : the hallux small and well set behind the tarsus. It was seemingly a young bird and tired, and so had sought a resting place on the deck of the vessel. I took it down to the cabin and put it on the table, where it dressed its feathers with its bill and pecked at my finger. I then released it. Away it soared, far up into the air, the wind and the waves congenial, far distant from the land.

ANDREW HALKETT.

Ottawa, 30th June 1898.

LIQUID HYDROGEN

A notable event in the history of chemistry is being chronicled in the scientific journals. At the meeting of the Royal Society (England) on the 12th may last. Professor Dewar, a chemist eminent by reason of his successful research work at low temperatures, announced that by means of special apparatus, a pressure of 180 atmospheres and a temperature of -210 degrees C. he had liquefied hydrogen. It has only been within the the last few years that oxygen, nitrogen and air have been liquefied; the liquefication of hydrogen and helium, the last of the so-called permanent gases, is now an established fact.

The apparatus for this achievement, says Dr. Dewar, "took

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