

and could be discerned with the telescope. They informed us that the headland we saw farthest to the north, which was six miles off, was called Innailick, and that on the other side of it there was clear sea. Having made them presents consisting of a small harpoon, with some pieces of iron and of wood, I repeated my entreaties that they would bring specimens of their iron. They promised to return with it when they had eaten and slept, together with more of their countrymen, when they departed highly pleased.

14th. The weather continuing clear, we had good azimuths, and several observations on the deviation of the magnetic needle, were also made. In the mean time, the boats were sent to procure water-fowl: they returned with three hundred of the little awks, which were as usual served to the ship's company.

At two in the afternoon, a party of ten natives were seen approaching the ship on their sledges. Mr Parry, Saccheuse, and myself went out to meet them; and among them were glad to recognize three of those with whom we had first communicated, and the one who had purloined the hammer. They now came forward, not only without alarm, but without ceremony—both the pulling of noses, and the shaking of hands being dispensed with; and having with them a seal skin made into a bag, and filled with air, they began to kick it at each other and at us. In this play we heartily joined, to the great amusement of both parties. This foot-ball was the buoy of their harpoon, and we found they had killed a sea unicorn during the night, about three miles to the south-eastward of the ship; we immediately asked for its horn, to which they replied it was a female and had none.

We now invited them to the ship, and they accompanied us without hesitation. They were, however, no sooner on board, than they proceeded both to beg and to steal, laying hands on every small piece of wood they met with, and pocketing every nail they could find about the ship. I procured from them a sledge of the same description as the former, and a couple of knives; they also gave me a piece of dried sea unicorn's flesh, which appeared to have been parched or half roasted, as it bore the marks of fire. I attempted in vain to procure another dog from them, but they could not be persuaded to part with him. One of them who had a bag full of awks, took out one in our presence, and devoured it raw; but on being asked if this was a common practice, they informed us, that they only eat them in this state when they had no convenience for cookery.

We also learnt that the water was clear of ice on the northern side of the Cape; intelligence which could not fail to raise our spirits with the hopes of making some progress as soon as we were able to move from our present position.

August the 17th. This morning being clear, I sent to an iceberg to obtain azimuths, but owing to the attraction of the boat, which had ice-anchors on board, no satisfactory result was