

trickling down the earthy surface from above, or by the snow being accumulated against the cliff or collected in hollows during the winter, and afterwards converted into ice by a process of partial thaw and regelation. The upper soil, gradually loosened by the thaw, thus came, in course of time, to project itself over the cliff. Captain Hooper of the *Corwin* explored the place very thoroughly, and was rewarded by the discovery of almost the entire skeleton of a mammoth, the remains of an aurochs, a musk-ox, and the skull of an animal which he could not identify.

On the 25th of August the voyagers visited Point Barrow, in lat. $71^{\circ} 23' 31''$ N., and long. $156^{\circ} 21' 30''$ W.; a remote spot, seldom touched at by any navigator, and never before visited by a United States vessel. This, the western terminus of the American coast, as well as the north-westmost extreme of the American continent, is seldom accessible by boats even in the open season, on account of the ice which the strong northerly current here packs up to an immense height, fortifying the cape in such a manner that any advance towards it is attended by no little peril. "Figure to yourself a spit of coarse, dark brown sand and gravel, extending some six or eight miles from the regular coast-line, and having near its extremity.