

nearly of the same quality as that which we have in Scotland ; but, from their scarcity, they are not of sufficient value to realize a profitable trade.

I have little doubt that, about the Straits of Magellan the otter must be much more numerous ; and that on the Patagonian side of the Straits a variety of other fur-bearing animals may be found.

On the 17th of December, the *Beaufoy* being prepared for sea, Mr. Brisbane took leave of his Fuegian friends, in number about forty, and proceeded towards the eastern coast of Patagonia.

Owing to his being much occupied in business, he had not frequent opportunities of adding to the hydrography of the parts which he visited. He sailed through the Straits of St. Francis, which in my chart of Cape Horn is mentioned as being seen through from Saddle Island.

In the chart of these parts, published by Faden, low land is laid down running across this Strait, and forming a bay, which is called the " Bay of St. Francis." This strait is spaciouly navigable, and, in peculiar situations of ships on this coast, might be found of the utmost consequence.

The winds and weather at that season appear