

## Note 45, p. 133.

Looking upon the glaciers of Greenland as canals of exudation, for the most part at right angles to the general axis of the interior ice, we have a system of discharge, both on the east and west coasts, coincident in direction with the floods, which themselves bear a fixed relation to the coast-line. This coast-line, however, having now been traced to its northern face, analogy would sustain the view of the central *mer de glace* finding its exit into an unknown Polar space.

I have spoken of Humboldt Glacier as connecting the two continents of America and Greenland. The expression requires explanation:—

All of Arctic America north of Dolphin and Union Straits is broken up into large insular masses, and may be considered as a vast archipelago. While, therefore, a liberal definition would assign these land-masses to the American continent, Grinnell Land cannot strictly be regarded as part of the continent of America. Washington Land seems, in physical characters and position, to be a sort of middle ground, which, according to the different views of geographers, may be assigned indifferently to either of the two great divisions. From the American land-masses it is separated by a channel of but thirty-five miles in width; and, at this point, Greenland, losing its peninsular character, partakes in general character with the land-masses of the West. A water-channel not wider than Lancaster Sound or Murchison's, which have heretofore not been regarded as breaking a geographical continuity, is all that intervenes.

## Note 46, p. 136.

*Extract from Report of I. I. Hayes, M.D., Surgeon to Expedition.*

"You were carried to the brig nearly insensible by the more able men of the party, and so swollen from scurvy as to be hardly recognisable. I believe that a few hours' more exposure would have terminated your life, and at the time regarded your ultimate recovery as nearly hopeless."

## Note 47, p. 143.

This term is applied to the circular hole which the feld seal (*P. hispida*) constructs in the younger floes, and through which it finds access to the air and sun. The term *attuk* is applied also to the seal itself when killed beside its retreat. I find I have sometimes written the word as *attuk*. He who has attempted the orthography of an unwritten language will excuse the variation.

## Note 48, p. 173.

The dovekie (*Uria grylle*) not unfrequently winters among the open ice to the southward. I killed a specimen in full winter plumage, in the middle pack of Baffin's Bay, late in February.

## Note 49, p. 178.

The immediate appearance of drifting ice under the influence of winds is well known to Arctic navigators; and this entire absence of it during a continued gale from the north seems to indicate either a far-extended open water, or ice so solid and unbroken as to be incapable of motion.

## Note 50, p. 181.

The frequency with which the seal—both the hispid and bearded species—occurred in the open channel may explain why it is so favourite a resort of the white bear. No less than five of these animals were counted, and two were killed. They seemed, however, generally to seek the inland ravines which were the breeding-grounds of fowl. No marine life was reported, unless a small fish—probably a celtus—which was caught by the kittiwake gull; yet from the bones of cetaceans found on the beach, I do not doubt but that both the sea-unicorn (*Monodon monoceros*) and white whale frequent the channel.