

on from day to day, from year to year thinking or hoping that all will come right in the end. I have had my mortification to spoil two of my charts one completed the other nearly so & barren & third slightly soiled for a Cape pigeon, which I skinned myself, the line that had caught it nearly broke yesterday so I tried to day with some very strong waxed thread, and succeeded in catching a pigeon their feathers are exceedingly pretty the back and breast make lovely hat feathers. Two molly mawks were caught on Saturday they are a fine bird with a brownish grey back and white breast those captured measured four feet across the wings.

17<sup>th</sup> I caught four birds yesterday three pigeons and a molly mawk. I have been engaged all this afternoon and evening in skinning them, I am getting quite expert now and to like the operation. It has been a beautiful day a good wind a fine sea, and sun shining, and we are scudding along at a glorious rate which produces quite an exhilarating feeling especially as for the last two or three days we have been creeping along at a snail's pace.

18<sup>th</sup> It was a rough night last night, our upper main top sail was blown away to day we have had a magnificent sea there was a cloudless sky for the first part of the day, and the sea was a beautiful blue and covered with foaming and fine atlantic waves we rode splendidly on the top of them, as we were going with them, in fact they almost calmed the sails now and then, they rose astern and seemed as if they must overwhelm the vessel, when she rose on them, like a piece of cork, had we been going against such a sea with a head wind we should have been battered awfully as it was we only rolled a little. About noon it clouded over and we had occasional snow storms for the rest of the day there was a small amount of snow falling. It was bitterly cold, in the saloon the thermometer stood at 43°. About two p.m. a sea broke astern and smashed in one of the windows in the Captain's cabin, he had not taken the precaution to have his dead light down which Mr. Grierson who occupied the other stern cabin did.

19<sup>th</sup> It was a beautiful moonlight night last evening, about half past ten p.m. two pigeons were caught one after the other. The sea has gone down today but we are still making good progress and materially shortening our distance. In the evening a meeting was held in the saloon to discuss the arrangements for printing the paper. It is proposed to print one thousand copies of the series and supply them at a shilling each appointing a treasurer to receive the money which is to be subscribed beforehand, they said their subscriptions in case of not being able to go to press the copies were subscribed for, it is calculated to cost fifty pounds in the printing & other remains twelve pounds ten to be made up by sale on shore if possible otherwise it would be a loss to the proprietors which it is to be hoped will not be the case.

27<sup>th</sup> For the past week we have been sailing with a wind varying from South to North East a very different one to that from the same direction in the northern Hemisphere, being a mild and pleasant one.

Dr. Dr. Fenner has been ill the last few days. For some time a very mild form of scarlet fever has been prevalent among the crew.