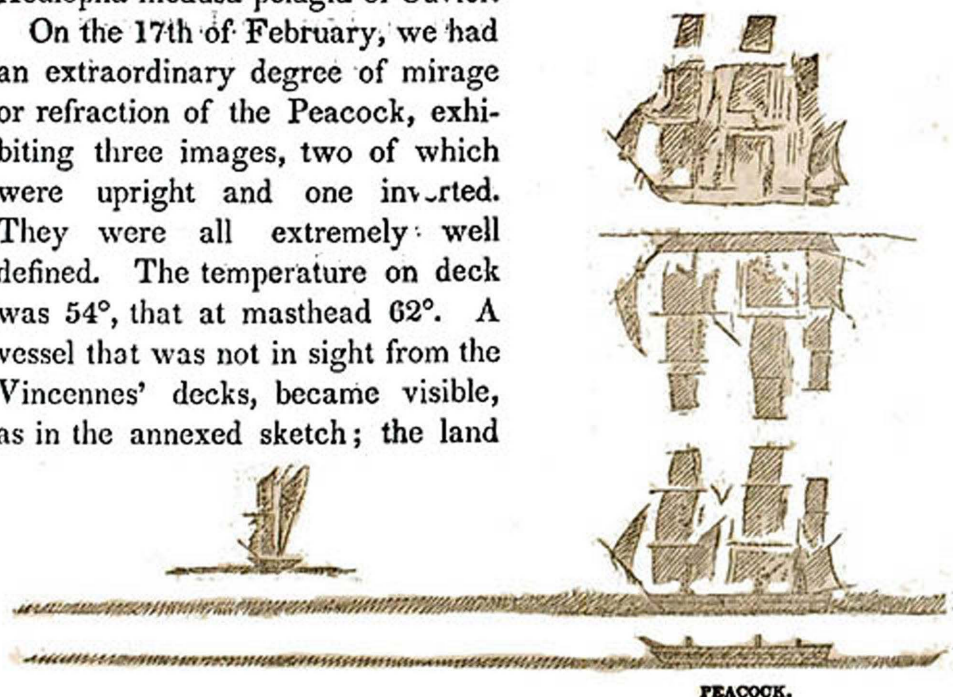


worn and weather-beaten sides, that have so long been invested with all the terrors that can beset sailors. Here we first encountered the long swell of the Pacific, but there was scarcely a ripple on its surface. Although the landscape was covered with snow, the lowest temperature we had yet experienced was  $40^{\circ}$  Fahrenheit.

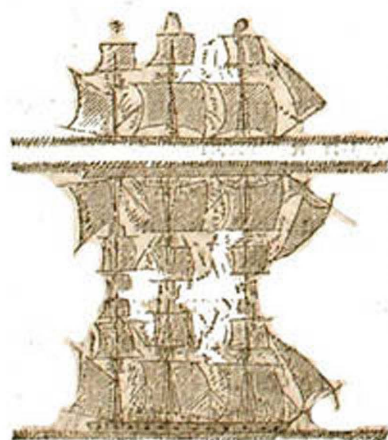
The Porpoise, just before night, made signal that she wished to speak us, and sent on board a tub filled with a large medusa, for examination by the naturalists. Its dimensions were nine feet in circumference; the brachiæ seven feet long. It proved to be the *Acalopha medusa pelagia* of Cuvier.

On the 17th of February, we had an extraordinary degree of mirage or refraction of the Peacock, exhibiting three images, two of which were upright and one inverted. They were all extremely well defined. The temperature on deck was  $54^{\circ}$ , that at masthead  $62^{\circ}$ . A vessel that was not in sight from the Vincennes' decks, became visible, as in the annexed sketch; the land



PEACOCK.

at the same time was much distorted, both vertically and horizontally. Barometer stood at 29.62 in.; hygrometer  $10^{\circ}$ .



VINCENNES.

On board the Peacock, similar appearances were observed of the Vincennes and Porpoise. There was, however, a greater difference between the masthead temperature and that on deck, the thermometer standing at  $62^{\circ}$  at masthead, while on deck it was but  $50^{\circ}$ , being a difference of  $12^{\circ}$ , that on board the Vincennes differed only  $8^{\circ}$ . The sketches were taken about the same time: that made of the Peacock on board the Vincennes it will be seen was the most elongated.

We continued beating into the passage between the Hermit Islands and False Cape Horn, and found great