

rent was felt setting north 69° east, thirty-six miles; water fell to 55° , air 59° .

On the 1st of January, they obtained soundings in fifty-five fathoms, fine yellow and black sand; this day there occurred a thunder-storm, with rain and hail. The current was north 49° east, thirty-one miles; temperature of the water 54° , that of the air 64° .

On the 2d, latitude $41^{\circ} 24' S.$, longitude $58^{\circ} 40' W.$, the wind was from the northward and westward, and was accompanied by hazy weather; the temperature of the water rose to 58° , air 66° . The cold water which had been passed through had continued for a distance of one hundred and sixty miles; the current was found, by anchoring a boat, to set south-half-west three-fourths of a mile per hour. The same kind of soundings continued; some large dark spots were discovered in the water, but on examination they proved to be shoals of small fish resembling herring. Immense flocks of sea birds were still met with.

The current from the 4th till the 7th was setting northeast-by-east, ten to twenty miles a day; water and air continued at about 60° .

On the 5th, in dredging, they succeeded in obtaining a number of interesting shells, from deep water.

On the 9th they discovered the coast of Patagonia, near Point Lobos. It appeared low at first sight, but, on approaching it, showed a level table-land, between four and five hundred feet high. At eight miles south of Cape Raza, latitude $44^{\circ} 20' S.$, longitude $65^{\circ} 06' W.$, the water was seen to break moderately in the direction of east-northeast and west-southwest; a boat was lowered, and an officer sent to examine the shoal: the least depth of water found was fourteen fathoms.

On the 10th they rounded Cape St. Joseph's. The country was destitute of trees; only a few shrubs were seen: it appeared covered with a tall grass, and the only living thing seen was a herd of guanacoës.

During the sail down the coast the dredge continued to be used, and with success, and many interesting objects were obtained; among them, terebratulas, chitons, corallines, sponges, many small and large crustaceous animals, and large volutes (*Cymbiola magellanica*.)

On the 12th they again discovered land to the southward and westward, which afterwards proved to be Cape Three Points. Captain King's remarks, relative to the apex of one of the hills, as not being visible to the northeast, was found to be erroneous: it was distinctly seen on board the Relief at a distance of twenty miles. It is one of the most remarkable headlands of the coast, showing as it does above the flat table-land that is immediately behind it.