

menoptera accompanied the butterflies; and a fine beetle (*Calosoma*) flew on board. Other instances are known of this beetle having been caught far out at sea; and this is the more remarkable, as the greater number of the *Carabidæ* seldom or never take wing. The day had been fine and calm, and the one previous to it equally so, with light and variable airs. Hence we cannot suppose that the insects were blown off the land, but we must conclude that they voluntarily took flight. The great bands of the *Colias* seem at first to afford an instance like those on record of the migrations of another butterfly, *Vanessa cardui*;¹ but the presence of other insects makes the case distinct, and even less intelligible. Before sunset a strong breeze sprung up from the north, and this must have caused tens of thousands of the butterflies and other insects to have perished.

On another occasion, when seventeen miles off Cape Corrientes, I had a net overboard to catch pelagic animals. Upon drawing it up, to my surprise I found a considerable number of beetles in it, and although in the open sea, they did not appear much injured by the salt water. I lost some of the specimens, but those which I preserved belonged to the genera *Colymbetes*, *Hydroporus*, *Hydrobius* (two species), *Notaphus*, *Cynucus*, *Adimonia*, and *Scarabæus*. At first I thought that these insects had been blown from the shore; but upon reflecting that out of the eight species four were aquatic, and two others partly so in their habits, it appeared to me most probable that they were floated into the sea by a small stream which drains a lake near Cape Corrientes. On any supposition it is an interesting circumstance to find live insects swimming in the open ocean seventeen miles from the nearest point of land. There are several accounts of insects having been blown off the Patagonian shore. Captain Cook observed it, as did more lately Captain King in the "*Adventure*." The cause probably is due to the want of shelter, both of trees and hills, so that an insect on the

¹ Lyell's *Principles of Geology*, vol. iii. p. 63.