

the island to Stromness.

It being now cloudy little that was fresh of the island topography was to be seen. Apparently a young submerged coast, plentifully glaciated, will sufficiently describe it. The other side of Gnomonⁿ Island seems as steep almost as the south side: that I think is the only thing fresh topographically. Numerous icebergs have been passed this afternoon; and one small patch of pack about 2-300 yds. across, rounded in area and consisting of small tightly -packed floes. The afternoon proved not so bad: there is a medium swell; and a sickle moon and stars are shining to-night.

Soup, biscuits and cheese were ready in the wardroom by the time we came on board; but nearly everybody was too excited to touch them. Then about 5.0 p.m. an excellent dinner was provided, the standard being Irish Stew which we all fought shy of, except the potatoes. Tinned peaches and white wine deserve mention. The wardroom, which I suppose normally holds four, is quite crowded out; but dinner was successfully managed in three servings. Then Hussey brought in his banjo. Tobacco and cigarettes circulate like water, especially the former. My own tobacco was just about petered out; but the men had finished their stock two months ago, and were revelling now in something different from the acrid fumes of senna grass.

I doubt very much if the Chilians could appreciate our concert — their acquaintance with English is very limited. An exceedingly merry evening was spent aft at which apparently the rescued were sole performers. Here were heard all the 'old' favourites and the 'new' topicals of the hut. And so, till drowsiness and sheer weariness won the day.

Saturday, 2nd Sept.

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