



"Our ropes were like wires, sails like boards or plates of metal and the sheaves frozen fast in the blocks so that it required our utmost efforts to get a topsail up or down. The cold is so intense as hardly to be endured, the whole sea in a manner covered with ice, a hard gale and a thick fog. Under all these unfavorable circumstances, it was natural for me to think of returning more to the north."

