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A Picture of Jan Mayen in 1639

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circumstances; rain every day had made the peat-bogs worse than ever, and all the little brooks had grown to rushing streams, forming a serious obstacle.

On the 26th, the *Huemul* arrived, and two days after we were back in Punta Arenas.

Of the special scientific researches I can only communicate the following:—

*Geology.*—Mr. Quensel's studies of the rocks in Mount Hope, and the mountains to the north and south of the lake, will probably permit a parallelization of the Fuegian with the Patagonian cordillera. Of special interest is his discovery of the lakkolitic nature of Mount Svea—the rock forms a new link in the series of volcanic rocks which play such an important part in the east Cordilleras.

Through Quensel's observations in Admiralty inlet and the Azopardo valley, and my own round the shores of Cami, we have come to the following opinion as to the geographical development of the valley:—Admiralty inlet—Azopardo—Cami, to which system also belongs a valley north of Mount Hope, ending in Admiralty inlet and Cami. At a late epoch of the glacial age the ice-divide lay across the Azopardo valley; one stream ran to the west to Admiralty inlet, another to the east, in the Cami valley. It seems probable that the lakes were dammed up at the east end, where it then ought to have had an outlet to the Atlantic coast; anyhow, it is certain that its present westerly outlet, the river Azopardo, dates from a very late or even post-glacial time; this was proved by Quensel's survey of the river-bed. For a more positive opinion further observations are necessary.

*Botany.*—The land round the west end of Cami is of great phyto-geographical interest. Here we have to look for the limit between the two types of forests: the evergreen and the deciduous.\* During my boat journey I fixed the place where the latter type takes the place of the former. On the detailed studies I cannot enter here.

I got many good opportunities to study the Alpine flora, of which we knew little before.

*Zoology.*—Concerning the zoological results I can but say that dredge and net probably brought up some interesting creatures from the lake.

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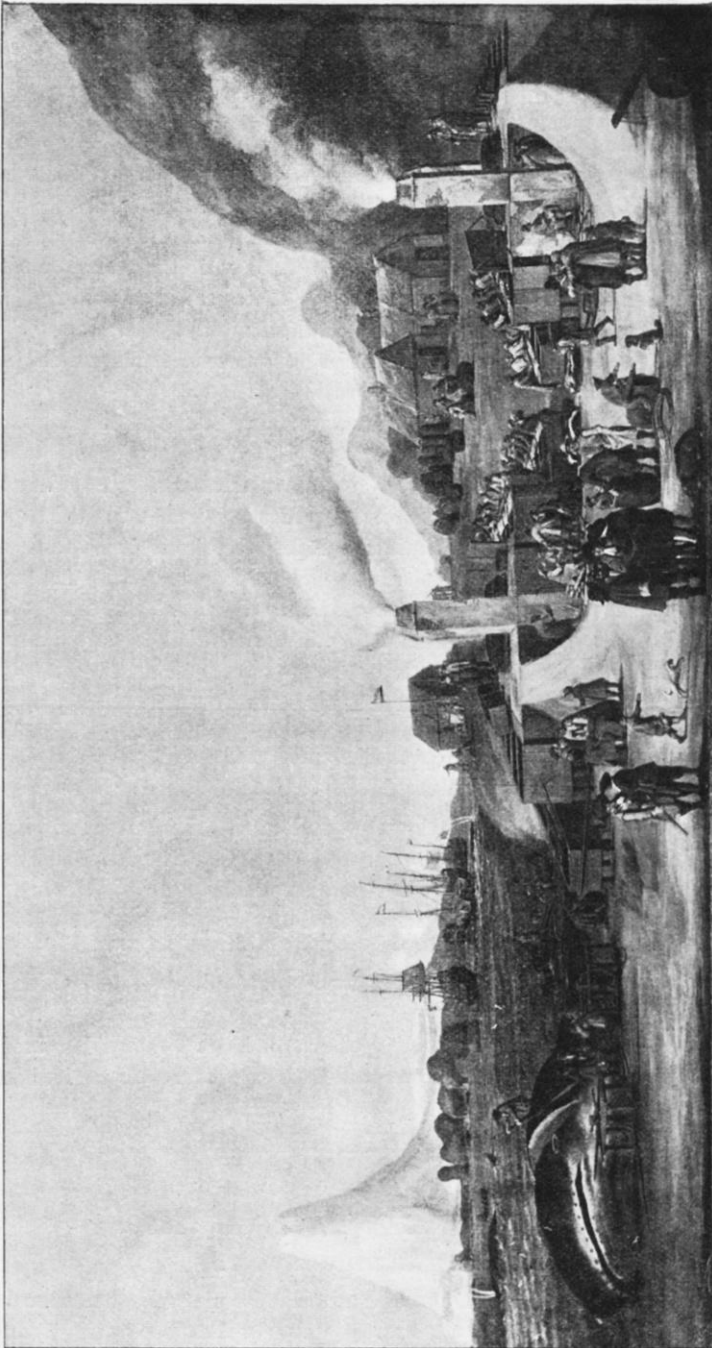
## A PICTURE OF JAN MAYEN IN 1639.

By Sir MARTIN CONWAY.

At the sale of some of the Duke of Sutherland's pictures the other day at Christie's there appeared an interesting early Arctic painting, which

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\* See my paper in this *Journal*, 1904.



THE DUTCH WHALE FISHERIES AT JAN MAYEN ISLAND.

was acquired by the Amsterdam Museum. It now hangs in that gallery. It was signed "C. D. Man," and dated 1639. It depicts the Dutch whale cookeries on Jan Mayen island in full activity. The scene is laid on the shore of the bay where the principal Dutch whaling centre was situated, and it is no doubt the Amsterdam workmen who are represented. In the background on the left the snowy peak of Beerenberg rises with exaggerated abruptness. The middle distance is occupied by ships and by whale-boats pursuing their prey. In front is a cookery in full work, with a dead whale drawn up close by being flensed. The cookery is equipped with two elaborate and well-contrived furnaces to boil the blubber in the coppers. There are two tiers of tables on each side, where rows of men are engaged cutting the blubber small and shovelling it into tanks, whence the coppers are fed. The structural parts of the furnaces are built of red-brick, and have been plastered, but the plaster is already peeling off. Men carry big lumps of blubber on hand-barrows from the whale to the tables. Quite in the foreground are the principal men of the expedition, doubtless portraits. A little way behind, on the right, are the cooperages and other huts. On the left, too, are the great capstans by which the whales were hauled ashore. In fact, we here have a complete representation, excellently painted, of an Arctic cookery, such as we find described as existing in even more considerable development about this time at Spitsbergen, and especially at Smeerenburg. There seems to be no doubt of the genuineness of the signature, so that the painter must have been Cornelis de Man. If so, he was only eighteen years of age when he visited Jan Mayen and made this picture, for it was evidently painted on the spot, or from studies made by the artist himself on the spot. Dutch artists in those days were remarkably precocious. There is no sign of immaturity about this work. De Man is recorded as "having a strong inclination for travel." There is no known record of a visit by him to the Arctic regions. He spent nine years wandering about Europe. He is chiefly known as a painter of portraits and interiors, though doubtless many of his pictures exist under the names of other artists.

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## THE CLIMATOLOGY OF WEST TURKESTAN.\*

By W. R. RICKMERS.

OF a highly specialized, statistical, and mathematical science like meteorology, the geographer can only appreciate the general results. These do not begin to arrive

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\* 'Zur Meteorologie von West-Turkestan.' Heinz von Ficker. Wien, 1907. 'Denkschs. d. Mathem.-Naturw. Kl. d. K. A. d. Wiss,' vol. 81, 35 pp., 1 Map.