

1. Crozet Islands—Hog Island.—The Provision Dépôt is a hut near the landing place on the eastern side of the island, $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles southward of the Five Giants, which lie off the north-east point of Hog Island. In December, 1887, the French vessel "La Meurthe" left at this dépôt one ton of preserved beef, half a ton of biscuit, three-quarters of a hundredweight of sardines in oil, 20 blankets, 15 pairs of shoes, and 15 pairs of cloth trousers, all carefully packed in boxes. Also, 2 spears, 2 hatchets, and cooking utensils.

Approximate position, dépôt, lat. $46^{\circ} 6\frac{1}{2}'$ S., long. $50^{\circ} 14\frac{1}{2}'$ E.

1a. Crozet Islands—Possession Island.—The Provision Dépôt consists of huts, situated about 100 yards from the coast in the south-east corner of American Bay, which is on the east side of the island, and about 7 miles from Dark Head, the north-east point. Her Majesty's ship "Comus," in 1880, left here sufficient provisions for 50 people for 50 days, also jerseys, trousers, stockings, and shoes. The provisions were intact when Possession Island was visited by the French vessel "La Meurthe" in December, 1887.

Approximate position, dépôt, lat. $46^{\circ} 23'$ S., long. $51^{\circ} 46\frac{1}{2}'$ E.

2. Kerguelen Island.—The dépôt established by the French Government is situated in the south-eastern part of Jachmann Peninsula, Hillsborough Bay, near the south-western shore of the eastern lake, and about half a mile northward of the coast, opposite Gazelle Basin. It is in a cave at the foot of the west cliff of a rocky chasm, running north and south, and its position is indicated by a stone cairn, $11\frac{1}{2}$ feet in height, and about 14 feet broad at the base, erected on the summit of the west cliff of the chasm.

This cairn, visible from Gazelle Basin, is painted black, and shows clearly against the grey rocks which form the background.

The entrance to the cave has been closed by large stones, and on the cliff a few yards above it is the inscription:—

"Vivres et Vêtements, 'Eure,' Janvier 1893."

Approximate position, lat. $49^{\circ} 16' 45''$ S., long. $69^{\circ} 40' 30''$ E.

This dépôt contains:—

- 2,250 lbs. of preserved beef in boxes of 9 lbs.
- 1,125 lbs. of biscuits.
- 20 swan-skin shirts.
- 20 pairs of woollen drawers.
- 20 woollen blankets.
- 4 packets of matches.

The boxes of preserved beef are stowed in a pile, coated with coal tar. The biscuits are in 4 iron-hooped barrels, thickly covered with coal tar. The clothes are in 2 similar barrels. The matches are in a box, similar to the beef boxes, painted with minium (red lead) and with a label of the contents on it.

In the event of the cairn being destroyed, the following directions should be followed to find the dépôt. Land on the north side of the inlet opposite Gazelle Basin, in a small creek, sheltered by a rocky point, where boats may go alongside under any circumstances of wind or tide. Proceed directly inland about half a mile as far as the shore of the lake, then turn to the westward and follow the lake to its western end, where the chasm in which the dépôt is situated will be seen on the left hand.

3. St. Paul Island.—The dépôt established by the French Government is in a hut of rough stones with a thatched roof, situated on the northern side of the crater, near the jetty and about 50 yards from the flagstaff:—

Approximate position, lat. $38^{\circ} 42' 45''$ S., long. $77^{\circ} 34' 40''$ E.

This dépôt contains:—

- 1,350 lbs. of preserved beef in boxes of 9 lbs.
- 1,125 lbs. of biscuits.
- 10 woollen shirts.
- 10 blankets.

One soldered metal box containing 4 packets of matches.

The provisions and clothes are in 13 iron-hooped barrels, coated with tar and sand, and placed under a tarpaulin. On the door of the hut is the inscription, "France, Vivres et Vêtements pour naufragés, 'Eure,' Janvier 1893"; and a similar inscription is on a board within the hut.

4. Amsterdam Island.—The dépôt established by the French Government is in a large cavern, in the side of a hill, about W. by S. $\frac{1}{2}$ S. ($S. 73^{\circ} W.$) 800 yards from Hosken Point, the north-east extreme of the island; and bears W. $\frac{1}{2}$ N. ($N. 85^{\circ} W.$), distant about 600 yards, from the first flagstaff southward of that point.

At the entrance to the cavern is a board, fixed to two upright tarred posts, with the inscription, "France, Vivres, Vêtements pour naufragés, 'Eure,' Janvier, 1893," on it.

This dépôt contains:—

- 1,350 lbs. of preserved beef.
- 1,125 lbs. of biscuit.
- 10 woollen shirts.
- 10 pairs cotton drawers.
- 10 blankets.

One soldered metal red box, containing 4 packets of matches.

Approximate position, lat. $37^{\circ} 48' 50''$ S., long. $77^{\circ} 32' 30''$ E.

The landing place used by the "Eure" is about 400 yards southward of Hosken Point, and under the flagstaff mentioned above.

Directions for finding the dépôt on Amsterdam:—Having landed, go to either of the flagstaves, from whence a cross will be seen; from the cross follow the direction of its arms, leading past two ruins of rough stones, and then directly to the cavern, the entrance to which faces seaward. In the cavern, besides the provisions and clothing, there are cots, a cooking pot, and dry wood, left by the fishermen who sometimes live there. Cabbage and celery will be found near, and fish and lobsters (crawfish) abound near the landing place.

The following dépôts are maintained by the Government of New Zealand. Those on Auckland, Campbell, Antipodes, Bounty, and Snares Islands are visited by a steamer twice a year, and those on Kermadec Islands once a year. Finger posts to indicate the positions of the dépôts are to be erected on all these islands.

5. Snares Islands.—A provision dépôt will be established on North-East Island during 1894; it will be situated in Boat Harbour at the eastern end of the island.

Approximate position, lat. $48^{\circ} 4' 35''$ S., long. $166^{\circ} 34'$ E.

6. Auckland Islands.—There are three dépôts; one, a square wooden house on the south side of Erebus Cove, Port Ross, on the east side, and at the northern end of the principal island; the second will be placed at the head of Norman Inlet, in the middle of the east coast of the principal island, during 1894; the third is in the western arm of Camp Cove, Carnley Harbour, at the south end of the principal island.

A life-boat has been placed on Enderby Island, the north-eastern of the group; another at the north-west end of Adams Island, the southern of the group; and one will be placed on Rose