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The German scientific writer Georg Hartwig (1813–80) produced many popular works on geographical and natural history topics, among them this book, published in English in 1869. (An American version, with additional chapters, came out in the same year.) Unusually for the period, it surveyed exploration in the Antarctic as well as the Arctic, though the coverage of the latter makes up the bulk of the book. Hartwig's intention is 'to convey solid instruction under an entertaining form', combining the history of exploration with descriptions of the polar regions explored by the mid-century, including Siberia as well as the islands and ice packs of the Arctic Ocean. In this very readable work, Hartwig describes geography, geology and climate, as well as the survival strategies of plant, animal and human life in an extreme environment, using a very wide range of earlier published material to create an integrated narrative.



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The Polar World

A Popular Description of Man and Nature in the Arctic and Antarctic Regions of the Globe

GEORG HARTWIG





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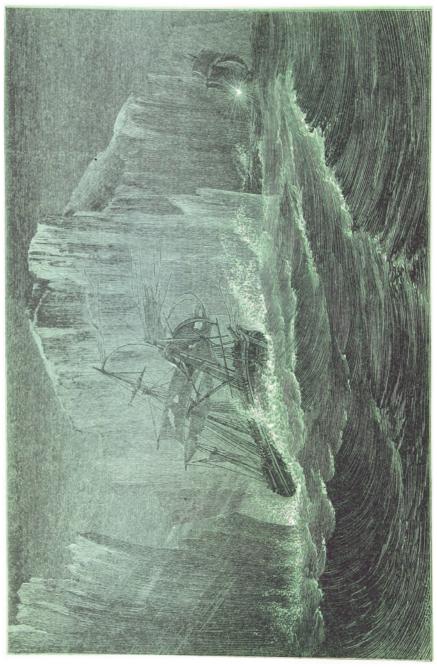


THE

ARCTIC AND ANTARCTIC REGIONS.

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THE 'EREBUS' AND THE 'TERROR' AMONG ICEBERGS,



THE POLAR WORLD:

A POPULAR DESCRIPTION OF

MAN AND NATURE

IN THE

ARCTIC AND ANTARCTIC REGIONS OF THE GLOBE.

 $\mathbf{B}\mathbf{Y}$

DR. G. HARTWIG,

AUTHOR OF

"THE SEA AND ITS LIVING WONDERS," THE HARMONIES OF NATURE,"
AND 'THE TROPICAL WORLD,"

WITH EIGHT CHROMOXYLOGRAPHIC PLATES, THREE MAPS, AND NUMEROUS WOODCUTS,

LONDON: LONGMANS, GREEN, AND CO. 1869.





PREFACE.

THE OBJECT of the following pages is to describe the Polar World in its principal natural features, to point out the influence of its long winter-night and fleeting summer on the developement of vegetable and animal existence, and finally to picture man waging the battle of life against the dreadful climate of the high latitudes of our globe either as the inhabitant of their gloomy solitudes, or as the bold investigator of their mysteries.

The table of contents shows the great variety of interesting subjects embraced within a comparatively narrow compass; and as my constant aim has been to convey solid instruction under an entertaining form, I venture to hope that the public will grant this new work the favourable reception given to my previous writings.

G. HARTWIG.

Heidelberg: January 2, 1869.





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