Quote

(Hince, B., 2000: 338)



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THE ANTARCTIC DICTIONARY

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In the immediate neighbourhood of the penguin colony, two South Polar or Maccormick's Skua (Catharacta skua maccormicki) landed repeatedly.

1976 Antarctic Journal of the United States XI(2) June: 111.

A south polar skua (Catharacta maccormicki), hatched and banded in Antarctica, was found about 6 months later in Greenland after a flight of over 14,000 kilometers ... The south polar skua is a gull-like bird about the size of a small goose, with a heavy powerful beak and a wingspread of 120 to 150 centimeters. It preys on the eggs and young of other birds, particularly penguins.

1982 (Gough Island) Krynauw, J.R. and others in South African

Journal of Antarctic Research Suppl 2: 52.

A south polar skua (Catharacta maccormicki) was also observed at Johnsbrotet at the time.

1982 Hosking, Eric and Sage, Bryan Antarctic wildlife Croom Helm, London: 120.

At Pointe Geologie, Adelie Land, on the Antarctic Continent for example, the increase of the South Polar Skua population from 80-90 in 1965-6 to 320 in 1976-7, was considered to be caused by the establishment of a garbage dump.

1993 Geo 15(1) Feb-Apr: 20.

The south-polar skua Catharacta maccormackii is an example of a bird that though common in its natural habitat (Antarctica), very rarely occurs in Australia.

## South Pole

1. The **geographic south pole**, the southern point at which lines of longitude converge at the latitude of 90°S, and the southern axis of rotation of the earth.

**1628** (56°S) Drake, Sir Francis, in W.S.W. Vaux, ed. (1963 repr.) *The world encompassed* Burt Franklin, New York: 87.

At length wee fell with the uttermost part of land towards the South Pole.

12 Jan 1722 Roggeveen, Admiral Jacob in Balch, Edwin Swift (1902) Antarctica Allen, Lane & Scott, Philadelphia: 60.

We found ourselves at the height of 60 degrees 30 minutes towards the South Pole.

**1827** (South Georgia) Weddell, James A voyage towards the South Pole, performed in the years 1822-24, 2nd edn David and Charles Reprints, Newton Abbot, Devon (1970): 41.

If, therefore, no land exist to the south of the latitude at which I arrived, viz. seventy-four degrees, fifteen minutes, — being three degrees and five minutes, or 214 geographical miles farther south than Captain Cook, or any preceding navigator reached, how is it possible that the South Pole should not be more attainable than the North, about which we know there lies a great deal of land?

11 Jan 1893 Burn Murdoch, W.G. (1894) From Edinburgh to the Antarctic Longmans, Green and Co, London: 290.

Think of this, ye gentlemen of England who yacht at Cowes in ease, the chance is going-going; and if you don't bid for the South Pole, some bold Yankee and his fair lady will be down there before you get under way, and then — there will be no new place under the sun!

30 Oct 1897 Cook, Frederick A. (1900) Through the first Antarctic night 1898-1899 William Heinemann Ltd, UK: 7.

So long as beautiful women, good wines, fine cigars, and delicate foods are not found at the south pole, Latin Americans will probably not aspire to reach it.

2 Jan 1909 (172 miles from the Pole) Shackleton, E.H. The heart of the Antarctic: being the story of the British Antarctic Expedition 1907–1909 William Heinemann, London: 342.

I cannot think of failure yet. I must look at the matter sensibly and consider the lives of those who are with me. I feel that if we go on too far it will be impossible to get back over this surface, and then all the results will be lost to the world. We can now definitely locate the South Pole on the highest plateau in the world, and our geological work and meteorology will be of the greatest use to science; but all this is not the Pole. Man can only do his best, and we have arrayed against us the strongest forces of nature.

1912 The Mercury [Hobart] 9 Mar: 5.

[headline] The South Pole reached by Captain Amundsen. Staved there three days. The explorer still reticent.

1952 Walkabout. Australian Geographical Magazine 18(10) Oct:

Aviation authorities in Australasia today assert there is nothing to prevent a South Pole air route operating within two years ... The South Pole route will halve the distance and travelling time between Australia and South America, and will complete the final conquest of the last-to-be explored continent.

26 Dec 1957 Barber, Noel (1958) The white desert Hodder and Stoughton, London: 119.

Hillary ... radioed: "We are heading hell-bent for the South Pole, God willing and crevasses permitting."

**1963** McKenzie. Douglas *Opposite poles* Robert Hale & Co, London/Whitcombe & Tombs, New Zealand: 96.

Where is the South Pole? One might well ask, for from time to time the South Pole has been positioned by first arrivals as being precisely where they said it was; and there have been some demonstrably divergent claims. Yet in none of these cases would it be suggested that the travellers had not reached the Pole. The South Pole is an imaginary spot in a highly unimaginable landscape, a point somewhere piercing the two-mile-high surface of a variable ice-cap. The Pole is a mathematical conception, and its exploitation in the past half-century just shows what a trouble people can be led into by mathematicians.

1995 Sunday Press [Asbury Park, USA] 19 Mar: C8.

Ski the South Pole: a half-inch of powder, 9,000 feet of base. 1996 Rocky Mountain News [Denver] 12 May: 46A.

"If we weren't at the South Pole, there would be a mad scramble for territory," said undersecretary Tim Wirth. The former Colorado senator is the Clinton Administration's point man on Antarctic issues. "We're the only country that can manage the logistics in that extraordinary place," Wirth said. "We have to maintain this presence to maintain the continent's neutrality."

2. The south celestial pole, rotation axis of the stars.

**1628** Drake, Sir Francis in W.S.W. Vaux, ed. (1963 repr.) The world encompassed Burt Franklin, New York: 34.

Wee had in sight the South Pole.

1768 Banks, Joseph in Beaglehole, J.C., ed. (1962) The Endeavour journal of Joseph Banks Public Library of New South Wales/Angus and Robertson, Sydney: 7.

The passing of the North star to the South pole.

3. In general, anywhere in the south polar regions.

**14 Mar 1823** (Falkland Islands) Morrell, Captain Benjamin (1832) A narrative of four voyages, to the South Sea [etc.] J. & J. Harper, New York: 68.

The people of our enlightened age would have had laid open to them the mysteries of the south pole.

**1928** Mathews, Gregory M. The birds of Norfolk & Lord Howe Islands and the Australasian South Polar Quadrant with additions to "The birds of Australia" H.F. & G. Witherby, London: 63.

Emperor Penguin ... Distribution. South Pole.

1978 Keneally, Thomas A victim of the aurora Fontana Books, Glasgow: 26.

'I'm Betty,' she said. 'You're going to the South Pole, you poor fellow.'