

tunity or occasion to touch at the remote hamlet of Hillswick. This is likely to be changed in the future, and it will, at all events, do the reader no harm to look at the map of Shetland before going further. On the west coast of that part of the islands called the "Mainland," he will easily find the large bay named after that Norwegian earl famed in Northern story—St. Magnus—in whose honour, too, the splendid Cathedral at Kirkwall was founded), and at the north-eastern extremity of St. Magnus Bay, and forming one of the many arms of it, is Ura Firth, at the north end of which lies Hillswick. Very remote it seems, looking at the distance of Shetland from the mainland of Scotland, but the journey is really no great matter after all. If you go on board the direct steamer from Aberdeen to Lerwick a little before noon on, say, Monday, you reach the capital of Shetland before breakfast on Tuesday morning. Then, after breakfast, a few hours' steaming—very enjoyable in fine weather—brings you to Ollaberry, where a conveyance meets you, and takes you to Hillswick, a few miles distant. Or, if you prefer it, you can go by road the whole

way from Lerwick to Hillswick (38 miles)—a long drive, mainly interesting to a stranger because of the entire novelty of the Shetland scenery, but affording also, at certain points, some very pretty views on either hand. Whether you go by land or sea, you arrive at Hillswick in good time for dinner.

Of course, there are some people to whom the mere mention of a sea voyage of 17 or 18 hours is enough to deter them from visiting Shetland. With such people I have great sympathy, and if the reader of these lines is one of those whom the "mal-de-mer" fiend treats malignantly—not only making the actual voyage a terrible trial, but leaving its effects on him for days after—then I say he should seek his change of air nearer home, and Shetland is no place for him. But there are many men and women who, although they cannot pretend to any effusive affection for the ocean as seen from the deck of a smallish steamer, and although they do not look forward with any pleasurable anticipations to the voyage, are nevertheless willing to endure a little discomfort, or even a good deal of discomfort, for the sake of a