

it is bright, clear and cold, and it has an excellent record for sunshine. The dry cold which prevails, except during the brief thaws which are experienced at intervals during the Winter, can be prepared for by suitable clothing, and the monotony is broken by sleighing, skating, snow-shoeing, curling and hockey. The Newfoundlanders enjoy, indeed, the reputation of being the best curlers in the world and stand high for ice-hockey and skating. The city of St. John's is supplied with two rinks to which visitors can gain access by payment of a small entrance fee, and where curling or skating may be practised or watched.

The only unpleasant season is the Spring, when the melting of the ice and snow in the streets and the dampness underfoot and in the air, together with the Scotch mists so prevalent when the wind blows from the East, offer little inducement for outdoor occupations.

The Scotch mists referred to have given rise to the fiction that Newfoundland is a land of fogs. As a matter of fact, these fogs, if fogs they can be called, are by no means frequent and are practically only experienced when the wind blows from the East, *i.e.* from the "Banks," which, situated nearly 200 miles from the Island, are produced by the accumulation of sediment deposited where the Arctic current and the Gulf Stream meet. While the deposition of this sediment is said to yield the food which attracts the cod, on whose presence the Bank fishery depends, the admixture of the warm moist air above the Gulf Stream, with the cold air accompanying the Arctic current, results in the production of a super-saturated atmosphere, from which the moisture settles as the mist or fog whose almost constant presence on the Banks has caused them to be avoided by the Atlantic greyhound, and has resulted in a terrible death-roll among the fishing vessels.

Another of the effects of the Arctic current is the immense number of icebergs which, with the floe ice, are brought down from beyond the Arctic circle and add another feature of interest to the tourist and of danger to the navigator.

Although the floe ice (see views 2, 6, 8, 98, 99), is merely the frozen sea-water and is therefore salt, though much less so than the sea itself, because the water in crystallizing as ice becomes to a great extent separated from the salt, the icebergs themselves are as pure as the best ice that can be made by artificial means, and are regularly relied upon for supplying ships with fresh-water supplies. These icebergs, which all the year round, but particularly in the Summer and Autumn, can be seen from most parts of the coast, and which are frequently carried by wind or current into the bays and harbours, are really fragments of the Arctic glaciers, which, produced on the Arctic mainland by accumulation of compressed snow whose own weight and movement convert it into ice, are constantly descending to the seaboard. As they reach the sea and extend from land into water, the weight of the overlapping portion results in the breaking off of fragments which, though only fragments as regards the relative mass of the glaciers, form the gigantic icebergs, sometimes miles in length, which pass in a grand procession South, and often enter and block up the entrance to a harbour until a lucky change of wind again carries them out into the open sea.

The frontispiece shows a fine berg photographed by the author's daughter at St. John's. The berg was about 600ft. long and 150ft. high. It remained stranded outside the harbour for three weeks, and is shown in the distance in view 2, where the picture of St. John's Harbour is bounded outside the "Narrows" by this beautiful berg. Other views of icebergs are shown in views 9, 23, 87, 92, 93, 103, 104, 107, 110 and 114, and show the fantastic forms which they assume. Views 92 and 114 especially show the manner in which they melt away or decay, but although photographs can show the form and to some extent the effects of light and shade, they fail to bring out the exquisite delicacy of colouring, the shimmer of blue and green, and the general awe-inspiring effect which a "live" iceberg has upon the beholder.

The visible portion of the berg gives but little idea of its actual extent, as only about one-eighth of its *bulk* is above water, the remainder being submerged. In other words, the iceberg weighs only about seven-eighths of the weight of an equal bulk of water, but the *height* of the visible portion of course bears no relation to the depth below sea level. This is shown roughly in the sketch on the next page, which also indicates the instability of the berg.

So great is the tendency to change position as portions of the berg melt or break away either above or below sea level, that an iceberg is one of the most dreaded enemies of the seaman, and is almost the only thing on the sea which a Newfoundland fisherman fears.