

the shore, having on one side indentations and projections corresponding to the irregularities in the face of the precipice from which they had become detached.

The whole of the north shore of Hudson's Strait, which lies between lat. 61° and 64° north, and lon. 65° to 75° west, being lofty and precipitous, is well adapted for the formation of bergs; they are consequently very numerous, in some cases of very large extent, and more than one hundred feet high. In addition to these huge bergs, strong gales of wind and currents, acting separately or in concert, frequently force floes of ice one over the other, to the height of fifty or sixty feet. The whole freezes together and forms a kind of spurious iceberg, which is easily distinguished from the true one by its jagged and irregular form.

In Hudson's Bay there are few or no icebergs deserving the name, because there are no high rocks possessing the peculiarities requisite for their formation. For the same reason there are none to be seen along the northern shore of America, from Point Barrow in lon. 156° eastward, to Backs River, in lon. 96° . Neither are there any icebergs in Regents Inlet or Victoria Strait.

According to Dr. Kane's account, as given at page 149, vol. ii. of the narrative of his last voyage, the icebergs in Smith's Sound are formed in a very different manner from that which I have described, nor is there any reason why both descriptions, although differing, should not be essentially correct. Dr. Kane, when speaking of Humboldt's Glacier, says: "The enormous masses of the great Glacier are propelled, step by step and year by year, until reaching water capable of supporting them they are floated off to be lost in the temperature of other regions."

The great changes and difference in the forms and color of icebergs arise from the turning over of these floating islands. The ice wastes faster under water than it does with air, and the iceberg becoming top heavy changes its position until its equilibrium is restored.

When at Repulse Bay in the spring of 1847, I was somewhat surprised to observe that as the sea ice wasted away by the combined effects of thaw and evaporation, boulders of from three to four feet in diameter appeared on the surface of the ice, at such a distance from the land as entirely to preclude the idea that they had rolled thither from the low flat shore in the neighbourhood. These boulders were