

direction from the entrance. Our time was too limited either to fish for our own use, or to prove whether the halibut could be secured in large quantities, as we were pushing on to our destinations.

On the western edge of the bank, several icebergs were aground, indicating the shoaler water and to some extent the contour of the bank as it continues northward. Under these conditions soundings were unnecessary, for by the height of the bergs above water, we were able to judge approximately when we were in deep or shallow water. The mariner, after short experience, becomes expert in estimating the depth of water where icebergs ground. The different icebergs were leaning on all sides of the bank, and lurching with the force of the sea; occasionally one or other, by the effect of 'calving,' would change its position and by the loss of weight would move off into deeper water or float higher up on the bank, according to the direction of the wind and current. Outside these sentinels of the halibut bank was a large body of packed ice, carried by the currents, while on the inner side, there was generally open water. From the banks we approached the coast of Greenland, arriving off Sukkertoppen.

Coast of Greenland.

The coast of Greenland here presents varied descriptions of bays and other indentations which run inland a long distance, and containing deep water fiords that would give the best of shelter for any sized ship. The coast of this country presents changing views—at some points are high peaks, snow covered and ice capped, while at other places are seen glaciers which terminate at the sea line in all of these fiords.

The natural outline of the land formation of the country cannot be conceived; it is clothed with snow and ice and the valleys filled with glaciers. These glaciers present in places, smooth surfaces and in other parts, deep gullies or crevasses, wrought by the action of the surface water in the summer season. The constant bodily movement downward of glaciers to the sea line where they break off and icebergs are formed, is estimated at 50 feet annually. Some of the headlands in this vicinity rise precipitously from the sea, others slope gradu-