

LIST OF SOME OF THE TERMS USED IN ICE NAVIGATION BY
WHALERS, SEALERS AND OTHERS.

Floe.....	A large mass of floating ice.
Pan.....	A small floe or small piece; one that can be forced aside or slewed.
A field.....	A large body of ice that may be seen around.
Land floe.....	Ice frozen fast to the shore.
Packed ice.....	Are small pieces closed together and held by the pressure of ice and currents.
Ice blink.....	Is a peculiar pale yellow reflection of the sky, indicating the presence of ice at a distance.
The ice pack.....	Is a large body of solid ice extending across the whole sea, and beyond which it is impossible to advance.
Slack ice.....	Is detached so that it can be worked through. Ice is said to be slacking when it begins to be open so as to be navigable.
Running abroad.....	Ice is said to be running abroad when it opens out or slacks away so as to be navigable.
A Nip.....	Ice is said to be nipping when it begins to close by reason of the action of the winds or currents, so as to prevent the passage of a vessel.
Calving.....	Ice is calving when the small pieces break off from the bottom and rise to surface of the water.
A lead.....	Is a strip of navigable water opening into the pack.
A blind or lead pocket.....	Is a short opening into the pack, and terminating against solid or thick ice.
Hummocky ice.....	Is rough, uneven or thick ice.
Porridge ice.....	Is small finely ground up ice.
Slob.....	Is snow afloat and forming into ice.
Sish.....	Is thin new ice just formed in thin sheets.
Lolly.....	Is loose new ice.
Waking.....	Is the following in the wake of another vessel through leads and slack ice.
Backing, running or butting.....	Is backing and running the ship at ice in order to force or head a way through it.
Slewing.....	Is forcing the vessel ahead against the corner of a piece of ice, with the intention of causing it to slew or swing out of the way, so as to force a passage by it.
Tracking.....	Is following along the edge of the ice pack.
Water sky.....	Is a dark and bluish appearance of the sky indicating open water beyond the pack.
Slatches.....	Are considerable pools of open water in the ice.
Swatch.....	Is a small pool of open water in the ice.
Swatching.....	Watching for seal around a swatch.
Wash.....	Is the sound of the sea breaking against the ice.
Rote.....	Newfoundland term for wash.
Rafting.....	Occurs when two pans meet with force, either by the action of the winds or currents—the edges are broken off and either rise on the top of or pass under the body of the pans.
Pressure ridge.....	Is the ridge or wall thrown up while the ice is rafted.
Growler.....	Is a more or less washed and grounded lump of ice which rolls about in the water formed from broken up bergs or detached pieces of heavy old arctic floe ice.
Decker.....	Rafter at a pressure ridge (Newfoundland).
Black sheet.....	Is thin dark looking ice with snow on it; usually found between pans of older ice. At night or at a distance looks like open water.
Collar ice.....	Is the margin of ice frozen fast to an island or shore, presenting an abrupt wall against which the floating ice rises and falls with the tide.
Beset.....	Inclosed on all sides by the ice.