

the meantime, turned over, and the man was gone. Part of the crew of the ship *Polaris* in 1872 was forced to abide for several months on one of these strange rafts.

In view of the dangers to navigation it has been suggested that the battleships of the different navies of the world should be employed in the destruction of the icebergs of the North Atlantic. According to this plan they are to be bombarded with great shells which, penetrating deep into the ice and exploding, will shatter them to pieces. When it is considered that it costs \$500,000 every time that one of these big guns is fired, it is not likely that the project will be carried out. Captains of vessels must still continue to exercise vigilance in steering clear of these dangerous customers.

#### THE LEGEND OF THE ICEBERG.

THERE is an old legend which says that once the Lord called an angel and commanded him to destroy an iceberg, allowing him one thousand years to complete the task.

Eagerly the angel accepted the divine commission, and calling together a great army of men, he supplied them with pick-axes and shovels and bade them begin the work. Day by day the sound of heavy tools was heard, day by day the men toiled and worked and sweat as they swung the heavy axe or tossed aside the shovelfuls of crushed ice.

Days, weeks, months and years passed while the watching angel kept the men to their task. Finally five hundred years had gone by, and the result of all this hard labor was only a big hole in the side of the ice mountain.

Then the angel discharged his workers and called upon the forces of nature to accomplish that which men had failed to do. The north wind blew with tremendous force upon the side of the berg, but the huge mountain of ice withstood the blasts as easily as a sturdy oak tree resists the summer zephyr. Rain and hail poured upon the mountain top, but instead of diminishing in size it seemed to grow the larger. For five hundred years the storms beat upon the iceberg in vain efforts to destroy it, and then, the thousand years having expired, the discomfited angel returned to the Lord and confessed that he had failed in the trust committed to him.

Then the Lord smiled upon his discouraged servant, and said, "I will show you how to destroy this great ice mountain;" and He called upon the sun to shine and the warm south winds to blow; and the sun sent his melting rays down upon the iceberg and the warm winds blew against it, and soon it began to melt, and rivers of water ran down its sides until finally the great mountain had entirely disappeared, and only a green meadow studded with wildflowers showed where once the iceberg had stood; and the meadow was all the more green and verdant because of the moisture.

And the way the Lord melted the ice-mountain in the fable is the way that Christ melts our hearts, and wins us, and the way that we, doing Christ's work, may win others—by the warmth of love.

#### CONVENIENT ICE SUPPLY.

THE suggestion of towing an iceberg down from the Arctic regions to New York in summer to afford a cheap and abundant supply of ice is occasionally made by humorists, but one may see in half a dozen places in Switzerland a similar idea carried out in practice, says the *New York Sun*. A party of tourists, arriving at the Hotel Wetterhorn, situated a few hundred yards from the foot of the upper glacier at Grindelwald, one hot day last August, sat down on the veranda and called for some iced drinks. The waitress returned in a few minutes much perturbed and announced that the hotel had run out of ice. But she added that a fresh supply would be procured in a few minutes if the party would wait. Shortly afterward a man came out of the hotel having strapped on his back one of the peculiar barrel-like baskets in which the Swiss people carry almost everything, and holding in his hand an ice-axe. He trotted down the hillside and along the beside the glacial river to the cliff-like face of the glacier, a huge mountain of purest ice, at which he began merrily

#### THE ONLY MESSAGE.

THE editor of *Men* asked Mr. Robert E. Speer for a message to young men. This is the answer he got and published:

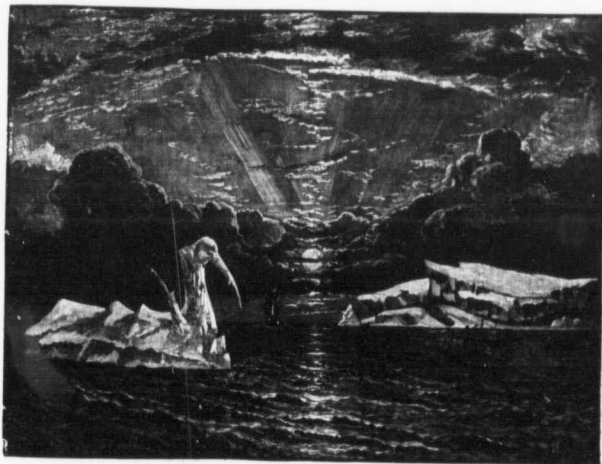
A message to young men! Why should a young man have a message different from the message for an old man? There is only one message. Christ is that message.

He is a message to the man's will. Be strong, and surrender never, never once, save once for all to God.

He is a message to the man's heart. Be warm, and love. Make friendships. Nay, discover the friendships all round you, which were made in heaven while the angels smiled, and the great friendly Lord of all friendship-love looked on the work His hands were fashioning, and was glad. Scorn to let such divine things sink or wither.

He is a message to the man's mind. Think purely, clearly. Bring all your thoughts into captivity to the obedience of the liberty-giving Master, who alone can deliver the young man's mind and the old man's mind from all vampires and evil and darkness.

He is a message to the man's life. Be pure and holy, horrified at all sin, and sweet as a baby child is sweet, with the holy purity of Him who lay in Mary's



STRANGE SHAPES IN ICEBERGS.

hacking with his axe. He broke off enough chunks to fill his basket and returned to the hotel inside of five minutes with a supply of ice that was clear and pure as crystal.

BLESSED is the man who has the gift of making friends, for it is one of God's best gifts. It involves many things, but above all the power of going out of one's self and seeing and appreciating whatever is noble and loving in another man—  
*Thomas Hughes.*

arms in the manger at Bethlehem. Christ is the message to men. There is no other message. Hearken to the melody and the fulness of Him, and be satisfied.

"He is a path, if any be misled;  
He is a robe, if any naked be;  
If any chance to hunger, He is bread;  
If any be a bondsman, he is free;  
If any be but weak, how strong is He;  
To dead men life He is, to sick men health;  
To blind men, sight, and to the needy,  
wealth;  
A pleasure without loss, a treasure without  
stealth."