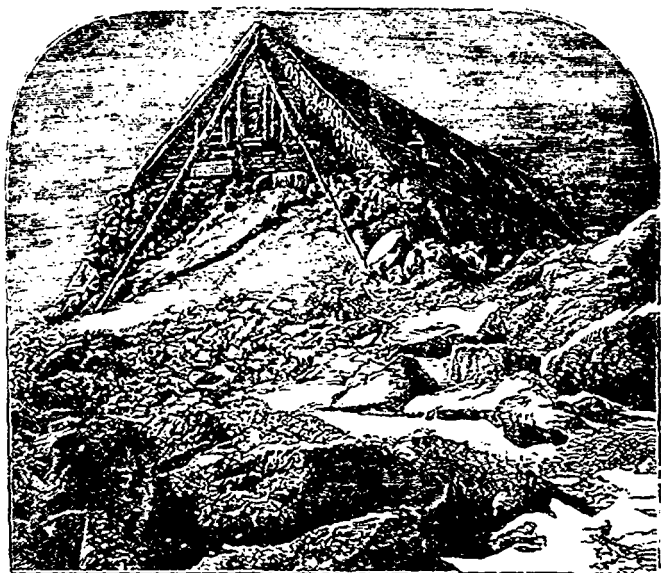


the mountain alone, one afternoon in August of the year before, and must have been overtaken by storm, and cold, and darkness, near the summit. His watch, and some bank bills in his vest pocket, were found uninjured; though most of the body, and even part of the skeleton were gone.

Since the completion of the railroad the summit has been occupied as a station of the Meteorological Department of the United States Army, and observers have passed the entire winter there. The wind has sometimes assailed them with a velocity of 100 miles per hour. The lowest point indicated by the ther-



THE TIP TOP HOUSE—MOUNT WASHINGTON IN WINTER.

omometer, during the first year of observation, was—59° Fahrenheit. This extreme cold occurred at the same time with a high wind, which rendered it almost insupportable even indoors.

Let us ascend the last part of the steep cone, and stand upon the summit. What a magnificent and stupendous view! A horizon of nearly six hundred miles bounds the prospect! The mountain peaks stand on every side as sentinels over the furrowed valleys of New England! Far in the east Katahdin is driven like a wedge into the sky. Westward the eye seems almost to the Catskills; northward into Canada, far