

No. 4.—*Crows' Nest.*

This ingenious observatory, which is much in use amongst the northern whale fishers, is said to have been invented by the elder Captain Scoreaby, to watch the motions of the fish. It consists of an open barrel, fixed to the maintop-gallant mast-head, in the bottom of which is a trap door, approached by a ladder of ropes, with wooden bars for steps, instead of ratlins. It forms a safe look-out in all weathers, leaving the hands perfectly at liberty.

No. 5.—*Stupendous Glacier.*

This immense glacier, the accumulated snow and ice of ages, is about three miles from the ships; it extends for many miles along the supposed coast of Greenland, and in some parts is several thousand feet in thickness. The actual height of the face of the glacier above the sea could not be ascertained, from the enormous masses of recently detached of ice floating about, but it may be estimated at approaching 1,000 feet perpendicular. Old, or lost Greenland, was discovered 983, by some Norwegians, who planted a colony on the eastern coast, which flourished until the fifteenth century, when, by the gradual increase of the ice, it became inaccessible; heavy, consolidated floes, having imbedded in them bergs of vast size, which, grounding, served to fix the whole firmly to the shore, were soon formed into an impenetrable barrier, that has, and doubtless will remain for ages compact and immovable, presenting a rugged, perpendicular front, bidding stern defiance to the roaring of the winds, or the raging billows of the sea, and mocking the vain attempts of man to pass it. The general aspect from one extreme to the other, is barren and rugged; the average elevation is 3,000 feet, there being in some places mountains from 4,000 to 6,000 feet in height. The glacier on the west coast is formed between high and unconnected land as far as could be seen, making it appear, as has been supposed, that Greenland is formed of a vast number of islands. It is named by the sailors the manufactory of icebergs, for every fall of hail and snow increasing its size and propelling it forward, vast overhanging projections are formed by the action of the sea below, the enormous weight of which separating them from the main body, they fall in masses of many thousand tons into the water, with terrific roar, the heaviest portion of course sinking below. Soundings were taken from the ships to the depth of 150 fathoms without finding the bottom.

No. 7.—*Bear Hunting.*

The Polar bear (*Ursus Maritimus*) is too well known to need particular description. In these regions, where it might be supposed so large an animal must necessarily perish for want of food, they manage to support nature on seals and fish. Some persons assert that they sleep during the winter in ice caverns, but it is more probable that they migrate as the winter approaches to the more western parts, in search of open water; they are very frequently seen on icebergs a great distance from land, and are good swimmers, but cannot remain long under the water. They seldom evince a disposition to act on the offensive, unless attacked or driven to bay, when they become very ferocious assailants; they are of great strength and size, weighing from eleven to twelve hundred pounds.

No. 8.—*Singular Iceberg.*

Some idea of the vastness of these masses may be formed, when it is stated, that although many of them have an altitude of at least 300 feet, yet not more than one-ninth of the whole appears above water. It is impossible to contemplate these vast elevations of ice, without reflecting on the enormous power that must have been exerted to rend them from the parent mass.