

tude  $10^{\circ}$  east, where it meets the southward current pouring from the Polar Ocean and is carried down the east coast of Greenland. Of the portion of the journey which the ice-floe probably took I can speak from my own knowledge, as I have sailed along there myself, and the ice is carried southward on the current parallel with the Greenland coast at the rate of about twenty-five miles a day. When the ice got to Cape Farewell it was, very likely, carried around that corner of Greenland by Gulf Stream influence, and floated to the very spot where it was found. In performing this journey the relics of the *Jeannette* went over forty-five hundred miles in one thousand and ninety-six days; allowing for all the twists and eccentricities which the currents may be subject to. This would give the flocs an average traveling time of about four nautical miles a day, which is just what took place.

## OPINIONS EXPRESSED BY DISTINGUISHED MEN.

Dr. Emil Bessels, the Arctic explorer and well known geologist of the Smithsonian Institution, at Washington, was at first in doubt in regard to the brief telegraphic report, but upon receipt of fuller details he gave as his opinion that to reach that point, the floe on which they were found must have drifted along the northerly part of the known coast of Greenland, and have been carried by the East Greenland ice stream, which doubles Cape Farewell, around that cape into the vicinity of Julianshaab. The currents in Baffin's Bay and Davis Straits are such that the cold current which doubles Cape Farewell runs to the northward on the inside of a branch of the Gulf Stream drift, which probably does not extend further north than Disco. He says most emphatically that "the floe *could not have come down Baffin's Bay* to where it was found, as the currents issuing from Smith Sound, Jones Sound and Lancaster Sound, closely follow the eastern shores of the North American Archipelago, bending—as all southward currents do—to the westward. Whatever channels the ice floe had come through it would necessarily have followed the course of currents along its route."